Career Coaching Your Student

Who is the most important influence on your student’s career development?

Research indicates that it’s you: the parent. Your beliefs, comments, and interactions with your son or daughter may profoundly influence their career decisions. To ensure that your student gets the maximum benefit from your coaching, we recommend you consider the following questions.

☐ Do I allow my student the freedom to engage in new experiences?

☐ Do I encourage exploration of occupations without being judgmental?

☐ Am I listening with openness and understanding?

☐ Do I tolerate ideas and values that differ from my own?

☐ Have I discussed my own career history, “the good, the bad, and the ugly”?

☐ Do I impose ideas (even with the best intentions) that can limit my student’s options?

☐ Do I objectively guide my student in looking at his/her skills, interests, and abilities?

☐ Am I positive & supportive (not fixing the problem) when my student makes poor decisions or fails?

☐ Do I check in periodically to ask, “How can I be helpful?”

☐ Do I encourage my student to assume responsibility for career decisions?

Courtesy of the National Association of Colleges and Employers