Educational Decision Making

1. Why continue my education?
   - career opportunities & advancement
   - positive role modeling for my family
   - intellectual stimulation
   - increased earning potential
   - self-esteem & confidence
   - positive social interactions
   - skills upgrade
   - certification or licensure

2. Options for further study
   - traditional college programs
   - external degree & independent study
   - internships or apprenticeships
   - certificates
   - online & distance learning
   - correspondence courses
   - workshops & conferences
   - evening & weekend programs

3. My considerations in choosing an education program
   - admissions requirements
   - variety of programs
   - schedules & structure
   - cost related to available financial aid
   - transfer of credits
   - alternative ways to earn credits
   - location
   - student support services

4. How do I get the information I need?
   - college visits & open houses
   - college websites & publications
   - VSAC
   - auditing classes
   - faculty/professionals in the field
   - alumni or current students
   - VSAC outreach counselor
   - Internet

5. My success as a student depends on …
   - learning style fit
   - access to resources
   - managing learning challenges
   - study skills
   - time management
   - personal considerations
   - communication skills
   - academic skills
The Learning Pyramid

**Lecture**
Listening, auditory
5%
Least retained

**Reading**
Visual, written words
10%

**Audio-visual**
See and hear information at the same time; information enters multiple senses
20%

**Demonstration**
Real-life examples given for clarification; provides a stimulus with which to associate information
30%

**Discussion group**
Verbalization of ideas
50%

**Practice by doing**
Repetition, repetition, repetition; practice problems, hands-on learning
75%

**Teach others/apply learning**
Use information to show others “how to”; you must understand in order to explain to someone else
90%
Most retained

Adapted from: The Freshman Seminar Tips for Success. National Training Laboratories, Bethel, Maine