Many former and current English Language Learners (ELLs) may:

1. be the first person in their family to attend college.
2. attend college part-time so that they can earn money to support their family.
3. take a “non-traditional path” and take longer to finish their degree.

**Ways that parents can support their children during high school**

- Parents should ask for a translator for all school-related meetings and for all school-related documents.
- Parents should make an appointment with their child’s school counselor in their freshman year in order to become familiar with school services, including:
  - The college application process, important deadlines, and opportunities
  - Financial Aid
  - The importance of attendance, extracurricular activities and participating in community service
- Parents need to encourage their children to seek assistance from staff members to help their child compose essays and obtain letters of recommendation from employers, advisors, teachers, and community members.

**Recommendations for ELLs, Former ELLs and Generation 1.5 students**

- Students themselves need to learn various ways to advocate for themselves and ask for help.
- Students must attend school regularly. If students are having difficulty getting to school, they should ask to meet with the attendance officer or counselor to work out a plan.
- Students need to ask for extra help from ESL, bilingual and content area teachers.
- Students should participate in extracurricular activities (sports, clubs, volunteering) to build relationships and create opportunities to use English outside of the classroom.