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**Title/Título:** Parenting adolescents for academic success

Orientación para la carrera en adolescentes desde el contexto familiar

**Topic:** Parents as educators, their challenging role and current status in school, family and community relationships

Los padres y madres como educadores, los retos de su rol y su situación actual en las relaciones que se establecen entre las familias, los centros docentes y las entidades y servicios sociales comunitarios

**Presentation time/Día de presentación:** Session in English. Friday, 16, 10:15-11:45 a.m. Room 1, Third Floor

Sesión en Inglés. Viernes 16, 10:15-11:45 a.m. Sala 1, Tercer Piso

### **Abstract**

To help their adolescents prepare for adulthood, parents must provide them with more realistic information about the adult world of work. What parents and students often lack is not high expectations for their future, but information about the world of work, the courses needed for acceptance by more selective colleges, and the preparation needed for specific occupations. Many students lack role models for the paths they hope to pursue. They may be the first in their family to attend college or aspire to a professional career. As a result, they may not know how to navigate through an educational system where choices have real consequences that are hard to reverse. Parents can help their children develop aligned ambitions by participating in a number of activities. First, parents should engage their adolescents in discussion about their current course work, plans after high school graduation, and how their academic abilities and interests coincide with their college choices. Parents should rely on their educational and work experiences, as well as their social and professional networks, to provide their adolescents with information about prospective careers and the educational requirements associated with them. Third, parents need to become more informed about how to marshal economic support for their adolescents' postsecondary schooling. The availability of loans, scholarships, and work-study programs are all designed to enhance postsecondary educational opportunities, especially for students with limited social and economic resources. The path to college and career advancement needs to be more accessible and reinforced by parents and schools if students from families with constrained resources are to attend, succeed, and graduate from postsecondary schools, which today is the prerequisite for stable employment.