College Application Information Night

2020-2021

Presented by the AHS Counseling Department
# Important College Information Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College App Info Night</td>
<td>Wednesday, Sept. 9, 7:00-8:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Aid Info Night</td>
<td>Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7:00-8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Counselor class visits</td>
<td>US Government classes, Week of September 14</td>
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</table>

## Counselor Letter of Rec request due dates:
- Early decision/early action/deadlines prior to Dec 1: **Friday, September 25**
- Regular decision/deadlines of December 1 & later: **Friday, October 9**

### Application workshops (drop in):
Stay tuned for counselor office hours for individualized college application help in October/November. We highly recommend reviewing your applications with a counselor before submitting!

Community college info sessions and registrations workshops are held at AHS starting in the spring. Listen to announcements for dates!
Advice from your peers

From recent AHS graduates: “What should this year’s seniors know?”

I was absolutely crushed to get into my dream school and then find that it was unaffordable even with their financial aid plan. I wish that I had **considered the money required to attend colleges** and had applied for more scholarships beforehand.

**Start early!** Especially with asking for teacher recommendations.

I wish I went into the process with the idea that the status and rank of the college matters less than **how well you think you fit at a college**.

I wish I knew that there were **other options**, like 2-year degrees and skill-specific jobs that pay well.

I wish that I'd known to manage my time more effectively and **take advantage of more opportunities** such as scholarships when I could have.

**Ask questions** if you are even slightly confused about something.
APPLY BROADLY!!!

- Consider location, size of campus, majors, atmosphere
- Resources: Naviance, CaliforniaColleges.edu “College Search,” College Board website, Colleges That Change Lives, Common Data Set
- Know your chances for admission – review admit rates, average GPAs & test scores as a guide, not an absolute:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“Reach”: admits &lt; 20%</th>
<th>“Target”: ~ 30-50%</th>
<th>“Safety”: admits &gt; 50%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stanford: 4.7%</td>
<td>UCSD: 38.3%</td>
<td>UC Merced: 90.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvard: 5%</td>
<td>UC Davis: 46.6%</td>
<td>Lewis &amp; Clark: 74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIT: 7%</td>
<td>UCSC: 65.3%</td>
<td>Ithaca College: 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USC: 16%</td>
<td>UC Riverside: 66.4%</td>
<td>U. of Oregon: 78.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCLA: 14.4%</td>
<td>Oberlin: 36%</td>
<td>Chico State: 65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Berkeley: 17.5%</td>
<td>Fordham: 46%</td>
<td>Chapman University: 57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYU: 15%</td>
<td>Macalester: 37%</td>
<td>U. of Montana: 83%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Financial Aid - CalGrant

- AHS Counselors will submit CalGrant GPA verifications this fall
- Address in Aeries needs to match address on FAFSA
- You also need to submit the FAFSA - between October 1 and March 2 for priority consideration
- CalGrant can be used at almost every California 2- or 4-year institution
Community College

- 112 campuses in California
  - 11 with dorms
  - 108 with athletics
  - 50+ with honors/scholars programs
  - All have EOPS/support for disadvantaged students

- Multiple pathways
  - Transfer to 4-year universities for degree
  - 2-year Associate degree
  - Certificate programs in many career fields

- Eligibility: high school diploma OR age 18
  - SAT/ACT not required, even for transfer
  - Enrollment starts in spring of 12th grade
Community College

- Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) to 6 UC campuses
- Associate’s Degree for Transfer (AA-T) to 23 CSU campuses
- CCs also work with private and out-of-state universities to facilitate transfers

- [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org) to view requirements and articulation agreements
- [www.cccapply.org](http://www.cccapply.org) to apply or explore campuses
Summary of 4-year requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CSU</th>
<th>UC</th>
<th>Private</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GPA</strong></td>
<td>10(^{th}) – 11(^{th}) a-g Classes Only</td>
<td>10(^{th}) – 11(^{th}) a-g Classes Only</td>
<td>Overall Cumulative 9(^{th}) – 11(^{th}) ( Reported on Transcript)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>College Admission Tests</strong></td>
<td>SAT/ACT with or without writing</td>
<td>SAT/ACT w/ writing SAT Subject Test (depends on major)</td>
<td>SAT/ACT w/ writing SAT Subject Test (some require)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transcripts</strong></td>
<td>Student submits when asked</td>
<td>Student submits when asked</td>
<td>Counselor Submits Student Submits Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Personal Statement</strong></td>
<td>Not Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extracurricular</strong></td>
<td>Not Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Letters of Rec</strong></td>
<td>Not Required</td>
<td>Not Required</td>
<td>Required (# varie)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Class Rank</strong></td>
<td>Not Reported</td>
<td>Not Reported</td>
<td>Reported by Counselor (AHS does not rank)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reports</strong></td>
<td>Not Required</td>
<td>Not Required</td>
<td>Secondary, Mid-Year, &amp; Final Report</td>
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</table>
COVID-19

- Remember that students everywhere are affected by this global pandemic and colleges are working to adapt admissions processes and campus life
- Do your research about what universities are doing now to support students during Covid-19
- Know whether your university will allow you to defer admission/take gap year
- Virtual campus tours available - check college websites
CSU Eligibility (old)

- Complete a-g requirements and take SAT/ACT
- 3.0 GPA: you are eligible with any SAT or ACT score
- 2.0-2.9 GPA: check eligibility index [https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/eligibility-index/](https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/eligibility-index/)
- CSU does not require or consider essays, letters of rec, list of activities
- San Francisco State and Cal State East Bay are our service area schools – minimum eligibility = guaranteed admission!
- Check Cal State Apply for impaction info
CSU Eligibility – Class of 2021

• Temporary suspension of use of SAT/ACT
• California residents and graduates of California high schools will be eligible for admission by earning a 2.50 or greater “a-g" GPA.
• CA grads with GPA between 2.00 and 2.49 may be evaluated for admission based upon supplemental factors: number of courses exceeding minimum “a-g", household income, extracurricular involvement, etc. Each CSU campus will determine the supplemental factors used with GPA to determine eligibility in these cases and communicate these criteria publicly for prospective students.
• Impacted campuses may use higher a-g thresholds
How to apply to CSUs

• Online application at www2.calstate.edu/apply
• Filing period Oct 1. thru Dec. 4. Apply early!
• Fill out application for one campus. If applying to multiple campuses, you will only need to complete cover page for each additional campus.
• Application fee per campus is $70
• Courses and grades are self reported. Transcripts only sent if college requests it. Check your emails often!
• EOP deadlines and requirements vary
• Application available online now: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply
• Filing period: November 1-30. Apply early!

Eligibility requirements:
• Complete 15 UC-required a-g courses
• Minimum weighted GPA of 3.0
• ACT with Writing or SAT with Writing. SAT Subject Tests not required; recommended for some STEM majors
• No letters of recommendation – but some campuses/majors are starting to ask for letters as part of a supplemental review
• Like CSU, self-report courses and grades. Final transcript sent at the end of the school year.
• Include any a-g approved classes taken outside of AHS
• Test scores submitted to one UC campus will be released to all UC campuses
• ONE application. Check boxes to add campuses. $70/campus
UC Eligibility and Application – c/o ‘21

For fall 2021 freshman admission only, UC is:

• Suspending the letter grade requirement for A-G courses completed in winter/spring/summer 2020 for all students. P grades meet eligibility but do not calculate into reported GPA

• Suspending the standardized test requirement for students applying for fall 2021 freshman admission and ensuring “no student is harmed in admissions selection should they not submit a test score.”

• Honoring AP scores of 3, 4 or 5 as in previous years
How UC applications are reviewed

“Comprehensive Review”

- Academic grade point average in all completed "a-g" courses in 10th and 11th gr.
- Test scores (SAT or ACT)
- Number of and performance in UC-approved Honors and AP courses
- Quality of your senior-year program
- Special talents, achievements and awards
- Extra-curricular activities
- Unique opportunities and experiences
- UC Personal Statement ("personal insight questions")
## UC Personal Insight Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>DO</strong></th>
<th><strong>DO NOT</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Select question that is most applicable</td>
<td>Be campus specific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep it Professional</td>
<td>Use quotations or Dialogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use &quot;I&quot; and &quot;My&quot; statements</td>
<td>Use Creative Writing or Literary Devices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be Concise, but detailed</td>
<td>Set the Scene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be Honest</td>
<td>Restate the question</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be cautious of timeline</td>
<td>Ask philosophical questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Different topic for each question</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Private/Out of State Universities

- For colleges that require transcripts, recommendations etc. from AHS, use Naviance to manage applications. We recommend this for all applications including UC/CSU.

- Common App schools – you will link Common App with Naviance, request recommendations thru Naviance.

- If you are applying to colleges that accept both Common App and Coalition App, it is recommended to use Common App.

- If you are applying to Coalition App exclusive schools, indicate that you are applying directly to institution in Naviance.
Private/Out of State Universities

• See Naviance videos and Common App help for useful tips:
  - If applying to Common App colleges, create account on [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org), complete “education” section and sign FERPA waiver
  - On Naviance > Colleges > Colleges I’m Applying To, complete Common App matching (see video on homepage)
  - Add colleges and request recommendations in Naviance
Activities section/Additional comments

• Activities and personal circumstances will be more important this year than ever with waiver of testing requirement

• Pay attention to how you list activities and thoroughly explain your individual circumstances

• Utilize the help features in UC and Common App!

• Quality over quantity!
### Managing College Applications

#### Match with Common App here!

#### Videos on Naviance explain this process!
Managing College Applications

Request Letters of Rec here!
Things to know when completing the Common App

• Counseling Office phone: (510) 558-2650
• Counselor’s name and email: see AHS website
• Graduation date: 6/11/21
• GPA: Total 9-12 Weighted GPA (3rd GPA on your transcript)
• We do not report class rank
• Graduating class size = 291
• Current year courses: be sure to list 2nd semester
• Complete FERPA waiver. You must authorize the school to send materials to the Common App.
• When asked if you “waive your right” to see your letters of recommendation, we strongly recommend answering YES

This gives admissions officers more confidence in the letters they receive
School Report/Letters of Rec

- Secondary School Report request: if you are applying to colleges/scholarships/programs that require a counselor to complete a school report (includes letter of rec), we will require you to fill out information about yourself: https://ahs.ausdk12.org/college-app-planning. Due 9/25 for Early Decision, 10/9 for Regular Decision.

- On Naviance – you can request recommendations from teachers from “Colleges I’m Applying To” page. Be sure to talk with the teacher first!

- Check the number of recommendations requested by each college – submitting more is not to your advantage
Who should apply Early Action/Decision?

Applying to an ED or EA plan is most appropriate for a student who:
Has researched colleges extensively.
Is absolutely sure that the college is the first choice.
Has found a college that is a strong match academically, socially and geographically.
Meets or exceeds the admission profile for the college for SAT scores, GPA and class rank.
Has an academic record that has been consistently solid over time.

Applying to an ED or EA plan is not appropriate for a student who:
Has not thoroughly researched colleges.
Is applying early just to avoid stress and paperwork.
Is not fully committed to attending the college.
Is applying early only because friends are.
Needs a strong senior fall semester to bring grades up.

From The College Board https://professionals.collegeboard.org/guidance/applications/early
School Report/Letter of Recommendation Request

Google form!

The completed form must be submitted by the listed deadlines AND you must match Naviance with your Common App account. Once complete and turned in, your counselor will make an appointment to review it with you.
Stamped, addressed envelope

You may need these for some secondary school reports and scholarship applications.

College Admission Office
P. O. Box 2435
Collegetown, CA 90210

Leave return address field blank

Provide sufficient postage!
Remember…

• Grade 12 grades will be included in the final GPA calculation (don’t blow it senior year!)

• Final transcript sent by AHS at the end of the year to the college you will attend – keep Naviance updated

• College applications are complicated – help is available!
  ✓ Drop-in college application help - late October-November. Listen for announcements!
  ✓ We encourage all senior to have their applications reviewed before submission. It’s easy to make mistakes!
Thank you for coming!