

SUNSET HIGH SCHOOL

2018-2019

12TH GRADE PRESENTATION

NAVIGATING POST-HIGH SCHOOL PLANNING AND
THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

College Admissions Reminders

- ▶ There is no “magic formula” for getting into colleges.
 - No single factor is the reason why a particular student is admitted. The college is looking to fit its *own* criteria each year.
- ▶ Colleges receive more applications than available spaces, so even highly qualified applicants may be denied.
- ▶ Not being admitted is not a reflection of an applicant’s worth or ability nor is it a prediction of future success.

Suggestions to minimize stress and increase success:

- Apply to colleges that are a good fit for you in multiple ways.
- Use a calendar or spreadsheet to set goals and alerts for deadlines.
- Utilize the many resources available to you – ask questions!
- Take care of yourself – take breaks and don’t compare yourself to friends.

Creating & Finalizing a College List

What ranks as most important to you? Use multiple factors:

Personal Fit: Majors, Location, Size, Campus Life/Activities

Academic Fit: Admissions Rates, Freshman Student Profile

Financial Fit: Cost, Scholarship Opportunities, Travel Expenses

Your List Should Mostly Include:

- ✓ **“Safety” Schools** – Well exceeds admission requirements
- ✓ **“Match” Schools** – Meets or exceeds admission requirements & costs

And a few...

- ✓ **“Reach” Schools** - Admission is very competitive regardless of student preparation (historically low admission rates – less than 25%), student does not meet or exceed requirements, or the costs exceeds your college budget

- Use college websites and search tools to research admission criteria and acceptance rates.

Creating & Finalizing a College List

- For impacted or competitive majors, plan to have significantly more safety schools.
 - Research each college to find out: Can you choose an alternate major for consideration if not selected for first choice?
- Keep your list manageable (8-10) and focus on what is right for you.
- Applications involve many specific steps and each item must be done carefully.
 - **Example:** If you were applying as an Engineering Major at Ohio State, they will only consider Engineering applications received by November 1.
- Fees range from \$45-\$90 and applying to a large number of schools can be time-consuming and expensive.

Community College

- [CA Community Colleges](#)
- High school diploma to enroll
- SAT/ACT not required
- Complete Mira Costa College application & attend Matriculation Day in spring term (later deadlines than 4-year universities)
- Students who are not admitted to their first choice college or do not receive sufficient financial aid may attend and transfer with higher acceptance rates.

Benefits:

- Smaller class sizes
- Lower costs
- Allows time to take general ed. requirements before choosing a major
- Preparatory career programs like culinary arts, cosmetology or audio tech.
- Can earn professional certificates, associate degrees and/or participate in [transfer programs](#), including the [UC TAG](#).



Cal State Universities (CSU)

Application Tips

- [23 CSU campuses](#) - Apply broadly!
- Open October 1 – November 30
- Use your transcript to enter **College Preparatory (P, HP, or AP)** courses.
 - Each transcript grade = **semester** (fall/spring) grade.
 - Official transcript not required at the time of application unless a campus or program specifically requests it. Read all instructions and emails.
 - Input grades without plus/minus signs
 - Don't forget to enter all 12th grade classes

Admission

- Fulfill the minimum GPA requirement (2.5 CSU GPA) and [A-G subject requirements](#)
 - Can view on Aeries under “Test Scores – College Entrance Req’s.”
- Submit scores for ACT or SAT (CSU does not require the Writing scores from SAT or ACT.)
 - Use SAT code **3594** to send scores to all CSUs (or choose one campus and they will share your scores with any you apply to.)
 - Send official ACT scores to one CSU and all campuses will share with each other.
- Determined by an [eligibility index](#)

University of California (UC)

Application Tips

- 9 UC campuses - Apply broadly and review options for selecting majors.
 - Example: Some schools only allow ONE major selection; others will consider you for a back-up choice if your first major is impacted.
- Application is open now to fill out; can submit Nov 1- 30, 2018
- Use your transcript to self-report **College Preparatory (P, HP, or AP)** courses.
 - Each transcript grade = semester (fall/spring) grade.
 - Official transcript not required at the time of application unless a campus or program specifically requests it. Read all instructions and emails.
 - Input grades without plus/minus signs
 - Don't forget to enter all 12th grade classes
- Complete the scholarship information within the UC application.

University of California (UC)

Admission

- Fulfill the minimum GPA requirement (3.0 UC GPA) and [A-G subject requirements](#)
 - Can view on Aeries under “Test Scores – College Entrance Reqs.”
- Submit scores for SAT or ACT **WITH WRITING**
 - If official SAT or ACT scores are sent to one UC campus, they will share with other campuses to which you apply.
- SAT Subject exams are **not** required but may be submitted *if they add value*. Visit the [UC website](#) for more information on recommendations based on campus and major.
- Determined by [Admission Index](#) & [Comprehensive Review](#). All campuses use the same 14 factors to evaluate applications but may apply them differently and make admission decisions independently. Be sure to review the process of each campus.

Private & Out-of-State University Admission

- ▶ Private and Out of State Universities vary on requirements and application portals
 - Examples: Common App, Coalition App, ApplyTexas, etc.
- ▶ Many use a holistic review
 - Extracurricular activities, portfolios, auditions and letters of recommendations play a more significant role.
- ▶ The most used application portal for private schools is...
 - Common Application!
 - More than 750 colleges use this portal
 - If a school offers multiple options, we recommend selecting Common App.

Application Types & Deadlines

Type of Application	Binding?	Details
Regular Decision (RD)	No.	Due Nov. 30 - Feb. 1. Most students should use Regular Decision.
Priority Deadline	No.	Earlier than RD, often used to screen for scholarships along with application review.
Rolling Admissions	No.	Accepts applicants anytime throughout the cycle. Often will provide a decision within 4-8 weeks of a completed app.
Early Action (EA)	No.	Due Oct. 15 – Nov. 15. Receive decision back earlier than RD pool of applicants.
Single Choice/ Restrictive Early Action	No.	Often due Nov. 1. Choose only one campus to apply with early deadline; all others must be RD applications.
Early Decision (ED)	YES.	BINDING AGREEMENT. Usually Oct. 15 – Nov. 15 th deadline. If accepted, student is required to attend. Parent, student, and counselor signs contract before submitting. Can apply to other schools non-binding, but only one Early Decision.

Drawbacks & Benefits of Early Applications

Common Application

Application Tips:

- List classes as semester courses/credits.
- Personal essays and additional supplemental materials
 - Supplements - Please follow the instructions for each college as these have varying requirements and steps.
 - Example: Submit Common App, but then a new portal is opened for you to submit portfolio items.
- Make sure your essays are proofread.
 - Common App Essay goes to ALL schools – do not list one particular school name.
 - Supplemental questions can be personalized to each school.

Common Application

STEP ONE: Create a Common Application account via commonapp.org. Begin by filling out your personal and school information. Common App has [Instructional Videos](#) that walk you through EVERY SECTION – watch them! 😊

STEP TWO: [Add Colleges](#) to your list via the application.

STEP THREE: Research each college to find out:

- How many & what types of letters of recommendation do they require? (See photo.)
- Do they request any specific subject teachers based on your planned major?
 - Use Common App tools, university website, or email the admissions representatives.
- Ask teachers **IN PERSON** for a letter (only once you know a letter is required for at least one or more of your schools.)

Application Information

Application Fees :

First Year Domestic Fee- \$80

First Year International Fee- \$80

Standardized Test Policy:

[Always Required](#)

SAT w/o Essay or ACT w/o Essay

Standardized Test Requirements

Courses & Grades:

Not Used

Recommendations:

School Report Required

Counselor Recommendation Required

Mid Year Report Required

Final Report Required

Teacher Evaluation(s): 1 Required, 1 Optional

Other Evaluation(s): 0 Required, 1 Optional

Teacher & Counselor Requirements

Saves school forms after matriculation:

Yes

Writing Requirements

[Common App Personal Essay](#)

Required

College Questions

1 Required Question

1 Optional Question

Additional Details

Depending on your answers to some questions you will be required to complete additional writing questions.

Writing Supplement

There is no writing supplement for this college.

The information displayed above is for First Year applicants.

Add

Common Application

STEP FOUR: Add Recommenders to your application.

- Teachers (core academic subjects) will submit an evaluation form and a letter of recommendation via Common App
- Counselors will submit a transcript, evaluation form and a letter of recommendation
- “Other Recommenders” could be an arts teacher, coach, employer, etc.

Recommenders for Boston University

Note: All dates are Eastern Time

- Counselor**
You must invite a school Counselor who will complete the School Report and other forms for you.
[Invite Counselor](#)
- Teacher**
Please select and assign the Teacher(s) below whose recommendation will be submitted to this college on your behalf. You must first invite a Teacher using the 'Invite Teacher' link before you can assign them for this college.

Required: 1	Optional: 1	Total: 2
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[Invite Teacher](#)
- Other Recommender**
Please select and assign the Other Recommender(s) below whose recommendation(s) will be submitted to this college on your behalf. You must invite an Other Recommender using the 'Invite Other Recommender' link before you can assign them for this college.
Recommender types accepted by this college:

If there is no Counselor at your school, you may list your principal or other school official, inte ... [+]
[\[more\]](#) ➔

I'm out of high school. Who do I list if I no longer have a counselor?
Please contact your high school or the local authority that will provide your transcripts. You can ... [+]
[\[more\]](#) ➔

How do I assign my recommenders?
Once you've added your Teacher or Other Recommender to your "Invite and Manage Recommender ... [+]
[\[more\]](#) ➔

How do I resend a Recommender Invite?
There are two ways you can resend a recommender invite. If you have already assigned your recommend ... [+]
[\[more\]](#) ➔

Requesting a Teacher or Counselor Recommendation Via Common App

1. Ask in person first.
2. Complete the [Brag Packet](#). Email the Brag Packet to your recommender and confirm whether they would like any other materials (resume, sample of work, etc.)
3. [Invite teachers](#) and/or counselor via Common App.
4. Within one day of inviting recommenders online, give a personalized, signed [FERPA](#) form for each recommender. Hand this to your recommenders in person.
5. After letters have been submitted, prepare a thank you note for each recommender. 😊

FERPA guidelines:

1. Confirm that the colleges to which you are applying REQUIRE/ACCEPT letters of recommendation.
 2. Complete the Brag Packet and finalize your college list before turning in the FERPA.
 3. Start list with earliest college deadline.
 4. Complete your name, staff name and signatures in pen.
- **Deadlines to Turn in FERPA:**
Regular Admission - Oct. 31

Non-Common App: Be SPECIFIC on Method of Delivery. Are we mailing it? Email link? Provide stamped, pre-addressed envelope or needed forms/links.

Waiving rights? It is student choice. Some colleges will not give as much weight to non-confidential letters. Some staff will not prepare letters if not waived.

UC and CSU campuses should NOT be on this list. They do not take Letters of Rec. with initial application.

Official Transcripts

- Review the transcript to confirm that all information is accurate including legal name and birth date.
- For any official transcripts requested by colleges:
 - Common App: Counselor will upload within school portal
 - Non-Common App Private/Out of State Colleges:
 - Students can order official transcripts from the Registrar in person or order online via Parchment. Allow 24-48 hours processing time.
 - If application has a counselor portal, counselor may be able to upload. List on FERPA.
- Off campus classes: Students must have an Off Campus Course form on file with the registrar and be completed by **Friday, May 31, 2019** to be posted to the 12th grade transcript before final transcripts.
 - For off-campus classes that are not posted to the transcript, you must contact the other school to have a transcript sent to colleges directly from their institution.

All final transcripts in June must be ordered from the Registrar to be mailed to the college you will be attending.

Transcript

p= college prep/CSU-UC a-g

Note: Each college determines which GPA to use for admission and it is the student's responsibility to use the appropriate GPA per the application instructions.

- GPA is on a 4.0 scale.
- SDUHSD does **not rank** students.
- Cumulative GPA means 9-12 GPA at the time of application.

Total GPA 9 -12: Includes every course taken in grades 9-12.

Acad. GPA 9-12: Includes all courses taken in 9-12, except PE, Peer Tutor/TA and courses graded with a Pass/Fail.

Acad. GPA 10-12: Includes all courses taken in 10 -12, except PE, Peer Tutor/TA and courses graded with a Pass/Fail.

Crs-ID	Course Title	Mark	Att/Cmp	Crs-ID	Course Title	Mark	Att/Cmp	Crs-ID	Course Title	Mark	Att/Cmp
Grade 9 Fall 2014-2015				T0550	Health	B	5.00 5.00	A7582S	Business Math	B	5.00 5.00
La Costa Canyon HS				p T6510	Art	A	5.00 5.00	B6551S	Drawing	A	5.00 5.00
p B6572	Acting I P	B	5.00 5.00	p T6510	Band	B	5.00 5.00	p E1541	English 12 P	A	5.00 5.00
p E1501	English 9 P	B	5.00 5.00	T8500	Marketing	B	5.00 5.00	p E1541S	English 12 P	B	5.00 5.00
p G5651	Am Sgn Ln IP	B	5.00 5.00	Credit Att: 35.00 Cmp: 35.00 TGPA: 3.00				Credit Att: 20.00 Cmp: 20.00 TGPA: 3.50			
M2590	Int Math I Read	B	5.00 5.00	Grade 11 Fall 2016-2017							
* P0560	Dance	A	5.00 5.00	Dehesa Charter School							
p R4562	Biology I P	C	5.00 5.00	p E1531	English 11 P	B	5.00 5.00				
Credit Att: 30.00 Cmp: 30.00 TGPA: 3.00				p S3561	US History P	C	5.00 5.00				
Grade 9 Spring 2014-2015				* T0500	General PE	A	5.00 5.00				
La Costa Canyon HS				p T4560	Earth Science	A	5.00 5.00				
p B6572	Acting I P	B	5.00 5.00	T7500	Computer Apps1	B	5.00 5.00				
p E1501	English 9 P	B	5.00 5.00	T7500	Per Finance A	C	5.00 5.00				
p G5651	Am Sgn Ln IP	B	5.00 5.00	p T8510	Entrepreneurship	B	5.00 5.00				
M2590	Int Math I Read	C	5.00 5.00	Credit Att: 35.00 Cmp: 35.00 TGPA: 3.00							
* P0560	Dance	A	5.00 5.00	Grade 11 Spring 2016-2017							
p R4562	Biology I P	B	5.00 5.00	Out Of State							
Credit Att: 30.00 Cmp: 30.00 TGPA: 3.00				A0000	Palmer HS		0.00 0.00				
Grade 10 Fall 2015-2016				p S3571	US Government	C	5.00 5.00				
Out Of State				T1500	English 6	C	5.00 5.00				
A0000	Sierra HS		0.00 0.00	T3600	US Hist	A	5.00 5.00				
p E1521	English 10 P	B	5.00 5.00	p T4560	Geology	A	5.00 5.00				
p G5651	Am Sgn Ln IP	B	5.00 5.00	T6500	Frhand Drwing 1	A	5.00 5.00				
p M2592	Int Math I P	C	5.00 5.00	T8500	General Art 1	B	5.00 5.00				
p S3551	World History	B	5.00 5.00	Credit Att: 30.00 Cmp: 30.00 TGPA: 3.17							
* T0500	Yoga	B	5.00 5.00	Grade 12 Fall 2017-2018							
T8500	Marketing	B	5.00 5.00	Sunset							
Credit Att: 30.00 Cmp: 30.00 TGPA: 2.83				A7582	Business Math	B	5.00 5.00				
Grade 10 Spring 2015-2016				B6551	Drawing	A	5.00 5.00				
Out Of State				H7516	Cuisine	B	5.00 5.00				
A0000	Sierra HS		0.00 0.00	p S3581	Economics P	A	5.00 5.00				
p E1521	English 10 P	B	5.00 5.00	Credit Att: 20.00 Cmp: 20.00 TGPA: 3.50							
p M2592	Int Math I P	C	5.00 5.00	Grade 12 Spring 2017-2018							
p S3551	World History P	B	5.00 5.00	Sunset							
Course Tags: * = Non Academic + = Honors (weighted) p = College Prep r = Repeated											
Weighted Non-Wgtd				Date	Test Taken	Score		CREDIT SUMMARY			
Acad GPA (9-12) 3.02 3.02				Comp	Health Req	y		Subject Area	Credit Req'd	Compl	Needed
Acad GPA (10-12) 3.09 3.09								English	40.00	40.00	-
Total GPA (9-12) 3.09 3.09								Mathematics	30.00	30.00	-
Credit Attempted: 230.00								Social Science	30.00	30.00	-
Credit Completed: 230.00								Physical Education	20.00	20.00	-
								Physical Science	10.00	10.00	-
								Life Science	10.00	10.00	-
								Fine/Performing Art	10.00	10.00	-
								Practical Art	10.00	10.00	-
								Elective	70.00	70.00	-
								* TOTALS *	230.00	230.00	-
								Algebra 1 Requirement Met			
District Enter: 8/28/2012											
School Enter: 8/28/2017											
School Leave: 3/29/2018											
Standard HS Diploma:											
3/29/2018											

Do Colleges Care About Senior Classes and Grades?



- ▶ Absolutely! They expect to see performance that indicates students are ready to succeed in college-level coursework.
- ▶ Students will include all 12th grade courses (1st and 2nd term) in applications. Colleges do not have a preference related to terms.

- ▶ Some colleges will also require mid-year reports and transcripts at the end of first term.
- ▶ A college can withdraw an offer of admission when courses change or grades drop significantly over the course of the senior year. For many colleges this includes a D or F grade in any course.
- ▶ If classes change after an application is submitted a student must notify the college(s). We recommend contacting colleges directly before changing courses.

College Entrance Testing

SAT or Subject Test Date	Registration Date	Late Registration Date Additional Fee Applies
October 6, 2018	PASSED	September 26, 2018
November 3, 2018	October 5, 2018	October 24, 2018
December 1, 2018	November 2, 2018	November 20, 2018

ACT Test Date	Registration Date	Late Registration Date Additional Fee Applies
October 27, 2018	Sept. 28, 2018	October 14, 2018
December 8, 2018	November 2, 2018	November 19, 2018

December test administrations are usually the last dates accepted by most colleges for regular decision; September & October for Early applications. Check with each college individually.

Register and send scores at www.collegeboard.org for the SAT and www.act.org for the ACT. AP, SAT and ACT scores must be ordered directly from College Board and ACT. Some schools accept “Self-Reported SAT and ACT Scores.” Check with each college individually.

- www.fairtest.org: A resource with a list of colleges and universities that do not require the ACT or SAT for admission.

Personal Statements/Essays

- ▶ Personal statements should be crafted in the students' own voice, using concrete examples to support the points made.
- ▶ The statement is presenting an overall picture that cannot be found elsewhere in the application.
- ▶ Do not just repeat information that is already included, such as listing extracurricular activities.
- ▶ Save all work & ask multiple people to proofread.
- ▶ Don't force your UC Personal Insight Questions into a Common App prompt or vice versa. You must answer each question specifically; readers will notice if it seems 'off.'
- ▶ Some further resources:
 - <https://www.nacacfairs.org/learn/apply/EssayTips/>
 - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays/tips-for-writing-an-effective-application-essay-college-admissions>

Costs & Financial Aid

- [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) Open October 1, 2018 (recommended to submit by March 1, 2019 for maximum consideration of state aid.)
 - First come, first serve. When funds are depleted, no more awards are given out.
- [2018-2019 - CSS/Financial Aid Profile](#) used by many institutions to award institutional financial aid, becomes available to families on Oct. 1, 2018
 - Confirm whether any of your colleges **require** it
- Connect with College Financial Aid Offices & Applications
- Private [Scholarships](#)
- Resources – including net costs and calculators:
 - [College Board](#)
 - [College Navigator](#)



COME TO OUR FINANCIAL AID NIGHT!

Join us and learn more
about FREE money for
school.

We will cover FAFSA
Updates, Scholarships, and
answer any questions you
may have.

November 8, 2017
COUNSELING OFFICE
ROOM A-3
5:30PM - 6:30PM

Final Thoughts

- ▶ Use an appropriate email account specifically for college applications.
 - Create folders in your inbox for each college, read everything thoroughly and save! **Save all application usernames and passwords.**
- ▶ Communication to admissions reps should come from the STUDENT, not the parent.
 - Emails or phone calls should be professional and respectful of their time.
- ▶ If you feel stressed out, take time to participate in one of your favorite activities, take a break, or ask for help.
- ▶ Give teachers and counselor adequate time to complete a letter of recommendation (three weeks). You will likely not receive a letter after the set deadlines or with only several days notice.
- ▶ Students with questions should schedule an appointment time! 😊
- ▶ Be kind (and ethical) to each other and yourselves. It's an exciting time!