NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2024
COLLEGE APPLICATION
AND
ADMISSION GUIDEBOOK

596 S. Second St.

San Jose, CA 95112

Introduction

The senior year in high school has surely become one of the acknowledged "rites of passage" – not only because it is the beginning of the student's leaving home for a more independent life, but also because it includes the college application journey. It is our sincere hope at Notre Dame High School that this college application journey be one of personal discovery and accomplishment: that the college choices our students make are determined by informed decision-making and assisted by our professional guidance. Ultimately, we hope that college counseling will lessen stress and increase self-confidence in making one of life's important decisions. The skills our seniors learn will take them through many more decision making tasks throughout their lives. Congratulations on being a member of the senior class of Notre Dame High School and be assured that the college admission process will be manageable, positive and a great prelude to your college days!

NOTRE DAME SAN JOSE

College Counseling Timeline
Senior Year: Class of 2024

Fall 2023

Events: <u>All family education programs will be virtual this fall</u>, links will be sent as we get closer to the event

- August 29: Senior College Kickoff- 7:00pm (via zoom)
- December 5th: Financial Aid Information Night - 7 PM (virtually w/Bellarmine)
- **December TBD**: FAFSA Step by Step Demo

Events at ND for students:
- September 11th-November 16th- College Visits to Notre Dame Campus
- September 28th-Jesuit Excellence Tour (JET) College Fair @ND
- November 30th- Out of State College Fair @ ND

Other VERY Important Dates for Fall:

- **September 25th:** Final date to:
  - Confirm edits to transcripts
  - Sign the Cal Grant Verification Form that is listed in PowerSchool
- **September 29th**- Application Plan Submission Deadline. Application plans will be shared with you after the College Kick-off program.

_____

Community Programming & Check-ins
- All seniors will meet with the Director of College Counseling for a check-in in the first few weeks of school. Students are responsible for checking their emails for the calendar invite and attending the meeting.
- Community Programming Meetings will include topics such as:
  - Transcript Request Procedures
  - Application Process Procedures
  - Benchmarking application materials
  - How to deal with college application outcomes

College Counseling Timeline
Senior Year: Class of 2024

Spring 2024

Events:
- May 17th: Launching to College (Virtual Parent Program), time TBD

Events at ND for students:
- May 15th: College Picture Day
- June 1: Graduation

Other VERY Important Dates for Spring:

- **May 1st:** National Candidate Reply Date

_____

Community Programming:

- College Panel
- Senior Survey-Outcomes
- College Decision Making/Celebration

Senior Year Check-list:

<u>IMPORTANT:</u> Please visit your Dragon Google Classroom Page for communication and resources throughout the year. This is the PRIMARY way of sharing information with students.

Fall

☐Narrow college choices and keep your "Colleges Considering" list up-to-date in Maia Learning.
☐Verify application deadlines.
  - Pay close attention to Early Action, Early Decision, and Priority Filing deadlines.

☐Confirm all admissions document requirements for each school (ex: testing policy, number of/type of letters of rec).
☐ Attend college visits at Notre Dame (register through Maia Learning) and engage with college admissions counselors. Attend College Fairs hosted on campus.
☐ Research financial aid, scholarships and grants. Meet all deadlines.
☐ Visit colleges and schedule interviews, if available.
☐Check your email for messages.
☐ Verify your ND transcript does not need to be edited (follow the steps shared by Ms.Perkins and Ms.Warner) due- **September 25th**
☐ Complete the Cal Grant Verification form on PowerSchool due- **September 25th**
☐Send standardized test scores to colleges that require them through ACT.org or collegeboard.org.
☐Ensure your teacher letter of recommendation requests have been submitted into Maia
☐Check with teachers writing your letters of recommendation to see if they need more information.
☐Meet with Ms. Perkins for your senior one-on-one to review college list, essays and applications.
☐ File the FAFSA and check to see if college requires you to file the CSS Profile.
☐**Submit your Application Plan to Ms. Perkins via email by the deadline and update your college list on Maia Learning by September 29th, 2023**

Spring

☐ Track application status for each college
☐ Report admission decisions to Maia Learning and to Director of College Counseling
☐ Report college choice to Maia Learning and to Director of College Counseling
☐ **<u>Keep copies of ALL scholarship names/amounts received. We will need this for end of the year reporting!</u>**
☐ Prepare for Advanced Placement (AP) exam(s), if appropriate

☐ Continue scholarship research and application process.

☐Continue strong academic achievement.

☐ Continue scholarship research and applications.

☐ Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center if you are hoping to play Division I or Division II athletics.

☐Submit additional information to colleges if wait-listed.

☐Review and compare financial aid packages.

☐ Attend campus preview /admit open house days.

☐Submit housing information, as appropriate.

☐Prepare for Advanced Placement (AP) exam(s), if appropriate.

☐Send deposit to one college by May 1. Do not double deposit! You could lose your place at both schools.

☐ Send AP scores to the college you will attend, if appropriate.

☐ Notify other colleges in writing of your decision and withdraw applications.

☐ Notify and thank faculty who wrote letters of recommendation for you where you will go to college.

The Application Process & Your College List:

Finalizing Your College List & Submitting your Application Plan

Notre Dame Policy:
- Notre Dame uses Maia Learning as our College Counseling Platform.
- **ALL** students must have updated college lists on Maia Learning no later than Friday **September 29th.**
  - o List is considered complete when students indicate: the type of application, the deadline, and the major/program of study

- ALL students must also submit a copy of their Application Plan to Ms.Perkins no later than **September 29th**

- The recommendation at Notre Dame is that students should apply to 6-9 schools and MUST have 2-3 "likely" schools on their list. If a student does not have any likely schools on their list, their application plans will not be approved.

Transcripts:

Many colleges and universities require that students submit official transcripts as part of the application process.

Note: UC and CSU campuses require that students self-report their grades. No additional materials (transcripts & letters of rec) are sent, unless specifically requested by the school.

Notre Dame Policy:
- A student's Application Plan **IS** the transcript request document. By submitting your signed application plan, you are requesting transcripts be sent to the schools listed.
- Students must allow for a 2 week turnaround if they need to request additional transcripts be sent to schools.

- If a student plans to add a school to their list, they must complete the "Application Plan Update Form"

Submitting Your College Applications:

It is the student's responsibility to verify and confirm the required application materials. Each college will have unique application requirements.

Typical application requirements for 4 year institutions include:
- Online application
- Transcripts (through the end of Junior year)
- Teacher evaluations
- Counselor Evaluation
- Essays
- Midyear Transcripts (that include fall semester grades from 12th grade)

Types of applications:

The Common Application must be used as the default application platform for any school that offers it. We cannot accommodate the sending of application materials and documents via other platforms

Most students at Notre Dame will create 3 different application portals:

The Common Application- The Common Application is the most commonly used application platform. There are over 1000 schools on the Common App. Most private institutions and out of state public schools use the common application to help students streamline their application process.

UC Application- Opens 8/1, students will create one account and will use this account to apply to all UC Campuses.

CSU Application- Opens on 10/1, students will create one account and will use this account to apply to all Cal State University System campuses.

The Coalition Application- The Coalition Application is used by about 150 schools. If a school is both on the Coalition and the Common Application, students must use the Common App.

The University of California (UC)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

UC Davis ● ★ Sacramento

● UC Berkeley

UC Santa Cruz ● ● UC Merced

UC Santa Barbara ●

UCLA ● ● UC Riverside

● UC Irvine

● UC San Diego

The University of California is one of the finest research universities in the world. Its academic offerings span 150 disciplines, with more departments ranked in the top 10 nationally than that of any other public or private university. The rewards of a UC education extend beyond the University's classroom. UC graduates enjoy high acceptance rates at graduate and professional schools and compete successfully in the job market with graduates of the other top universities and colleges.

The campuses are:
Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles (UCLA), Merced, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco (graduate only), Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz

UC Admissions at Glance

Application Filing Period: Submit only one application and indicate all campus choices on it. The filing period is October 1 through November 30; however, the application will be available online August 1 so you can begin working on it. The application is available at: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

Personal Insight Questions: The personal insight questions are your chance to tell admissions staff who you are and what's important to you. You will have 8 questions to choose from. You must respond to only 4 of the 8 questions. Each response is limited to a maximum of 350 words. Which questions you choose is entirely up to you. But, you should select questions that are most relevant to your experience and that best reflect your individual circumstances. The Personal Insight Questions can be found at: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-freshman/personal-insight-questions.html

Eligibility Requirements: To be eligible for admission, a student must have a minimum grade point average (on a recalculated scale for the UC/CSU system) of 3.0. In addition, students must complete the required "A-G" courses, with a minimum of a "C" in each course. Some Honors and AP courses qualify for an extra point when calculating the GPA. Please refer to the UC website for complete eligibility requirements. The website for this is https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist/institution/3509 UC GPA Calculation

Students must complete 15 A-G courses with a "C" or better- 11 of them need to be completed by the end of Junior year.

You need to complete a minimum of 15 college-preparatory courses (A-G courses) with a letter grade of C or better. For courses completed during Winter 2020 through summer 2021, UC will also accept a grade of CR (credit) and P (pass). You must complete at least 11 of these courses prior to the beginning of your last year of high school.

The 15 courses are:

a. History	2 years
b. English	4 years
c. Mathematics	3 years
d. Science	2 years
e. Language other than English *or equivalent to the 2nd level of high school instruction	2 years*
f. Visual and performing arts	1 year
g. College-preparatory elective (chosen from the subjects listed above or another course approved by the university)	1 year

Please note these listed above are MINIMUM requirements. UC recommends 4 years of math, 3 years of science, and 3 years of language.

Testing Requirements:
The UC system has permanently removed the use of standardized testing in their admissions practices. Freshman applicants are not required to submit SAT/ACT test scores.

What does "test-free" mean?

- Standardized testing scores will not be used to determine admissions decisions.

 SAT/ACT scores may be used for:

- Students can choose to submit test scores that may be used for course placement ONCE you are enrolled at a campus of your choice.

Note: Both the CSU and UC systems do NOT require letters of recommendation (UC Berkeley which will reach out to some students to ask them to submit up to two letters of recommendation. DO NOT send letters of rec to Berkeley if they do not ask for them. If they do ask you for them, please see the Director of College Counseling)

California State University (CSU)

The CSU is a leader in high-quality, accessible, student-focused higher education. With 23 campuses, almost 433,000 students and 44,000 faculty and staff, the CSU system is the largest, the most diverse and one of the most affordable university systems in the country.

CSU Admissions at a Glance

1. The CSU will consider course grades of "credit" or "pass" as fulfilling "a-g" requirements for those courses completed during winter, spring or summer 2020 terms. All other coursework must be graded and a grade of C- or better must be earned for the course to satisfy "a-g" requirements. Grades of credit/pass or no credit/no pass will not be included in the calculation of high school GPA.

2. The California State University (CSU) has suspended the use of standardized testing in their admissions practices.
3. First-time freshmen must meet the following eligibility requirements: be a high school graduate or equivalent; complete the 15-unit comprehensive "a-g" pattern of college preparatory course; and earn a qualifying "a-g" grade point average (GPA) as described below.

   ○ California residents and graduates of California high schools will be eligible for admission by earning a 2.50 or greater "a-g" GPA.
   ○ Any California high school graduate or resident of California earning a GPA between 2.00 and 2.49 may be evaluated for admission based upon supplemental factors such as number of courses exceeding minimum "a-g" requirements, household income, extracurricular involvement, and other available information that would inform the campus admission decision. 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.

AdmissionTimeline: the CSU application is available at starting on October 1st. CSU applications are due 11/30. https://www2.calstate.edu/apply

The California Community College System

California Community College System comprises 72 districts, 112 community colleges (see map at the end of this guidebook), and enrolls more than 2.9 million students. Community colleges provide a general studies education, workforce training, and general education courses that prepare students for transfer to a four-year university. The colleges also offer opportunities for personal enrichment and lifelong learning. If you are considering attending a community college, please contact that college's Admission Office directly for more information about programs, classes and offerings. For more information on how you can afford college, please visit www.icanaffordcollege.com

Admission Requirements

Entrance Requirements: High School diploma or GED; 18 years of age.

Exam Requirements: Placement tests may be required in one or more of the following: English and/or Math.

Partial List of Community Colleges

Local	- Cabrillo - De Anza - Evergreen - Foothill - Mission - San Jose City - West Valley
Northern CA	- Canada - Skyline - Shasta - Lake Tahoe - College of San Mateo
Southern CA	- Cuesta - Santa Barbara City - Santa Monica - San Diego - Pasadena
Community Colleges with	- Columbia College - Feather River

Residence Halls	● College of the Redwoods ● Shasta College ● College of the Siskiyous ● Lassen College ● Reedley College ● Sierra College ● Taft College

Did You Know...

- That high school students may take courses at a community college.
- That there are many residential community colleges.
- Most community colleges have Transfer Admission Guarantees (TAG) or Transfer Admissions Agreements (TAA) with the University of California. See https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/transfer-requirements/transfer-admission-guarantee-tag.html for a list of those UCs.
- That UC gives **priority admission** to California Community College transfer students.
- That many private universities also have a Transfer Agreement set in place with Community Colleges.
- That community colleges offer career training programs, online classes and assistance in choosing the program or course to best suit your needs and interests.
- That many community colleges are now free to California Residents who have a lower household income.

How to Apply for Need Based Financial Aid:

<u>FAFSA:</u>

The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This document is required for students for eligibility for grants, scholarships, loans and work.

Completing the FAFSA will generate a **Student Aid Index (SAI)** for each family. The SAI will be used to determine a student's ability to pay for college and the amount of financial aid they can receive. The index will equal the sum of your parents' available income, your income and assets. Once you submit FAFSA, you'll receive your **FAFSA Submission Summary**, which details the information you included on the application and your SAI.

The FAFSA for the 2024-2025 school year will be available starting in December 2023.

Once the FAFSA is completed online, the **FAFSA Submission Summary** is reported electronically to colleges you listed. You will also receive a copy of the **FAFSA Submission Summary** by e-mail and you should make any changes necessary. The colleges will use the **SAI** to determine how much grant, scholarship, work and loan money you will be offered in a financial aid package.

<u>CSS Profile:</u>

Some colleges use the **CSS Profile** to gather additional financial information about the student and her family. Go to https://profileonline.collegeboard.org to look at the list of colleges and universities requiring this document, and to register and complete the PROFILE. The PROFILE becomes available during October of the senior year.

The **CSS Profile** may be filed, using estimated income figures, as early as the fall of one's senior year, and may be required by a private college to which you are applying. The Profile will ask many questions that appear on the FAFSA, but will include other questions about your family's financial situation and assets.

Colleges use the information on the PROFILE to determine, in addition to the FAFSA information, how much grant, scholarship, work-study, loan assistance you will be offered in the financial aid package.

Types of Financial Aid

The following types of financial aid are available from the federal government, states, colleges, and private sources:

- **GRANTS** are money you don't have to repay and are typically based on financial need. Check into California CAL GRANTS at https://www.csac.ca.gov/cal-grants and learn about federal Pell Grants at https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types
- **SCHOLARSHIPS** are also free money for college and are usually based on your area of study or merit, such as good grades; high test scores; athletic, musical or other special abilities; leadership; community service; and sometimes financial need.
- **WORK-STUDY or STUDENT EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS** – federal and college – let you earn money through certain jobs on or off campus to help pay for your education.
- **LOANS** are borrowed money that you must pay back, usually with interest.

YOUR Responsibilities as a Financial Aid Applicant to College

- Research the colleges you're considering.
- Review and consider all information about the college's programs before enrolling.
- Know and comply with the deadlines for applications or reapplications for financial aid. Intentional misrepresentation on an application for federal financial aid is a crime.
- Respond promptly and provide to the appropriate place all requested verification documentation, corrections to your financial aid application or additional information.
- Read and keep copies of all forms and agreements you sign.
- Ask your college's financial aid office whether you were awarded student employment, and for details about hours, duties, pay rate and how you'll be paid.
- Complete loan entrance counseling before you receive your first disbursement of a federal loan, and exit counseling before you leave school.
- Compare your anticipated monthly student loan payments and other expenses to your expected take-home pay after college.
- Notify your college and loan servicer promptly of changes in your name, permanent mailing address, telephone number, enrollment or marital status, or financial resources.
- Reapply for financial aid EACH YEAR you attend college

To make it easier for prospective students to figure out how much it will cost them to go to college, Congress passed a higher education law requiring all colleges to offer a "net price calculator" on their websites. USE this feature to estimate the amount of your college education, and potential financial aid, for each college you're applying to!

GLOSSARY OF COLLEGE TERMS

AA or AS (ASSOCIATE OF ARTS or ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCES)
A 2-year community college degree.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR
Breaks the school year into one of the following:
Semesters: two terms of 17-18 weeks
Quarters: three terms of 11 weeks
Trimesters: two terms of 15 weeks (third term optional)

ACCREDITATION
The recognition by an outside agency that the school maintains high standards which enable students to qualify for admission to other accredited institutions.

ACT
The ACT is a national college admissions examination that consists of subject area tests in English, Math, and Science. The ACT Plus Writing includes the four subject area tests plus a 30-minute Writing Test.

ACT results are accepted by all 4-year colleges and universities in the U.S.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
A set of rules established by each college for a student to be accepted.

"A-G" COURSES
Refers to the list of subjects required for admission by the University of California and the California State University (these are the minimum requirements)

a. U.S. History	2 years
b. English	4 years
c. Mathematics	3 years (4 years recommended)
d. Laboratory Science	2 years (3 years recommended)
e. Foreign Language	2 years (3 years recommended)
f. Visual & Performing Arts	1 year
g. Elective	1 year

ANALYTICAL WRITING PLACEMENT EXAM (AWPE) for the University of California
www.ucop.edu/elwr/

All incoming California students who have not met the Entry Level Writing Requirement by April 1, must take the UC Analytical Writing Placement Examination. The exam will be administered during a Saturday in May, at testing centers throughout the state.

AP (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)
A system by which college freshmen may by-pass entry-level courses by proving that they have already taken the equivalent in high school. Credit is awarded if a student earns a certain score on an AP exam taken in high school.

BA (BACHELOR OF ARTS) OR BS (BACHELOR OF SCIENCE)
A 4-year college degree, typically called the undergraduate degree.

CAL GRANTS
California Financial Aid. Available to students having financial need as they continue their education at a college or vocational school. You will receive information on Cal Grants in September of your senior year; your high school files the Cal Grant verification for you electronically (before the 10/1 deadline).

COLLEGE CATALOG
A book published by the college describing requirements for admission, degrees, services and course descriptions. Many of these are now on-line only.

CREDIT OR "SEMESTER HOURS" OR "UNIT HOURS" OR "QUARTER HOURS" OR UNITS
A way of referring to the number of credits which are earned in a course. If a class meets three hours per week, it is usually a 3- credit course. A full-time student at college usually attends 5 classes and earns 15 credits per semester.

CSS PROFILE
A Financial Aid Form sponsored by the College Scholarship Service and available through the College Board website. This financial aid form will be used by some private colleges and universities nationwide. The PROFILE is tailored to meet the needs of each individual student applying for financial aid. There is a fee required to file the CSS.
http://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile

CSU (CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITIES)
The 23 public state campuses, such as San Jose State University or CSU Los Angeles.

DEGREE
Titles given to college graduates upon completion of an academic program. A 4-degree is usually a BA or BS, a 5th or 6th year degree is often an MA (Master of Arts), or MS (Master of Science), with a Doctoral degree (Ph.D.) requiring approximately 5 additional years beyond the BA or BS.

EARLY ACTION
Under this plan, highly qualified candidates who apply early (often by November 1st) may receive offers of admission by mid-December. Unlike the Early Decision Plan, the Early Action Plan does not allow an institution to request an applicant to make a prior commitment to matriculate, or make any response to an offer of admission, until the traditional May 1 candidate reply date.

EARLY DECISION
Early decision, like early action, is an accelerated college application process in which students typically must complete their applications in November. In most cases, students will then receive a decision from the college before the new year.

Early decision has a few obvious benefits:

- Frequently the acceptance rate is higher for early decision than it is for regular admissions.

- Students who aren't accepted early (deferred) are still considered with the regular applicant pool at many schools.

- Students who are accepted early are done stressing about getting into college months before most applicants.

However, Early Decision is not as attractive as Early Action for several reasons:

- Early Decision is **<u>binding</u>**. If admitted, a student must attend the school and must withdraw any other applications they currently have submitted to any other colleges.

- A student may apply to only one college early decision (although additional applications for regular admissions are allowed).

- A student accepted early must decide to attend before receiving a final financial aid package (note that inadequate financial aid is the one allowable reason for breaking an early decision contract).

Because of the restrictions placed on applicants applying through early decision, a student should not apply early unless he or she is 100% sure that the college is the best choice.

FAFSA (FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID)
This is the form required to apply for financial aid by all colleges and universities. Some colleges/universities may also require the CSS Profile.

FEE WAIVER
A form available to students having a family income that meets the U.S. Department of Labor definition of low income (typically a family of four making under $49,500 per year). The Fee Waiver Form is submitted instead of money when applying for college testing or admission. See the College Counseling office for more information and for forms. The Common App has an online waiver form.

FINANCIAL AID

Money from a variety of sources (grants, loans, scholarships, work study) which helps pay for college costs. The "package" of funds is determined by the family's financial need and the availability of funds from the college or university.

FINANCIAL NEED

The difference between the cost of education and what the family and/or the applicant can reasonably be expected to contribute.

FULL-TIME STUDENT

A college student who generally takes a minimum of either 16 units per quarter or 12 units per semester.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

The goal of General Education (GE) coursework is to give you a broad sampling of different academic areas. This sampling exposes you to varied disciplines, increasing the value and breadth of your total undergraduate education. G.E. coursework allows you to discover new interests that may open a whole new range of opportunities for further study or career choice. These are completed the first two years of college. The second two years involve coursework in major and minor areas.

GRANTS

Financial aid for students by various private and public organizations, including CAL GRANTS from the State of California. Grants do not have to be paid back.

IMPACTED PROGRAM

An **impacted major** is a major for which more students apply than the school can accommodate. It is a classic example of when demand exceeds supply. When this occurs, the major becomes impacted and therefore is susceptible to higher standards of admission. Some examples in the CSU are Business, Engineering, Psychology, and Nursing.

MA (MASTER OF ARTS) OR MS (MASTER OF SCIENCE)

A graduate degree usually requires one or two years of academic work beyond the BA.

MAJOR

The main area of study in college, usually requiring about one year in a planned series of courses during the 4-year program.

MINOR

Approximately 18 credits in an academic area outside the major department.

PELL GRANT

Financial aid from the Federal Government available to students with financial need to be used at many types of colleges and vocational schools. Requires the filing of the FAFSA.

PREREQUISITES
Courses, test scores, and/or grades at a certain level that must be completed before taking a specific course.

PRIVATE COLLEGE
A school which is not supported by state taxes. (Public colleges are supported by tuition fees, taxes and other state funds).

PSAT/NMSQT(PRELIMINARY SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST/NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFYING TEST) A shortened version of the SAT offered in October for high school juniors. The scores are helpful in college admission planning and/or qualifying for National Merit Scholarships and other university or private organization scholarships.

ROLLING ADMISSIONS
Under rolling admission, candidates are invited to submit their applications to the university anytime within a large window. The window is usually over six months long, and some schools do not have a previously specified end date (the window simply closes when all spots are filled). The university will then review the application and notify the applicant of their decision within a few weeks from submission. Under rolling admissions, it is better to apply as early as possible in the window of admission.

ROTC
Many colleges have units of the Reserve Officers Training Corps that offer two and four year programs of military training culminating in an officer's commission. In some colleges credit for the courses can be applied towards a degree. ROTC Scholarships are available which pay for full college costs.

SAT
A college admissions exam measuring verbal (reading and writing) and math critical reasoning skills. Either the SAT OR the ACT (see definition earlier in Glossary) are accepted national admissions tests by all colleges and universities.

SCHOLARSHIPS
Gifts of money awarded for achievement, skills, talents, community service, and/or financial need. Most scholarships are awarded to high school seniors in the spring semester and usually range from a few hundred to thousands of dollars. Students do not necessarily need to have a 4.0 GPA to apply. Many scholarships go to students with "B" averages who fit the criteria for the award.

SIR (STATEMENT OF INTENT TO REGISTER)
This is the form that must be returned to the college of your choice by a specified date, usually May 1st. It confirms your intent to register at the college and reserves a spot for you.

TRANSCRIPT
A copy of your official record of grades and courses from time of entrance to the end of the latest semester.

TRANSFER STUDENTS
College students who transfer from one college to another, usually at the end of sophomore year. Changing colleges during the junior or senior year, when the student is completing major requirements, is not recommended.

TUITION
A fee that is paid for instruction in a school, college, or university.

UC (UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA)
The 10 campus system includes Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and the newest campus, Merced. The tenth campus, San Francisco is devoted to graduate studies in the health/medical sciences.

UNDERGRADUATE
College student who has not yet received a bachelor's degree.

WAITING LIST
In addition to accepting and rejecting applicants, many colleges place students on a wait-list for admission. As accepted applicants decide to attend other colleges, the school will offer admission to students who had been placed on the wait-list.

WEIGHTED GPA
Honors and AP classes are given an extra point when computing the grade point average by many colleges and universities. Grades of "D" or "F" in honors/AP courses are not given extra points.

HELPFUL WEBSITES FOR COLLEGE PLANNING

<u>Colleges</u>
AICCU (Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities)
http://www.aiccu.edu

ASSIST (Transfer admission information)
www.assist.org

California Colleges
http://californiacolleges.edu/

California Community Colleges
www.cccco.edu

California State University, System-wide information
http://www.calstate.edu/ and https://www2.calstate.edu/apply

College Data (Search and Admissions Statistics)
www.collegedata.com

College Net (Browse institutions by various criteria)
www.collegenet.com

Niche (College reviews written by students)
https://colleges.niche.com/

Colleges that Change Lives (based on the book by Loren Pope, <u>Colleges That</u> <u>Change Lives</u>, CTCL is a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement and support of a student-centered college search process. These colleges are known for cooperative learning and involved faculty.)
www.ctcl.org

Unigo (College Information written by students, plus scholarship info)
www.unigo.com

University of California, system-wide information
www.universityofCalifornia.edu

<u>Financial Aid and Scholarship Information</u>
FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
www.FAFSA.ed.gov

California Student Aid Commission
http://www.csac.ca.gov/

FastWeb Scholarship Database
www.fastweb.com

The "Smart Student" Guide to Financial Aid
www.finaid.org

Standardized Testing
SAT –Information and Registration (Includes the SAT Reasoning Test and the Subject Tests)
www.collegeboard.com

ACT- Information and Registration
www.actstudent.org

Compass Prep-Testing Information
https://www.compassprep.com/

Athletics
National Collegiate Athletic Association
www.ncaa.org and www.eligibilitycenter.org

Important Dates:

August 1st
- Common Application Opens, UC Application Opens

August 30st
- Senior College Kickoff for families and students
- September 29th- Deadline to submit your College Application Plan to the Director of College Counseling & Deadline to enter final list of all schools and majors into Maia

September 25th
- Final day for transcript edits
- Final day to submit the Cal Grant Verification Form

October 1st
- CSU Application Opens

October - November
- Early Action, Early Decision, Priority Application deadlines
- October 1st-November 30th CSU application submission period
- October 1st-November 30th UC application submission period

December 1st
- FAFSA opens

December-January
- Early round decisions are shared

January- March
- Regular Decision application deadlines

March
- Regular admission decisions are shared

May 1st
- National College Decision Day

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Student Senate Regions

- Region 1
- Region 2
- Region 3
- Region 4
- Region 5
- Region 6
- Region 7
- Region 8
- Region 9
- Region 10

College of the Siskiyous
College of the Redwoods
Shasta College
Lassen College
Feather River College
Butte College
Mendocino College
Yuba College

Sierra College
Folsom Lake College
Lake Tahoe Community College
American River College
Sacramento City College
Cosumnes River College

Napa Valley College
Los Medanos College
Diablo Valley College
College of Marin
Contra Costa College
Berkeley City
Laney College
College of Alameda
City College of San Francisco
Merritt College
Skyline College
College of San Mateo
Chabot College
Canada College
Ohlone College
Foothill College
Mission College
DeAnza College
West Valley College

Santa Rosa Junior College
Solano Community College
San Joaquin Delta College
Columbia College
Yosemite College
Modesto Junior College
Merced College
San Jose City College
Evergreen Valley College
Gavilan College
Hartnell College
Monterey Peninsula College
West Hills College Lemoore
Fresno City College
Reedley College
College of the Sequoias
West Hills College Coalinga
Porterville College

Cuesta College
Hancock College
San Benito College
Santa Barbara City College

Bakersfield College
Barstow College
Cerro Coso Community College

Chaffey College
Victor Valley College
San Bernardino Valley College
Crafton Hills College
Riverside Community College
Mt. San Jacinto College
Copper Mountain College
College of the Desert
Palo Verde College

Los Angeles City College
Los Angeles Valley College
Los Angeles Pierce College
Moorpark College
Ventura College
Santa Monica College
Oxnard College
West Los Angeles College
Los Angeles Trade-Tech College
Los Angeles Southwest College
El Camino College
Compton College
Los Angeles Harbor College
Long Beach City College
Golden West College
Coastline Community College
Orange Coast College

Antelope Valley College
College of the Canyons
Los Angeles Mission College
Glendale Community College
Pasadena City College
Mt. San Antonio College
Citrus College
Rio Hondo College
East Los Angeles College
Cerritos College
Fullerton College
Cypress College
Santiago Canyon College
Saddleback College
Irvine Valley College
Santa Ana College

San Diego Miramar College
San Diego Mesa College
Grossmont College
San Diego City College
Cuyamaca College
Southwestern College
MiraCosta College
Palomar College
Imperial Valley College