TIPS TO HELP YOU WITH THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS
PHS Counseling

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What should I be doing now?

Finalize 3-Tiered List of Colleges

- Reach (1-2)
- Range (2-4)
- Safety (2-3)

- Admission rates
- Average GPA/test scores
- Comprehensive review factors
- Freshman profiles from previous years
- Online statistics
Applying to CSU System

- Application Submission Window: 10/1 – 11/30

- Admission Factors: GPA & SAT or ACT

- NO LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION or TRANSCRIPT REQUIRED (They may request these at a later date.)
Applying to UC System

- Application Portal Opens: 08/1 – 11/30
- Submission Dates: 11/01 – 11/30
- Required: Personal Insight Questions
- SAT or ACT with writing
- SAT II (Optional)

**MOST DO NOT REQUIRE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION or TRANSCRIPT**
UC Math Rule

- All applicants must complete a Geometry course. The omission of Geometry cannot be validated by a higher level math course.

- **Recommended**: If you took Geometry in Middle School - Be sure to report this course as part of your middle school work.
Common Application

- Over 500 private colleges are Common Application members
- Complete 1 application for all schools
- Application includes:
  - First year application
  - Secondary School Report *(Completed by Counselors)*
  - Two Academic Teacher Evaluations
  - Mid-Year Report *(Completed by Counselors after 1st semester grades)*
  - Transcript
  - Final Report

www.commonapp.org
Other Private Colleges

- Review college website(s) to identify application requirements and deadlines
- Many require a letter of recommendation
Letter of Rec Process
Letter of Rec Process

All of the following documents MUST be completed and turned into your counselor for a letter to be written.

- **Step 1:** FERPA Waiver
- **Step 2:** College Information Form
- **Step 3:** Personal Information Form
- **Step 4:** Parent Brag Sheet
- **Step 5:** Teacher Input Forms
- **Step 6:** Resume
- **Step 7:** Extracurricular Log
- **Step 8:** Order Transcripts

AFTER submitting all necessary paperwork, allow counselors & teachers **THREE** weeks to write letter.
For any Common Application and/or SENDedu schools you are applying to, ask your counselor to submit your transcript electronically.

For all other colleges (non Common Application schools), order and send your transcript electronically via [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com) or via the school registrar.

Note: UCs and CSUs DO NOT require a transcript as part of the initial application, but MAY request them after the student has submitted the application.
Test Scores

It is your responsibility to send your scores electronically

- **SAT/SAT II/AP**
  - www.collegeboard.org

- **ACT**
  - www.actstudent.org
Financial Aid & Scholarships

- **FAFSA**: Free Application for Federal Student Aid
  - Work Study, Student/Parent Loans, Pell Grants
  - Easily Accessible: Whole process completed online

- Research scholarship opportunities throughout senior year

- **PHS Counseling Office**: Scholarship Deadline Log

- **Attend Financial Aid Night**:  
  - September 26th @ 6:00 p.m. (PCPA)
Registration Checklist: Below is a list of items you may want to have prepared prior to beginning your registration with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

- Valid Email Address
- Personal Information
- Education History/Test Scores
- Sports Participation History
- Payment (registration fee is $70)

www.eligibilitycenter.org
Workshops

- **Common Application Workshop**
  - Friday, September 22\(^{nd}\), Titan Center, Lunch Time

- **California State University Application Workshop**
  - Thursday, October 19\(^{th}\), Titan Center, Lunch Time

- **University Of California Application Workshop**
  - Thursday, October 12\(^{th}\), Titan Center, Lunch Time

- **Palomar Community College Information Session**
  - Thursday, October 26\(^{th}\), Titan Center, Lunch Time
Questions