

College and Postsecondary Planning



Class of 2021 Seniors!

Overview:

- 1) Important Updates: Resources, College Rep Visits
- 2) College Selection Process, Types of Colleges/Applications
- 3) Transcript Requests
- 4) Letters of Recommendation
- 5) Essays
- 6) Naviance – Update Email, Planning Survey
- 7) Application Help Resources– Counselor Appts, Workshops

College Information Specialist: Mrs. Linda Dowley

Weekly articles with important information regarding applying to college, tips and strategies in selecting your college list, choosing extracurriculars, writing your essays, testing information and more!

- **Every Wed in the Enews!**
- Will also send to you via Naviance.
- Senior To-Do List by month is here:
- WWW.LJHSCOLLEGEINFO.COM

College Rep Virtual Visits

- They are usually the same person who will review your application - so introduce yourself and come armed with good questions!
- Attending these sessions is a great way to demonstrate interest.
- Availability and sign ups are in Naviance.
 - Once you sign up- your registrations are in “Colleges I’m Thinking About”
- If there is a session you can’t attend email the representative directly to connect and ask questions.

Virtual College Visits

- Check individual college websites for offerings.
- For direct links to over 900 colleges' tours, live info sessions and youtube channels, check out this resource:
- <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/u/1/d/1sO7pVos0EvK0BvXoMbnyg00K6r7hXbOQE0HNXF4N4eM/htmlview?usp=sharing&fbclid=IwAR1Vr3WcvpwflVMsaXnzIMq9ibN3oMMAG8x02F0w6o4nsWr2PSITkenQoqM>
- <https://www.youvisit.com/collegesearch/>
- Emails from Naviance will also share information on virtual college fairs and special information sessions offered by colleges.

College Selection: The Strategy

- Reach Schools (2-3)
 - Dream 0-20% chance of acceptance
- Match Schools (4-6)
 - Realistic 70-80% chance of acceptance
- Safety Schools (2-3)
 - High likelihood of acceptance
- Apply to 8-12 colleges.



Types of 4 Year Schools

1. **California State University** – examples: San Diego State, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Chico
2. **University of California** – examples: UCSD, UCLA, UC Berkeley, UC Davis
3. **Out-of-State Public Schools** – examples: U of Arizona; U of Oregon; U of Delaware, Clemson, Rutgers
4. **Private Schools** – examples: Stanford, USC, Harvard, Duke, Emory, Gonzaga, Tufts, UPenn

College Application Choices

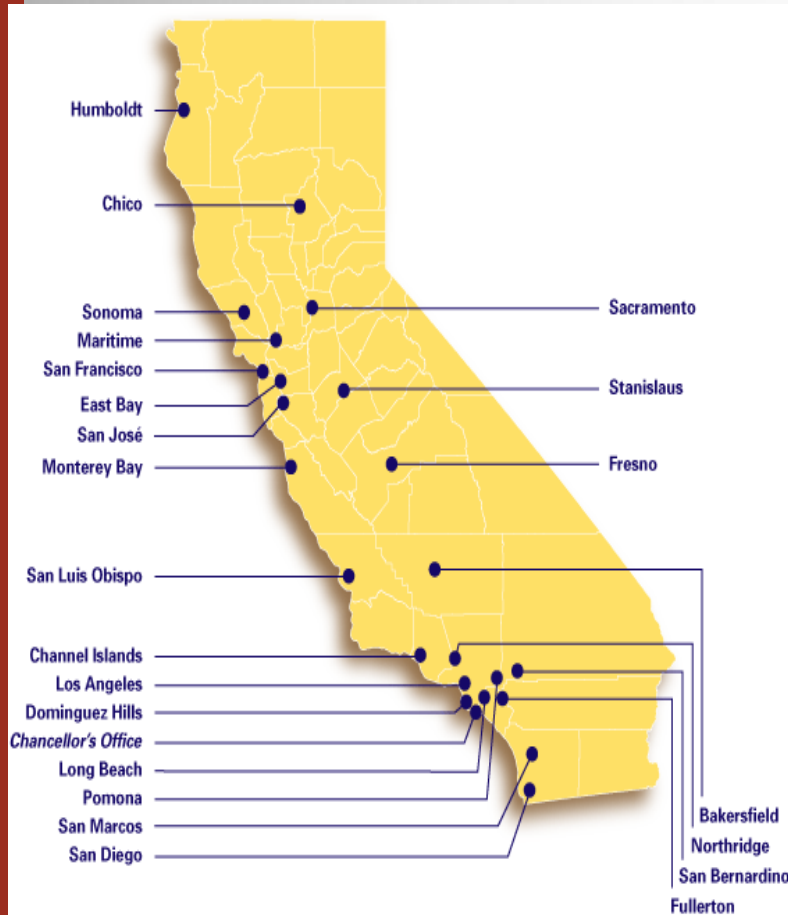
- **Early Decision** - Binding
 - Only ONE college allowed, and it should be your 1st choice.
- **Early Action** – Non-Binding
 - May apply to more than one school

EARLY: More competitive- usually top % of applicants
Due dates start in OCTOBER

- **Regular Decision** (January)
- **Rolling** – Can apply anytime, notified several weeks after applying

California State University System (CSU)

Apply: Oct 1 – Dec 4



- 23 campuses
- Admission based only on:
 - GPA: grades 10-11 only
 - NO SAT/ACT
 - Min. GPA 2.0
- Honors Programs Available! *Many benefits including small class size- 35! (Regular class:100+)
- **No letters of recommendation!**
- **Transcript not sent until JUNE 2021!**

<https://www2.calstate.edu/apply>

SAT/ACT - COVID implications

CSU- Will not use ACT/SAT scores for 2021 admission.

(If you have already have a score, it will be used for placement in Math/English courses only.)

Impacted campuses will use your “a-g” GPA and supplemental factors to inform campus admission decisions, such as:

- # courses exceeding minimum “a-g” requirements (ie. 4 years of math; 3-4 years Science)
- extracurricular involvement

Be sure to check the admissions webpage for the CSU campuses in which you are interested in attending to know which specific factors the campus will be using.

University of California System (UC)

Open now – Submit Nov. 1 - 30th



- 9 undergraduate campuses
- Admission based on:
 - GPA: grades 10-11 only
 - NO SAT/ACT required
 - Extracurricular Activities
 - 4 Short Insight Questions
 - Minimum GPA 3.0
- **No letters of recommendation!**
- **Transcript not sent until JUNE 2021!**

www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions

SAT/ACT - COVID implications

UC:

- Berkeley, Irvine, Santa Cruz – NOT using ACT/SAT scores for 2021 admission.
- The other 6 campuses are not required, but are test optional. Students are NOT penalized for not having a score.

Private/Out of State:

Many are not requiring them for Fall 2021 admission- but you must check individual websites.

For a list of all schools that do not use ACT/SAT, including those just for fall 2021: <http://www.fairtest.org/>

Private & Out of State Universities

- Admission requirements vary by institution, but most follow similar UC/CSU guidelines in terms of subject requirements and test requirements.
- Check individual campus websites to determine admission requirements!
 - **GPA: grades 9- 12th (Fall semester)**
 - **SAT/ACT – Most are NOT requiring them. Check each school's website**
 - **Essay/Personal Statement**
 - **Letters of Recommendation**
 - **Extracurricular Activities**



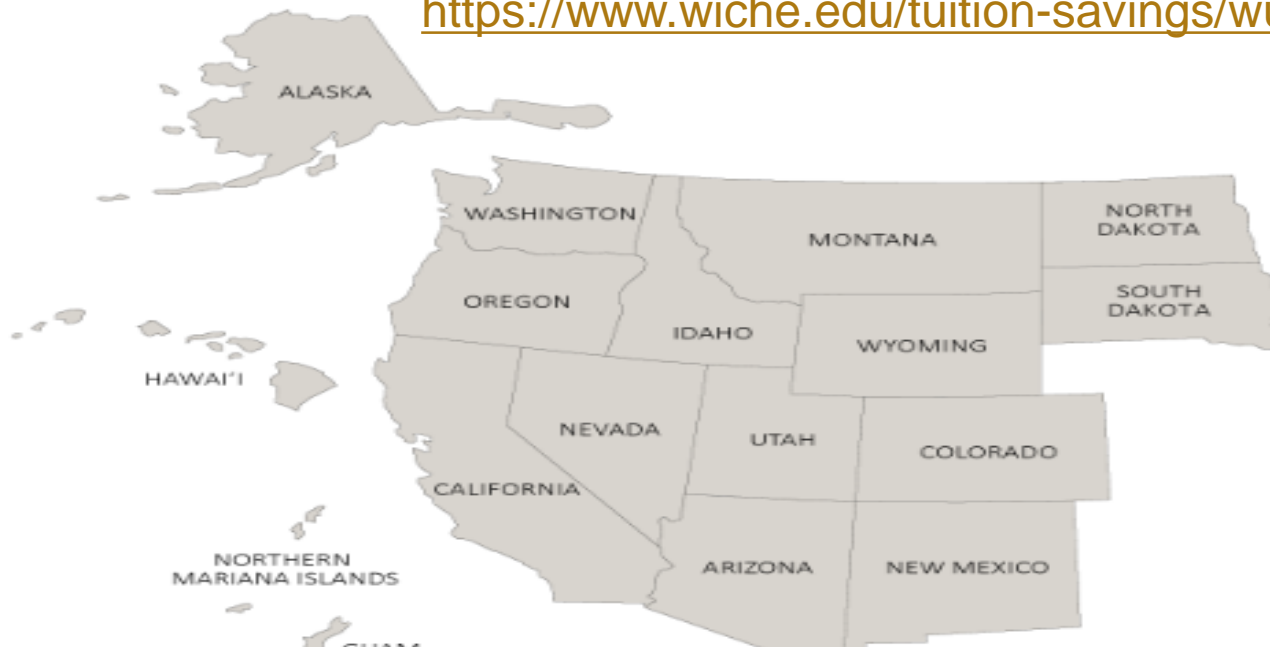
- **Deadlines vary greatly; be sure to check each school's policies!!!**

WUE – Western Undergraduate Exchange

WICHE REGION

WICHE and its 16 members work collaboratively to expand educational access and excellence for all citizens of the West. By promoting innovation, cooperation, resource sharing, and sound public policy, WICHE strengthens higher education's contributions to the region's social, economic, and civic life.

<https://www.wiche.edu/tuition-savings/wue/>



Application Deadline Review

- **CSU- California State University**
 - Not open until October 1 – **December 4**
- **UC – University of California**
 - Open Now, submit November 1 – **November 30**
- **Private and Out of State Schools**
 - Common App is open now.
 - **Due dates vary by school. (most common are Nov.1/15, Dec. 1/15, Jan 1, Feb 1)**
 - Check college's website for accurate dates.

College Application Information

- **You will need this information for our school when filling out the applications:**
 - 1) Graduation Date – 06/15/21
 - 2) Counselor name and contact information (on website)
 - 3) We do not rank!
 - 4) Class size = 335
 - 5) Cumulative GPA – Your 10-12 WGPA (top of transcript)
 - 6) GPA Scale - 4.0
 - 7) GPA Weighting - Weighted

Academic Sections on Applications: Semesters – Quarters at LJHS

Our schedule is arranged by quarters BUT our grading system is still Semesters. You will still earn 2 semester grades per class.

Common App:

Current/Most Recent Year Courses = Semester system

UC:

Academic History = Select semester

Most courses are Yearlong, College classes are semester long.

(AP Gov= Semester 1, AP Econ Semester 2)

See tutorial at end

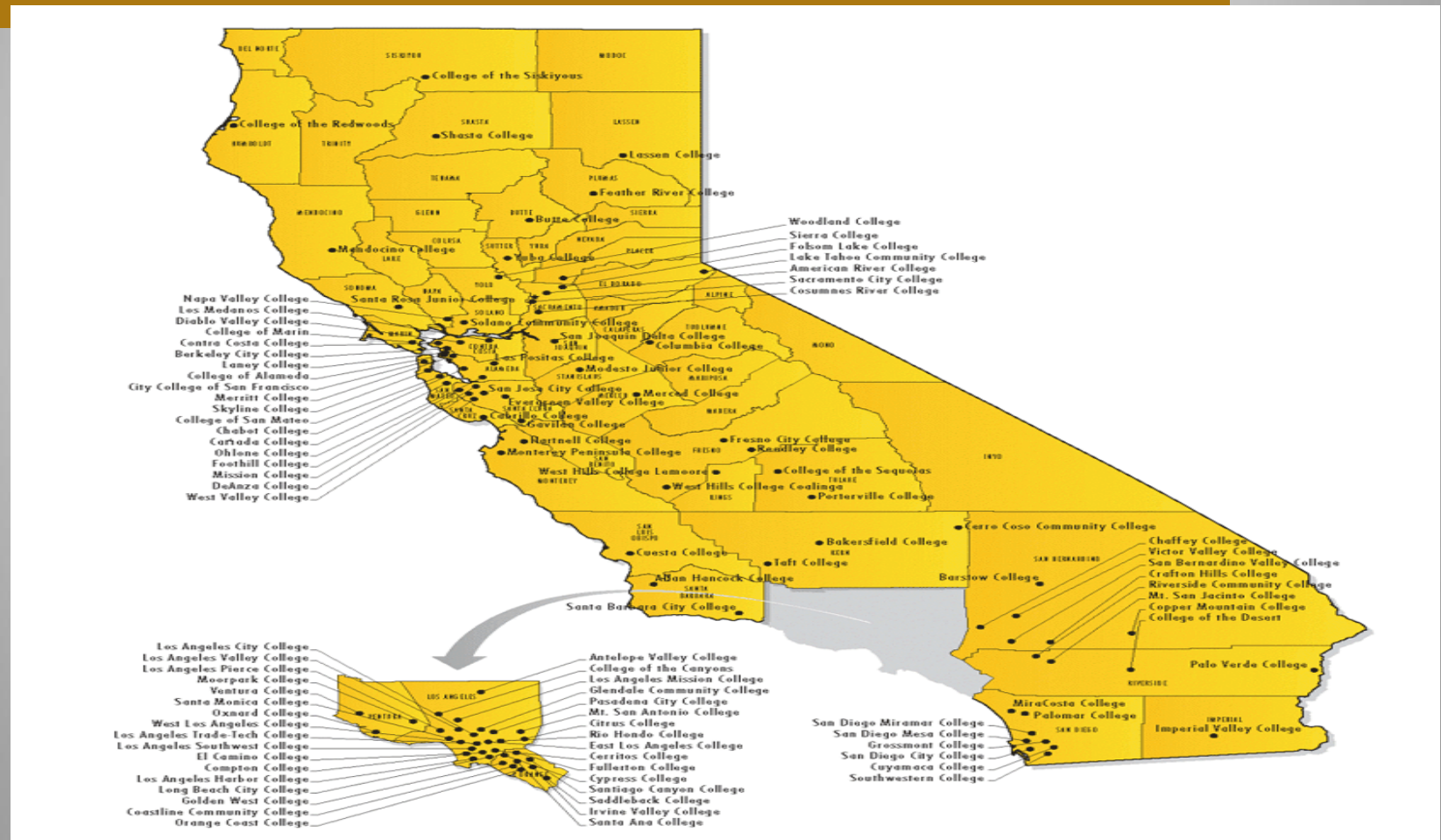
College Courses - Dual Enrollment

- All college classes taken (at LJHS or off campus) must be entered on college applications under “College Courses Taken.”
- You will first need to list the colleges you have attended, and then add the course title, number and credits earned.
- Mesa/UCSD dual enrollment courses offered at LJHS:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Wt5ItsHmdTs5kbT0Hm2rZAcEltyslarC/view?usp=sharing>

UC/CSU Application Information

- **UC/CSU A-G course list**
 - **IMPORTANT:** Refer to your original transcripts from all schools attended. This includes Charter, Mesa College, out of state/country, etc.
 - If not on the menu (i.e. not a CA school), report it in the designated area.
- **Must meet a-g minimum requirements by graduation.**

Community Colleges





Community Colleges

- In every area across California!
- Transfer to a 4 year is generally easier than for freshman.
- Affordable, and free with the PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP.
- Conveniently located, small class sizes.
- Associates degrees, select Bachelors degrees, and certifications offered.
- Transfer requirements:
 - Private – some after 1 year
 - Public – must have completed 60 units (approx. 2 yrs)

Community College Planning

- Application process is done in the spring.
- Make sure to list at least one CC on Naviance. We will add you to a list of students who gets additional advising throughout the year from a Mesa College ambassador.



Alternative Options

**Military, Border
Patrol, Law
Enforcement,
etc.**

**SDCE: FREE,
local, job
training and
courses.**

**Gap Year
(Travel,
Work, etc.)**



Have a college list or plan?

Your Next Steps:

- 1) Order transcripts.
- 2) Ask for letters of recommendation.
- 3) Meet with your counselor!
- 4) Complete your application on time –
 - ❖ Don't wait for your teacher/counselor to submit their recommendation! Submit your app as soon as it's done! 😊

1. Order Transcripts

- 1) All colleges are entered in Naviance w/correct deadlines.
 - Sign the FERPA waiver for Common App Schools
- 2) Complete the Transcript Request Form:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScWFkgblfjeXv_4SssgMzzlM8qy7ZtfzIFT4bv2MCQjqkKCCw/viewform

**** AT LEAST 3 WEEKS PRIOR TO DEADLINE! ****

1. Order Transcripts - continued

- If you attended a school outside of our district:
 - You **MUST** order OFFICIAL transcripts from them directly. (For example, go to sdmesa.edu for Mesa College transcript orders.)



— Enter colleges into Naviance

- **Colleges I'm Thinking About...move YES colleges to:**
 - 1. Colleges I'm Applying To**
 - 2. Make sure you specify the deadline!**
 - **Early or Regular**
 - 3. Be sure to specify which application you are using!**
 - **Common App or Direct to Institution**

Naviance - Transcript Requests

1. Create list in:














| Colleges I'm thinking about | | | | | | | Search for colleges |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| | | | | | | | Compare Me |
| | | | | | | | + = extended profile available |
| College | Delivery type | Added By | Expected Difficulty* | Application Deadlines | | Interest | |
| Central Michigan University | | Student | N/A | Priority | November 15 | N/A | MORE |
| San Diego State University | | Counselor | N/A | Regular Decision | November 30 | N/A | MORE |
| Tulane University | | Counselor | N/A | Multiple Deadlines | | N/A | MORE |

2. Move into Colleges I'm Applying to:

| Colleges I'm thinking about | | | | | | | Search for colleges |
|-----------------------------|---------------|----------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| + Add Colleges to List | | | | | | | Compare Me |
| 1 selected | | | | | | | + = extended profile available |
| UPDATE INTER... | | | | | | | MOVE TO APPLICATION L... |
| | | | | | | | REMOVE |
| College | Delivery type | Added By | Expected Difficulty* | Application Deadlines | | Interest | |
| Colorado State University | | Student | N/A | Early Action | December 1 | N/A | ▼ |

Naviance - Transcript Requests

Colleges I'm Applying To: Check all due dates!


| | College | Type | Deadline | Expected Difficulty* | Transcripts | Office materials | Submission Type  | Application | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|------|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | University of California, Santa Cruz | RD | Regular Decision November 30 | N/A | no request | Pending |  | Unknown  |  EDIT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | University of Colorado at Boulder | RD | Regular Decision January 15 | N/A | no request | Pending |  | Unknown  |  EDIT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Oregon State University | RD | Regular Decision February 1 | N/A | no request | Pending |  | Unknown  |  EDIT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | University of Oregon | RD | Regular Decision January 15 | N/A | no request | Pending |  | Unknown  |  EDIT |

If all correct – Complete Transcript Request Form for Mrs. Lopez:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScWFkglfjeXv_4SssgMzzIM8qy7ZtfzIFT4bv2MCQjqkKCCw/viewform


Naviance - Transcript Requests


Common App Matching - FERPA waiver

 Naviance | *Student*


HomeCollegesCareersAbout MeMy Planner


Colleges I'm applying to


 Search for colleges


 **It looks like you are not currently able to apply to Common App schools.**
Match your Common App account to Naviance Student account to get started.


Match Accounts

 Your parent/guardian must give you consent for you to request transcripts. Contact your counseling office if you think this is a mistake

 Manage Transcripts

 Application Milestones

 Compare Me

 = extended profile available

College that I'm attending:

N/A

2. Letters of Recommendation

- Most schools require 2 teachers & 1 counselor (or 3rd teacher)
- Ask NOW (before you request in Naviance!)
- FOR TEACHERS: add request on Naviance.
- Choose **specific** colleges...

Letters of recommendation


Add new request

Here you can ask a teacher to write you a letter of recommendation. If you don't have any colleges in your list yet, you may still make a request. Make sure you give your teachers plenty of time to write your recommendations!

1. Who would you like to write this recommendation?*

2. Select which colleges this request is for:*

☒ Choose **specific** colleges from your *Colleges I'm Applying To* list

☐ All current and future colleges I add to my *Colleges I'm Applying To* list 

NON- LJHS Teacher Recs

- Download the Teacher Evaluation Form in the Common Application, and email to the teacher.
- Provide the mailing address of the school or the email of the admission rep - They will mail the letter for you.
- Please talk to your counselor for help with this step!

❖ Do NOT use the “Other Recommender” in the Common App!

Example Envelope:

The diagram shows a rectangular envelope. In the top left corner, there is a box labeled "Student Name (No Return Address)". In the top right corner, there is a box containing a stylized American flag. Below the flag box, there is a callout bubble that says "Make sure you have a postage stamp!". In the center of the envelope, the word "letter" is written. Below "letter", there is a box that says "Print the name of the college you want to send your transcript to."

Teacher Rec Letters

- Contact your teacher first.
- Request in Naviance after. Please do at least 3+ weeks before the deadline.
- Write a THANK YOU note!
- 😊



Counselor Rec Letters

- **Student Input Survey, Parent Input Survey, and Resume in Naviance**
 - **If those are incomplete, I won't be able to write a letter for you.**
- **We need at least a 2-3 week notice before your application deadline**
 - **You can also request a third Teacher to write a letter in place of the Counselor letter if you choose to do so**
- **Make an appointment with your counselor!**

Essays – Personal Statement

- **Required for...**
 - UC – choose four out of eight prompts
<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-freshman/personal-insight-questions.html>
 - Common Application – 1 essay, plus supplements
 - Private schools
 - Some out-of-state schools
- Revise, revise, revise!
- Do not send without having someone review it.
(Teacher, counselor)

Directions

- 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 to answer is entirely up to you: But you should select questions that are most relevant to your experience and that best reflect your individual circumstances.

Keep in mind

- All questions are equal: All are given equal consideration in the application review process, which means there is no advantage or disadvantage to choosing certain questions over others.
 - There is no right or wrong way to answer these questions: It's about getting to know your personality, background, interests and achievements in your own unique voice.
-

Essays – Personal Statement Words of Wisdom

- “Consider your essay your interview on paper” – UC Berkeley
- "Give careful thought to the questions asked, but don't try to write the answers that you think we want to hear; give us the answers that tell us about you." - Cornell University
- "You don't need to have had extraordinary experiences to write an extraordinary essay. You don't need to have done incomparable things to be interesting." - Wellesley College
- “Edit. Then edit again. Then again. There is no excuse for errors anywhere on your application or essay. None whatsoever. It should be flawless, people. Take the time to edit and review and revise your full application multiple times.” - Tulane University

Common Myths

- Senior year grades don't count
- I must declare a major
- I should know what I want to do for the rest of my life
- “C” students don't go to 4-year colleges
- CSU's are not good schools
- Community Colleges are only for student who didn't do well in high school.



Paying for college...

Prepare to apply for Financial Aid – The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opens October 1. Same is true for the CSS Profile which is required by fewer schools. These forms should be completed sooner rather than later.

- FAFSA: Oct 1st - March 2nd <https://studentaid.gov/>
- Dream Act <https://dream.csac.ca.gov/>
- CSS Financial Profile (some private schools)
 - On College Board website
 - Deadlines are usually prior to application due dates
<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

Timeline and materials needed are on the new LJHS college website:
<https://www.ljhscollegeinfo.com/timeline-to-apply-for-financial-aid>.

Scholarships – website links in Naviance, Fastweb, etc.

Naviance

➤ **Update your email immediately!**

**Do not use your stu.sandi.net
("about me" → "profile")**

****Email address should match the one used on your college applications! (Use an *appropriate* email address!!! 😊)**

➤ **My Surveys -**

- **Class of 2021 College Application Plans**
- **Student/Parent Input Questions**
- **Resume**

Students: Make your counselor appointments, starting 9/28...

●A - Fo Mr. McVay:

<https://calendly.com/cmcvay-1/30min>

●Fr - Lig Mr. Drozda:

<https://calendly.com/adrozda/15min>

●Lin - Sc Mrs. Street:

<https://calendly.com/ystreet-1/15-minute-meeting-clone>

●Se - Z Mrs. Salehi:

<https://calendly.com/ksalehi/senior-meeting-1>



Helpful Links on the following slides

- Naviance tutorial
- Application help videos
- UC/CSU virtual tours
- CSU application tutorial-coming soon
- Adding academic courses- Common App

A Quick Reference Sheet with all links will be shared soon!

College Application Help

Naviance: Adding Colleges/Teacher Recs/Transcripts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RItX1Orav44>

UC Application:

Steps 1-9 (Be sure to watch # 4 Academic; 6 Activities, 8 Short Answers)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVf9r72D_zw&list=PL-yx76EbPhMd8BkiLRvWI_xPUKOBpPFWM&index=1

Common Application:

FERPA- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNcr0rkLi7Q>

Adding Colleges- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7gbCc_Dxfi0

Listing your current classes:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/10xDKL3uP6lHqBwNTF58ONQf8Sp3G3QSI/view?usp=sharing>

CSU Application:

Will be shared when made available.



UC for You

Campus Virtual Tours: <https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/choosing-a-campus>
(This link is on the Cal State Apply main site under Explore Campuses)

CSU Week - October 5th through October 9th: Short live sessions that provide a campus overview, information about the admission process and a question and answer portion. Pre-registration is required: <https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/csuweek/Pages/first-year-incoming-freshman.aspx>.

UC for You- Get to know the nine undergraduate campuses and ask questions about admission, majors, pre-professional programs and more.

October 3, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. - California first-year students:

https://ucforyou.universityofcalifornia.edu/?mc_cid=de3de0d40d&mc_eid=949048897e

Questions?



Thank you for attending!