



Palo Alto Senior High School

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Adam Paulson
Principal

THE "CONTRACT"

FAMILY DISCUSSIONS AND COLLEGE DECISIONS

It is the responsibility of each Paly family to have a comprehensive discussion of post-high school plans before the end of junior year. This family conversation should set parameters that will help the student make realistic choices.

If your junior decides to go to college, he/she should first consider which factors are important in a college. We consider applications to no more than eight to ten colleges (all University of California campuses considered as one, as are all California State University campuses), carefully selected to cover the range from "reach" school to "safety", to be sufficient. **Limiting the number of applications will allow students to do their very best work on each one.** A reasonable number will also help students, parents, and the school staff to reduce the time, fees, essays, and extensive paperwork required for each private and out-of-state public application.

In an effort to ensure that each family meets this responsibility before applying to colleges, all parents and students should review the topics listed below, sign this "contract," and return it to the Teacher Advisor.

- family finances: Can your family afford the colleges or plans your student is considering?
(See opposite side for approximate costs of attendance)
For which college features is your family willing to pay?
What will your student be asked to contribute?
- geographical restrictions
- public universities? private colleges?
- special requirements: e.g., field of study, athletics, religion, support services
- social environment: e.g., diversity, school spirit
- academic environment: e.g., opportunities in major, pressure, student-teacher ratio

This signed paper and all completed Senior Profile surveys and forms must be returned before we can process college applications that require a Teacher Advisor's recommendation.

Thank you for your cooperation.

We have discussed the topics listed above in order to establish limits and to make informed decisions about college applications.

Student Name (please print)

Date

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Representative College Costs

Estimates as reported on each college website for the academic year indicated. Except for Foothill, the costs assume living on campus.

Princeton, 2020-2021	private	\$76,420 (excludes transportation)
Stanford, 2019-2020	private	\$73,425 (excludes transportation)
Loyola Marymount, 2019-2020	private	\$71,040
Santa Clara, 2020-2021	private	\$71,601
U. of Colorado, 2018-2019	public	\$53,296 (excludes transportation)
U. of Oregon, 2018-2019	public	\$53,610 (excludes transportation)
U.C. San Diego, 2020-2021	public	\$32,370
Cal Poly SLO, 2020-2021	public	\$28,926
Foothill College 2019-2020 2 yr	public	\$4776.00 (inc. tuition, books and supplies, no room & board - living at home with parents)

Please note these were estimated costs and could differ by individual students.

College Application Fees to Consider

Online College Application Fee	\$70 - \$100
Sending Official Transcript	\$10 each
SAT or ACT scores (per test, per college)	\$10 each
Mid-year Transcript (to all colleges requiring)	\$10 each
Final High School Transcript to your choice college	<u>\$10_____</u>

Estimated costs **per application:** **\$120 - \$150 Each**