POST HIGH SCHOOL PLANNING

JUNIORS

Dream
Explore majors and careers:
- ✔ Career Interest Profiler survey and results in Naviance
- ✔ Explore Careers & Clusters section in Naviance
- ✔ Attend PAUSD College Fair in Fall, WACAC/NACAC Fairs in Spring
- ✔ Learn more about majors online: *https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/majors-careers*
- ✔ Attend Career Speaker Series at Paly in March
- ✔ Attend Career Programs Fair in PAUSD in March
- ✔ Attend Community College Week activities at Paly in March
- ✔ Attend a local Gap Year Fair: *https://usagapyearfairs.org/fairs/*

Prepare
- ✔ Verify the 4-year plan created in Advisory has you on track to meet graduation and college entrance requirements
- ✔ Practice for SAT/ACT exams using Naviance Test Prep; send PSAT scores from College Board to Khan Academy for customized SAT practice and ACT Academy for customized ACT practice
- ✔ Take SAT/ACT exam
- ✔ Participate in relevant enrichment opportunities (search for them in Naviance)

Search
Identify colleges that fit your goals, interests, needs, using:
- ✔ SuperMatch college search survey in Naviance
- ✔ College Board's Big Future College Search survey
- ✔ *The College Finder* (Antonoff) or *www.collegexpress.com/lists*
- ✔ College Maps in Naviance
- ✔ College Resources Page (bottom of Naviance welcome page) in Naviance, for help with the college search and applications, college essays, financial aid and scholarships, and gap year programs

Learn more about community college options and gap year programs by consulting the Document Resources folder in Naviance and:
https://paly.net/counseling-wellness/college-and-career-center

Investigate
Learn more about colleges:
- ✔ Colleges' websites: mission statement, virtual tour, gen. ed./core reqs, depts., academic advising, campus life (housing, food, sports, clubs, Greek life), undergraduate research, career center and internships, study abroad, community service
- ✔ Counselor Notes from rep's visit to Paly in Naviance college profile
- ✔ % out-of-state students, residential vs. commuter campus, ethnic diversity (consult College Board college profile)
- ✔ Academic climate and social culture (consult *The Fiske Guide to College* and *The Insider's Guide to College*, as well as *niche.com* and *youniversitytv.com*)

Learn about NAIA and NCAA Division 1 and 2 course, GPA, and test requirements; register with Eligibility Center if considering collegiate athletics.

Focus
Ask for letters of recommendation from 2 academic teachers of core subjects (preferably from junior year); learn about how to do so in the Viking Guide.
Track college specs; in Naviance, use College Tracking chart in Document Resources folder:
- ✔ Course requirements: # of years of subjects/courses, college-entrance tests, kind and # of teacher recommendations (information found on Naviance, College Board, Common App, or college websites)
- ✔ Selectivity (national stats from College Board and Paly stats from Naviance School Statistics and scattergram graphs): admit rate %, mid-range test scores, and average GPA from previous year's admitted students
- ✔ Financial aid requirements and deadlines

Experience
- ✔ Attend college fairs and local receptions/info sessions; see tips handout in the Document Resources folder in Naviance
- ✔ Meet with college representatives visiting Paly; see calendar on: *https://paly.net/counseling-wellness/college-and-career-center*
- ✔ Visit colleges (see planning presentation in Document Resources library in Naviance); consult list of Paly grads at the colleges you're considering (in the C&CC)
- ✔ Interview with Admissions office or local alums: *https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/interviews/college-interviews-the-basics* (and tips in Document Resources library in Naviance)

SENIORS

Build
- ✔ Develop a balanced list of 8-10 colleges: at least 2 likely schools, perhaps 2 reaches, but mostly targets. See "How Can I Determine if a College is a Likely, Target, or Reach" in the Building a College List section of the *Viking Guide*. Create a solid foundation.
- ✔ Track application requirements and deadlines, as well as financial aid deadlines: use College Tracking Chart for Seniors in Document Resources folder in Naviance
- ✔ Meet and review list with your College Advisor

Apply
- ✔ Map out all writing topics: main essays and any supplementary writing (i.e. college-specific questions)
- ✔ Invite (and assign) recommenders in the Common App (and/or other applications) by the Paly deadline(s)
- ✔ Complete applications online; consult tip sheets in Document Resources library in Naviance in the following folders:
  - Common App
  - CSU and UC
  - Community College

Submit:
- ✔ Cover Sheet assignment in Advisory Schoology course by Paly deadline(s)
- ✔ If the college doesn't accept online teacher recommendations or your teachers prefer to mail recommendations, give stamped, addressed business-size envelope with Teacher Evaluation form to your teachers

Discover
Scholarship opportunities: *https://paly.net/financial-aid-scholarships/scholarship-resources*

Order:
- ✔ Official Test Score Report from College Board and/or ACT to be sent to colleges (and NCAA) if applicable
- ✔ Transcripts to non-Common App colleges, from Parchment, if applicable, by Paly deadlines: *https://paly.net/our-school/transcripts* (and NCAA, if applicable)

Complete
File the FAFSA and any other financial aid forms (e.g. CSS profile) by colleges' deadlines: *https://www.paly.net/campus-life/college-career-center/financial-aid-scholarships*

Decide
Attend "Admitted Student" events

Act
- ✔ Submit Intent to Enroll by May 1
- ✔ Sign up for housing, if applicable
- ✔ Accept or decline offers of financial aid
- ✔ Sign up for Orientation
- ✔ Take math & English Placement Tests, if required
- ✔ Order final transcript via Parchment to be sent to college (and NCAA, if applicable)

Reflect
Send thank-yous to teachers/TAs and others who've helped or supported you through the college search and application process

Participate
- ✔ Visit campus resources: tutoring services, health center, advising, career center, other support services
- ✔ Join clubs and organizations, do community service, pursue internship opportunities
- ✔ Check out Events calendar and participate in activities

Live
- ✔ Manage your time, exercise, eat, and sleep!
- ✔ Stay in touch with family and friends

Succeed!!!

DO NOT GIVE ANY APPLICATION FORMS DIRECTLY TO YOUR TEACHER ADVISOR!!!

PALY DEADLINES: 2022-2023

The Paly deadline indicates the latest date to **order your transcripts online, assign recommenders in the Common App, and submit your Cover Sheet for College Applications.**

If your application is due to the college by:	Order your transcripts online, assign recommenders in the Common App, and turn in school forms to the Guidance Office by:
October 15	September 12, Monday
November 1	September 26, Monday
November 15	October 10, Monday
November 30 / December 1	October 27, Tuesday
January 1	November 7, Monday
January 10	November 18, Friday
January 15	November 28, Monday
February 15	January 12, Thursday
March 1	January 30, Monday

If you miss these deadlines, we will not be able to send Paly's part of your application by the college due date. This will jeopardize your application.

PALY College Center

PALY COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

(650) 329-3818
www.facebook.com/palyccclassof2023
www.instagram.com/palyccc
https://student.naviance.com/pahs
www.youtube.com/user/palyccc
www.paly.net/college