



ALAMEDA HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE AND CAREER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER ISSUE



2021-2022

EVENTS

Seniors:

FAFSA Fridays & Wednesdays after school help sessions! Come to the CCC and get help submitting your FAFSA or CADAA

What to bring?

- Your Social Security Number or
- Your Alien Registration Number (if you are not a U.S. citizen)
- Your parent's federal income tax returns for 2020, W-2s, and other records of money earned. (Note: You may be able to transfer your federal tax return information into your FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.)
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable)
- [An FSA ID to sign electronically.](#)

HUZZAH HORNETS!!

Please download this Newsletter - It will be easier to read and reference all of the links provided. **Two pages of AHS CCC information!**

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JUNIORS: [UCs will not be considering standardized testing when making admissions decisions or awarding scholarships for applicants.](#)

CSUs have not yet determined their testing guidelines for 2023 applicants. **My recommendation for juniors:** try and take ONE exam this spring. You don't know where you are applying and who is going to require exam scores so make sure you have one score if you need it.

Want some practice taking a full length exam?

Virtual Mock ACT Sat. 1/22 9:00 am
Virtual Mock SAT Sat. 1/29 9:00 am
Cost \$10 each. Register [HERE](#) The money will go towards scholarships for AHS students for test prep or tutoring through Rev Prep.

SENIORS:

Once you have submitted all of your college applications:

- CHECK YOUR EMAIL
- READ YOUR EMAIL
- Every school you applied to will be emailing you instructions to follow. **PLEASE follow their instructions!! This is the #1 mistake seniors make: not checking their email after they submit. Check your SPAM!**

Community College Enrollment:

- Graduating Seniors: enrollment for Summer/Fall 2022 for all CA community colleges begins in March/April.
- What can I do now? Submit your FAFSA or CADAA. Financial aid is available for Community College

Financial Aid Application:

[FAFSA](#) (Free Application For Student Aid) [CADAA](#) (CA Dream Act App)- Must be completed by March 2nd for Cal Grant eligibility.

Visit the CCC website for more information on college, career, scholarships, financial aid, test prep, job and volunteer postings, and more! Click [HERE](#)



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FOR PARENTS: Post-Thanksgiving Reflections - Please stop pressuring your student to apply to Stanford or the “Ivies” because you think they should “just try.” There is a lot of time and work that has to go into a strong application to these schools, including the Common App essay, multiple different supplemental essays (e.g., eight for Stanford), asking counselors/teachers for letters of rec., staying on top of coursework and extracurricular activities, and simultaneously working on the UC application as well.

Our teenagers are stressed about not just the process of applying to college, but also figuring out where they think they “should” apply as well as the cost of college. We, the adults in their lives, need to support them through this process. Many students have told me about their fears of disappointing their parents or of not living up to their older sibling when they talk to me about college. When I encourage them to apply to UC Riverside or UC Merced, they often will tell me “My parents don’t want me to apply there.” **Let’s start talking to our kids about finding the right “FIT” school for THEM. Stop looking at school rankings. Be open to their college search.** If they tell you they don’t want to apply to Stanford - LISTEN TO THEM!!!!

I recommend Frank Bruni’s book [Where You Go is Not Who You Will Be: An Antidote to the College Admissions Mania](#) [Interview Link](#)

FRESHMEN & SOPHOMORES:

What can you be doing to help prepare for college/college applications?

- 1) **Do well in school:** This is the one thing you have control over. That means getting a C or better in all of your classes. If you get a D/F in a class for even one semester, you need to talk to your counselor about how you can re-take (or remediate) that semester. Don’t wait until senior year to correct these grades.
- 2) **Get involved:** Join an AHS club, play a sport, volunteer, get a job. Listing your “activities” is a big section on college applications. COVID has put a damper on many in-person activities, but there are still opportunities out there. Try [Volunteermatch](#). Dog walking & babysitting are activities that can be listed on college apps. [ARPD](#) offers a volunteer position for those under 16 and paid positions for 16+.
- 3) **Get creative:** Whether you are playing music, growing a garden or sewing masks, this is an activity. Figure out what you are interested in. Do you like to make videos? Create a YouTube Channel or social media account to showcase your work. Love sports? Make a podcast with your friends and talk sports/the draft. Virtual yoga with your friends?
- 4) **Stay curious:** If you loved Biology and you want to expand your knowledge, think about taking a summer class. If you love running, train for a 5K, 10K. Check out my [Summer Educational Opportunities](#) page on the AHS website.

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