



# ALAMEDA HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE AND CAREER NEWSLETTER

## AUGUST ISSUE



## 2023-2024

### EVENTS

#### Upcoming College Visits

Register to attend a visit in Scoir. Check out this Scoir Intro video - [LINK](#) Pick up a pass from Ms. Gwen once you register for the visit.

Tues 9/5	<a href="#">University of British Columbia</a>	1:20 pm Smart
Tues 9/12	<a href="#">University Puget Sound</a>	1:20 pm Smart
TH 9/14	<a href="#">Pitzer College</a>	1:20 pm Smart
Tues 9/19	<a href="#">Smith College</a>	Lunch
	<a href="#">UChicago</a>	1:20 pm Smart
Tues 9/28	<a href="#">Lehigh University</a>	1:20 pm Smart
TH 10/5	<a href="#">Haverford College</a>	1:20 pm Smart

### HUZZAH HORNETS!!

Welcome to the monthly College & Career Center Newsletter! This newsletter is one way I try and keep families in the loop on all the goings-on in the AHS CCC throughout the year. You can access all newsletters on the CCC page of the AHS website.

To enjoy the hyperlinks - I recommend you download this Newsletter!

Follow the AHS CCC on Instagram  @hornet\_huzzahs

### JUNIORS:

- Register with Scoir if you haven't already. A Scoir Invite was sent to anyone who hadn't already registered. 😎
- Check out this Scoir Intro video - [LINK](#)
- Attend some College Visits this fall, sign up in Scoir.
- Do well in your classes. This is the only thing you have control over in the college process.

### FRESHMAN & SOPHOMORES

Welcome! What might bring a 9th or 10th grader into the CCC?

- #1 Might be you are looking for a Work Permit. I am the person who processes all work permits once you get a job.
- #2 You might be looking for a microwave. I have two in the CCC. I am in the Media Center just off of The Pit. Look for the signs!
- #3 You might be looking for information about summer programs. I have lots of ideas.

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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### Who Is Ms. Gwen?

This will be my 8th year at AHS as the College & Career Specialist.

### Fun Facts about me:

- I am originally from CA, but I spent my teen years living in D.C., VT & NY.
  - Both of my kids live on the east coast. My daughter is 24 and lives in Brooklyn, my son is 20 and is a junior at UMass Amherst.
  - I am currently obsessed with the [Merlin Bird ID app](#). I follow several birders on Instagram but [Isaiah Scott](#) is #1 check out [@ikesbirdinghikes](#)
  - I know there are at least 17 seniors this yr.(that I know of) that I met when they were little babies. 🐣
- Huzzah!

**SENIORS:** *Breathe!!! I am going to get you all through this process.*

### College Applications:

- The [UC Application](#) is now open. You can begin working on it. Start by creating an account.
- The [CSU application](#) opens October 1st.

**UCs/CSUs Both** have a November 30th deadline. No exceptions!

- The [Common Application](#) is used to apply to Private colleges & Out-of-State universities. Deadlines vary.
- Planning to attend Community College after graduation? Enrollment for all **CA Community Colleges** will open in March & April 2024.

### **Paying for College?! How do you get Financial Aid?**

[FAFSA](#) (Free Application for Federal Student Aid Application) or [CADAA](#) (CA Dream Act Application) - The Feds are rolling out a “new & improved” FAFSA this year. 😬 Unfortunately, the new FAFSA will not be ready for the usual October 1st start date. I am hearing December 2024 it should be ready. I will keep you and your parents posted on when the FAFSA application is ready to be submitted. **The state of California now REQUIRES that all seniors submit a FAFSA or CADAA application.** Yes this is true.

The FAFSA and CADAA applications will be based on your parents 2022 tax information. You will file a FAFSA/CADAA every year you are in college. Deadline to submit is March 2nd 2024 (this may change because of the late start this year) to qualify for a [Cal Grant](#).

[CSS Profile](#) - This is an additional application that is required by some private schools. You will need to research which schools require this. Deadlines varies. (e.g. Stanford & USC require this)

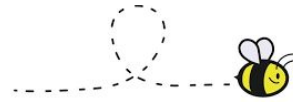
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What is SCOIR? Scoir (pronounced “score”) is our new college & career software.

- Every AHS student has a Scoir account. To *activate* their account, students will need to *register* with Scoir as an Alameda High student. [How-to Video](#)
- I sent an “*Introducing Scoir*” email out to all AHS students who have not yet registered their Scoir account. 😎
- As with everything AUSD, students will need to be logged into their AUSD Chrome Browser to access their Scoir account and be able to “Sign in with Google”.
- [Intro to Scoir video](#)

**PARENTS:** How can you support your high schooler be ready for life after high school?

- Encourage and support them in emailing/communicating with adults. High school is their training ground. Let them make mistakes with us. If they have a work permit that they need processed, ***they should be bringing/emailing it to me not you!***
- College is NOT the only road. There are fabulous Career Technical Education programs in the CA Community College system. If your child wants to become a Chef, they have a different path in college.
- It is OKAY if they are undecided. Let’s normalize the fact that most 15-18 year olds are undecided about what they want to study.
- Don’t push *your* dream of UC Berkeley onto your child. Let them cultivate their own vision of where they see themselves.
- Take them to visit different college campuses. Visit UC Merced & Riverside. Walk around Cal Poly Pomona and SJ State. Drive over the hill to St. Mary’s College in Moraga. You don’t have to take an “official” tour of every school, just walk around, eat lunch and get the vibe of the campus.
- Embrace Community College. If UCLA is your student’s dream-come-true school then the best way to attend UCLA is by transferring from a CA Community College if they don’t get in as a freshman. Community College is the most cost effective route to avoid college debt.
- Have an honest conversation about paying for college. What can you afford?

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