



ALAMEDA HIGH SCHOOL

COLLEGE AND CAREER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER ISSUE



2023-2024

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!
- Update SCOIR: make sure all of the schools you have applied to are added into your “Applied” column.

Community College Enrollment:

- Graduating Seniors: enrollment for Summer/Fall 2024 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

The 2024-25 Financial Aid Application: the [FAFSA](#) (Free Application For Student Aid) and [CADAA](#) (CA Dream Act App) - will be going “live” for seniors in January. Applications must be submitted by April 2nd to be considered for a Cal Grant. Weds. 2/7/24 - Alameda High will be hosting a Cash for College Workshop 5:30 pm (details on pg.2)

JUNIORS: [UCs will not be considering standardized testing when making admissions decisions or awarding scholarships for 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? Cost \$10 each. Register [HERE](#)

Virtual Mock ACT Sat. 2/3/24 9:00 am

Virtual Mock SAT Sat. 2/10/24 9:00 am

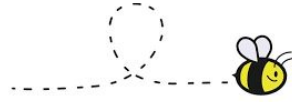
Visit the CCC website for more information on college, career, scholarships, financial aid, test prep, job and volunteer postings, and more! Click [HERE](#)



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Upcoming Virtual Webinars:

Tuesday, December 4th 4:30pm (PST) [“My Career in Marine Transportation”](#)
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy - Zoom link in on the flyer.

Thursday, December 7th 6:00pm (PST) - [“All About UBC”](#) University of British Columbia - Please register in order to receive the Zoom link.

Mark your Calendars Seniors: Upcoming Cash for College events

Cash for College Workshops are available to help families submit their FAFSA or CADAA applications for 2024-25 school year. [Information Doc.](#)

Weds. 1/24/24 - Encinal High will be hosting a Cash for College Workshop 6:00pm

Weds. 2/7/24 - Alameda High will be hosting a Cash for College Workshop 5:30 pm

FRESHMEN & SOPHOMORES: What can you be doing for life after high school?

- 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. 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+. Getting job shows responsibility and the \$\$ is good.
- 3) Get creative: Whether you are playing music, growing a garden or learning to knit/crochet 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 or marathon.

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PARENTS: I have two young adults in my life. My daughter is 24, she graduated from college, and is living in Brooklyn. My son is 20 and is a junior in college. They are very different humans. They wanted very different things when looking at colleges.

Here are some lessons I've learned from helping them both through their college process:

- **Let them lead!** Take your cues from them. If they not interested in leaving CA, don't push them to look at schools in Boston.
- **Learn about [CSUs](#)!** Degrees in Business, Nursing, Kinesiology not offered at a UC.
- **Talk to them about paying for college.** If they are talking about NYU and you've run the numbers and NYU is NOT in the cards financially - tell them! The [Net-Price Calculator](#) is a tool that you can input your tax info and assets and it will generate an estimate of cost for any school.
- **Think beyond the Ivies & Stanford!** Too many students are telling me that their parents or siblings are putting enormous pressure on them to "just try" for admissions to one or all of the high selective schools. The applications for a high selective school like Stanford requires a lot of work and attention to details. The landscape of college admissions has changed. [Cal Poly SLO](#) is a REACH school for all AHS seniors.
- **Don't work on their college applications!** This is their application and it needs to reflect who they are as a student. If they can't muster up the enthusiasm to work on their applications, maybe they are not ready. Community college is a wonderful option for growth and maturity.
- **Don't forget the Trades.** In-demand in CA, lots of programs available in community colleges or through apprenticeships. College is not the only path

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