



Dig the well before you are thirsty
-Chinese proverb

College and Career Planning

Cibola Counseling Contacts

- Joe Sena (College and Career)
sena@aps.edu
897-0110 extension 40166
- Eliseo Montoya (Counselor for Class of 2025)
montoya_eliseo@aps.edu
897-0110 extension 40159

Post-Secondary Planning

- What do I want to do?
- Where do I want to go?
- Is there a cost and how much?
- How do I pay for it?
- Decisions made, what next?

Career Exploration

- Interest Inventories
- Career Values Inventory
- Online and Paper
- We have each at Cibola (paper)
- ASVAB

New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions

nmcareersolutions.com

WHY COLLEGE?

- College includes the trades (Certificates), 2 year and 4 year colleges.
- Some trade programs are 9 months or 18 months
- Increase job opportunities
- Earn more money
- Job security

Trade Salaries

- Plumber 56,117
- Electrician 56,763
- Pipefitter 55,167
- Heavy Equipment Mechanic 55,452

2 Year Degree Job Salaries

- Architectural and Civil drafters 60,340
- Calibrations technologists and technicians 60,340
- Radio, cellular and tower equipment installers and repairers 60,360
- Physical Therapy Assistants 61,180
- Diagnostic medical sonographers 77,740

Applying to College

- Apply early
- Most applications are online
- Usually do not always need an ACT/SAT score right away, starting the file. Test scores are optional for most colleges and universities. However,...

College Applications/Fee Waivers

- Application fees may be waived.
UNM will waive the fee until October 15th (Pay later or mail check). NMSU December 1st.
- NACAC has a fee waiver form for those on a budget. See Mr. Sena for help in accessing the form
- College visits/College fairs many times will waive application fees.

College Application Tips

- Know Deadlines (UNM Dec 1st, NMSU Dec 8th)
Everything must be in by this date to be considered for scholarships
- Read the instructions
- Provide all requested information
- Proofread!!!
- Be Honest, most schools want to find a way to get the student in.
- Choose recommendations wisely
- Make sure your essay represents you
- Confirm your application materials arrived

Common Application

- Counselor for the Common App.
- Even if your counselor writes the letter of recommendation I can upload the letter to the student's file
- Ability to apply to many colleges using one application, still many fees
- Many colleges use Common App, especially selective universities.
- Gives Counselors deadlines and reminders

Sending Transcripts

- Transcripts are sent through: Parchment
 - Parchment.com
 - Create account (Very important this is the way the final transcript is sent)
 - Can send to any college and can send to student
 - The Registrar handles transcripts
 - Admission Reps will be confusing on this
- May sometimes need to send transcripts three times
- Official vs. Unofficial

STANDARDIZED TESTS

- Many Colleges/Universities have gone test optional. However, not sure if it will determine scholarships
- Recommended to take the ACT/SAT Early (Spring/Summer) of junior year
- Retake in September or October
- After December starting to put yourself in a time crunch
- Practice, students struggle with the timing
- Private tutoring from 35 to 50 dollars an hour
- Huntington and Sylvan are very effective, but can be pricey
- Unfortunately, at this time we do not have any Cibola teachers who tutor.

Recommendation Letter

- Usually need two maybe three, mainly for the more selective school. May need them for scholarships
- Find adults who know you
- Give at least two weeks notice
- Recommendation Letter Form

Financial Aid

- Scholarships
- Pell Grants
- Work Study
- Loans
- The FAFSA(Free Application for Federal Student Aid) fafsa.gov

Scholarships

- Scholarships are usually awarded based on merit or a certain criteria
- We will make announcements in regards to scholarships that come through the counseling office
- Check with where you work and where your parents work, sometimes they offer scholarships
- Apply to as many as you can
- Start researching
- Need to persevere, this can be time consuming (time-management)
- Most aid comes from the universities (same for trades, 2 yr)

UNM/NMSU Scholarship Deadline

- Offer many merit based scholarships
- Bridge and Success Grant (UNM)
- For UNM Bridge 3.3 cumulative grade point average, need to apply to UNM by February 1st
- UNM Success Grant is usually need based and the FAFSA has to be filled out
- Deadlines for high end scholarships for both universities is

December 1st

Lottery Scholarship and Opportunity Scholarship

- Two different scholarships
- Bridge is just the 1st semester of Freshman year. Different at each in-state university (Success Grant, UNM)
- Lottery starts 2nd semester of Freshman year and covers a portion of tuition, anywhere from 55% to 80%. However, this year covering 100% and should be a 100% for a few years
- Opportunity Scholarship, 1st semester
- There can be a gap year for these scholarships
- There is no application for the Lottery and Opportunity

Criteria for the Lottery and Opportunity Scholarship

Must be a New Mexico resident

Must have graduated from a New Mexico high school

1st semester of college, student must earn a 2.5 grade point average and have at least taken 15 credit hours at a 4 year institution or 12 credit hours at a 2 year institution.

Scholarship Search Engines

Apply to as many as possible

Set aside time

Check work, both parents and students

Sometimes your church

Cibola Scholarships

- The Bunny Wong Scholarship
- The Joan Kent Scholarship
- The Gabriel DeHerrera Scholarship
- The Manuel Lujan Scholarship
- APS Foundation Varsity Scholarship

SCAMS

Scholarship search engines that ask for money are usually a scam. There are also FAFSA scams. Do not pay for scholarships or the FAFSA

FAFSA

Free Application For Federal Student Aid

- Can be filled out starting October 1st with 2023 tax returns
- Priority deadlines are different for a lot of colleges and universities.
- Sometimes need to be filled out if receiving a scholarship, even if not qualified for other aid
- Re-submitted every year
- We host several FAFSA workshops
- Will also be hosting FSAID workshops

FSAID

- <https://fsaid.ed.gov>
- A parent/guardian will need a FSA ID
- Electronic signature
- Extract taxes from IRS
- Needs to be done before anything else can be done
- Need two separate emails (Parent and Student)

Pell Grants

FAFSA

- Need base
- Do not have to pay back
- Max award about 7395
- Need to submit FAFSA every year

Work Study

- Highly Recommend
- Not all Work study is need based
- Great way to network
- Flexible hours

Loans

- Terms and rates are usually better than a private bank
- Every student qualifies for a loan, subsidized or unsubsidized

Financial Aid Presentation

Financial Aid presentation
will be in September.

NCAA

- Make sure taking classes that are NCAA approved
- Should already be registered through the Clearinghouse
- Grades determine eligibility

To Do List

- Keep Grades Up – Colleges Do Care
- Take ACT as soon as possible in the fall, if needed
- Apply to Colleges and Universities
- Send Transcripts
- Apply for scholarships, as many as you can
- Fill out the FAFSA

What Else ??

- In January may need to send another transcript
- In February or March students can start signing up for orientation. CNM's is online and can be done right away
- In April or May will receive an email or letter detailing the cost of attendance and financial aid awarded
- June 1st can start to send final transcript with graduation date

Remind

Make sure on Remind. Many messages will be sent in regards to college and career and graduation

Counselor's Contact Information

897-0110

Joe Sena College and Career Counselor sena@aps.edu
897-0110 ext 40166

Eliseo Montoya 2025 Counselor montoya_eliseo@aps.edu
897-0110 ext 40159

Procrastination is
the thief of time
-Edward Young