

# Welcome to Senior College Night: Fall 2023

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- Presented by Sheila Souder & Molly Yasuda, Counselors, and Lisa Neumaier, College & Career Specialist



- Please feel free to ask as many questions as possible so we can support the goals of each student.

# College Season Etiquette

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- Students should guide this process as it is their journey.
- This is an individualized process.
- It is okay to keep your list to yourself. It may reduce your anxiety and model the same for others.
- It is inappropriate to ask where someone is applying & to share transcript information.
- Be open-minded about colleges and your friend's decisions.
- Try to let go of bias, judgment, and ego. It's not the name of the college – it's what you make of your college experience.
- Treat others the way that you would want to be treated.

# What You Should be Doing Right Now

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- Have college list narrowed down so you know which college application accounts you need to create
- Add colleges to Naviance & attend visit sessions
- Request letters of recommendation from counselor and teachers if required
- Check deadlines and stay on track
- Begin writing essays
- Investigate financial aid and scholarship opportunities
- Follow us on Instagram - [@awhs\\_counseling](#) & [@awhscollegcareer](#)

# Timeline (sample)

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## **September:**

- Fill out general sections on Common App / UC Application (Information, Courses & Activities)
- Request Letters of Recommendation, if needed
- Draft your writing components (essays, PIQs)

## **October:**

- Finalize your writing components (essays, PIQs)
- CSS Profile opens (only some colleges ask for this Fin. Aid app)

## **November:**

- Early Action / Decision Deadlines
- November 30: UC / CSU Deadline

## **December – February:**

- Main Financial Aid applications will open in Dec. (FAFSA & CADAA)
- Reg. Decision Admission Decision deadlines

# Naviance Student

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- ❑ Naviance will help students:
- Access information about colleges of interest to you
- Sign up for college [visits](#)
- Review profiles and compare yourself to AWHHS grads
- Keep up-to-date with important announcements and scholarship opportunities
- Email Lisa with any password issues

# Colleges I'm Thinking About

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The screenshot shows the Naviance Student interface. The main content area is titled "Colleges I'm thinking about" and features a search bar and a table of colleges. The table has columns for College, Delivery type, Added By, Expected Difficulty\*, Application Deadlines, and Interest. Three colleges are listed: University of California, Davis; University of California, Santa Barbara; and University of California, Santa Barbara.

College	Delivery type	Added By	Expected Difficulty*	Application Deadlines	Interest
<input type="checkbox"/> University of California, Davis		Counselor	N/A	Regular Decision 30	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> University of California, Santa Barbara		Student	N/A	Regular Decision 30	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> University of California, Santa Barbara		Counselor	N/A	Regular Decision 30	N/A

# College Visits

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- Sign up on [Naviance](#)
- You are encouraged to attend at least five sessions this fall
- Visits & other opportunities to connect with colleges listed on College & Career Center events [link](#) which is updated regularly
- If you have a school on your *colleges I'm thinking about* list, you will automatically receive an email if they are visiting AWHHS. The email is sent from Naviance and is sent to the address we have on file.

## SEARCH OPTIONS

Match®

College search

College lookup

## COLLEGES

College events 

College match

College Visits

Colleges I'm thinking about


Colleges I'm applying to

Colleges of recommendation 

SEPTEMBER

Tue 04


07:45AM

**University of  
Richmond** College & Career  
Center

SEPTEMBER

Tue 04


11:40AM

**Drexel University** College & Career  
Center

SEPTEMBER

Wed 05


11:40AM

**Colgate University** College & Career  
Center

SEPTEMBER

Wed 05

02:15PM

**Oregon State  
University** College & Career  
Center

SEPTEMBER

Wed 05

**Rutgers University-  
New Brunswick** College & Career



# COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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- **ATTEND 10/11 TUTORIAL 2 SESSION IN CCC**
- **APPLICATIONS & REGISTRATION ARE ONLINE**
- **TUITION IS CURRENTLY \$46 PER CREDIT PLUS FEES**
- **60 UNITS ARE GENERALLY REQUIRED TO TRANSFER FROM COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO A UC/CSU**
- **MOST UC CAMPUSES OFFER A TAG (TRANSFER ADMISSION GUARANTEE) WITH A SET GPA(CHECK EACH UC) AND 60 COMPLETED GENERAL EDUCATION UNITS**
- **UCB, UCSD, UCLA DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN TAG; HOWEVER THE TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES THERE ARE TERRIFIC**

# Applying to CSU

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# California State University

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- Application opens 10/1 and can be submitted between 10/1 and 11/30
- One application for all 23 campuses; pay app fee for each campus; Use a non-school email address on your application
- CSU no longer uses ACT or SAT scores in determining admission eligibility for all campuses.
- CSU's do not accept letters of recommendation
- **CSU Application Session: Sept 27 during Tutorial #2 - CCC**
- Maintain strong grades throughout senior year or risk offer of admission getting rescinded – no D's

# California State University

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- Communication takes place through student portal accounts. Check account regularly (1-2 times a week) for admission status and if admitted to monitor steps for enrollment
- No summer work after high school graduation will be accepted to meet admissions criteria
- Any fall/winter/spring courses taken at COM following your high school graduation will make you a transfer applicant, not a freshman applicant

# Applying to UC

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# University of California

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- Application opened August 1<sup>st</sup> and can be submitted between October 1 and November 30
- Do not send transcripts to the UC campuses when applying
- The UCs are test-blind and will not use standardized test scores in their admission process
- It is important to be honest throughout the application as students are randomly asked to verify certain info listed on application & recently 650 applications were cancelled for plagiarism or misrepresentation of activities/honors
- It is critical to maintain strong grades through senior year & email is how they stay connected to you after you submit your application

# Comprehensive Review Factors:

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- ❑ *Campuses draw from 13 academic and personal factors approved by University faculty, including:*
  1. *Academic GPA in all A-G courses, minimum 3.00 weighted GPA in 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade*
  2. *Content of and performance in courses beyond minimum A-G requirements*
  3. *Number of and performance in UC-approved honors and AP courses*
  4. *Identified by UC as being ranked in top 9% of class (ELC)*
  5. *Quality of senior-year schedule*
  6. *Quality of academic performance relative to educational opportunities at high school*
  7. *Outstanding performance in one or more academic subject areas*
  8. *Outstanding work in one or more special projects in an academic field of study*
  9. *Recent, marked improvement in academic performance*
  10. *Special talents, skills, achievements and awards in a particular field (visual or performing arts, athletics, writing, leadership, etc.)*
  11. *Completion of special projects within the high school curriculum or in conjunction with special school event*
  12. *Academic achievement in light of difficult life experiences or special circumstances*
  13. *Location of a student's secondary school and residence*

# Personal Insight/College Essay

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- UC prompts available at <https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-freshman/personal-insight-questions.html>
- Common Application prompts and supplemental essay information available at <https://www.commonapp.org/apply/essay-prompts>
- Importance of student's voice - this may be the only time an admission officer gets to know YOU



# Applying to Private Colleges & Out-of-State Publics

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# Private Colleges/Out of State Publics

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- Some private colleges and out-of-state public institutions have their own online applications
- Visit college websites to find their specific application requirements and their application deadlines
- Some neighboring states participate in the Western Undergraduate Exchange
- Check out [www.wue.wiche.edu](http://www.wue.wiche.edu) for more information

# Common Application

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- Used by more than 1,000 colleges/universities
- Invite your counselor and teachers to complete letters of recommendation
- We encourage you to waive your right to see the teacher/counselor letter of recommendation
- Alert counselor/teachers of any early admission deadlines
- Notify colleges of any change in courses or grade issues
- Your counselor will upload your transcript to the application
- College of Marin transcripts are student's responsibility to send

# Letters of Recommendation

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- Adhere to counselor/teacher deadlines and alert them to any early application deadlines
- Complete counselor Letter of Recommendation packet online
- Parents – your input is greatly appreciated!
- Required at most private schools
- UC/CSUs do not require Letters of Recommendation (UC Berkeley may ask certain applicants for one or more letter afterwards)

# HBCUs and HSIs

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- The Common Black College App is one application for most of the Historically Black Colleges & Universities (62 for one price)
- Some HBCUs have applications included on the Common App (i.e., Spelman, Howard, Morehouse), so check their website
- Many universities identify as HSI - Hispanic Serving Institution

# Getting help with your applications

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- Application workshops starting week of 10/9 in CCC/Counseling Office
- Individual meetings can also be scheduled
- If application asks if we rank our students, the answer is no
- Your current class size is 314 students
- We report your Total Academic Weighted GPA
- Before you submit, have Lisa or your counselor look over your UC and CSU app. Errors could impact your admission.
- If you think you may qualify for a fee waiver for college applications, contact your counselor before submitting applications

# Tools to stay organized

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- Sample [worksheet](#) to keep track of application deadlines
- Sample [worksheet](#) to keep track of financial aid/scholarship applications & deadlines
- In spring, if you have questions regarding your financial aid offers please come ask Lisa
- [Now That Apps Are Done](#) info on CCC webpages

# After Submitting Applications

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- Pay attention to all communications from colleges and follow their instructions re: portals, etc.
- Only pay a deposit at one college
- Request final transcript to be sent to the college you plan on attending
- Send your official AP scores to the college you'll attend
- Maintain same level of academics – finish strong!
- It is very important to complete your Senior Survey when it opens in May



# Learn about Financial Aid for College

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Seniors & Senior parents will be invited to attend a

## **Financial Aid Night**

**Date/Time TBA**

- The purpose of this evening is to prepare college bound seniors and their parents for the financial aid application process.
- Stay on top of emails from Lisa Neumaier about the Financial Aid Application process.
- Major changes are coming for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and the exact release date has not yet been announced.
- Some students will complete the California Dream Act Application, based on [citizenship status](#).
- Students will complete either the FAFSA or CADAA.

# GAP YEAR: Find Your Purpose

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Re-awaken your love of learning by taking a break from the typical classroom setting:

- [www.amigoslink.org](http://www.amigoslink.org) (Amigos de las Americas)
- [www.gooverseas.com/gap-year/usa-fairs](http://www.gooverseas.com/gap-year/usa-fairs) -**Gap Year Fair @AWHS on 2/28/24**
- [www.nols.edu](http://www.nols.edu) (National Outdoor Leadership NOLS)
- [www.outwardbound.org/gap-year-smester-courses](http://www.outwardbound.org/gap-year-smester-courses) (Outward Bound)
- [www.rusticpathways.com/gap](http://www.rusticpathways.com/gap) (Rustic Pathways)
- [www.theleap.co.uk](http://www.theleap.co.uk) (The Leap)
- [www.wheretherebedragons.com/whydragons.who](http://www.wheretherebedragons.com/whydragons.who) (Where There Be Dragons)

# Free Gap Year Programs

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- AmeriCorps
- VISTA
- National Civilian Community Corps
- Habitat for Humanity
- City Year
- Public Allies
- The Corps Network [www.corpsnetwork.org](http://www.corpsnetwork.org)
- World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms
- Global Volunteers
- International People's College in Denmark
- Masa Israel

## AWHS Counseling Staff:

Molly Baker, Counselor

Kyle Kassebaum,  
Counselor

Lisa Neumaier, College  
& Career Specialist

Jenny Poster,  
Counseling Secretary &  
Registrar

Sheila Souder,  
Counselor

Molly Yasuda,  
Counselor

*Please continue to ask questions throughout the college application process. We are here to work together toward a common goal of success for all students.*