COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

1.23.26

Redmond High School's College & Career Center is dedicated to preparing and supporting students for their next steps- whether that be college, technical programs, or entering the workforce. Find useful college and career planning information and resources on the CCC Website: College & Career - Redmond High School

Need more help or guidance, email Ms. Wu at rwu@lwsd.org or schedule a meeting with her HERE!

Remainder January Events in the CCC

Please check the CCC Website for more events including updates and details.

January 26, 1st Lunch Military Rep Visit

- U.S. Marines
- U.S. Navy

If you have 2nd lunch but would like to meet with the military rep, please email Ms. Wu at rwu@lwsd.org for a pass to attend this rep visit. *Please check the RHS CCC Events Calendar for updates.

January 28, 12:30 – 2 PM CWU On the Spot Admissions

- Apply to CWU with no application fee ($60 waived)
- Get an immediate transcript evaluation
- If eligible, receive an admission decision on the spot

January 30, 9:30 – 10:10 AM WSU Instant Decision Day *New Date*

- Sign up to attend this workshop if you have a cumulative 3.0 GPA and plan to attend WSU fall 2026

Check the CCC Website for details on CCC Events, Student Opportunities and Scholarships calendars as well as many other information and resources to help you explore and plan for your future.

University Updates

University of Alabama will require a standardized test score (ACT or SAT) for 2027 first-year undergraduate applicants (class of 2027) whose cumulative GPA is below 3.0. Standardized test score will be required for all applicants for 2028 first-year undergraduate applicants (class of 2028).

Standardized test scores will remain one component, not the defining factor, of how UA evaluate applicants for admission. Holistic admissions at UA will continue to include both academic and non-academic criteria. Academic components considered will include high

school GPA, performance in core subjects, academic honors and standardized test scores. Non-academic components include leadership experience, volunteer experience, extracurricular activities, employment and non-academic honors. All students must complete the minimum unit requirements.

The University of Chicago: Applicants who have submitted their application by the January 5 deadline will see a checklist on their "UChicago Accounts" showing which materials have been received and which are missing. These applicants still have time to submit (by 5 p.m. CST on January 30) any missing materials without penalty. The preferred methods to submit missing materials are through the Common App or Apply Coalition. Materials may also be submitted via email to collegeadmissions@uchicago.edu.

Registration for **Denison's** **Winter Preview Day on Monday, February 16 is open!** This program will provide students and their families an overview of the many campus opportunities available to Denisonians, while offering a close-up view of life on The Hill. **Check out a sample schedule here.** This is an incredible chance for students in any stage of the college search to learn about the Denison Advantage, while getting answers to their application questions

Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) has extended their Regular Decision deadline to January 27 at 11:59 PM EST. Students can request an application fee waiver HERE. They have prepared the following videos to help you complete your application:
Updates on first-year application: Watch recording
Writing your college essay: Watch recording
Curating and presenting your portfolio: Watch recording

University of Southern California: **The USC Do's and Don'ts of Deferral**
The deferral notice instructs students on the two steps required to remain in consideration. Students must (1) submit an Early Action Deferral form in their USC portal. Also, we remind students to (2) submit mid-year grades if they have not already done so. Do not send new materials or letters of continued interest.
Flexibility For Late Applicants
We can be flexible with students who need more time to submit their Common App due to circumstances beyond their control. Students or their counselors may reach out to their USC Admission counselor.

UC Santa Cruz would like to share three common mistakes that are being made that could negatively impact a student's application:

1. **Leaving the Activities and Awards sections blank.** Even if you are sharing your activities in the Personal Insights Questions (PIQs), you still need to list them in this section. These sections contain additional information – such as hours per week and number of years the student participated in the activity – that is helpful for us in determining the extent of the student's involvement.

2. **Omitting 12th grade coursework.** We need to see the student's coursework for 12th grade to determine the rigor of the student's overall schedule. If applicable, these courses should be marked as "in progress" or "planned."
3. **Duplicating answers from one PIQ to another.** This is most likely due to errors while copying and pasting. Make sure to look over your answers to the entire application carefully before submitting it.

John Cabot University in Rome just launched their first **Bachelor of Science degree in Computer and Information Science** program.

California College of the Arts (CCA) announced on January 13, 2026, that the college has entered into an agreement with **Vanderbilt University**. CCA will not be admitting a Fall 2026 entering class or any future cohorts. Applications for Fall 2026 and later terms are closed, and CCA should no longer be considered an application option for students planning to begin college in Fall 2026 or beyond.

While CCA will continue to teach and support currently enrolled students through the 2026–27 academic year, their admissions and advising work is now focused on supporting those students through completion rather than building future pipelines

UC San Diego: Fall 2026 applicants to UC San Diego have the opportunity to update their first and alternate choice major and/or their undergraduate college ranking by the January 31 deadline. Any student who would like to make updates can do so through their Applicant Portal. Some majors are selective while others have math requirements as a part of the curriculum. Please keep this in mind and consider including a major that is not selective as an alternate major. March 2 - FAFSA Priority Deadline.

University of Central Florida (UCF): First-year applicants who are deferred or who have not yet been reviewed by the UCF Undergraduate Admissions Committee were notified that their Self-Provided Academic Record for Knights (SPARK Form) is open.

Unlocking the SPARK allows students to enter mid-year senior grades, update courses, and amend their class rank.
Students are encouraged to make updates as soon as possible. The SPARK will close on **Monday, February 16, 2026, at 8 a.m. EST.** After this date, access will be turned off regardless of whether a student has made and submitted updates to UCF.

Gonzaga University:

- **Regular Decision Deadline - FEBRUARY 1**

They are accepting applications for all majors—nursing applications are for the waitlist only.

- **Application Fee Waiver options**

1. Zag Alumni or Parent of a Current Zag Fee Waiver
2. "Be A Zag" fee waiver on the Common Application to apply for free (this year only)

- "Be A Zag" fee waiver on the Common Application - If you have a student who is interested, please share that they can select the **Be A Zag Fee Waiver** option on the Common App to apply for free. This option is available for this year only, but we will keep you posted if this continues in the future.
- **One-on-one Financial Aid Appointments** - Students and families who need support in completing the FAFSA or just have general questions can schedule an appointment.

WANIC Full-Year Program Application Opens February 4!

Applications received before March 31, 2026 receive priority. Students will not be enrolled before this date. Lotteries will be run and emails regarding enrollment and waitlist status for full year 2026-27 skill center programs will be sent by the end of April. After 3:00 pm March 31, Applications will only be accepted for programs with space available. **Full year applications close 3:00 PM July 15.**

Click **HERE** to learn more about WANIC's 2026-2027 Full Year Programs and to apply.

*Note: RHS students who must be scheduled for Period 3 and are applying to classes at DigiPen and Lake Washington Institute of Technology should only apply for the **morning WANIC classes.***

APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS TODAY

Check out some of these scholarships that are coming due and waiting for you to apply:
College Success Foundation due 1/30
DAR Scholarships due 1/31
Richard Pizzo Honorary Scholarship 1/31
Women's University Club Foundation due 2/10
Details are listed in the Scholarship Deadlines Calendar on the College & Career website.

WHAT TO DO DURING MID-WINTER BREAK?

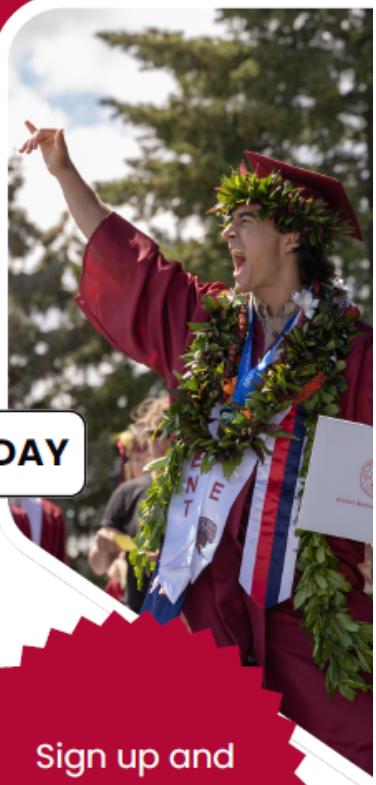
Visit schools! Some colleges have preview days set for you to schedule a visit. If you can't make it in person, check out their website for virtual tours and webinars. Use this time to take another step in securing plans for your future!

If you haven't yet submit your FAFSA/WASFA, this would be a great time to do so. Many colleges have their financial aid priority deadline set around this time of the year. What this means is that you will receive the maximum amount of aid you are eligible for if you have submitted your financial aid application by that deadline. Before you know it, May 1st will be here and it's national Decision Day! This is the decision/confirmation deadline for most universities where students must confirm their enrollment to secure their spot for this fall.

Redmond High School
will host

Central Washington University

ON THE SPOT ADMISSIONS



SCAN TO REGISTER TODAY

Date: January 28th, 2026
Time: 12:30 - 2:00 PM
Location: College & Career Center (E111)

Sign up and apply for **FREE**!

QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be a current senior
- Have a 2.5 or higher cumulative GPA
- On track to be CADR complete by graduation
  - 4 Years - English
  - 4 Years - Mathematics
  - 2 Years - Consecutive World Language or Competency Assessment
  - 3 Years - Science
  - 3 Years - Social Science
  - 1 Year - Fine, Visual, or Performing Arts

CWU

Questions? Text CWU Admissions at 509-213-1813
Admissions@cwu.edu

WSU Instant Decision Day

Join representatives from Washington State University for Instant Decision Day. High school seniors may apply on-site and receive an admission decision on the spot!

This event is recommended for seniors with a **3.0 cumulative GPA** or higher. If you're not sure of your GPA, check with your college and career office!

Students must register prior to the event to be eligible for an instant decision. Walk-ons will not be guaranteed an instant decision.

Scan the QR code to register!

Redmond High School
January 30th at 9:30 am

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Details are posted on the CCC Events Calendar on the CCC website.

LAKE WASHINGTON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY





TOUR

February 24, 2026

- Tour campus
- Explore hands-on programs
- Meet professors
- Learn about Open Doors

REGISTER NOW

Register by Feb. 9

https://.rhs.lwsd.org/college-career

Submit Parent Permission Form by Feb. 9 to Mrs. Wu to secure your spot.

Did you know?!

Students in eligible Career & Technical Education (CTE) Dual Credit classes can earn both high school *and* college credits simultaneously!

These high school classes are aligned with college-level professional or technical courses, contributing to certificates or degree programs at the participating colleges.

What are the Benefits of CTE Dual Credit?

- **Earn College Credit:** Gain college credits while still in high school—*a fantastic opportunity to get a head-start on your college education and career!*
- **Career Exploration:** Explore potential careers during high school
- **Cost Savings:** Save on tuition, books, and transportation costs

VIEW CLASSES

How to Earn College Credit

1. **Enroll:** Sign up for eligible class(es) at your high school
2. **Register:** Register online at **PNWcollegecredit.org/Register**
   - Register between December 1st and June 15th
3. **Pay Fee:** Pay a $50 consortium fee online at **PNWcollegecredit.org/PAY**
   - Fee is non-refundable
   - Fee waivers are available for those in need
   - Due by June 20th
4. **Achieve Grades:** Earn a grade of "B" or higher in the class
5. **Get Transcribed:** Must request transcription from college
   - Steps required by each college are outlined here: **PNWcollegecredit.org/Transcripts**

Pacific NW COLLEGE CREDIT

CTE Dual Credit

Pacific Northwest College Credit (PNWCC)—a CTE Dual Credit consortium—partners with local colleges, school districts, and skill centers across North King and Snohomish Counties (here in the Pacific Northwest) to offer college credit for high school students.

PNWcollegecredit.org **info@PNWcollegecredit.org**