

Senior Update

March 1, 2016

To access the update: Go to the FUHS counseling blog at: <http://fuhscounseling.blogspot.com> and look for the Senior/Scholarship Update link.

The Senior/Scholarship Update is also posted on the counseling office bulletin board, in senior English and History Classes and in the Library

Upcoming Important Deadlines:

Humboldt Area Foundation Scholarships – March 16 !!!!!

Northcoast Access Scholarships due March 15th !!!!

FAFSA submitted for Cal Grant consideration for 4 yr. colleges – March 2

Credits for Graduation/Credit Recovery: You must complete your classes at credit recovery in order to be able to graduate in June. Make sure you attend regularly and finish those classes as soon as possible!

Financial Aid Steps in March: If you completed your FAFSA, its probably time to log in again with your parent's updated tax information. Go to fafsa.ed.gov, log in and use your FSA ID to access your FAFSA information. Follow the instructions to upload tax information using the IRS DATA Retrieval Tool. Once you transfer the tax information over to the FAFSA, you will need to sign again with both your FSA ID and your parent's FSA ID.

If you are low income, you may be contacted by the college financial aid office and they may be asking you to submit "verification" paperwork. This is paperwork to verify that you are really as low income as you stated on your FAFSA. Be sure to provide them with all necessary paperwork or else you won't receive your award.

Cal Grants: You should have received a correspondence from the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) with information about receiving (or not) a Cal Grant award. It will direct you to set up a webgrants account to access your Cal Grant info. Be sure to follow the instructions. Cal Grants are free money for college and many of you are eligible to receive these grants. Need help, see Mrs. Austin.

The FAFSA deadline for students attending 4 year colleges and applying for Cal Grants is March 2nd, but it is still possible to submit FAFSAs after March 2 for community colleges - however, don't wait. The pile of available money is dwindling fast. FUHS already uploaded all GPAs back in November.

4 Yr Colleges: Be sure to login to your portal account and check your list of items to do. Stay on top of all tasks otherwise you might miss an important deadline. Also, pay attention to all email from your colleges.

4 Yr College Housing/Dorms: Most 4 year colleges will make their housing applications available sometime in March. **HSU already has their housing applications available already.** On campus housing is first come, first served. A deposit is almost always required. Be sure to check with your college and make sure you turn in your housing paperwork as soon as possible to ensure a spot in the dorms.

College of the Redwoods:

The next step for seniors planning to attend CR is to take the placement test. It will be offered on campus in the B Labs during the morning of March 7th. If your Econ teacher is Mr. Benbow, you will need to be there at the beginning of 1st period. If your Econ teacher is Ms. Heavilin, Mr. Stockdale or Ms. Howe, you will need to be at the B Labs at the beginning of 3rd period. Please be on time!!!!

If you would like to do some practice testing, go to CR's Academic Support Center website:

<http://www.redwoods.edu/eureka/asc/assessmenttesting.asp>

From this website you can click on links to practice for both English and math tests. It is really important to do well on these tests because they determine what class you will start at in college.

The final step will be orientation and advising. This will be on May 9 or May 11 and will involve taking the bus up to CR. You will meet with CR counselors, attend orientation and be able to select your classes. More info to come.

FUHS students will have registration priority, so you'll be able to get the classes you want and not have to worry about classes being too full.

Also..... CR offers the Board of Governors (BOG) waiver for qualified students. This waiver will pay your tuition so its worth about \$1182 per year. Filling out the FAFSA usually automatically qualifies you for this grant if you have financial need.

CR also has an EOPS program. This is a really great program designed to assist students who are low income and first generation college students. They have lots of support staff to help, **plus EOPS will give you a \$250 book voucher for each semester!** Be sure to apply to EOPS, or if you are on campus, stop by their office. For more info, call 476-4270.

Other Community Colleges: If you're planning to attend a community college outside of Humboldt County, the process to register is similar to that of CR. Go to the college website and fill out an online application. Then make arrangements to take the placement tests at the school. Finally, talk to an advisor and plan to register for your classes later this spring or early summer. Most community colleges have an EOPS office that usually provides services to new students and helps with some of the costs. Be sure to check it out.

ELM/EPT. These are the placement tests that are required for CSU students. Seniors who are planning to attend a CSU can take these tests locally at HSU and the results will be

forwarded to the CSU they are planning to attend. All CSU-bound students should plan to register for these tests unless you meet the following criteria:

SAT score in math was 550 or higher; ACT score was 23 or higher; score of 3 or above and the AP Calculus test

SAT score in English was 500 or higher on the verbal section; score of 680 or higher on the SAT II writing test; score of 24 or higher on the ACT English test; score of 3 or higher on the AP English Language test.

If you scored high enough on the STAR EAP test, you may also be exempt from taking the placement tests. To check your EAP scores, go to:

www.csusuccess.org/eap_results

In order to register for the ELM/EPT, go online to: <https://ept-elm.ets.org>

HSU testing center phone is: 826-3611. There are no fee waivers for these tests.

Plan to test as soon as possible!

Test Dates	Deadline to Register	Cost
March 19	March 13	\$18 per test
April 2	March 25	\$18 per test
May 7	May 1	\$18 per test

Transcript Requests: In order to get a copy of your transcript or have it sent, please fill out a transcript request form ahead of time and leave it with Rebecca Wilkinson in the office.

Acceptance Notices from Colleges: UCs should be sending out notices of acceptance/rejections during the second or third week of March.

Lots of colleges will be hosting spring open house days designed for incoming students, who are still making their last minute decisions.

HSU: Spring Preview Day: Friday March 25 or Friday, April 1 (Register by March 23 at <http://www2.humboldt.edu/springpreview/>)