

Senior Update

November 1, 2015

Look for the Senior Update online!!!

Go to Google search and type in "fuhscounseling", click on the website and then click on "Senior Info – Senior Updates & Senior Scholarships"

Or, go to: <https://sites.google.com/site/fuhscounseling>, then click on "Senior Info - Senior Updates & Senior Scholarships"

Or go to the FUHS counseling blog at: <http://fuhscounseling.blogspot.com> and look for the Senior/Scholarship Update

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

NOVEMBER IS THE FINAL MONTH TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR CSUs and UCs– APPLY ONLINE AT www.esumentor.edu and www.universityofcalifornia.edu

Credits - Students who are signed up for credit recovery will need to make adequate progress, otherwise you will be dropped from the program.

SAT/ACT Testing - 4 Yr. College Bound Seniors will need to have SATs or ACTs completed no later than December, but preferably have them done by November 7th. The deadline to register for the December 5th test is November 5th. The deadline to register for the ACT December 12th test is November 6th. Either the SAT or ACT is accepted at most colleges. SAT Subject tests are generally no longer required by most colleges, but if you are applying to a private selective school be sure to check and make sure the SAT Subject tests are not required. For UCs certain programs will recommend the Subject Tests, but again, they aren't required. If you need fee waivers, see Mrs. Austin.

Website for SAT registration: sat.org/register

Website for ACT registration: www.actstudent.org

You will need to send your OFFICIAL SAT scores to the 4-year colleges you are applying to. Official scores come straight from the collegeboard and go straight to the admissions offices of the colleges. In order to send official scores, sign in to your collegeboard SAT account and select the "Send Scores" option. You will have 4 free scores, and after that they will charge you for each additional score sent. **If you are applying to HSU and/or any other CSU, then use the code: 3594. This code will send your SAT scores to ALL CSUs and save your other free choices for other colleges. For the University of California, you're your SAT scores to one of your UC choices and they will share your SAT score with the other UCs on your list.** Student athletes who are registering for the NCAA Clearinghouse will also need official SAT scores sent from the collegeboard. The code used to send scores to the NCAA Clearinghouse is 9999. Plan to have your official scores sent as soon as possible.

College Planning - November is the final month to submit applications to the UCs, CSUs, and many private colleges. If you are planning to apply to a private college, tech school or junior college out of the area, be sure to contact them (check out each college website for admission, financial aid and housing information). Always include a safe, financially reasonable "back-up" school in your list of college choices.

College Applications - CSU and UC applications must be submitted by Nov. 30. You'll need transcripts (and UC approved course lists for UC students) as well to help you with applications. Many private college applications are due this month as well, so be sure to keep track of all the deadlines on your college list. Pick up transcripts and UC-approved courses from Mrs. Austin.

CSU applicants: CSUs are accepting applications through Nov. 30. Fee waivers are built into the application. All you do is submit your family income to see if you qualify. Website: www.csumentor.edu - to apply to CSU and get information. Very low family incomes are required to qualify for the fee waiver.

EOP applications are part of the CSU application. EOP stands for Equal Opportunity Program. They help first generation, low income students through college, plus give them money! EOP is a good deal, so plan to apply if you think you may qualify. In order to apply, follow the instructions online at the end of the CSU application. There are only so many spots open, so be sure to submit your EOP application before Nov. 30 for priority consideration!

UC applicants: Again, UC applications are due Nov. 30. If you would like tips on writing the personal statement, see Ms. Conley. The UC website is: www.universityofcalifornia.edu.

Private colleges either will have their own application online or let you use the online application called the "Common Application". The Common Application, AKA "common app" is one application which can be used for many private colleges and can save you lots of time. Here is their website:

www.commonapp.org (be sure to use this website and not commonap.org - notice the one "p")

Private college applications generally consist of three parts: 1. Student information, including academic information submitted by the student and sometimes an essay. 2. A school report that needs to be submitted by your counselor 3. A recommendation form - generally filled out by a teacher who has already written you a letter of recommendation and knows you well. All parts will need to be submitted by the deadline date, so be sure to complete all of the application parts, otherwise your application will be incomplete.

After applying you will receive instructions on how to set up your portals for each college that receives your application. Be sure to write down your username and password for each campus someplace safe. Colleges will use the portal to send you any important communication news. Also, they usually include a "To Do List". Be sure to check your "To Do List" to make sure you are up to date on any necessary requirements.

College Visits, Open Houses, Preview Days and Virtual Online Tours: All college campuses are willing to arrange a tour. You just need to call them and set up a date. Visiting is the best way to get the feel and personality of the school. Many colleges have an open house or preview day - you may want to take advantage of these.

Virtual online visits - go to www.collegeweeklive.com: Many colleges will be hosting virtual tours and events to showcase their programs at this website. For students who can't make trips out of the area, this is a good option. Certain colleges will be scheduled on certain dates.

ASVAB Test: Tuesday, Nov. 10 is the date set for the ASVAB test, which will be here on campus. The ASVAB is for students who plan to join the military. Sign up with Robin Eckerfield in the office if you are interested.

FAFSA: Next month, we will kick off the financial aid information, but in the meantime, here's a mini preview: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is found at www.fafsa.ed.gov and it is the main financial aid application that all seniors should plan to complete. It will be available online beginning Jan. 1, 2016, and you should fill it out and submit it as soon as possible after that date. The FAFSA determines federal-level grants, loans, and work-study. You may apply for your FAFSA ID (FSA ID) numbers at any time on the website; these FSA IDs will be required to submit your application. If you and your parent get them soon, you can fill out the fafsa4caster (on the same website) and get an early estimate on your financial aid. FAFSA also serves as the basis for determining Cal Grant awards - with is free money to help cover your tuition if you attend a college in California. To get your FSA ID ahead of time, go to: fsaid.ed.gov

Profile Financial Aid Application Forms: If you are applying to a selective private college, you may need to complete the Profile form. Profile financial aid applications are used by elite private colleges. To register with Profile, go to www.collegeboard.com and look for CSS/Profile.

NCAA Applications: Don't forget ! If you are planning to play sports at a Div. I or Div. II college, you'll need to register with the NCAA. Register at www.ncaa.org and look for "Clearinghouse Eligibility". Also please arrange to have your SAT scores sent to them. The code to send your SAT scores is 9999. Fee waivers are available.

Senior File

Time to start your senior file! You'll need an activity sheet filled out as neatly and completely as possible (better to do it on a computer) and 2 or 3 letters of recommendation. We will add your transcript. Bring copies of all information to the counseling secretary- Robin Eckerfield or Mrs. Austin. You'll need this information to apply for scholarships. We will help you make as many free copies as you need. Use the copy machines in the office for all scholarship and college needs. We can help you make copies, scan documents and fax documents. The counseling copy code # is 15655.