

EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

1. On-the-Job Training

2. Apprenticeships

3. U.S. Military

4. Vocational-Technical-Business Schools

5. Community/Junior Colleges

5. 4-year colleges/universities

Public In-State Universities (U.C.-C.S.U.)

Public Out-of-State Universities

Private/Independent In-State Colleges/Universities

Private/Independent Out-of-State Colleges/Universities

Foreign Universities

WHY CHOOSE A 4-YEAR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY EDUCATION?

Check one or more of the following:

Professional training that fulfills my long-term life and career goals.

Enrich my academic and personal knowledge for a more interesting life.

Enhance my lifetime financial earning potential.

Other: _____

THE ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER:

Program – Does the college have the major(s) I am considering?

Location – Does the city/area fit me? How far away from home should I be?

Cost – Is it affordable? Has my family discussed educational expenses?

Do they offer scholarships to help me pay for college costs?

Personal/Social Factors – Does the school fit my values and personal goals?

Other elements important to you?

COLLEGE SEARCH WEBSITES

www.schoolsintheusa.com

www.californiacolleges.edu

www.braintrack.com (national &
international colleges)

www.globalcomputing.com/CollegesContent.htm

www.50states.com/college/

www.collegeboard.com/search

www.petersons.com

www.collegenet.com/

www.collegeview.com

www.gocollege.com/ (# 1 internet college site)

www.campustours.com/

www.careerschools.org/ (Interesting!)

www.fastweb.com

www.collegelink.com

COLLEGE-BOUND TO-DO LIST:

- 1. Create and maintain a folder for all your high school academic records and activities, as well as community service and part-time work.**
- 2. Research colleges and careers, keeping your mind open to possibilities.**
- 3. Visit colleges when and where you travel.**
- 4. Read.....Read.....Read.....Read.**
- 5. Develop strong, efficient, persuasive writing skills.**
- 6. Take challenging H.S. courses to meet or exceed the UC/CSU pattern.**

THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

As a Sophomore or Junior, take the P.S.A.T.

Be looking for scholarships even before your Senior year.

Search and research colleges.

Visit colleges, do online virtual tours.

Boys'/Girls' State, RYLA, FFA, 4-H, Community Service

Summer Classes at a college?

Take the appropriate college entrance tests:

S.A.T. Reasoning Test (SAT I) – 7 national dates each year

S.A.T. Subject Tests (SATII – only for U.C. or highly selective schools)

A.C.T. Test - 6 National dates each year

WHEN? The best time to take the S.A.T. or A.C.T. is while you are taking or after you have taken Algebra II.

Send for or download the application for enrollment for any schools you are considering during the summer after your Junior year in high school.

Begin filling out the applications in September and October of your Senior year in high school. The best month to submit college applications is in November. In fact, that is the only month available for the U.C. system application. It's also the recommended month for C.S.U. applications. So, why not just take care of all your applications at the same time? (Note: Ask your Counselor about "Early Decision")

Wait. The U.C. and C.S.U. notify candidates at specific times in late winter. Many other schools accept applications and process them on a "rolling" basis, which means a quicker answer if all your data has been submitted.

You'll receive a FAFSA form from your HS Counselor in December. The best time to file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is in January or February. In order to qualify for California Student Aid money, the FAFSA must be submitted by March 1st. The Counselor will, with your permission, submit your GPA to the California Student Aid Commission in late February. That's all you need to be considered for both Federal and State need-based financial aid.

Apply for scholarships, local and otherwise, throughout the Senior year. The colleges you have applied to will be working on two decisions. First, they will be telling you whether or not you have been accepted for admission. Second, they will be preparing a Financial Aid Offer to send to you. YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION UNTIL MAY 1ST. Look at the schools, the factors, the financial offers, then make a reasoned choice that fits your plans and your family resources.

Finish the Senior year with a strong academic performance. The colleges ask for a Final Transcript after graduation. If you have "crashed" in the second semester it could affect your admission and scholarships.

SPECIAL TOPICS

R.O.T.C. Scholarships

U.S. Military Academies (Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard)

Athletics – NCAA Clearinghouse

*****SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS SEARCHES*****

WEBSITES TO RESEARCH GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

FastWeb:

www.fastweb.com/

WiredScholar.Com:

www.collegeanswer.com/index.jsp

Absolutely Scholarships:

<http://apps.absolutelyscholarships.com/exec/scholarship>

College Board Scholarship Search Site:

http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp

CollegeScholars.com:

www.collegescholarships.com/

CollegeXpress Scholarship Search site:

www.collegexpress.com/index.jsp

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Scholarship Search Site:

www.chci.org/chciyouth/scholarship/scholarship.htm

FreSch Scholarship Search Site:

www.freshchinfo.com/search-main.php

National Education Association/Hispanic Press Foundation:

www.scholarshipsforhispanics.org

Peterson's Scholarship Search:

www.petersons.com

Schoolsoup.Com:

www.schoolsoup.com

Scholarsite.Com:

www.scholarsite.com/

Scholarship Resource Network Express:

www.smexpress.com/index.cfm

GoCollege.com

www.gocollege.com/

College-Scholarship.Com:

www.college-scholarships.com/

Guaranteed-Scholarships.com:

www.guaranteed-scholarships.com/