October 12, 2016

Congratulations Senior!

You are on track to attend a four-year university upon completion of your high school requirements. Because of your great accomplishments we want to help you on the next step of your journey - applying to and getting accepted to a four-year college. On October 19th UHS will sponsor a College and Career Day. We will be following a different schedule on that day in order to give all eligible seniors the opportunity to complete and submit one or more college applications.

You will report to the auditorium at 7:45am to get an overview of the day. We will begin with a presentation of the financial aid process because it’s not just about getting accepted to a four year college - it’s important to be able to afford it as well.

After the overview, you will have the opportunity to begin the college application process as well as to work on your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Many seniors already know where they are applying and where they’d like to go, but many seniors still have no idea. You will receive important information to aid in making college selection choices. Please review the materials provided, and fill out the information because it will streamline the application process.

The first page talks about finding schools that might be a good fit and match for you. It discusses options that you can find on CSU Mentor (www.csumentor.com). You can also use College Board’s Big Future program (https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org) to help find the school that’s right for you. The second and third pages help you find more information about schools you research so that you will have a better idea if it’s a school to which you want to apply. Pages 4, 5, and 6 list the information you will need so that you can actually apply to college on October 19th.

Congratulations again on all of your hard work! We look forward to helping you succeed in your future endeavors by taking the first step in the college application process.

Sincerely,

The Upland High School AVID Team
Prior to submitting a college application, you need to research the various college options you have available. During your research, there are three important things for you to consider: fit, match, and cost. This worksheet will help you think through each of them:

Does the college fit with your preferences? There are several factors to consider in regard to fit such as the size of the school, the location of the school, and services available on campus. Also, it is important to consider the college’s graduation rates and retention rates (the number of students who return to school for their second year) when researching what a college has to offer you. Finally, does the school offer your major? If you’re not sure what you’d like to major in, visit ACT Profile (www.act.org/profile) to explore and learn more about careers and majors that align with your interests and talents.

Does the college match with your academic record? For this, you’ll need to understand how your high school grade point average (GPA), your college entrance exam scores (SAT and/or ACT), and the courses you’ve taken in high school match to the college’s entrance requirements AND to the average GPAs and scores of students admitted. Keep in mind that what a school requires could be different from the averages of who they admit. You should plan to apply to multiple schools and should include at least one of each of the following types of schools:

- **Reach School** – this does not mean out of reach, it just means that the school may be more selective (look at the percent of applicants admitted) and your academic record may be on the lower end of what the college typically accepts. In other words, you may be admitted to this school
- **Match School** – typically, at a match school, your academic record will be similar to the “average” student admitted to this school. In other words, you are likely to be admitted.
- **Safety School** – a safety school will usually have either open enrollment (meaning anyone who submits a completed application is admitted) or will be considered a “less selective” institution. Your academic record will exceed the institution’s requirements and averages for students admitted. In other words, you will almost definitely be admitted.

Finally, it is important for you to understand the cost of the institutions to which you would like to apply. Keep in mind that the “sticker” price of a college may be very different from the “net” price of a college after you consider the amount of aid that is typically available to students.

You need to research schools in advance, so you’ll be prepared for the big day. You should plan to apply to at least one reach, one match, and one safety college. Go to CSUMentor.com to conduct your research.

### LOCATION: Where would your ideal college be located (circle one)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-state</th>
<th>Out-of-state</th>
<th>Either</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**How important is location to you (circle one)?**

- Very Important
- Important
- Not Important

### TYPE OF SCHOOL: In what kind of setting would your ideal college be (circle one)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>Urban</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**How important is setting to you (circle one)?**

- Very Important
- Important
- Not Important

**How big would your ideal college be (circle one)?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Large</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Small</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**How important is size to you (circle one)?**

- Very Important
- Important
- Not Important
**Instructions:** Go to [CSUMentor.com](http://www.CSUMentor.com) There, you can search for colleges that “fit” and “match” the information you completed on the previous page. Be sure you keep in mind what characteristics are important to you in regard to fit! Or, search for a specific college to which you think you would like to apply to learn more about them. For each college, complete this table to determine if the college is a good fit and match for you and whether the costs seem reasonable based on your anticipated resources.

Name of College: ____________________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of college (City, State)</th>
<th>FIT</th>
<th>4-year or 2-year?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Size of college</td>
<td></td>
<td>Public or Private?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of undergraduate students</td>
<td></td>
<td>Co-ed? Women only? Men only?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting of college</td>
<td></td>
<td>Students live on campus or commute?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do they offer my major?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Diversity of campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of students that return</td>
<td></td>
<td>Graduation Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sophomore year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What services are available on</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>campus that are important to me?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How well do you think this college fits your preferences?
Excellant Fit   Good Fit   Okay Fit   Somewhat of a Fit   Does not Fit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How selective is this college?</th>
<th>MATCH</th>
<th>Have I taken the required high school courses?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of applicants admitted?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Percent of students with my SAT score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of students with my GPA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Percent of students with my ACT score</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comparing my academic record to this college, this would be a Reach, Match, or Safety college for me (see definitions above)? ____________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total estimated cost to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My calculated net price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of freshmen with need who received aid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I plan to apply to this college:   Yes   No

If Yes, Application Deadline:
Instructions: Students, complete this College Application Worksheet and bring it with you on the day of your school’s College Application event. You may need to ask your family, school counselor, or another adult you trust to assist you in answering all of the questions. Be sure to keep this information in a safe place given the personal information included.

Top Three Colleges and Universities you Plan to Submit an Application
Prior to participating in your school’s College Application program, you should do some research on the schools to which you plan to apply. Use the worksheet below to keep track of the information you learn during your research on your top three colleges and universities.

1. Name of College:
   Is an essay or personal statement required to apply? If so, note the prompt so you can draft a response!
   Deadline for application:
   Cost to apply:
   Payment option:
   SAT and/or ACT required?
   Recommendation letter required?
   Deadline for scholarship or institutional financial assistance:

2. Name of College:
   Is an essay or personal statement required to apply? If so, note the prompt so you can draft a response!
   Deadline for application:
   Cost to apply:
   Payment option:
   SAT and/or ACT required?
   Recommendation letter required?
   Deadline for scholarship or institutional financial assistance:

3. Name of College:
   Is an essay or personal statement required to apply? If so, note the prompt so you can draft a response!
   Deadline for application:
   Cost to apply:
   Payment option:
   SAT and/or ACT required?
   Recommendation letter required?
   Deadline for scholarship or institutional financial assistance:

It is strongly recommended that you write your essays and personal statements well in advance of your school’s College Application event. Your English teacher, school counselor, and other adults you trust are good resources to assist you in getting your essays to a final version. You should bring a final, proofed, electronic copy of your essays and/or personal statements on a flash drive to the event. If flash drives are not allowed on your school computers, talk to your school counselor before the College Application event about how you can access these documents while applying.
Many colleges will ask you to provide information related to your residency and citizenship. You may need to provide the following information when completing your application. If you are uncertain about an answer, your parent or guardian may be able to help.

1. **Social Security Number (SSN):** (This is needed to get your FSA ID which you will register for after you apply to college during the College Application event. Some colleges may also require this on their application.):*___ ___ ___ - ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ ___  
   *(Do NOT fill in your Social Security Number. Use your phone to take a photo of your card so you'll have it with you)*

2. **Place of Birth:**
   City: ____________________________
   State: __________________________
   Country: _________________________

3. **County of Residency:** ____________________________

4. **Mailing Address:**

   __________________________________________________
   Street
   __________________________________________________
   City, State & Zip code

5. **Have you ever lived outside of California?**
   If yes, how many years have you lived in California
   When did you move to California (This may be your birthdate)
   You may also need to provide your address(es) for the last five years on the application.

6. **Citizenship Status:** (circle one)
   US citizen       Permanent Resident Alien       Nonresident Alien       Other

7. **Did your parent(s)/guardian(s) pay state income taxes last year?**  
   Yes       No
   If Yes, in which state?

8. **Do you have a parent or guardian who is currently on active duty in the military?**
   Yes       No
Your Academic Record

If you don’t know some of this information, check with your school counselor!

My grade point average is: ______  By graduation, how many years of the following classes will you have taken?

My SAT Reading score is: ______  English ______  Science ______
My SAT Math score is: ______  Math ______  Art ______
My SAT Writing score is: ______  Social Studies ______  History ______
My ACT Composite score is: ______  Foreign Language ______  Electives ______

Test Scores

Many applications for college admission will request information related to tests that you have taken. Use the worksheet below to list the scores for tests you have already taken. If you have not yet taken the SAT or ACT and the school(s) you are applying to require them, speak with your school counselor about upcoming test dates – you will need to take at least one of these college entrance exams soon! Most colleges will also require an “official” score that is sent by College Board (SAT scores) or ACT (ACT scores). Talk with your school counselor about how to do this.

SAT

**Test #1:**
Date Taken:
Total Score:
Critical Reading Score:
Mathematics Score:
Writing Score:

**Test #2:**
Date Taken:
Total Score:
Critical Reading Score:
Mathematics Score:
Writing Score:

ACT

**Test #1:**
Date Taken:
Total Score:
Critical Reading Score:
Mathematics Score:
Science Score:
Writing Score:

**Test #2:**
Date Taken:
Total Score:
Critical Reading Score:
Mathematics Score:
Science Score:
Writing Score:
Financial Aid: FSA ID

You will need the information below to create an FSA ID.

Social Security Number: __________-_______-__________
*(Do NOT fill in your Social Security Number. Use your phone to take a photo of your card so you'll have it with you)*

First Name: _____________________
Middle Initial: _____
Last Name: ______________________

Date of Birth: _____________________

Valid E-mail address: __________________________________________

Mailing Address: ______________________________________________

City, State, &Zip Code

Phone: (___) ______________________
Alternate Phone:(___) _______________

For the FSA ID, you will need to create 5 challenge questions:

Challenge Question 1: _________________________________________________
Answer 1: ___________________________________________________________

Challenge Question 2: _________________________________________________
Answer 2: ___________________________________________________________

Challenge Question 3: _________________________________________________
Answer 3: ___________________________________________________________

Challenge Question 4: _________________________________________________
Answer 4: ___________________________________________________________

Challenge Question 5: _________________________________________________
Answer 5: ___________________________________________________________

Create a Pin

Type a significant date in your life (MM/DD/YYYY): _____/____/____