

ROAD TO COLLEGE 1

September 25, 2018
College Admissions

Amy Martinez – Oakland Tech Academic Counselor
Elizabeth Hunter – Oakland Tech College Readiness Specialist

GRADE LEVEL COLLEGE CHECKLISTS

- Senior checklist
- Junior checklist

- These are just a guide, but are useful in planning out each year of high school



SEARCHING FOR COLLEGES

- Look for a variety of schools
- Don't apply to dozens of schools – narrow your search down
- Various search engines online, like californiacolleges.edu
- Consider the following when searching:
 - Size
 - Location
 - Financial aid available
 - Majors
 - Outside activities, sports, clubs
 - Admission criteria
 - WUE (Western Undergraduate Exchange) Schools

UC APPLICATIONS

- Application now open!
- Filing Period: November 1 – 30
- Parts to the application:
 - A-G Courses Taken – Drop down menu. Students self report classes and grades. C's or higher in all classes (except in certain validation situations)
 - GPA calculation – students need a minimum 3.0 Academic, 10-11 GPA
 - Transcripts sent in June, unless a UC campus requests them early
 - Test Scores – Send official copies through ACT and SAT – Send to one campus and they will share with the rest

UC APPLICATION

- Personal Statement – 8 new Personal Insight Questions (more later!)
- Application Fee - \$70 per school
- Fee Waiver – apply in the application – if you qualify, submit to 4 campuses free
- Additional Comments Section (see handout)
 - 550 words to explain anything not included in other parts of the application such as:
 - Poor grades
 - Classes you wanted to take but had conflicts
 - Being a IWE/Peer tutor and other non A-G classes
 - Name Change
 - Visa Issues
 - Academy/Program information and what courses correspond to them

CSU APPLICATIONS

- Application opens October 1st and is due by 11/30
- Similar to UC – A-G courses with C’s or higher (except where validated); 10-11 Academic GPA; Test Scores (SAT use code 3594; ACT please see ACT website for information on how to send score reports), 2.0 minimum GPA
- No Personal Statement
- No more Activities and Community Service
- Apply at CSU Apply or with your californiacolleges.edu account
 - EOP Applications are not available through CA Colleges

CSU APPLICATION

■ Research your CSU's!

- Each campus will have you apply by major
- Extremely difficult to switch majors once you are accepted
- Each campus is either Impacted or Non Impacted and uses an Eligibility Index Number to determine if a student is eligible to apply for certain majors (see handout)
- Research your campuses to see what the minimum eligibility is by major
- Local Schools – SFSU and CSUEB – and non impacted campuses - check the eligibility index sheet to see if you meet minimum eligibility.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (EOP) – CSU'S

- The program provides **admission and academic assistance to EOP-eligible undergraduate students. In many cases, the program offers financial assistance to eligible students.** Campuses tailor their programs to accommodate the needs of their student population.
- The program is designed for historically low-income and educationally disadvantaged students
- Apply through CSU Apply

EOP continued...

You may apply to EOP if you meet all six of the following requirements:

- You are a California resident or AB540 student.
- Your family has a history of low income based on the [Cal State Apply guidelines](#).
- You are the first generation in your family to attend college. Your parents have never received a four-year college degree, including any degree(s) from a foreign country.
- You are a first-time freshman.
- You are a high school graduate or passed the High School Proficiency Examination OR you did not graduate from high school but meet the CSU freshman eligibility requirements through a GED program.
- You demonstrate academic potential and motivation.

COMMON APPLICATION

- 600+ Private and public school's in one app!
- One general application
- Teachers and Counselors can upload letters of rec once for all schools
- Apply for Fee Waiver in the application. Fee waivers are confirmed by counselors – some sites will request one of your collegeboard codes (you get 4 if you qualify for SAT fee waivers)
- Schools will have individual additional requirements:
 - Essays/Personal statements
 - Supplemental applications
 - Deadlines vary by campus – make sure you are checking dates
 - Early Decision/Action will have different deadlines

Coalition Application

- 140+ Coalition member schools
- Schools must have 70% graduation rate over last 6 years
- Providing accessibility to lower-income students
 - public schools- low cost in state tuition to residents
 - Private schools- meet full demonstrated need
- Open to freshman. Can started early
- Option to add counselor to upload documents
- Virtual locker (extracurricular activities, interests, writing samples, college essays, videos and more)

OTHER APPLICATIONS

- Individual School Sites
 - Check to see if they don't accept common app
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's) – Common Black Application
 - \$35 for 52 HBCU applications
 - Students can select their top 4 colleges
 - Make sure you finish in one sitting! **No save option**
 - Check individual schools for supplemental information to be mailed, such as transcripts, letters of recommendation, and essays

COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND TRANSFERS

- CCC Apply – General community college application for most state CC's
- Work on applications in the spring – Community College Week in April
- Make sure to meet with a CC counselor to make a plan to transfer or get your AA/Certificate – Don't waste time taking classes you don't need!
- Students – prepare for your Math/English Assessments – Don't pay for classes you can't count
- You still need the FAFSA! – Fill out in the Fall
- Transfer Admissions Guarantee (TAG) to UC
 - 6 campuses – Davis, Irvine, Merced, Riverside, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz
 - Complete an application through Transfer Admission Planner (TAP) Sept. 1-30

TESTING

- SAT – collegeboard.org ACT – actstudent.org
 - Seniors have until DECEMBER to take either test to count for college applications
 - SAT - \$47.50; \$64.50 with Essay
 - ACT - \$50.50; \$67 with Essay
 - Late Fee- \$29
 - Students can check with their counselor to see if they qualify for a fee waiver
 - Juniors will no longer be taking the SAT free at tech in the spring. Students will need to sign up individually for a saturday test date. We are planning on dates to help support students with this process.
 - Sophomores will take the PSAT in October – they are automatically signed up
 - Juniors can take the PSAT in October to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program - check your email for instructions on when to give \$16 cash to Rosemary, the treasurer. Juniors already filled out a survey with Mr. Fairly to reserve test books.

LETTERS OF REC AND INTERVIEWS

- Make sure to request letters of rec from teachers, counselors, coaches, etc. at least 2 weeks before your first deadline
- Counselors have documents you need in order for us to submit your secondary school report (which includes a letter). Please see your counselor to pick up their forms.
- Letters should come from a professional source who knows you well – Not a family member
- Some private schools will do interviews with a rep. Contact the school's admissions rep directly to set one up. This is optional.
- EOP (CSU's) require separate apps with 2 letters of recommendation. Each school has different deadlines.
- Make sure you write thank you notes!

PERSONAL STATEMENTS AND ESSAYS

- UC – Personal Insight Questions
 - pick 4 out of 8 questions to respond to
 - All questions are equal
 - 350 word max for each question
 - Choose 1 topic for each question – don’t duplicate
 - Start early
 - Responses should focus on “What”, “How”, and “Why” – see handout
 - Get feedback BEFORE you submit!
- CSUs –
 - No essay required for application
 - EOP requires responses to 5 questions

PERSONAL STATEMENTS AND ESSAYS

■ Common Application

- 1 essay topic
- Response can be 250-650 words (should not be less than 500)
- 5 prompts to pick from
- Check each schools supplemental information – Many schools require additional essays to the ones in the common app itself
- Get feedback before you submit!
- Readers available every Tuesday in the CCC after school!

KEEP YOUR GRADES UP!

- Schools can and will rescind your application for the following reasons:
 - Grades go down senior year
 - You drop a class you put in your application you were taking
 - You put wrong information in your application that does not match your transcript (UC's and CSU's check your transcript in summer)
 - Don't turn paperwork in on time
 - Many UC's now require students to maintain an academic, un-weighted GPA of 3.0 senior year in order to keep their admissions spot

EXPECTED COSTS

- \$1000-\$3000 (see handout)
 - College visits
 - Testing
 - Application Fees
 - CSS Profile (Financial Aid Application for Private Schools)
 - AP Tests

*Check with your counselor if you qualify for free/reduced lunch for \$ help

QUESTIONS?

* Students: Check your email EVERY SINGLE DAY as well as your application message centers*