ARTESIA

HIGH SCHOOL'S

COLLEGE

APPLICATION

GUIDEBOOK

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Please bookmark the AHS Student Union Website for all college and career information

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Useful Websites

- Cerritos College - http://www.cerritos.edu/
- CSU - https://www2.calstate.edu/apply
- UC - https://admissions.universityofcalifornia.edu/applicant/login.htm
- Common Application - https://www.commonapp.org/
- Financial Aid - https://fafsa.ed.gov/
- Big Future - https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/
- Free/Reduced Lunch (testing/college app discounts) - www.schoollunchapp.com

High School Graduation vs College Requirement

	HS Graduation (D or higher; updated 6-10-20)	Min College Rqrmnt (C or higher)	College Rec (As and Bs)
English	40	40	40
Social Science	30	30	30
Mathematics	30	30	40
Science	20	20	30
Physical Education	20		
Health	5		
Foreign Language	10	20	30
Fine Art		10	10

Comparing Colleges: How to Choose What's Best For You

Colleges	2-Year Community College	California State University (CSU)	University of California (UC)	Private Schools
Examples	Cerritos or Cypress College	CSULB, CSU Fullerton, CSU Northridge	UCLA,Cal, UC San Diego, UC Merced	USC, Pomona, Biola, Stanford, NYU, MIT
Campuses	114 campuses	23 campuses	10 campuses	+2000 campuses
Average Student Population	About 15,000 students	9,000-40,000 students	About 28,000 students	Varies
Admissions Selectivity	Not Selective	30-70% admitted	10-20% admitted	Varies
GPA and Admissions Requirements	High School Diploma or 18 Year Old	Min 3.0 GPA	Min 3.0 GPA Personal Insight Questions	GPA varies Personal. Statement
SAT/ACT Reporting	N/A	SAT/ACT Suspended (info here)	SAT or ACT Optional for 2022 applicants Info here	Varies
Teacher Letter of Recommendation	No	No	*Possibly from UC Berkeley Only*	Usually-TIPS HERE
Application Fee	N/A	$70 per campus (can qualify for fee waiver)	$70 per campus (can qualify for fee waiver)	$25 - $90 (many offer fee waivers)
In-State Tuition and Fees	About $1,400 per year	About $7,000 per year	About $14,500 per year	Varies for each school
Room and Board	About $12,000	About $12,000	About $12,000	Varies for each school
Deadlines	On-Going	October 1 - November 30	November 1 - 30	Varies between Nov - Feb

Factors to Consider

** Before applying, consider these factors. We will also have a workshop on this when your acceptances have arrived**

- **Academics -** What majors are available? Impacted? Hard to get into? Can you change majors? Average class size? Do students receive all the classes they need to graduate on time? Is the campus impacted? Is the school accredited? Opportunities to study abroad? Internships? Work experience? For IEP/504 only-Will they honor your accommodations?

- **Environment-** How far is the college from home? Is it in a rural, urban, suburban setting? What is the area surrounding the campus like? What is the weather like? If commuting, what is traffic like?

- **Activities -** What clubs/organizations are available? Are there fraternities and sororities? Do they offer tutoring programs? What is social life like? Do they have sports? Competitive? Intramural?

- **Expenses -** What is the total cost of attendance, including tuition, room and board, books? What kind of financial aid is available? Are other fees involved?

- **Housing-** Is housing guaranteed? Does it end after year one? What is food like in the dorms? Do they have meal plans? How many roommates?

- **Finances-** Will you/did you receive Cal Grants/Pell Grants, any financial awards? Any scholarships? Will you need to take out loans? Are any scholarships renewable? Calculate the other 3 years.

Cerritos Complete

The Cerritos Complete Program is a partnership between Artesia High School and Cerritos College. As part of Cerritos College's commitment to student success, students in the program will receive many benefits.

Benefits of the Cerritos Complete Program

- Two years free tuition (at in-state rates)
- Two years of priority enrollment
- Step by step assistance
- One-on-one counseling and advisement
- College preparedness/ Career Exploration
- Personalized Educational Plan

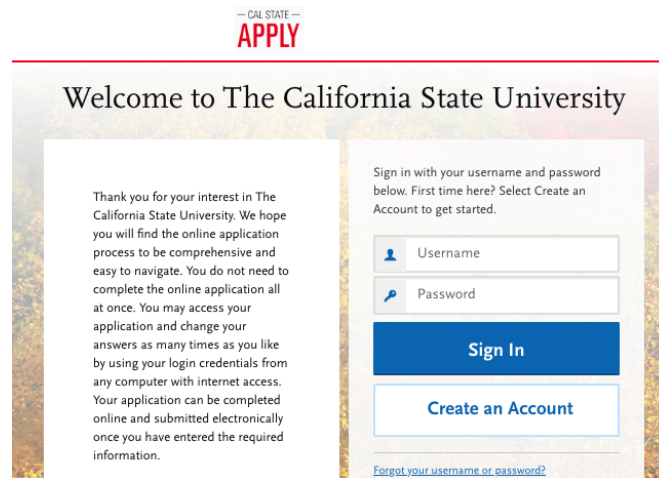## 6 Simple steps to Participate

It is mandatory to complete **ALL** items by their respective deadlines. Missing one meeting may result in program removal. Reminders will be sent out periodically via email!

California State University (CSU) Application
Step by Step Guide [HERE](#)
www2.calstate.edu/Apply
Application fee is $70 for each CSU campus to which you apply

Freshman Admission Requirements for California Residents
The CSU requires a minimum 15-unit pattern of courses for admission as a first-time freshman. Each unit is equal to a year of study in a subject area. A grade of C or better is required for each course (CSUs will be accepting Credit grades for Spring and Summer 2020 only, as of 6-10-20).

Area	Subject	Years
a.	**History and Social Science** (including 1 year of U.S. history or 1 semester of U.S. history and 1 semester of civics or American government AND 1 year of social science)	2
b.	**English** (4 years of college preparatory English composition and literature)	4
c.	**Math** (4 years recommended) including Math I, Math II, Math III, or higher mathematics (take one each year)	3
d.	**Laboratory Science** (including 1 biological science and 1 physical science)	2
e.	**Language Other Than English** (2 years of the same language; American Sign Language is applicable - See below about a possible waiver of this requirement)	2
f.	**Visual and Performing Arts** (dance, drama or theater, music, or visual art)	1
g.	**College Preparatory Elective** (additional year chosen from the University of California "a-g" list)	1
	Total Required Courses	15

Waiver of "Language Other Than English" Requirement

If you can demonstrate competency in a language other than English that is equivalent to or higher than that expected of students who have completed two years of language other than English study, you may be allowed a waiver for this language requirement. For further information, contact the CSU campuses to which you are applying.

How to Make Up Missing Courses

If you didn't take all the required high school courses or earned D or F grades in some of them, you have several options to make up these courses and qualify for CSU admission. If you earned No Credit for Spring and/or Summer 2020, you will also need to make up the course. You can complete appropriate high school courses with a grade of C or better either in summer school or in adult school. Courses in this category must be those found on the high school or adult school UC "a-g" course list. Some adult schools may not have "a-g" course lists. You may also complete college courses with a grade of C or better in the missing subject areas. The grades you earn in high school are the most important factor in CSU admission decisions. Your high school grade point average is calculated using your grades in all your college prep "a-g" classes completed after the 9th grade.

CSU Virtual College Tour:

https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/choosing-a-campus

Filling Out Your Cal State Apply Application

Complete the application's four core sections: Personal Information, Academic History, Supporting Information, and Program Materials.

Cal State Apply Personal Information

This section is used to gather your biographic and contact information, as well as citizenship, race/ethnicity, and other family information.

- Cal State Apply Release Statements
- Biographic Information
- Contact Information
- Citizenship/Residency Information
- Race & Ethnicity

...

Cal State Apply Academic History

This section is where you input the high schools and colleges you attended, as well as any coursework completed. Additionally, you can provide information about tests you have taken or plan to take.

- High Schools Attended (Undergraduate Only)
- High School Coursework (Undergraduate Only)
- Colleges Attended
- Transcript Entry
- GPA Entries

...

Cal State Apply Supporting Information

This section is used to collect supporting application information, such as evaluations (i.e. letters of reference), achievements, and certifications.

- Experiences (Graduate and Credential Only)
- Achievements
- Documents
- Statement of Purpose (Graduate Only)
- Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)

Cal State Apply Program Materials

If the specific programs you are applying to have any additional application requirements, use this section to provide the requested information. You can also view important information about each program you are applying to, including deadline requirements.

- Cal State Apply Program Materials

University of California (UC) Application
Step by step [Video-Here](#)

http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/apply-online/
The application fee is $75 for each UC campus to which you apply

Comprehensive Review Factors

- "A-G" GPA including additional points for UC-approved courses, and college/university courses; and for California residents only, UC approved school-based honors courses
- Examination scores: SAT or ACT Plus Writing (SAT Subject Exams are optional, UC will not consider SAT or ACT test scores when making admissions decisions or awarding scholarships. If you choose to submit test scores as part of your application, they may be used as an alternative method of fulfilling minimum requirements for eligibility or for course placement after you enroll.)
- Number and content of "a-g" courses beyond the minimum
- Number of UC-approved AP and IB courses, and college/university courses; and for California residents only, UC approved school-based honors courses
- For California Residents only: if the applicant is in the Top 9% Local Context (ELC) of their high school class
- Quality (rigor and number) of senior year schedule (both classes in progress at the time of application and courses planned for 2nd semester)
- Quality of academic performance relative to educational opportunities available at the high school
- Outstanding performance in one or more academic subjects
- Outstanding performance in one or more special projects in any academic field of study
- Recent marked improvement in academic performance demonstrated by GPA and quality of coursework
- Talents, achievements and awards in a particular field, i.e. visual and performing arts, communication, athletics; - Special skills i.e. demonstrated written & oral proficiency in other languages - Special interests i.e. intensive study & exploration of other cultures - Experiences that demonstrate leadership i.e. student government, significant community service, level of responsibility in paid employment
- Completion of a special project in context of high school curriculum or in conjunction with special school events, projects or programs
- Academic accomplishments in light of life experiences & circumstances
- Location of secondary school and residence

How to Complete an Application

1. Create an account

2. Navigate the application

3. Start your application

Tips on Completing the UC Application

- Citizenship
  - You must select a country of citizenship from the country drop-down menu
  - For Undocumented Students, select "No Selection" for country of citizenship and do not enter a social security number
  - All applicants who have a social security number (SSN) should enter it
- Seventh/Eighth Grade
  - Students who completed high school-level math or a language other than English course(s) in middle school in which they earned a letter grade C or better, can count these courses toward the a-g requirements. Note: A course in geometry (or a series of integrated-style math courses which include geometry content) must be completed; UC will accept a geometry course completed in middle school.
- High Schools Attended
  - Select a location – "In California", "U.S. (not CA)" or "Outside the U.S."
  - For students who attended high schools in California – Self-Reporting Courses: If you do not see an A-G course that you took listed on the UC Approved course list, you can self-enter the coursework.
  - Courses such as physical education (PE) cannot be reported; only academic subjects. In addition, courses/class periods for teacher assistant, yearbook and student government, may or may not be UC-approved courses. If they are approved, enter them. If they are not approved they should not be entered. An opportunity to enter these types of courses is provided later in the application.
- Entering Courses and Colleges courses taken during high school
  - If any college/university-level courses were completed while in high school, add the college information AFTER the high school information
  - The process is very similar to entering the high school information If courses were taken at a California Community College (CCC), a UC-transferable course list will appear.
  - Select the course(s) taken, grade earned (or enter IP for In Progress, PL for Planned courses), and the "a-g" subject area in which the course fits. •Only non UC-transferable English and math courses can be reported in this section of the application
  - If there are other CCC courses that are not UC-transferable report them in the Non a-g Coursework area later in the application.
  - IF college/university courses were not taken at a CCC, enter each course and grade earned as it appears on the official academic record from the college/university attended.

- Activities and Awards (there are six categories of Activities and Awards, each limited to five entries)
  - Coursework Other than A-G - Academic courses that do not fit in the categories "a-g" of history/social science, English, math, laboratory science, language other than English (foreign language), and/or visual and performing art should not be reported in this section. For example, leadership course, religious courses. But do not include non-academic courses, such as PE, office/teacher assistant, etc. Choose experiences that have meaning, illustrate interests, and/or demonstrate leadership.
  - Educational preparation programs: AVID.
  - Awards & Honors – significant in nature – county-wide, state-wide and national awards indicate a high level of achievement with significant competition. School-based awards are more meaningful to readers if context is provided, such as: X number of X to earn an award, but even "perfect attendance" can be insightful. Only include awards received during high school.
  - Extra Curricular Activities – depth and time – continued participation over time, including leadership positions.
  - Community Service – consistent participation over time may indicate commitment and dedication, be descriptive and include meaningful service.
  - Work Experience – demonstrates time management, responsibility and perhaps leadership, including number of hours and name of position.
- For additional information, visit http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/files/presenting-yourself-uc-application-freshman.pdf
- If you have a question about the application process, call the application center at (800) 207-1710 during normal business hours, or e-mail ucinfo@applyucsupport.net

Common Application (private schools)
[Step by step video-HERE](link)

https://www.commonapp.org/
https://www.commonapp.org/apply/first-time-students

1. Gather materials

The information you'll need to complete your applications

Filling out your application takes time.

And if you have to keep interrupting your progress to find information, like a certificate for a continuing education course or the address of your last internship, it can take even longer. Get a head start by collecting this information before you begin.

A copy of your high school transcript ⟩

A list of your activities, work, and family responsibilities ⟩

Test scores and dates from your college entrance exams (SATs, ACTs, etc.)⟩

Parent/Legal guardian information ⟩

Academic honors and achievements ⟩

2. Create an account

Get started at any time

Creating a first year Common App account is easy and should only take a few minutes.

- Select "First Year Student"
- Use an email that you will check consistently
- Use your legal name as it appears on official school documents

3. Add colleges

Start building your My Colleges list

Once you've created your account and explored the colleges that accept the Common App, you're ready to start adding colleges.

- Search for colleges by state, zip code, deadlines, standardized test policy, etc.
- Add a college by clicking "Add to My Colleges"
- Once you have added the college, you can see it listed on your Dashboard in your My Colleges tab (you may only add up to 20 colleges)
- You can request that the college remove the application fee, in which your counselor must confirm that you qualify (present your free/reduced lunch waiver)

4. Engage supporters

Collaborate with counselors, teachers, and more

All colleges need things like official school forms. Many colleges will also ask for letters of recommendation.

- You can request forms/letters from your counselor, parent (only necessary if you are applying early decision), teacher, advisor (ability to track your application but do not submit forms), or other recommenders (usually non academic like coaches or employers)

How to Invite and Assign Recommenders

1. From the My Colleges tab select a college and open their "Recommenders and FERPA" section.

2. If you have not done so already, you will need to complete the FERPA Release Authorization.

3. Invite recommenders using the invite button from each section. You may also use the "Invite Recommenders" button at the top.

4. Select the type of invitation you would like to send. For each invitation you will need information like their name and email address.

5. After you add a recommender, you can view their info using the Manage Recommenders button.

6. Note that teachers, parents, and other recommenders will not receive an email invitation until you assign them to a college. To assign these recommenders, go to their section within this screen. Select their name from the dropdown and use the assign button.

7. If your high school uses Naviance or another partner software, you will not invite your counselor or teachers here. There will be instructional text on this page explaining what to do next. You will still add other recommenders and advisors using the steps above.

In general, each college has their own recommendation requirements. For example, one college may need two teacher recommendations. Some colleges may not want any teacher recommendations. Colleges can also determine what kinds of other recommenders they want. Some may allow for any recommender type, whereas others only allow an employer recommendation.

5. Understanding requirements

Keep track of each college's unique application requirements

It's important to stay organized as you work on your applications.

- Each college has unique deadlines, application fees, personal essays, test policies, writing supplements, and recommendation guidelines

6. Plan essays

Organize and plan for your writing prompts

Sometimes writings essays can feel like the biggest part of your application. With a little bit of planning, organizing, and drafting, we can help you make this task more manageable.

- Colleges can make the personal essay optional or required
- Some colleges have college-specific questions and/or writing supplements that you must complete as well

7. Submit your application

Review and submit your application

Additional Tips
- System can timeout before you are finished typing (1 hour)
- We recommend you type your essay into a word processor, and then paste it into the application's textbox
- Need teacher letters of recommendations (ask early and provide a resume/brag sheet)
- If you do not know or do not wish to provide parent's information, then select "UNKNOWN"
- A school cannot view any other colleges you have applied
- If you have any questions, please email appsupport@commonapp.net

Personal Statement

UC Personal Insight Questions

Directions
- You will have 8 questions to choose from. You must respond to only 4 of the 8 questions.
- Each response is limited to a maximum of 350 words.
- Which questions you choose to answer is entirely up to you: But you should select questions that are most relevant to your experience and that best reflect your individual circumstances.

Keep in mind
- All questions are equal: All are given equal consideration in the application review process, which means there is no advantage or disadvantage to choosing certain questions over others.
- There is no right or wrong way to answer these questions: It's about getting to know your personality, background, interests and achievements in your own unique voice.

Questions & guidance
- Remember, the personal questions are just that — personal. Which means you should use our guidance for each question just as a suggestion in case you need help. The important thing is expressing who you are, what matters to you and what you want to share with UC.

1. Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes or contributed to group efforts over time.
- *Things to consider:* A leadership role can mean more than just a title. It can mean being a mentor to others, acting as the person in charge of a specific task, or taking the lead role in organizing an event or project. Think about what you accomplished and what you learned from the experience. What were your responsibilities?
- Did you lead a team? How did your experience change your perspective on leading others? Did you help to resolve an important dispute at your school, church, in your community or an organization? And your leadership role doesn't necessarily have to be limited to school activities. For example, do you help out or take care of your family?

2. Every person has a creative side, and it can be expressed in many ways: problem solving, original and innovative thinking, and artistically, to name a few. Describe how you express your creative side.
- *Things to consider:* What does creativity mean to you? Do you have a creative skill that is important to you? What have you been able to do with that skill? If you used creativity to solve a problem, what was your solution? What are the steps you took to solve the problem?

- How does your creativity influence your decisions inside or outside the classroom? Does your creativity relate to your major or a future career?

3. What would you say is your greatest talent or skill? How have you developed and demonstrated that talent over time?
- *Things to consider:* If there's a talent or skill that you're proud of, this is the time to share it. You don't necessarily have to be recognized or have received awards for your talent (although if you did and you want to talk about it, feel free to do so). Why is this talent or skill meaningful to you?
- Does the talent come naturally or have you worked hard to develop this skill/talent? Does your talent/skill allow you opportunities in or outside the classroom? If so, what are they and how do they fit into your schedule?

4. Describe how you have taken advantage of a significant educational opportunity or worked to overcome an educational barrier you have faced.
- *Things to consider:* An educational opportunity can be anything that has added value to your educational experience and better prepared you for college. For example, participation in an honors or academic enrichment program, or enrollment in an academy that's geared toward an occupation or a major, or taking advanced courses that interest you — just to name a few.
- If you choose to write about educational barriers you've faced, how did you overcome or strive to overcome them? What personal characteristics or skills did you call on to overcome this challenge? How did overcoming this barrier help shape who you are today?

5. Describe the most significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken to overcome this challenge. How has this challenge affected your academic achievement?
- *Things to consider:* A challenge could be personal, or something you have faced in your community or school. Why was the challenge significant to you? This is a good opportunity to talk about any obstacles you've faced and what you've learned from the experience. Did you have support from someone else or did you handle it alone?
- If you're currently working your way through a challenge, what are you doing now, and does that affect different aspects of your life? For example, ask yourself, "How has my life changed at home, at my school, with my friends or with my family?"

6. Think about an academic subject that inspires you. Describe how you have furthered this interest inside and/or outside of the classroom.
- *Things to consider:* Many students have a passion for one specific academic subject area, something that they just can't get enough of. If that applies to you, what have you done to further that interest? Discuss how your interest in the subject developed and describe any experience you have had inside and outside the classroom — such as volunteer work, internships, employment, summer programs, participation in student organizations and/or clubs — and what you have gained from your involvement.

- Has your interest in the subject influenced you in choosing a major and/or future career? Have you been able to pursue coursework at a higher level in this subject (honors, AP, college work)? Are you inspired to pursue this subject further at UC, and how might you do that?

7. What have you done to make your school or your community a better place?
- *Things to consider:* Think of community as a term that can encompass a group, team or a place — like your high school or town. You can define community as you see fit, just make sure you talk about your role in that community. Was there a problem that you wanted to fix?
- Why were you inspired to act? What did you learn from your effort? How did your actions benefit others, the community or both? Did you work alone or with others to initiate change?

8. Beyond what has already been shared in your application, what do you believe makes you stand out as a strong candidate for admission to the University of California?
- *Things to consider:* If there's anything you want us to know about you, but didn't find a question or place in the application to tell us, now's your chance. What have you not shared with us that will highlight a skill, talent, challenge or opportunity that you think will help us know you better?
- From your point of view, what do you feel makes you an excellent choice for UC? Don't be afraid to brag a little.

What about the "Additional comments" section? After you complete the personal insight questions, you will see another section called "Additional Comments." This is an optional section and should **not** be used as a continuation of your responses to the personal questions. Instead, you should use this section to:
- Provide additional clarification on important details in your application, such as honors, awards, activities.
- Share information regarding a nontraditional school environment or unusual circumstances.
- Describe anything else that you HAVE NOT had the opportunity to include elsewhere in your application.
- There is a 550 word limit to this section.

Avoid common mistakes

- Talking about one campus: You're talking to all UC campuses you apply to in your responses
- Inappropriate use of humor
- Creative writing (poems, clichés)
- Quotations: We want to know your thoughts & words, not someone else's
- Generalities: Stick to facts and personal examples
- Repetition: Give us new info. we can't find in other sections of the application
- Asking philosophical questions: Get to the point and tell us what you mean

- Acronyms: Spell it out!

2023-2024 Common Application Essay Prompts

Below is the full set of essay prompts for 2022-2023. We will also retain the optional
COVID-19 question within the Additional Information section.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

Other Writing Tips

Start early. - Give yourself plenty of time for preparation, careful composition and revisions.

Write persuasively. - Making a list of accomplishments, activities, awards or work will lessen the impact of your words. Expand on a topic by using specific, concrete examples to support the points you want to make.

Use "I" statements. - Talk about yourself so that we can get to know your personality, talents, accomplishments and potential for success on a UC campus. Use "I" and "my" statements in your responses.

Proofread and edit. - Although you will not be evaluated on grammar, spelling or sentence structure, you should proofread your work and make sure your writing is clear. Grammatical and spelling errors can be distracting to the reader and get in the way of what you're trying to communicate.

Solicit feedback. - Your answers should reflect your own ideas and be written by you alone, but others — family, teachers and friends — can offer valuable suggestions. Ask advice of whomever you like, but do not plagiarize from sources in print or online and do not use anyone's published words but your own.

Copy and paste. - Once you are satisfied with your answers, save them in plain text (ASCII) and paste them into the space provided in the application. Proofread once more to make sure no odd characters or line breaks have appeared.

Relax. - This is one of many pieces of information we consider in reviewing your application. Your responses can only add value to the application. An admission decision will not be based on this section alone.

Additional instructions for active military, veterans and dependents - Because UC is interested in knowing about your or a family member's military service, you may wish to use this section to communicate the following:
- Describe how your military service has been instrumental in developing your educational plans.
- Indicate if you're affiliated with the military, such as the spouse or dependent of someone who is on active duty or a current participant in an ROTC-type program.

Financial Aid
STEP By STEP Video [HERE](#)

4 Types of Financial Aid
- Federal student aid
- State student aid (Cal Grants)
- School/University aid
- [Scholarships](#)

Federal Student Aid (www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Filing period is December 1st – March 2nd (use 2023 tax info)

The FAFSA is utilized to determine your financial need. The information you enter on this application is sent to the universities you add to your application. They utilize this information to determine how much aid they can give you. This application also determines if you qualify for Cal grants and Federal Aid.

1. Requirements
   a. High School Senior who is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
   b. Valid Social Security number
   c. Males must register for Selective Service via FAFSA
2. How much federal student aid can I get?
   a. Depends on your financial need
   b. Financial need determined by Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and cost of attendance (COA)
      i. EFC - determined by your parents' income, assets, etc.
      ii. COA - determined by school (tuition/fees, books, dorming, etc.)

3. How to apply
   a. Student and one parent must obtain an FSA ID at **fsaid.ed.gov** (need

Social Security number)
- b. Gather financial documents
  - Social Security Number or Alien Registration Number
  - Federal Tax Return Information and records of untaxed income
  - Cash, savings, checking account balances
  - Investments other than the home in which you live
- c. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at **fafsa.ed.gov**
  - Need Help? Call 1-800-4-FED-AID
  - Make sure you receive a confirmation that your application was submitted
- d. Watch email/mail for any additional documents needed
- e. Wait for responses from colleges

State Student Aid CAL GRANT (www.csac.ca.gov)

When you apply to FAFSA, you are automatically considered for the Cal Grant. Cal Grants are based on financial need and GPA. CHS will submit your GPA to the student aid commission by the start of your senior year. You can check the status of your grant at **https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/**

You will also use this website to accept your award and indicate what college you will be attending.

1. Cal Grant
   - a. Must be a California resident or AB540 eligible
   - b. Maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP)

Cal Grant A	Cal Grant B	Cal Grant C
- Low to middle income 3.00 high school GPA 4-year college - Only for tuition and fees - Up to $12,240 for UC and $5,472 for CSU	- Low income 2.00 high school GPA - Can include living expenses - Up to $1,656 after one year of college	- Low to middle income - No minimum GPA 2-year college - Tuition and fees, and may include books - Up to $2,462 for tuition/ fees, and $547 for books

2. California middle class scholarship http://www.csac.ca.gov/mcs.asp
   - a. Family income and assets up to ~ $156,000 attending a CSU or UC
   - b. US Citizen, permanent resident, or AB 540
   - c. Awarded 10-40% of tuition and fees
   - d. Amount is calculated after federal, state, and school grants

CSS Profile cssprofile.collegeboard.org

Some universities require that students complete the CSS profile. Refer to your university. It is primarily designed to give private member institutions of the College Board a closer look into the finances of a student and family. It is much more detailed than the FAFSA. The College Board estimates it will take most students/families between 45 minutes and two hours to complete the CSS PROFILE application. It costs $25 to fill out and submit the form to one school. You'll pay $16 each to submit to additional schools.

CHAFEE www.Chafee.csac.ca.gov

The California Chafee Grant programs gives free money to current or former foster youth to use for college or vocational courses. To qualify you must be a current or former foster youth who was a ward of the court, living in foster care between 16-18 years of age.

DREAM ACT dream.csac.ca.gov

The California Dream Act Application allows undocumented students enrolled in eligible California Colleges, Universities and Career Education Programs to apply for state financial aid. This application is unrelated to the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.
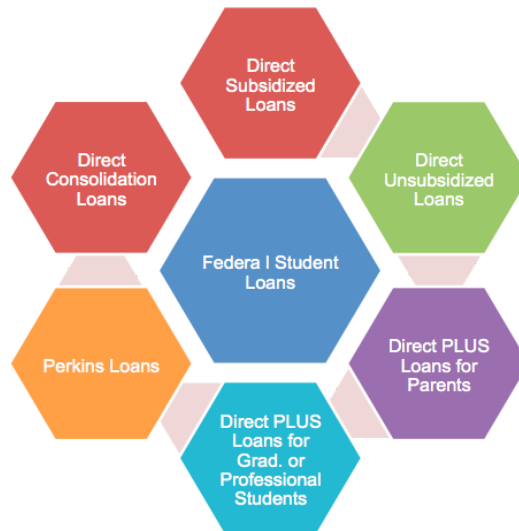
School Aid

Through the FAFSA or CSS profile, your universities will receive your financial information. They will determine if you qualify for any school aid, scholarships, grants, work study, etc. It is important that you visit the financial aid website for your university as they also have several scholarships.

Scholarships

- Need-based VS Merit-based
  - Need based award funds based on financial need.
  - Merit Based:award money based on academic performance, extracurricular activities, hobbies, or other non-financial factors.
- Write about something you are interested in and give specific examples
- Tailor your response to the sponsor's goals
- Make sure to satisfy ALL requirements
- Apply to all scholarships you are eligible for, no matter how small the award is
- Start applying now!! Links and info on the AHS website, here.

Information on Loans (Goal is to avoid)

- Subsidized Loans: do not accrue interest while you are in school at least half-time or during deferment periods.
- Unsubsidized Loans:Interest begins accruing as soon as the loan is taken out.
- Perkins Loan: low- interest federal loans for students with exceptional financial need . Your school is the lender ; you will make your payments to the school.

- Parent Plus Loan: Occasionally, parents will also be offered a Parent Plus loan. This Parent Plus loan is taken out by the parent and under the parents name.

Updating Colleges

If you submit your application and there has been a change in income, please let your university know. For example, you used the 2021 taxes as asked but your family had a drastic income change in 2021 (i.e. lost a job, injury, etc). Please be prepared to speak with your university about it.

College Exams: SAT, ACT, SAT Subject

Recently many universities have either selected to be Test Blind or Test Optional. It is imperative that you check with the schools that you are interested in applying to. The UC System has moved to test optional and CSU system has moved to a test blind route. Please view the links below for more information on dates and registration deadlines. Unless you have a very solid list of schools that you will be applying to and are certain they DO NOT require the SAT or ACT, the counseling department recommends you take the exam/s. You do not need to take both ACT and SAT, universities accept either. Counselors recommend you take both once and retake the one that you liked best on which you did best.

ACT
The ACT covers four areas: English, mathematics, reading and science. The ACT composite score is used for admission to college. The ACT also offers, as an option, the Writing Test. The CSU does not require the score from the Writing Test for admission purposes. For more information about the ACT and to register for the test and send scores, go to www.act.org.

SAT
The SAT currently consists of two main sections: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and Math. Scores from Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and Math are combined and used for admission to the CSU. Scores from the Writing section will not be used for admission purposes to the CSU. Visit Collegeboard.org to learn more about the SAT tests and to register online to take the SAT test.

Score Report
When applying to a University, the schools will ask that students send official scores via ACT student and College Board. Your university can provide you with a specific code in sending the scores. If you list a UC campus for an SAT score report recipient, your test scores will be sent to all campuses to which you submit an application. If you took the SAT and are applying to a CSU campus, send your score to Cal State Apply (3594) so that all CSU campuses can retrieve your score.

Fee Waivers
If you receive free/reduced lunch, please check with your counselor for a fee waiver for SAT/ACT. California State and University of California will have it on their application. Purpose for writing a student resume:
- Scholarship applications
- College applications
- Letters of recommendation
- Job

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RESUME

Youremail@gmail.com   Phone

City, State   LinkedIn URL, Website

Motivated student (3.6/4.0) who demonstrates strong work ethic and creative ability. Seeking to apply my graphic design skills and artistic drive as a summer intern at your company. Will leverage proven experience as a competent designer to contribute to company goals and needs.

EDUCATION

Santa Monica High School, Santa Monica, CA
Senior
- **GPA:** 3.6 / 4.0
- **Relevant Coursework:** Intro to Graphic Design, AP Art, Yearbook, Computer Applications
- **Honors:** Member of the National Honors Society and National Art Education Association
- **Clubs:** Yearbook Club, Santa Monica Newspaper, Spanish club

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Yearbook Club

Yearbook Design Team Lead   *2015 - Present*
- Created a Yearbook logo designed to incorporate school mascot and colors; opted to use coated paper in 2016, which improved photo quality and increased profits by 5%.
- Arrange all club photos and pages to correspond to yearbook theme.
- Trained and supervised 2 sophomore students in graphic design.

Santa Monica Newspaper

Graphic Designer   *2015 - Present*
- Procured advertising for school paper, saving organization 25% in costs.
- Edited and curated photos used for school paper; increasing readership by 15%.
- Custom design page layouts to fit articles, photos, and advertisements into strict format.
- Contributed to school's online publication by designing page layouts to accommodate mobile screens.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- Proficient in Photoshop and Adobe Creative Suite
- Basic knowledge of HTML
- Basic knowledge of Adobe Dreamweaver
- Great photographer
- Keen eye for aesthetics with good understanding of image gradients
- Intermediate speaking level in Spanish

AWARDS, HONORS, AND HONORARY MENTIONS

- Nominated for Macmillan Prize for Illustration in 2016
- Submitted artwork to Ocean Awareness Student Art Contest 2016
- Came in 2nd place in the Applied Arts 2016 Student Awards for submitting graphic design work under the category of Advertising.

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Frequently Asked Questions on College Applications

1. **What is the difference between Early Action VS. Early Decision**
   Early action means you are submitting your application early and will receive notice early. Early Decision on the other hand is a binding and if you are accepted, you must attend the college.

2. **When are CSU and UC applications due?**
   Most CSU and UC applications are due by November 30th. Do not wait until the last minute!!

3. **When are private school applications due?**
   Application due dates for private schools vary by school. Make sure to check individual websites for specific deadlines.

4. **How do I report my Civics/Econ courses on my application?**
   For CSU applications, indicate "In Progress" for the course that you are enrolled in for the fall semester and then a " -- " for the spring semester. For the other course, indicate a " -- " for the fall semester and "Planned" for the spring semester. For UC applications, indicate "IP" for the course you are enrolled in for the fall semester and then " NO " for the spring semester. For the other course, indicate " NO " for the fall semester and "PL" for the spring semester.

5. **How do I report courses taken outside of Artesia High School on my application** (For example, BYU, National University, and ABC Adult School)?
   First, add the school that you attended (ABC Adult School, BYU, National University). Then, record the course and grade under that school, NOT Artesia High School.

6. **If I earned a D/F in a course and made it up with a grade of C or better, do I have to report the original grade I earned?**
   Yes. Report all grades earned, and make sure you send additional transcripts for all non-Cerritos High School courses (BYU, National University) when requested.

7. **I have submitted my college applications, now what?**
   Check your emails regularly for specific requests, such as mid-year transcripts after 1st semester. Also, make sure you send all official test scores by December 31st. For CSUs, you will only need to send scores to "CSU Mentor" (code = 3594) in order for all CSU campuses to receive them. For UCs, you will only need to send your scores to one campus (that you applied to) and they will all share the information. For private schools, you will need to send scores to each campus individually.

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

GRANT- MONEY GIVEN

SCHOLARSHIP- MONEY AWARDED FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, OUTSTANDING TALENT, AND/OR FINANCIAL NEED

WORK-STUDY- MONEY EARNED BY WORKING AT A PART-TIME JOB

LOAN- BORROWED MONEY THAT MUST BE REPAID

FINANCIAL AID
LOANS
SCHOLARSHIPS
FAFSA
WORK-STUDY
GRANTS

WHICH APPLICATION SHOULD I COMPLETE?

FREE APPLICATION FOR STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

You are eligible to complete the FAFSA if you are a:

- US citizen
- Permanent resident
- Eligible non-citizen
- T visa holder

Visit: studentaid.gov

CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT APPLICATION (CADAA)

You are eligible to complete the CADAA if you are:

- Undocumented
- Have a valid or expired DACA status
- U visa holder
- Have Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Meet the non-resident exemption requirements under AB 540

Visit: dream.csac.ca.gov

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

merit-based vs. need- based

Merit-Based Scholarships

Awarded to students based on academic achievement, athletic performance, or special skills

Need-Based Scholarships

Awarded to students based on demonstrated financial need

websites:

- fastweb.com
- scholarships.com
- scholarshipowl.com
- bigfuture.collegeboard.org
- goingmerry.com

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS TO COMPLETE APPLICATION:

- ☑ Social Security Number (Parents/Student)
  - If a student does not have one, they will complete the CA Dream Act App.
- ☑ Driver's License (if applicable)
  - 2023 Tax Forms (Parents/Student)
    - ☑ 1040 Form
    - ☑ W-2 Forms
- ☑ If you are a Permanent Resident (green card holder), you will need your Alien Registration Number
- ☑ Bank/investment statements
- ☑ Month/Year of Parent's Marriage, Divorce, or Separation

SCHOLARSHIP TIPS

▷ Read the directions. Always be sure to read the directions carefully before you start filling out your application.

▷ Complete the application in full. Make sure to answer every question. If the question doesn't apply make sure to write "N/A" in the field.

▷ Follow directions. Provide everything the application asks for.

▷ Be neat, it matters! If possible always type your application. If you must print, do so neatly and legibly.

▷ Make your scholarship application personal. Be authentic and specific with your experiences.

▷ Track deadlines. Make sure to give yourself enough time to submit your application. DON'T rely on extensions.

▷ Ask for help if you need it. If you don't understand or have any questions about the application process, visit the Student Union Media Center. We are more than happy to help you.

Cerritos Complete Promise Program

1 Submit a Cerritos College Summer Admission App.

2 Complete the Self-Report Tool (SRT)

3 Submit a Cerritos Complete Promise Program App.

4 Complete the online Falcon Edge Orientation

5 Submit FAFSA or CA Dream Act Application

6 Enroll in your classes by the deadline!

Cypress Charger Experience Progam

Apply to Cypress College

Complete a FAFSA or Dream Act Application

Fill out the Charger Experience Interest Form

Attend Charger Friday during the Spring

Long Beach City College

1 *Apply to LBCC*

2 *Apply for FAFSA or Dream Act*

3 *Complete the new student orientation*

4 *Complete guided placement tool*

5 *Complete the Participation Agreement*

6 *Meet with a LBCC Counselor*

7 *Register for classes*

8 *Pay student fees*

LONG BEACH
CITY COLLEGE

UC Requirements

A. History/Social Science- 2 Years Required

B. English- 4 Years Required

C. Mathematics - 3 Years Required, 4 Years Recommended

D. Laboratory Science - 2 Years Required, 3 Years Recommended

E. Language other than English - 2 Years Required, 3 Years Recommended

F. Visual and Performing Arts - 1 Year Required

G. College Preparatory Elective - 1 Year Required

Other Requirements

- Earn a GPA of 3.0 or better (3.4 if you're a nonresident) in A-G courses with no grade lower than a C
- Answer 4 short essay prompts

What are my options after high school?

4-YEAR COLLEGE

APPRENTICESHIPS

WORKFORCE

MILITARY

TRADE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

INTERNSHIPS

2-YEAR COLLEGE

...and more!

ARTESIA HIGH SCHOOL
Counseling Department

SEMI-ANNUAL ACADEMIC REVIEWS
- EVERY STUDENT HAS AN INDIVIDUAL MEETING WITH THEIR COUNSELOR EACH SEMESTER.
  - PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO MEET WITH COUNSELORS AS WELL
- COLLEGE A-G ELIGIBILTY REQUIREMENTS
- SHORT AND LONG TERM GOALS
- NCAA ELIGIBILITY
- TEST RESULTS (AP, CAASPP, PSAT, SAT, ACT, ETC...)

SPECIAL EVENTS
- REPORT CARD NIGHT/SHOWCASE
- COLLEGE NIGHT (REPS FROM UC, CSU, CC, PRIVATE COLLEGES, OUT OF STATE, & THE MILITARY)
- FINANCIAL AID NIGHT
- FRESHMEN ORIENTATION NIGHT
- SENIOR INFORMATION NIGHT
- SENIOR AWARDS
- "I'M GOING TO COLLEGE" DINNER
- CAREER NIGHT

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
- PERSONAL/SOCIAL COUNSELING
- COLLEGE/CAREER COUNSELING- STUDENT UNION
- INTERVENTIONS
- DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR PROGRAM
- MIGRANT EDUCATION

Follow AHS on:

ARTESIA HIGH SCHOOL - 12108 DEL AMO BLVD. - LAKEWOOD, CA 90715 - (562) 229-7700