

# DLS College Counseling- College Advisory for Juniors

## SUMMER TO DO/ASSIGNMENTS

### **PRIORITY 1: LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION- [Instructions](#)**

- Ask in Person
- Add Official Request in SCOIR > My Colleges> Application Documents
- Complete the Teacher Rec Surveys > Me > Surveys
- Complete Counselor Rec Survey
- Add Activities and Achievements in Scoir > Me > View Profile

### **PRIORITY 2: ESSAY BRAINSTORMING**

- Register by June 3 and Attend the Virtual Essay Bootcamps** (Pre-Paid by DLS)
  - Attend Virtual College Essay Guy Personal Statement Bootcamp for June 12th-16th or July 31st-August 4th
  - Attend Virtual College Essay Guy UC PIQ Bootcamp for July 10th-14th (if applying to UC campuses)
  - Attend Virtual College Essay Guy Supplemental Essays Boot Camp for August 7th-11th (if applying to Common App Colleges)
- Keep a journal of ideas; brainstorm (ongoing)
- Review [Common App Prompts](#) and [UC Personal Insight Questions](#) & [Worksheet](#)
- Prepare rough drafts by August 15

### **OPTIONAL - ACT/SAT REGISTRATION AND TEST PREPARATION**

- Decide whether you will take fall [SAT/ACT](#) tests and register in June for test dates in Aug/Sept/Oct.
- Prep for Free; [SAT Practice Khan Academy](#) and [Free ACT Practice Tests](#)

### **PRIORITY 3: APPLICATIONS (First [Research](#) and then [Balance College List](#))**

#### **COMMON APP**

- Create [Common App](#) account and add at least one college.
- Begin working on the main Common App tab, **DO NOT** work on My Colleges tab until after August 1; **DO NOT** add recommenders email in Common App, we are submitting recs through SCOIR. Open: [Common App & SCOIR Guide](#).

#### **UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (UC)**

- Create your [UC application](#) account & begin completing for Fall 2024- opens August 1.
  - Check each UC admissions webpage for webinars.

#### **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU)**

- [Explore campuses](#) and [majors](#) and learn about [impaction](#). When you apply you will be asked about your choice of major; begin deciding majors now. (Undergraduate freshman application for Fall 2024 will open October 1.)

#### **NON-COMMON APP OUT OF STATE & PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

- Check the admissions section of college websites to locate application & when they open. Some open August 1. Begin completing applications.

#### **COLLEGE COSTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

- Complete College Cost Calculators on the [Big Future website](#) or on each college's financial aid webpage
- Create accounts at some [Scholarship Search Engines](#)

## Important Notes

### Open: [SCOIR Checklist](#)

Note: You can Apply through SCOIR to 115 colleges, most also accept the Common App, so we recommend focusing on the Common App

### Sending Transcripts and Letters of Recommendation

Official Transcripts and Letters of Recommendation take time to prepare and will not be sent any earlier than DLS can prepare them. For Transcripts, that is in September. For Letters of Recommendation, that is in October. All materials requested on time will be sent by your college application deadlines.

### Regarding: VIP/FAST Apps

Some colleges may send you invitations to apply using their quick, easy, and sometimes free Priority/VIP applications. This is a marketing tool for colleges to drive up their applications. It may not benefit you by using it to apply, even though they make it sound like you'll likely be accepted. They may make it easier for you to submit by waiving the letter of rec or essay requirements but these are two components that can usually help you. If they offer a fee waiver they must also waive your fee if you apply via the Common Application. So stick to the Common App, if they use it.

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## College Advisory for Juniors

### Stay on Track/Catch up on Past Assignments

#### WEEK 1: Exploring & Researching College Options

- [PRESENTATION SLIDES](#)
- [To DO/Resources](#)

#### WEEK 2: Build Your College List & Review Admission Factors

- [PRESENTATION SLIDES](#)
- [To Do/Resources](#)

#### WEEK 3: Jumpstart your College Applications

- [PRESENTATION SLIDES](#)
- [Summer To Do/Assignments](#)

#### Resources:

- [Writing Exercises, Tips, and Examples](#)
- [How to Decide to Apply ED or EA](#)
- [Types of Deadlines - EA, ED, Rolling](#)
- [ED and EA Acceptance rates at some colleges](#)
- [NCAA Eligibility Center](#) and [Registration Checklist](#)

**To Listen:** Check out this podcast: [Inside the Yale Admissions Office](#)

**To Read:** Check out this book: [Where you go is not who you'll be by Frank Bruni](#)