

December Senior Newsletter

Ponderosa Class of 2020

College & Career Center, Open Daily 7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m. (530) 677-2281 ext. 2224

Ponderosa High School

Create your profile on CALocalScholarships.org website	NOW
SAT Test	Dec. 7
Military Recruiters on campus	Dec. 11
ACT Test	Dec. 14
Christmas break (return Jan. 8)	Dec. 23—Jan. 7
Community College Fair @ PHS during lunch	Jan. 22
Apply for FAFSA	Oct. 1—Mar. 2
FLC Parent-Student Information Night	TBD
ASVAB in the College & Career Center	Feb. 24
EDUHSD Career Expo & Job Fair	Mar. 19



Once you have submitted your FAFSA application, visit www.csac.ca.gov & click on "WebGrants for Students".

You can:

- Check the status of your application
- View your awards
- View your payment history
- Update your address
- Change schools listed (school listed #1 will receive the money)
- Link to other financial aid sites



Community College Info

If you are planning on attending Sierra College or any of the Los Rio Community Colleges (including Folsom Lake College/El Dorado Center) their application is open now.

Whichever community college you choose, make sure to complete the enrollment steps listed below and check your email regularly.

1. Application
2. Complete a FAFSA
3. Orientation
4. Meet w/ a counselor
5. Register for classes

TO DO LIST

- * Check your college app "to do" lists and watch deadlines. Send transcripts ONLY if the school requests them.
- * December is the last chance to take the SAT/ACT tests and still meet most colleges admissions deadlines.
- * Winter break is coming, why not spend some of that time working on scholarship applications? For **local scholarships** create your profile at www.CALocalScholarships.org. Don't forget to request your letters of recommendation. Make sure to look at the requirements for each scholarship for which you are applying. If you have everything ready, your applications will be easy to complete and submit by the March 2, 2020 deadline. I am available to give you individual help just about everyday during lunch, 6th & 7th periods, and after school.
- * Register for a FSA ID (for you and your parent) so you can complete and sign the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at: <http://fsaid.ed.gov>. **Apply for FAFSA between Oct 1, 2019—Mar 2, 2020.**



SOBER GRAD NIGHT INFO

Sober Grad Night is an all-night after-graduation party held right here on campus! A once in a lifetime adventure is awaiting the Class of 2020. Grab your friends and let the adventure begin. Tickets are on sale now.

<http://www.phssobergradnight.org/register>





California Career Zone

Check out this cool website that allows you to explore exciting jobs and occupations that California has to offer and to learn about what career path interests you.

One cool feature on the site is **Reality Check!** Find out how much money you will need to live on after high school and which occupation will pay for all those needs and wants!

<https://eduhsd.cacareerzone.org/signin>



How Do You Spell Relief? Applications Complete!!

Congratulations to each of you who labored over UC and CSU admission applications and completed them by the November 30 deadline. Make sure to set up your portals for each campus and keep up with each "To Do" list.

Many out of state and private schools may still be an option for you. Apply NOW!

*UC Merced has extended their application deadline to December 20 @ 11:59pm!

FUNDING YOUR EDUCATION

Frequently asked questions:

How might the Federal Student Aid help pay for schooling?

- ◇ Federal student aid includes grants, work-studies and loans. You do not have to pay back grants. Work study allows you to earn money for your education, and loans allow you to borrow money for school.

When can I apply?

- ◇ For 2020-2021, you should apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov as early as October 1, 2019 but BEFORE March 2, 2020.

What will I need to get started?

- ◇ You will need your FSA ID (federal student aid ID number) and your valid Social Security number to apply for federal student aid. Your eligibility will be determined by your parents' financial information.

What kind of information does the financial aid application (FAFSA) ask?

- ◇ FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) will ask for information from your **parents'/guardians'** 2018 U.S. income tax return. If you, the student, filed a return, that information will also be needed.

How will I know what I am eligible for?

- ◇ Once your FAFSA is processed, a formula is applied to the information that you provided. Congress established this formula to determine your financial need. The formula result is the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC indicates how much money you and your family will be expected to contribute toward the cost of attendance for the 2020-2021 school year.

Calculating your family contribution.

- ◇ For dependent students the following facts are considered in calculating your EFC: Your income and your parents income; you and your parents' assets, including savings, stocks & bonds, real estate investments, business ownership and trusts, but the primary residence equity is excluded; your parents' age and need for retirement income; the number of children in the household; and the number of children attending college.

Are there deadlines that I must meet?

- ◇ Yes. You should pay special attention to the many deadlines involved in the student financial aid process. Missing a deadline could prevent you from receiving the aid for which you are eligible. The Federal/State student aid programs must receive the FAFSA by **March 2, 2020**.

Don't miss **EDUHSD CAREER EXPO** for job & internship opportunities and career exploration!



You'll be able to get information from many local employers, ROP and military representatives. There we will a lot of great information to help you get started on your journey after high school, as well as land a summer job, internship or volunteer opportunity!

