

December Senior Newsletter

Ponderosa Class of 2017

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
ASVAB Interpretation	Dec. 1
Fleet Reserve Scholarship due	Dec. 1
SAT Test	Dec. 3
University of Northern British Columbia in CCC during lunch	Dec. 6
ACT Test	Dec. 10
Military Recruiters on campus	Dec. 14
Christmas break (return Jan. 9)	Dec. 17—Jan. 8
Apply for FAFSA	Oct. 1—Mar. 2
FLC College Fall 2017 Application Opens	Feb. 1
ASVAB in the College & Career Center	Feb. 13



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 in the fall, their online application became available October 1, 2016. If your plans are to attend Folsom Lake College/EI Dorado Center, their application goes online February 1, 2017.

Whichever community college you choose, make sure to complete the five step process AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to ensure you receive priority registration.

- Step 1: Application
- Step 2: Assessment
- Step 3: Orientation
- Step 4: Counseling
- Step 5: Registration

For further information check out Sierra's website at <http://www.sierracollege.edu/admissions/index.php> and Folsom's website at http://www.losrios.edu/lrc/lrc_app.php.

Sign up to receive college information and reminders through Remind 101 by texting 81010 and entering the message @phsclass17.



TO DO LIST

- * Check your college app "to do" lists and watch deadlines. Send transcripts ONLY if the school requests them. For CSU campuses, take EPT/ELM assessments EARLY, if required!
- * December is the last chance to take the SAT/ACT tests and still meet college 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 1, 2017 deadline. I am available to give you individual help just about everyday during lunch, 6th & 7th periods, and after school.
- * Check out the "Scholarships for the Week" posted on the College & Career Center page of the school website under the College Information link.
- * 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, 2016—Mar 2, 2017.

Don't catch SENIORITIS!

You will be receiving acceptance letters from the colleges you applied to within the next month or two. This does not give you a green light to SLACK. Remember a college can just as easily send you a letter of withdrawal if you do not keep your grades up or if you begin to catch Senioritis!

ALSO, any significant changes made to your schedule for the spring semester need to be reported to the colleges to which you applied.





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!

www.cacareerzone.org



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 and keep up with each "To Do" list.

If you have not applied yet, some CSU campuses **may** still be accepting applications. Check the [CSU-Mentor website](#). **Don't wait any longer.**

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

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 2017-2018, you should apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov as early as October 1, 2016 but BEFORE March 2, 2017.

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'** 2015 U.S. income tax return—[see qualifications below from Federal Student Aid website]. If you, the student, filed a return, that information will also be needed. If you won't have a completed tax return, you can estimate your answers by using bank statements, and any business records that might be helpful.

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 2017-2018 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 some or all of the aid for which you are eligible. The Federal/State student aid programs must receive the FAFSA by **March 2, 2017** for the 2017-2018 school year.

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!

