NOW THAT YOU’RE A SENIOR

INTRODUCTION
This reference guide was designed to maximize access to resources available to Ponderosa High School students as they research post high school college and career plans. This guide includes information on scholarships, colleges, the Senior Quick Reference Sheet, website resources and information on NCAA guidelines. Senior newsletters will be distributed monthly and will highlight important information for the month. All this information will be posted on the Ponderosa High School website under “College & Career Center” at http://bruin.ecuhsd.k12.ca.us.

Throughout the school year, Ponderosa High School receives scholarship information from local, state and national academic and vocational award programs. This scholarship information is distributed through the College & Career Center and is not all-inclusive. Therefore, it is important to research additional opportunities available through businesses or organizations your family may be affiliated with or that may be available on-line.

Many students win thousands of dollars annually from local sponsors, individuals, and community organizations that have supported area students financially for years. Coupled with awards from the state and federal governments, and from campus-funded programs, students are able to attend colleges or vocational institutions without incurring much debt.

How do you begin the scholarship process?

SCHOLARSHIP & AWARD APPLICATIONS
Eligibility for financial assistance may be based on one or more of the following criteria:

- Grades and academic performance
- Test Scores – ACT or SAT
- Service to community
- Church or religious affiliation
- Athletic involvement and ability
- Race or ethnic background
- Personal characteristics i.e. height
- Membership and leadership in various organizations
- Financial need
- Special talents
- Disabilities or medical conditions
- Gender
- Employment in specific industry
- Related experiences or volunteer work
- Essay competition
- Parent affiliation and/or employment
- Dependent of veteran
- Artwork or student portfolio

The application process begins with completing an application form, attaching the required supplemental paperwork (letters of recommendation, essays, current transcripts, resumes, etc.), and meeting the due date for the application.

1. The application should be typed or written neatly in black ink.
2. Attach all required documents; use a cover letter to make your package more professional.
3. Submit the completed application on or before the deadline.
4. Obtain letters of recommendation early from employers, teachers, counselors, or professionals you know.
5. Give considerable thought and check your essay for accuracy (use spell-check).
6. Keep copies of applications and award information.
LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

What do a prospective employer, a college admission committee, and a scholarship screening committee have in common? They each want to make the best decision possible; selecting the one individual (or individuals) who will be the best employee or college student. Before the selection is made, it is important for those making the decision to be provided with specific information about each applicant. High school transcripts are usually requested. However, to broaden the scope beyond a person's academic abilities, letters of recommendation are also requested. These letters help personalize and define the student as an individual, noting their attributes, accomplishments and leadership capabilities. These letters can also address any adverse conditions that might have been encountered and the perseverance and integrity acquired to overcome the difficulty.

When you are requesting letters of recommendation, it is helpful to provide significant personal information to allow the writer to compose a letter that will include details about your accomplishments. Before requesting a letter, the student should complete a Resume and a Personal Data Form providing the writer with his/her pertinent information. Samples of the Request, Personal Data Form and Resume follow on the next pages.

WHO SHOULD YOU ASK TO WRITE A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION?
Students will want to request letters from teachers who know them best. Other good sources for letters of recommendations include coaches, counselors, pastors, and employers who can evaluate the student's best qualities.

Students are encouraged to request the letters in a timely fashion. It is in the student's best interest to give the writer ample time (2 weeks - 1 month) in which to complete the task. Teachers, counselors, etc. are busy people. It is good to remember that when they write a letter of recommendation, they do so as a favor to you. It is appropriate to mention the deadline date when the request for the letter is placed. Remember to follow up with a note of thanks!!!!

CAN YOU MAKE COPIES OF LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FOR SCHOLARSHIPS?
Yes, you may make copies of your original letters of recommendation, unless otherwise stated in the scholarship instructions. Most writers are happy to provide you with multiple copies and will grant permission to copy. Good quality copies are the only acceptable copies. Even if it is necessary to pay a little more for copies, it is worth the extra cost. Keep in mind that some letters must be written to the specific situation and every letter will not serve the same purpose. Students will want to have three or four different letters available. Letters from several different sources are required with most applications.

SAMPLE REQUEST FOR A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Dear Counselor,

As my senior year approaches, it is time to begin asking people for letters of recommendation. As my counselor I would appreciate your time and consideration. Attached is my resume and personal data form. I am particularly interested in having my leadership qualities reflected as I see that as my greatest strength.

I am applying to University of the Pacific as an education major. I am applying for several scholarships from UOP and from the local community. Please address the letter of recommendation as: "To Whom It May Concern." Could I please have 6 original letters by specified date-usually 3 weeks from the request?

Thank you. I know you are receiving many requests for letters and that your time is valuable.

Sincerely,
Your Name

This same letter can be used to ask for letters of recommendation for scholarships. Change the underlined wording accordingly.
LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
Personal Data Form

Please use this form to request a letter of recommendation from your counselor, teacher or other staff member. Include a current resume with this completed form. Allow at least three weeks for the letter to be written. Remember to send a handwritten thank you note to express your appreciation.

Student Name: ____________________________

Reason for recommendation letter:  □ Scholarship application  □ Job reference
                                  □ College application  □ Other

Letter to be addressed to:          □ To Whom It May Concern
                                  - OR -  □ ________________________________
                                  ________________________________
                                  ________________________________

Describe your college or career plans.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Describe any personal goals you may have set for yourself.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Describe any unique experiences you have had – such as family hardships, personal trauma, a leadership position, travel opportunity, internship, etc.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Describe any personal strengths that might not be reflected in your academic achievements.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

If there is something special or unique about you that you would like to have mentioned in the letter, please explain.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

List three adjectives and/or a phrase that describe you – these words may be used in your letter, so try to avoid simplistic words such as “funny” or “nice”.

1. __________________________ 2. __________________________ 3. __________________________

Phrase: __________________________
SAMPLE STUDENT RESUME

NAME: Your Name
ADDRESS: 3661 Ponderosa Road
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Telephone: 530-677-2281

ACADEMIC GPA: (9-12) 3.54
SAT SCORES: MATH-570 CRITICAL READING-610
CLASS RANK: 52/467
ACT: 26

EDUCATIONAL GOALS:
I plan to attend CSU Chico and major in education

CAREER GOAL:
I would like to teach high school English in a public high school preferably in a metropolitan area.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:
4-Year Varsity Track Team (2012-2015)
4-Year Member CSF (2012-2015)
3-Year Member Key Club; President senior year (2013-2015)
Speech and Debate Club (2013)
Academic Decathlon (2013-2014)
Creative Writing Club

COMMUNITY SERVICE:
Key Club 120 hours
ISAW 4 year member
4-H member for 3 years
Annual Christmas Canned Food Drive (2012)
Koats 4 Kids Drive (2012)

AWARDS & HONORS:
PHS Scholarship Block Letter (2014)
Academic Pin (2012, 2013)
4-Year Varsity Track Team
2nd Place Veterans of Foreign Wars “Voice of Democracy” essay (2013)

EMPLOYMENT:
MRG Engineering, Cameron Park
Part-time general office assistant during summer months

June — August 2015

A resume is a paper picture of YOU – your accomplishments and achievements. How do you look?? Continue to update your Resume as you gather honors, awards and acquire further skills and interests.
Consider looking for scholarships as a part-time job. Juniors and Seniors might spend an hour a day or half a day on weekends conducting searches and putting together applications. Here are a few suggestions to assist with your search; this is not a guarantee of awards. Get started early and good luck!

1. **Where to find them? Don’t hesitate to ask!**
   - Local and regional organizations
   - Parent/Guardian’s employer
   - Student’s employer
   - Religious, service, cultural community organizations
   - Previous graduates

2. **On the Internet? Search, search and search some more!**
   Do not pay someone to find scholarships for you. The internet searches are all free. See www.finaid.org and click on “Scholarships” to read more information about scholarship scams.

**Some Scholarship Directories** (complete a profile and enter your email address – to avoid SPAM in your primary email, USE A SECONDARY EMAIL ACCOUNT when setting up profiles!)

- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- [www.fastaid.com](http://www.fastaid.com)
- [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)
- [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- [www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com)
- **[www.CALocalscholarships.org](http://www.CALocalscholarships.org)**

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE AT CALOCALSCHOLARSHIPS.ORG**

There are currently 180+ scholarships available to students on the western slope of El Dorado County. Fourteen of those scholarships are mentioned below and are specific to Ponderosa High School students. Each high school within El Dorado County has scholarships specific to their school. Check the scholarship requirements before applying. Log on-line at CaLocalscholarships.org to view all scholarships. It isn’t the quantity of scholarships you apply for, it’s important to apply for scholarships for which you are qualified.

**Some PHS Specific Scholarships on [www.CaLocalscholarships.org](http://www.CaLocalscholarships.org)**

- **ALLISON RUSH MEMORIAL**
- **CAMERON PARK ROTARY DON PETERSON**
- **DONALD EVANS MEMORIAL**
- **DR. WILLIAM B. COUCH, DMD AND DR. TORREY R. HAMMOND, DDS**
- **JACOB FINE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
- **MILTON FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP**
- **MOTIVATED BRUIN SCHOLARSHIP**
- **PHS FFA BOOSTER ASSOCIATION**
- **PHS ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB**
- **PHS BRUIN DEN**
- **PHS FOUNDATION OUTSTANDING SCHOLASTIC SERVICE & ACTIVITY**
- **PHS KEY CLUB SCHOLARSHIP**
REMINDER

All scholarship applications from the CaLocalscholarship website are due in the Ponderosa Career Center no later than 1:00 p.m. on March 1, 2016, unless otherwise noted. Please be sure to check the due date on each specific scholarship; there are a couple that are due PRIOR to the March 2 date. It is very important to note that the website due dates may be different than the Ponderosa High School due dates. You may turn in your scholarship applications earlier than March 1, 2016; however, no late applications will be accepted.

If the website has information that differs from the information provided in this book, please check with me in the College & Career Center. It is better to ask than to have incorrect information and miss out on the opportunity to submit an application. If you need help with this process or have any questions, make an appointment to meet with me. I look forward to working with you.

Mrs. Escobar
Senior Quick Reference Guide

October/November/December
- Attend Regional College Fair @ UMHS Oct. 5; Time: 6:30-8:30 pm; Breakouts beginning at 5:30 pm
- ASVAB testing Nov. 9, 1-4 pm
- Complete Testing (SAT Reasoning, SAT Subject [if recommended], ACT)
- Write College Essay/Personal Statement
- UC & CSU Applications Due Nov. 30
- Financial Aid Night in Oak Ridge theater Dec. 10 from 6:30-8 pm
- Contact colleges re: Housing & Financial Aid
- Develop Scholarship Tools: Resume, Letters of Recommendation & Goal Statement
- CSS Profile Financial Aid form (check)
- Private College Applications Due (check w/college)

January/February
- File Financial Aid Forms (FAFSA & CalGrant) Jan. 1 to Mar. 2
- Apply for scholarships
- Private College Applications Due (check w/college)
- CSU Placement Exams
  - EPT (English Placement Exam)
  - ELM (Entry Level Math)
- ASVAB testing Feb. 22, 1-4 pm
- Folsom Lake College Application & Assessments

March/April
- Local Scholarship Apps Due Mar. 1
- Cal Grant GPA Verification Due Mar. 2
- CSU Placement Exams
  - EPT (English Placement Exam)
  - ELM (Entry Level Math)

May/June
- May 1st Letter of Intent to register
- CSU Placement Exams
  - EPT (English Placement Exam)
  - ELM (Entry Level Math)
- Scholarship Award Night May 5
- Request final transcripts
- Graduation May 27

www.ncaa.org/wps/portal
College Athletics (NCAA Clearinghouse) Students who will be playing Division I or Division II athletics will need to file with the NCAA Clearinghouse. Melissa Burghardt, PHS school registrar, will complete the school section.

www.csumentor.edu
California State University System (23 CSUs)
Online application

www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/
University of California (10 UCs)
Online application

www.assist.org
Explore Majors and research credits earned when transferring from one California institution to another

www.collegeboard.com
Register for the SAT Reasoning & SAT Subject tests (if recommended); College Profiles

www.fafsa.ed.gov
Online FAFSA (Financial aid form)
Request a PIN number in early December for parent and student.

www.Callocalscholarships.org
Online access to local scholarship applications. Unless noted, all applications must be turned in to Mrs. Escobar in the Career Center.

www.fastweb.com
Research other scholarships that may be available to you. USE SECONDARY EMAIL ADDRESS.

Financial Aid Night – Thursday, December 10, 2015 from 6:30-8 pm in the Oak Ridge Theater with Mr. Vance Pasqua, Financial Aid Director.

“It takes 2” Financial Aid Forms:
1. FAFSA
2. CalGrant GPA Verification

Private Colleges may also require the CSS Profile

Class of 2016

Want to be in the loop with the latest info – senior newsletters, scholarships, etc.? Send me your email address:
cescobar@eduhsd.net.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Type</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Testing</th>
<th>Letters of Recommendation</th>
<th>Essay</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of California</td>
<td>Opens: Aug. 1 Submit: Nov. 1-30</td>
<td>SAT Reasoning or ACT with Writing &amp; SAT Subject when recommended</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Honors &amp; Awards Activities Community Service Employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University</td>
<td>Opens: Oct. 1 Submit: Oct. 1-Nov. 30</td>
<td>SAT Reasoning or ACT</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No Cal Poly uses supplemental information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private College &amp; Out of State</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>SAT Reasoning or ACT</td>
<td>Yes, usually Check</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Activities Community Service Honors &amp; Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Colleges</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
<td>Community College Assessment Testing (English &amp; Math placement tests)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>May take SAT and ACT scores for placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational Schools</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SAT Reasoning Test** (critical reading, mathematical reasoning, and writing skills). Total Possible = 2400

**SAT Subject Tests**
Total Possible per Subject test = 800

The UC's requirement for SAT Subject tests has changed. Further information may be found at [http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/fr eshman/requirements/examination-requirement/SAT-subject-tests/index.html](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements/examination-requirement/SAT-subject-tests/index.html)

Register online @ [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
Cost: SAT Reasoning $54.50
SAT Subject varies

**Send SAT scores to all 23 CSUs by using:**
CSU Mentor Code: 3594

2015 SAT Test Dates:
October 3, November 7, December 5

SAT Study Guides available in the College & Career Center.

**ACT Testing**
(Reading, Math, English, Science)
Total Possible = 36

Register online @ [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
Cost: $56.50 (includes writing)

**2015 ACT Test Dates:**
September 12, October 24, December 12

ACT Study Guides available in the College & Career Center.

**Regional College Fair**
Location: Union Mine High School
Date: Monday, October 5, 2015

Breakout sessions in the UM Theater:
5:30 pm: 4th Congressional District Military Academy Night
7:00 pm: Redesigned SAT
7:45 pm: UC & CSU Admissions Panel

Approximately 80+ representatives will be available from the following organizations: The University of California, California State Universities, Private Colleges, Out-of-State Colleges, US Military Academies, Community Colleges, College Testing and Post-Secondary options.

For more information:
**Ponderosa College-Career Center**
Cammie Escobar, College & Career Guidance
530 677-2281 ext. 2224
EL DORADO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGIONAL COLLEGE FAIR

UNION MINE HIGH SCHOOL
6530 Koki Lane
El Dorado, California

Monday, October 5, 2015
6:30-8:30 p.m.

Don’t miss the breakout sessions in the Theater:
- 5:30 PM: Military Academy presentation
- 7:00 PM: The NEW SAT
- 7:45 PM: U.C. & C.S.U. Admissions

Military Academy Night Presentation:
5:30 to 6:30 in the Theatre

Over 80 colleges, universities, and organizations represented!
Financial Aid Night

Attend this informative meeting for parents and students and learn about financial aid information including Federal Aid Programs, California State Aid Programs, Grants & Scholarships, 2015-16 FAFSA Form, CSS Profile and Cal Grant GPA Verification Form.

- December 10, 2015
- 6:30-8 p.m.
- Oak Ridge High School
- In the theatre

The featured speaker will be:

Vance Pascua
William Jessup University
Dean of Admissions

Submit two forms by March 2nd!
(unless your College has an earlier deadline)

1. FAFSA: apply online at: www.fafsa.gov

2. Cal Grant: submit a GPA verification form to the College & Career Center.
   - Manage your Cal Grant by going to www.calgrants.org and clicking on 'WebGrants for students'
Choose Your Path

**Majors**
The Majors path helps you choose a major, find out which campuses offer your major or explore university majors to help you decide which one is best for you.

**UC and CSU Campuses**
These paths present lists of majors offered at each UC or CSU campus. This is helpful if you know you want to attend a specific UC or CSU campus and want to find out if it offers your major.

**Community College Campuses**
This path is for you if you have chosen a community college but not a UC or CSU campus. Find out which campuses offer transfer credit for the courses at your college or explore majors agreements between your college and the universities.

**Course Articulation**
The course articulation path goes directly to transfer course lists and campus-specific articulation in ASSIST. This path is most useful for students who have explored the majors they are interested in and want to see how their community college coursework will transfer to the university and major of their choice.

From any path, you can compare community colleges to see how courses will transfer to a university for specific majors.

---

To obtain information about colleges and careers, log on to any of the following websites:

- [www.universityofcalifornia.edu](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu) (University of California)
- [www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu) (California State University)
- [www.californiacolleges.edu](http://www.californiacolleges.edu) (California Colleges)
- [www.aiccu.edu](http://www.aiccu.edu) (Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities)
- [www.cccco.edu](http://www.cccco.edu) (California Community Colleges)
- [www.losrios.edu](http://www.losrios.edu) (Los Ríos Community College District)
- [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) ( Universities/Colleges in the U.S.)
- [www.cacareerzone.org](http://www.cacareerzone.org) (Explore Career Paths)

Rev. 8/2015
Since their beginnings, community colleges have offered unique educational opportunity for degree and transfer programs, career technical education and certification. Most community colleges offer flexible course schedules that allow students to fit their studies around work or home commitments and they are usually within commuting distance. Students can prepare for an immediate career or pursue the first two years of general academic course work required for a bachelor’s degree. The low tuition cost makes a quality education available to many and financial aid programs from the state and federal governments are available at community college. Not sure what you want to do, check out the website and take the quiz on whodou-want2b.com.

The California Community College System provides basic skills education, workforce training and courses that prepared more than 2.6 million students during academic year 2013-14. Constituting the largest system of higher education in the world, the California Community College System is currently comprised of 72 districts and 112 campuses. For more information on all California Community Colleges, go online http://www.cccco.edu/ and click on “Find a College”. To learn more about how you can afford college check out the website icanaffordcollege.com. There’s a campus just right for YOU!

Requirements to attend:
High School graduate or 18 years of age
Apply online
www.csumentor.edu
between October 1-November 30, 2016**

When registering to take the SAT, your test scores can be sent to ALL 23 CSU campuses using the CSUMentor Code #3594.

23 OPTIONS—WHICH ONE IS FOR YOU?

The California State Universities offer academic programs similar to those of the University of California at the bachelor and master degree levels, but does not offer programs at the doctorate or professional school level. Emphasis is on teaching and undergraduate studies. The faculty bring a rich and diverse blend of educational and work experience to the classroom. Most classes are moderately sized and taught by professors whose primary role is teaching. The CSU offer more than 1,800 bachelor's and master’s degree programs in 357 subject areas. Also, a variety of teaching and school service credential programs are available. Compare campuses on the CSUMentor web-site.

The CSU is one of the nation’s most diverse universities. Each campus, while part of the system, also have their own unique identity. San Jose State University, founded in 1857 is the oldest, while CSU Channel Islands began admitting students in 2003. Some CSU campuses are in large urban settings with student populations of 30,000 or more. Other campuses are located rurally and have much smaller student populations well under 10,000. The CSU designates programs as impacted when more admission applications are received than can be accommodated. The CSU announces each fall the programs and majors that are impacted and the admission criteria required for admissions. The CSU accepts most qualified applicants at the first choice campus in their first choice major, and those who cannot be accommodated can have their application redirected to an alternate campus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Electives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimated median cost of attendance for students living on campus is $23,754 annually. Estimated median cost of fees only is $6,628.

Choose Your Campus
www.csumentor.edu

COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRANSFER...

Most students who obtain a 4-year college bachelor’s degree start at a California Community College. Community college students have priority over other 4-year college students in transferring into a CSU. Students can make normal progress toward completing a bachelor's degree while attending a community college. Students should plan to complete two full community college years prior to transferring. Community college students are offered guaranteed admissions at CSU and UC campuses once completing 56 or more transferable semester units with a 2.0 + GPA . Community college transfer centers assist students in preparing transfer agreements with CSU and UC representatives who visit their campuses weekly. Cost of attending Community College is currently $46 per unit.

Want to see how the credits earned at a community college transfer to a CSU campus? Check out www.assist.org.

IMPACTED CAMPUSES AND LOCAL ADMISSIONS: Due to the large number of applicants, some CSU campuses have higher standards (supplementary admission criteria) for particular majors or for students who live outside the local campus area. Campuses utilize local admission guarantee policies for students who graduate or transfer from high schools and community colleges that are historically served by a CSU campus in that region.

The local CSU for Ponderosa High School is (Sac State) CSU Sacramento.
Welcome to the University of California
Undergraduate Admission

How to Apply:
- Apply online: http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/
- You may apply to one or to all campuses using one application.
- $70 application fee per campus.
- The SAT Reasoning or ACT plus Writing is required (you must take the tests no later than Dec. 2015).
- SAT/ACT results can be sent to one UC campus and ALL campuses will share the information.
- Personal statement required.
- Submit only the application, fees and personal statement.

Subject Requirement:
- 15 UC-approved courses*:
  - History/Social Science—2 years
  - English—4 years
  - Math—3+ years,
  - Lab Science—2+ years
  - Foreign Lang—2+ years
  - VAPA—1 year
  - College Electives—1 year
- *At least 7 of the 15 courses must be taken in your last two years of high school.
- Only the grades you earn in “a-g” subjects in the 10th and 11th grades are used to calculate your GPA

Test Requirement:
- SAT Reasoning or ACT plus Writing are required. SAT Subject tests are no longer required.

Notification of Admission:
- Notifications will be sent between March 1-31, 2016 (each campus will notify you).
- If you are accepted, send final transcripts to the campus where you plan to enroll.
- Offers are provisional until the campus receives your final transcripts.
- Each campus that accepts you will send you a Statement of Intent to Register.
- You may accept admission to one campus. You must send a nonrefundable deposit by May 1, 2016, to that campus.

---

Personal Statements for Fall 2015

- Respond to both prompts, using a maximum of 1,000 words total.
- You may allocate the word count as you wish. If you choose to respond to one prompt at greater length, we suggest your shorter answer be no less than 250 words.

Prompt #1 (freshman applicants)
Describe the world you come from — for example, your family, community or school — and tell us how your world has shaped your dreams and aspirations.

Prompt #2 (all applicants)
Tell us about a personal quality, talent, accomplishment, contribution or experience that is important to you. What about this quality or accomplishment makes you proud and how does it relate to the person you are?

http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/personal-statement/index.html

---

Did you know?

- UC gives priority admission to California Community College transfer students. See www.assist.org for more information.
- The seven UC campuses that participate in the transfer admission guarantee (TAG) program (Davis, Irvine, Merced, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara & Santa Cruz) offer guaranteed admission to particular UC campuses for California community college students who meet specified requirements. Check it out at http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/transfer/guarantee/index.html.
## Scholarship Website Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship Website Resources</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>El Dorado County</td>
<td><a href="http://www.CALocalscholarships.org">www.CALocalscholarships.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FastWeb</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fastweb.com">www.fastweb.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ScholarSite.com</td>
<td><a href="http://www.scholarsite.com">www.scholarsite.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships.com</td>
<td><a href="http://www.scholarships.com">www.scholarships.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gates Millennium Scholarship</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gmsp.org">www.gmsp.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Scholarship Fund</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hsf.net">www.hsf.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.maldef.org/leadership/scholarships/index.html">http://www.maldef.org/leadership/scholarships/index.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Scholarships</td>
<td><a href="http://www.myfuture.com">www.myfuture.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson's College Quest</td>
<td><a href="http://www.collegequest.com">www.collegequest.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Negro College Fund</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uncf.org">www.uncf.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fast Aid Scholarship Search</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fastaid.com">www.fastaid.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship Search Engine</td>
<td><a href="http://www.edupass.org/finaid">www.edupass.org/finaid</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CollegeNet's Database</td>
<td><a href="http://www.collegenet.com">www.collegenet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund</td>
<td><a href="http://www.thurgoodmarshallfund.org">www.thurgoodmarshallfund.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Students Scholarships</td>
<td><a href="http://www.iefa.org">www.iefa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship Scams-contact Federal Trade Commission</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams">www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Financial Aid Websites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Aid Websites</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US Department of Education</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.pin.ed.gov">www.pin.ed.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.studentaid.ed.gov">www.studentaid.ed.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.finaid.org">www.finaid.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FinAid - estimate financial aid eligibility</td>
<td><a href="http://www.allaboutcollege.com">www.allaboutcollege.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.scholarship.com">www.scholarship.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.ed.gov">www.ed.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.nasfaa.org">www.nasfaa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.fastweb.org">www.fastweb.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cashf.com">www.cashf.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## California Student Aid Commission - Cal Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>California Student Aid Commission - Cal Grants</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.csac.ca.gov">www.csac.ca.gov</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Financial Aid for Foster Youth

| California Chafee Grants - grants for youth who are or were in foster care | www.chafee.csac.ca.gov                   |
| Financial aid opportunities for foster youth                 | www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov               |

## Volunteer Opportunity Websites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volunteer Opportunity Websites</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.backdoorjobs.com">www.backdoorjobs.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.volunteermatch.org">www.volunteermatch.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.studentjobs.gov">www.studentjobs.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.coolworks.com">www.coolworks.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testing Websites</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSAT &amp; SAT</td>
<td><a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td><a href="http://www.actstudent.org/">http://www.actstudent.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SparkNotes College Planner</td>
<td><a href="http://testprep.sparknotes.com/">http://testprep.sparknotes.com/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Costs &amp; More</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plug in major, interests &amp; location, this site matches your profile with 7,000 colleges &amp; their costs</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool">www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment Trends</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Labor Standards - Find out current jobs &amp; projected jobs trends</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bls.gov/emp">www.bls.gov/emp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/">www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salaries</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CA Community Colleges, State Universities &amp; University of CA</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transfer &amp; Major Info for CA Colleges</td>
<td><a href="http://www.assist.org">www.assist.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Community Colleges</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cccco.edu">www.cccco.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.icanaffordcollege.com">www.icanaffordcollege.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.flc.losrios.edu">www.flc.losrios.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.losrios.edu">www.losrios.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University</td>
<td><a href="http://www.calstate.edu">www.calstate.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.csumentor.edu">www.csumentor.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of California</td>
<td><a href="http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu">www.universityofcalifornia.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Private</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aiccu.edu">www.aiccu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Search</td>
<td><a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Review</td>
<td><a href="http://www.princetonreview.com">www.princetonreview.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Ranking</td>
<td><a href="https://college.niche.com">https://college.niche.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career Exploration:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="https://connection.naviance.com/ponderosasahigh">https://connection.naviance.com/ponderosasahigh</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.careercafe.com">www.careercafe.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cacareerbriefs.com">www.cacareerbriefs.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cacareerzone.org">www.cacareerzone.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.careerclues.org">www.careerclues.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.mappingyourfuture.org">www.mappingyourfuture.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.whodoyouwant2be.com">www.whodoyouwant2be.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Divisions I and II Initial-Eligibility Requirements

Core Courses

- NCAA Division I requires 16 core courses. NCAA Division II currently requires 14 core courses. Division II will require 16 core courses for students enrolling on or after August 1, 2013. See the charts below.
- NCAA Division I will require 10 core courses to be completed prior to the seventh semester (seven of the 10 must be a combination of English, math or natural or physical science that meet the distribution requirements below). These 10 courses become "locked in" at the seventh semester and cannot be retaken for grade improvement.
  - Beginning August 1, 2016, it will be possible for a Division I college-bound student-athlete to still receive athletics aid and the ability to practice with the team if he or she fails to meet the 10 course requirement, but would not be able to compete.

Test Scores

- Division I uses a sliding scale to match test scores and core grade-point averages (GPA). The sliding scale for those requirements is shown on Page No. 2 of this sheet.
- Division II requires a minimum SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.
- The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes only the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used.
- The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a sum of the following four sections: English, mathematics, reading and science.
- When you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of 9999 to ensure all SAT and ACT scores are reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used.

Grade-Point Average

- Be sure to look at your high school’s List of NCAA Courses on the NCAA Eligibility Center’s website (www.eligibilitycenter.org). Only courses that appear on your school’s List of NCAA Courses will be used in the calculation of the core GPA. Use the list as a guide.
- Division I students enrolling full time before August 1, 2016, should use Sliding Scale A to determine eligibility to receive athletics aid, practice and competition during the first year.
- Division I GPA required to receive athletics aid and practice on or after August 1, 2016, is 2.000 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B on Page No. 2 of this sheet).
- Division I GPA required to be eligible for competition on or after August 1, 2016, is 2.300 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B on Page No. 2 of this sheet).
- The Division II core GPA requirement is a minimum of 2.000.
- Remember, the NCAA GPA is calculated using NCAA core courses only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIVISION I</th>
<th>16 Core Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 years of English.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years of social science.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIVISION II</th>
<th>14 Core Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 years of English.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years of social science.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIVISION II</th>
<th>16 Core Courses (2013 and After)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 years of English.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years of social science.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sliding Scale A
**Use for Division I prior to August 1, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCAA DIVISION I SLIDING SCALE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Core GPA</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.550 &amp; above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, visit the NCAA Eligibility Center website at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).