

Senior Newsletter

Ponderosa High School Class of 2017

www.CALocalScholarships.org

CSU Assessment Testing

California State Universities require you to take the **English Placement Test (EPT)** and the **Entry-Level Mathematics Test (ELM)** before you enroll, unless you are exempt. Your test scores will determine which math and English courses you should take to begin your career at CSU. The EPT and ELM are not admission tests; they simply help determine which courses best match your level of performance in math and English. **Come see me in the CCC if you have questions regarding whether you are required** to take the EPT or ELM and do so ASAP to ensure your ability to register for classes.

State College Admissions

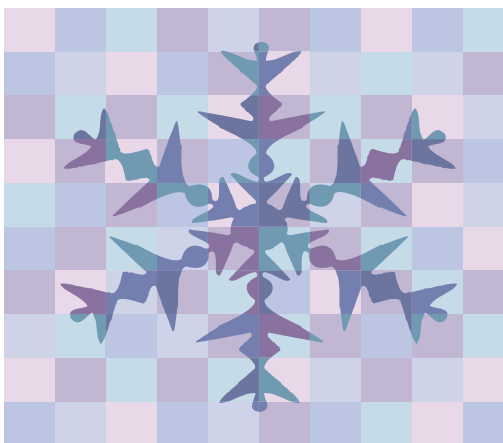
If you missed the November priority filing, you may still submit applications to **some** of the California State Universities on a “space available” basis only. *As of December 16, 2016*, those schools which had majors currently open for Fall 2017 are: Cal Maritime, Bakersfield, and Humboldt State. Don't wait any longer. Check it out at [CSU Filing Status](#).

Some independent/private schools are still accepting applications. These institutions are not affected by the state budget uncertainties. Check out their website at [Independent College App Deadlines](#) and apply.

Folsom Lake College/Los Rios Community College District

If you are planning on attending Folsom Lake College or any of the Los Rios Community Colleges, you **MUST** complete an application for Fall 2017. The Fall application should open online February 1. Mark your calendar for the dates listed below.

- * **Feb 2nd @ 12:30pm:** Folsom Lake College Application Workshop in N4 computer lab
- * **Feb 6th @ 6:30pm:** Folsom Lake College Information Session in ORHS Theater
- * **Apr 28th: @12:15pm:** Folsom Lake College Registration Workshop in N4 computer lab



Begin applying online for Sierra College Fall 2016	NOW
Apply for FAFSA	Oct 1-Mar 2
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday	Jan 16
Military Recruiters on campus at lunch	Jan 11 & 25
Community College Fair during lunch and 7th period in the CCC	Jan 26
Begin applying online for all Los Rios Community Colleges Summer/Fall 2017 Application www.losrios.edu/lrc/lrc_app.php	Feb. 1
Folsom Lake College Application Workshop 12:30pm in N4 computer lab	Feb. 2
Folsom Lake College Parent –Student Information Night in PHS Theater	Feb 6
ASVAB in the Career Center	Feb. 13
Lincoln Holiday	Feb 17
President's Holiday	Feb 20
Most CALocalScholarships Due	Mar 1
EDUUSD Career Expo & Job Fair	Mar 15

Scholarship Information

- * Local scholarships are being offered through the community website www.CALocalScholarships.org. Complete your user profile on-line and scholarships will be listed matching your profile with the scholarship criteria. Most scholarships require a statement of your educational and career goals, a student resume as well as letters of recommendation. Applications must be submitted by the March 1, 2017 deadline. **Some scholarships are due prior to March 1—watch the deadlines!**
- * Many scholarship applications are available in the College & Career Center or can be found online at the PHS website under College & Career Center and then College Information. Local organizations will be offering scholarships during the early spring months. Be sure to stop by and check the scholarship drawers frequently. Select scholarships that you meet the criteria for and complete the applications by the due date.

Check Out the Scholarships Available in the CCC:

January

- * Democrats of El Dorado County Essay Contest (CALocalScholarship)
- * California Association of Collectors Scholarship (CALocalScholarship)
- * Sierra College Scholarship (CALocalScholarship)

February

- * El Dorado High School Alumni Association (CALocalScholarship)
- * Schwab-Rosenhouse Scholarship (their website)
- * CTA-Dependent Scholarship [CTA Scholarships](#)
- * PG&E's Employee Resource Groups Scholarships (their website)
- * El Dorado County Student Map Drawing Contest (in the CCC)
- * Lions Club Student Speakers Contest (in the CCC)
- * Buckeye Teachers Association Scholarship (CALocalScholarship)

March (Most local scholarships are due March 1, 2017!)

- * CALocalScholarship Applications with the March 1st deadline must be submitted to the Mrs. Escobar in the College & Career Center by **2:00 p.m. March 1, 2017—No Exceptions!!!**
- * Check "Scholarships for the week" posted on the PHS website and come into the College & Career Center and look through the "Other" drawer.

Need help on scholarships? Come to the College & Career Center

Letters of Recommendation

REMINDER: Do not wait until the last minute to request a letter of recommendation. When you ask someone to write a letter, give them your resume or a personal data form and allow 3 weeks to complete. Follow up with a written thank you note!



Letters of recommendation are often difficult to write and require a great deal of time, please show your appreciation!

Semester Class Changes

If you have applied to any competitive four-year colleges and have made significant changes to your class schedule for the spring semester, you should notify the college(s) as soon as possible to determine if it will affect your chances of admission.



Federal Student Aid FAFSA

For the first time, seniors can submit the FAFSA beginning October 1, 2016 for the 2017-18 school year. Although its length can be intimidating, it's a good idea to file the form as early as possible. Completing the FAFSA enables students to start the financial aid process and tap into the many federal and state resources that make college affordable. These resources include student grants, work-study, and loans.

Parents no longer need to worry about completing the current year's taxes ASAP, as the FAFSA will use the 2015 tax return for the 2017-18 school year. Students need this tax information to answer many of the questions. At the same time, you'll learn the preliminary estimate of the amount your family is expected to contribute to your education. It is known as the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and helps to determine any aid awards you might receive.

www.fafsa.ed.gov

ASVAB
CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAM

Not sure what career to pursue after graduation?

Take the **ASVAB** (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) on **February 13th 1-4pm**.

Scores may be used for military entrance—or not!

Will you be attending SIERRA COLLEGE in the Fall 2017?

- * Complete the **application** [Sierra College Application](#) beginning **NOW!**
- * Complete the **online orientation** (thru MySierra) once you have received your MySierra user name and password.
- * Complete **assessments** in Feb/March/April and call for a **counseling appointment** in Feb to see a counselor in March/April.
- * Incoming freshman **register** for classes beginning in April 2017.
- * RSVP for the **Spring Parent Information nights** (to be posted on the PHS College & Career Center page).