



Preparing for College Early

A Handbook for Parents of Intermediate School Students



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Saddleback Valley Unified School District

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February, 2010

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Dear Parents:

The education of our students is the primary goal of the Saddleback Valley Unified School District. We have made a commitment to educate your child through grade twelve and to prepare him/her to meet future goals. It is increasingly important for students to have an educational or skill level that will allow them to compete in and contribute to our global society. During your child's lifetime, many jobs will require education and training beyond the high school level. Both an educational plan and career plan should be developed by all students with the help of their parents.

This handbook has been designed to give you basic information about the college entrance process. Although the process may seem overwhelming, it is actually easier than most people believe. The key to successful college admission is researching and planning ahead. During the middle school years, you have an excellent opportunity to encourage and inform your child about furthering his/her education. It is important for you to learn as much as you can about colleges and careers so that you, in partnership with our guidance personnel, can share this valuable information with your child.

Thank you for attending our program. If you need further information, please contact the guidance department at your child's school.

**Sincerely,
SVUSD School Counselors and Guidance Department**

6 WAYS TO START PLANNING FOR COLLEGE

Decisions made as early as the seventh grade can have a major effect on a college career. Students' planning and actions can affect when they will go to college, the type of college they will attend, and whether or not they will attend.

1. **Get Involved:** Help your child find something he/she really likes to do, and pursue that activity. Students can develop themselves through skills or hobbies. This personal development will make them more attractive to colleges.

2. **Monitor Your Child's Work Habits:** Developing good work habits and studying effectively are major parts of the preparation process.

3. **Encourage Your Child To Take Challenging Courses:** Colleges look at grades, but they also look at how difficult the courses are. They want to see if students have challenged themselves to meet their full potential.



4. **Get Help:** If your child is having trouble in a class, check with teachers and the guidance department about tutoring availability. Let teachers know that you want and need the extra help for your child.



5. **Promote Reading:** Students should be encouraged to read material beyond what is required for school. Reading is great preparation for entrance examinations as well as personal development. Find material that will interest your child so that he/she will develop a habit of reading.

6. **Get the College-Bound Facts:** Become an informed parent and consumer on the subject of college. The Internet has a vast array of resources. Read the Intermediate School Planning Guide. Attend presentations such as Incoming Freshman Parent Night and Preparing for College Night.

HOW COLLEGES EVALUATE APPLICANTS

An important part of college planning is knowing ahead of time what information colleges review when evaluating students. They review the following:

- Grades earned during all four years of high school
- The level of difficulty of high school courses
- Scores on national tests like the SAT, SAT Subject Tests, and ACT
- Written recommendations by teachers, administrators, and counselors
- Participation in outside activities such as sports, clubs, student government, the arts, community service, and part-time jobs
- Other personality qualities as demonstrated in essays

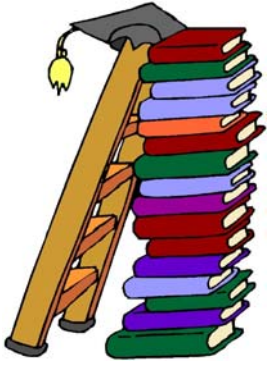


GETTING READY: TAKING THE RIGHT COURSES FOR COLLEGE STARTS IN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

By the time a child is in seventh grade, families should start talking about going to college. Make it clear that you expect your child to go to college, and together start planning how to get there. Everyone knows that high school courses and grades count for admission to college, but many people don't realize that the knowledge and skills acquired in earlier years determine a student's ability to succeed in higher-level courses. College-bound students should work hard in intermediate school because the following courses are required to gain entrance into a 4-year college:



- **Algebra 1** (in 7th, 8th or 9th grade), **Geometry** (in 8th, 9th or 10th grade), and **Algebra 2** (in 9th, 10th or 11th grade). Algebra and geometry form the foundation for the advanced math and science courses that colleges want students to take and give students the skills required to succeed on college entrance exams.
- **English, Science, and Social Science.** Together with math, these courses make up the “core” or basic academic classes, students should take most years in high school. Saddleback Valley Unified School District high school graduation requirements usually meet or exceed college requirements.
- **Foreign Language.** Most colleges require the study of foreign language for at least two years, and some more selective colleges prefer three or four years of one language.
- **Visual and Performing Arts.** Many colleges view participation in the arts and music as a valuable experience that broadens students' understanding of the world around them. Research has shown that the arts contribute significantly to a child's intellectual development. A visual or performing arts course is required for admission by all public California universities and some private schools.
- **Computer Education/Computer Science.** Although not required for high school or most colleges, basic computer skills are now essential, since an increasing number of jobs require use of computers.



“Without education, you’re not going anywhere in this world”

~Malcolm X~

COLLEGE PREPARATION CHECKLIST FOR STUDENTS

Intermediate School:

- ☑ Take challenging classes in English, mathematics, science, history, and a foreign language.
- ☑ Develop strong study skills and good work habits.
- ☑ Start thinking about which high school classes will best prepare you for college. (See Intermediate School Planning Guide).
- ☑ Begin Career Preparation by assessing which core and elective classes are of interest.



Find a mentor who will support your positive goals and help you with questions about plans for your future.

COLLEGE PREPARATION CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS

- ☑ If you haven’t already done so, start saving for college.
- ☑ Investigate different ways to save money-buying a U.S. Savings Bond or opening a savings account in a bank, investing in a mutual fund, etc.
- ☑ Attend college information programs at your child’s school.
- ☑ Encourage your child to strive to maintain “A” and “B” grades in all classes.
- ☑ Review and help your child with his/her homework. Be aware of assignments and projects and when they are due.
- ☑ Take your child to visit college campuses.
- ☑ Be a partner in your child’s education.
- ☑ Stress your commitment to education.

CHALLENGING COURSES HELP KIDS GET INTO COLLEGE



Honors Program includes Honors Courses, Model United Nations/International Studies, the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and Advanced Placement Courses.

Honors courses are offered at most grade levels in core subject areas. These classes are more academically challenging and incorporate higher teaching standards than other courses. GATE identified students who have participated successfully in GATE program options in grades 1 – 8 may elect to participate in the high school honors program. Students who have not been formally identified as gifted may request placement in honors classes based on a history of high academic achievement, teacher recommendation, and/or by examination.

MUN (Model United Nations)/International Studies are honors level courses in the Social Science subject area. Participation in MUN is the extra curricular component of a 4-year program of International Studies. The study of current world events is an integral part of each class. Participating schools send delegations of students to MUN conferences where speaking, research, and writing skills are displayed.

IB (International Baccalaureate) Diploma Program allows students to earn an internationally recognized diploma. Students complete an intense course of study which culminates in six internationally graded examinations. There is a specific sequence of courses, a 4,000 work thesis on a subject of interest and participation in 150 hours of aesthetic and social service activities required to earn this diploma.

Advanced Placement courses are college-level courses that help students get ready for college and college entrance exams during high school. Students who score high enough on the AP exams can get advanced placement in college and/or college credit. Intermediate school students who are capable and take honors courses in the 7th and 8th grade and/or advanced math, are better prepared for Advanced Placement courses.



All students: Research shows that students who take algebra* and geometry early (during 7th, 8th and 9th grades) are more likely to go on to a four-year college than students who do not. By taking algebra in intermediate school, students can enroll in advanced chemistry, physics, and calculus courses before finishing high school.

* If a student in intermediate school takes algebra and receives less than a “B”, the student will not be recommended for geometry the next year.

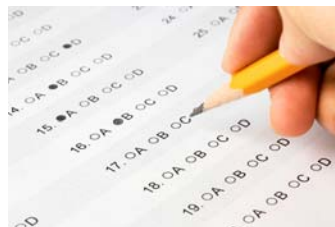
Low-income students: In a national sample, only 26% of low-income students who did not take geometry went on to college; but 71% of low-income students who took geometry went on to college.

COLLEGE ADMISSION TESTS

When should students test? Most four-year college-bound students begin with a PSAT (Preliminary SAT) in October of their junior year. The PSAT is the first screening device for the National Merit Scholarship competition and is a practice opportunity prior to taking an SAT. An advantage of taking the PSAT is that many colleges will have an early indication of a student's interest in attending that college and will send information about admission, advanced placement, scholarships and special programs. Honors students often take the PSAT in their sophomore year in addition to their junior year. Some students, beginning in 6th grade, are offered the opportunity to take the PSAT or SAT through UCI and/or Johns Hopkins. These opportunities allow students to become familiar with the test format and gauge results compared to others in the same grade.

But...don't panic! An admission test score is only one piece of information a college looks at when considering an application. There is never a penalty for taking a test early or taking one over, so testing in junior year or earlier may best prepare a student.

Remember that an admission test score is only one piece of information a college looks at when considering an application.



WHAT IS THE SAT?

The SAT is a three-hour 45-minute exam that measures two verbal and mathematical reasoning and writing skills that students need to do college-level work. About 1.5 million students take it every year. It does not seek to determine how much information has been accumulated during school and it is not a measure of intelligence nor does it measure other important skills – such as motivation, creativity, or special talents – that help students succeed in college and in life.

WHAT ARE THE SAT SUBJECT TESTS?

The SAT Subject Tests are one-hour primarily multiple-choice tests that measure how much students know about particular academic subjects and how well they can apply this knowledge. The more selective colleges, such as the University of California, require applicants to take two or more of these tests in addition to the SAT or the ACT tests. UC currently requires two SAT subject tests in two different areas. These subject tests may be taken as early as 9th grade. Beginning with the class of 2012, UC will no longer require the SAT Subject Tests, although certain majors may require them, and students may still submit these test scores to show academic rigor.

WHAT IS THE ACT?

The American College Test (ACT) is another college admission test that measures English, Mathematics, reading and science reasoning with an emphasis on writing and problem-solving. The multiple choice test is three hours and the optional writing test is an additional 30 minutes. UC accepts the ACT if the optional writing portion is included. CSU does not require the writing portion in the admission decisions. Students need to check out of state and private institutions to determine if they require the writing portion of this exam.

Should students take one test or both? Many four-year colleges and universities in the nation accept both ACT and SAT scores. Because research indicates that many students perform quite differently on the ACT and SAT, it may benefit your child to take both tests. Colleges typically use the higher of the two scores for admission, scholarship, and athletic eligibility. These tests may be taken more than once if students wish to improve their scores.

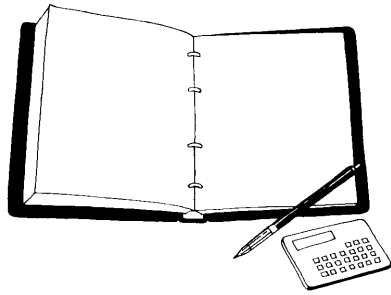
WHY DO COLLEGES WANT STUDENTS TO TAKE THEM?

There are more than 25,000 high schools in the United States, and their courses and grading standards vary widely. Since the SAT and ACT are standardized and objective—most questions are multiple choice—it gives colleges a common measure that complements the high school curriculum in a consistent manner. Scores show colleges how prepared students are to handle the college work and how student's verbal, math, and writing skills compare with those of other applicants. However, there are some colleges and universities for which SAT/ACT scores are optional.

HOW IMPORTANT ARE SAT OR ACT SCORES IN ADMISSION DECISIONS?



The best way to predict how a person will perform in a new situation is to observe how well he or she performed in similar situations in the past. To provide a more complete picture of a student, many admission committees also consider a variety of other evidence, including GPA, the number, level and content of college prep courses, essays, extracurricular activities, jobs and teacher, counselor and/or administrator recommendations. The weight of these various elements varies widely from college to college. Some universities select a portion of the entering class by means of formulas that involve only grades and test scores. For the overwhelming majority of colleges, test scores are only one of several factors considered in the admission process. At highly selective colleges, where most applicants have good scores, test scores generally become an important factor only if they are particularly high or particularly low.



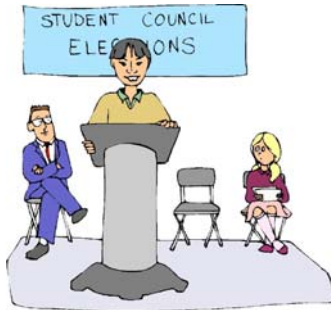
PREPARING FOR COLLEGE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Independent Reading

Independent reading will help your child prepare academically for college as well as many careers. It is a good way to develop interests, expand knowledge, and improve the vocabulary and reading comprehension skills necessary for college and college entrance exams. Parents should encourage students to read at least 20-30 minutes daily.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Colleges are often interested in a student's extra-curricular activities such as school clubs, the student newspaper, student government, athletics, musical activities and the arts, community service, and work.



TIPS ABOUT EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students should find something they like to do and will pursue for a period of time.

1. Students do not need to be the star of the play or the captain of the team; the key is whether they have done something significant.
2. Colleges tend to prefer students who are passionate about one or two areas, rather than dabbling in numerous areas.
3. Work experience, paid or volunteer, can teach students discipline and responsibility and help them identify and explore career interests.
4. Community service activities can be valuable life experiences while enhancing a student's college application.
5. Interests in school such as clubs, student government, and special programs are also valuable assets on student's college applications and may distinguish them from other students.



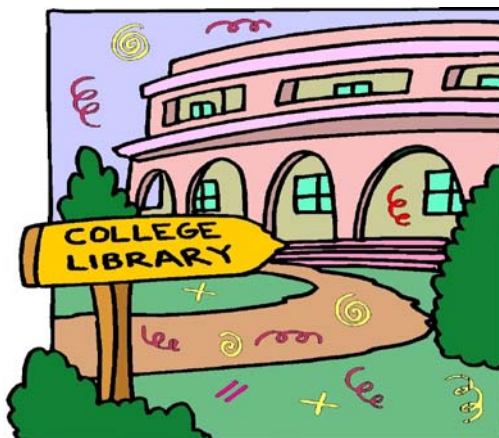
SUMMER ACTION PLAN FOR COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS

Encourage students to participate in one or more of the following activities:

- Find a summer job that relates to a possible career interest. Save money to help pay for college. Find opportunities for volunteer work in your community.
- Take summer classes for academic enrichment or career exploration.



- Take advantage of travel opportunities.
- READ, READ, READ! On the SVUSD district website, found at www.svUSD.k12.ca.us under “District Resources” there are links to the Orange County libraries and Mission Viejo libraries.
- Get involved in enjoyable activities which can demonstrate focus and commitment.
- Think about college majors that might match interests and start exploring career goals. Use websites from the Intermediate School PLANNING GUIDE to help this exploration. Look for internships and other programs.
- Visit college campuses when possible, or arrange a side trip during family vacations.



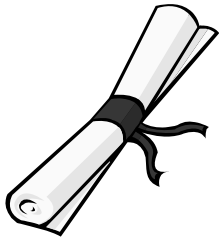
CHOOSING A COLLEGE: IMPORTANT FACTORS TO CONSIDER



Although cost is an important consideration, it should not be the only consideration. Colleges are distinctly different from each other. The type of college best suited for a student depends on his or her individual needs and talents. Choosing a college involves carefully thinking about personal and academic goals. When all aspects are carefully considered, your child is more likely to find a successful match. As your child begins to focus on the choice of a college, he/she should consider the following:

- Why do I want to go to college?
- What do I hope to achieve in college?
- Do I want to live at home or away?
- Do I prefer an urban, suburban, or a rural environment?
- Would I be happier in a small college or at a large university?
- Am I comfortable with the perceived social scene of a particular college?
- Does the college have the type and range of extra-curricular opportunities that I would feel good about or like to get involved with?
- What programs and majors does the college have and what is its reputation in that area?
- How selective is the college and would I meet their requirements?





DIFFERENT TYPES OF COLLEGES

There is a wide range of higher education options in the United States.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES:

These colleges (sometimes called two-year colleges) offer three kinds of programs:

- **Training programs** lead to a certificate or license and are usually two years in length or shorter.
- **Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree** or **Associate of Science (A.S.) degree**, which usually takes at least two years to complete.
- **Transfer program** is the first two years of college education taken at community college by students who want to earn a 4-year (Bachelor's) degree. Students may take many of the same general education or major preparation courses at the community college that are required at a four-year college, but at a much lower cost. The student then transfers to a four-year college to complete the last two years. Their diplomas will be the same as that of a student who spent all four years at the four-year institution.

FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES:

Post-secondary schools provide four-year educational programs in the arts and sciences. These colleges offer Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS) degrees. Some also offer graduate and professional degrees.

UNIVERSITIES:

Generally a university is larger than a college and offers more majors and research facilities. Universities often consist of several colleges (e.g., College of Engineering, College of Business, etc.). Class size often reflects institutional size. Graduate students may teach some classes. Universities offer Bachelor's degrees and graduate and professional degrees.

LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES:

Liberal Arts colleges offer a Bachelor's and sometimes graduate degrees in a broad base of courses in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Most are private and focus mainly on undergraduate students. Classes tend to be small and personal attention is available.

PUBLIC VERSUS PRIVATE COLLEGES:

Public colleges are usually less expensive, particularly for in-state residents. They receive most of their money from state government. Private colleges rely on tuition, fees, endowments, and other private sources. Private institutions tend to charge the same tuition for in-state and out-of-state students. Private colleges are sometimes affiliated with a religious denomination.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS:

Some are colleges or universities that offer Associate or Bachelor's degrees in areas of science and technology. Some technical schools that are not colleges offer certificates or licenses but not Bachelor's or graduate degrees.



CALIFORNIA COLLEGE SYSTEM

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA – 10 CAMPUSES



Minimum Requirements:

1. SAT or ACT with writing test. Two SAT Subject Area tests in two different areas, (e.g., science, history, foreign language) until the class of 2011.
2. Successful complete the following 15 courses:

“a-g” Pattern of Courses:	Required # of Years
“a”History/Social Science (1 year must be U.S. History/Government)	2 years
“b”English	4 years
“c”Mathematics (Geometry, Algebra I and Algebra II)	3 years (4 years recommended)
“d”Laboratory Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)	2 years (3 years recommended)
“e”Language other than English (same language)	2 years (3 years recommended)
“f”Visual and Performing Arts (dance, music, theater/drama, visual arts)	1 year
“g”College Prep Electives (select from the following fields: Advanced Math, Lab Science, other Science, Language other than English, English, Social Science, Visual and Performing Arts.	1 year

3. Earn a minimum GPA of 3.0 in “a-g” courses
4. Meet the minimum eligibility index (based on a combination of GPA and test scores)

NOTE: Acceptance into a University of California usually requires more than the minimum requirements. Although all grades must be “C” or higher in the required subjects, UC recommends a “B” or better. The U.C. system enrolls the top 12.5% of California high school students.

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE SYSTEM

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY – 23 CAMPUSES



Minimum Requirements:

1. SAT or ACT tests.
2. Successful complete with a grade of “C” or better the following 15 courses:

“a-g” Pattern of Courses:	Required # of Years
“a”History/Social Science (1 year must be U.S. History/Government)	2 years
“b”English	4 years
“c”Mathematics (Geometry, Algebra I and Algebra II)	3 years (4 years recommended)
“d”Laboratory Science (1 year physical, 1 year biological)	2 years
“e”Language other than English (same language)	2 years
“f”Visual and Performing Arts (dance, music, theater/drama, visual arts)	1 year
“g”College Prep Electives	1 year

The CSU system enrolls the top one-third of California high school students.

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE SYSTEM

INDEPENDENT/PRIVATE COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS: Requirements will vary from very selective to less restrictive. Each institution should list the requirements on their website and in their catalogs. Many private colleges place great importance on student participation in extracurricular activities, community service, athletics, work, and/or leadership experiences. Often, letters of recommendation, essays, and interviews also play an important role. The following is a sample of some of the independent colleges and universities in California that offer undergraduate education.

LOS ANGELES BASIN

Alliant International University
Amer. Acad. of Dramatic Arts West
American Jewish University
Art Center College of Design
Azusa Pacific University
Biola University
California Baptist College
California Institute of the Arts
California Institute of Technology
California Lutheran University
Chapman University
Claremont McKenna College
Concordia College
Harvey Mudd College
La Sierra University
Loma Linda University
Loyola Marymount University
The Master's College
Mt. St. Mary's College
National University
Occidental College
Pepperdine University
Pitzer College
Pomona College
Scripps College
Soka University of America
University of La Verne
University of Redlands
University of Southern California
Vanguard University of Southern California
Whittier College
Woodbury University

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Golden Gate University
Holy Names College
Menlo College
Mills College
New College of California
Pacific Union College
Patten University
Saint Mary's College of California
San Francisco Conservatory of Music
Santa Clara University
Simpson University
Stanford University
University of San Francisco

SAN DIEGO METRO AREA

Point Loma Nazarene College
University of San Diego

OUTLYING CITIES

Fresno Pacific College
Humphreys College
Thomas Aquinas College
University of the Pacific
Westmont College
William Jessup University

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE SYSTEM

COMMUNITY COLLEGES – 109 CAMPUSES

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

Age 18 or high school diploma (California Certificate of Proficiency accepted). No specific course work required. Students may take courses at community college while attending high school if they are 16 years old and obtain permission from the high school Assistant Principal.

PROGRAMS:

- 1) Occupational Training
- 2) Certificate Programs
- 3) Associate of Arts or Associate of Science Degree
- 4) College Transfer Program to Four-Year Colleges



LOCAL COMMUNITY COLLEGES:

- Coastline College (www.coastline.cccd.edu)
- Fullerton College (www.fullcoll.edu)
- Golden West College (www.goldenwestcollege.edu)
- Irvine Valley College (www.ivic.edu)
- Orange Coast College (www.orangecoastcollege.edu)
- Santa Ana College (www.sac.edu)
- Saddleback College (www.saddleback.edu)
- Santiago Canyon College (www.sccollege.edu)

TRADE/TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

Over 10,000 private vocational schools throughout the United States teach a variety of careers. Admission requirements for these schools vary, and the tuition ranges from approximately \$500 to \$10,000 depending on the nature and length of the course. Students are typically required to take only courses related to their specific area of training rather than general education courses. Some trade and technical schools offer Associate Degrees and/or Bachelor's Degrees but the general education classes are taken at a different site. The following is a sample of some of the nearby trade and technical schools.

- Brooks College (fashion, interior, graphic design) (www.brookscollege.edu)
- California Culinary Academy (culinary arts) (www.baychef.com)
- Columbia College Hollywood (TV, video, cinema) (www.columbiacollege.edu)
- DeVry Institute of Technology (computers, electronics) (www.devry.edu)
- Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising (fashion, interior) (www.fidm.com)
- Interior Designers Institute (interior design, architectural) (www.idi.edu)
- ITT Technical Institute (computers, game design) (www.itt-tech.edu)
- Art Institute of California (graphics, game design) (www.aica.artinstitutes.edu)
- Modern Technology School (medical techs) (www.moderntechschoo.com)

CAMPUS VISITS



Visiting a college campus before a student applies to a college is a very good idea. Campus visits give prospective applicants an excellent opportunity to experience a college and determine if they will fit into that environment. All campuses are different, and it is a good idea to tour a campus and to ask questions of college personnel.

Questions to consider would include:

- How many students are on this campus?
- Are the lecture halls large or smaller and more interactive?
- Which classes are the most difficult to schedule?
- Is there adequate housing for all students? For how many years?
- What percentage of students are daily “commuters?”
- Do most students go home on the weekends?
- Does the social life on campus revolve around the Fraternity/Sorority system or what other social opportunities are there?
- What clubs, organizations, leadership organizations, cultural activities, and athletics are available?
- What is the age, gender, ethnic, socio-economic composition of the student body?
- What percentage of freshmen return the next year?
- What percentage of freshman graduate?

If possible, include college visits during vacation periods when you are near colleges of interest. Often intermediate school winter and spring breaks occur when the colleges are in session. If you visit when a campus is not on break, the experience is that of a college in full session. If you make an appointment you are likely to receive a tour of the campus and you can arrange to talk to financial aid and admissions personnel. Once on campus, other students can be very valuable resources.



FINANCIAL AID FOR COLLEGE

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE RICH TO GO TO COLLEGE



Every year millions of students apply for and receive financial aid. In fact over fifty percent of all college students receive some form of financial aid. Some college aid is based on need and some on merit. Need is determined by what the college costs and what a student and his or her family can afford. Colleges consider the family's income and expenses.

There are four main types of aid that are offered:

Grants are given to families by the state and federal government based on financial need. They do not have to be repaid.

Scholarships are given based on need or merit and do not have to be repaid. Scholarships are offered by educational institutions as well as private companies, community organizations, and other sources.



Loans are obtained from the government, banks, or colleges and must be repaid after leaving school.

Work-study jobs are provided by the college, usually on campus, to help students earn money while attending school.

Students usually do not have to start repaying their loans until after they finish college, and the interest rate is usually lower than for other kinds of loans. Many students are hesitant to take out loans, but remember: college graduates usually make a good deal more money than people who do not have a college education, so paying a loan after graduation will be easier than it might seem.

FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR COLLEGE



More than seventy-five percent of all students in two- and four-year colleges attend state or public colleges. Students who reside within the state are charged a lower tuition rate than out of state students. Private colleges cost more because they receive less government funding. Parents can assist their children with the cost of college by doing several important things:

Start saving early. Saving money is the best way to prepare for meeting the cost of college. Set aside money each month to build a college fund. Think about where your child might attend college, how much that type of college might cost, and how much you can afford to save.

Apply for financial aid. All students may apply for federal, state, and other financial aid to help them pay for college. At four-year public colleges and universities, more than sixty percent of full time students receive some type of financial aid. At four-year private colleges and universities, more than seventy-five percent of students receive some form of financial aid.

Apply for scholarships. Beginning in the junior year students can look for scholarship opportunities at the high school, the high school websites and the district website: www.svusd.k12.ca.us. There are also scholarship websites listed at the end of this booklet.

Consider starting college education at a community college. By completing the first two years of a four-year degree at a community college, families can better afford the last two years or even graduate school.

Most people believe that college is more expensive than it really is. Public universities in California are an excellent bargain. Even if a student wants to go to a more expensive college, financial aid (money available from federal and state governments and colleges) is available to those students who have planned and worked hard in school.

The basic college costs are:

- **Tuition** is the amount of money charged for instruction and attendance.
- **Fees** cover other costs, like athletic activities and special events.
- **Other Expenses** include room and board, books, supplies, transportation, and personal expenses.

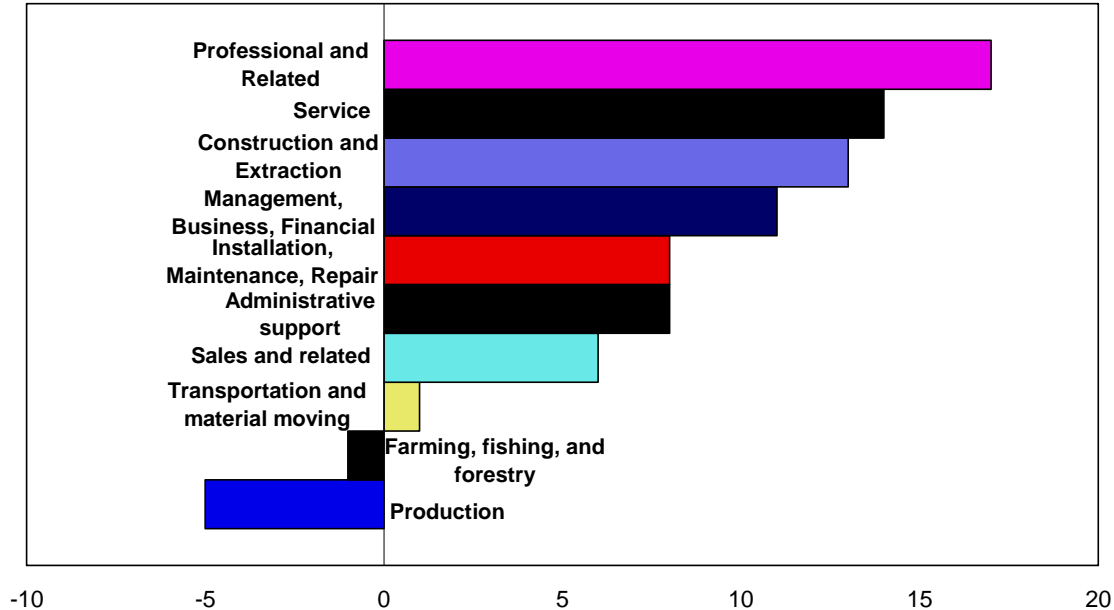
OCCUPATIONS AND CAREERS

JOBS THAT REQUIRE A COLLEGE EDUCATION

Two-Year College (Associate Degree)	Four- Year College (Bachelor's Degree)	More than Four Years (Graduate Degrees)
Computer technician	Teacher	Lawyer
Surveyor	Accountant	Doctor
Registered Nurse	FBI Agent	Architect
Dental Hygienist	Engineer	Scientist
Medical Lab Technician	Journalist	University Professor
Commercial Artist	Insurance Agent	Economist
Hotel/Restaurant Manager	Pharmacist	Psychologist
Engineering technician	Analyst	Dentist
Automotive Mechanic	Dietician	Veterinarian
Administrative Assistant	Investment Banker	Public Policy Analyst
Plant Operator	Graphic Designer	Geologist
Heat/Air Technician	Zoologist	Management Consultant

Source: Occupational Outlook Handbook, Bureau of Labor and Statistics.

Percent Change in Total Employment by Major Occupational Group (2008 - 2018)



Source: BLS National Employment Data

HELPFUL WEBSITES

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SPECIFIC COLLEGE SITES/APPLY</u></p> <p>California State Universities: www.calstate.edu University of California: www.universityofcalifornia.edu Independent California Colleges: www.aiccu.edu Irvine Valley College: www.ivic.edu Saddleback College: www.saddleback.edu California Community Colleges: www.cccco.edu International Colleges: www.findaschool.org All California Colleges: www.californiacolleges.edu</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>COLLEGES SEARCHES/INFO</u></p> <p>College Answer: www.collegeanswer.com College Confidential: www.collegeconfidential.com College Explorer: www.campusexplorer.com College Navigator: www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator College Net: www.collegenet.com College View: www.collegeview.com Peterson's Planner: www.petersons.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION</u></p> <p>California Student Aid: www.csac.ca.gov Edfund: www.edfund.org Federal Financial Aid: www.finaid.org Go To College: www.gocollege.com Mapping Your Future: www.mappingyourfuture.org U.S. Department of Education: www.ed.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SCHOLARSHIPS/LOANS</u></p> <p>Broke Scholar: www.brokescholar.com Fast Aid: www.fastaid.com Find Tuition: www.findtuition.com Free Scholarships: www.freschinfo.com Scholarships: www.scholarships.com School Soup: www.schoolsoup.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CAREER PLANNING/RESOURCES</u></p> <p>California Careers: www.cacareerzone.org Career Builder: www.careerbuilder.com Career Paths: www.whodouwant2b.com Career Search: www.careerzone.org Career Tools: www.careers.org My Future Careers: www.myfuture.com O'Net Online: www.online.onetcenter.org Orange County Careers: www.occareers.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>COLLEGE TESTING/ATHLETICS INFO</u></p> <p><u>College Admissions Testing</u> College Board: www.collegeboard.com ACT: www.act.org Princeton Review Test Preparation: www.review.com</p> <p><u>Athletics Information</u> National College Athletic Association: www.ncaa.org National Junior College Athletic Association: www.njcaa.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JOB MARKET SEARCHES/INFO</u></p> <p>EDD: www.caljobs.ca.gov Job Star Central: www.jobstar.org Labor Market Info: www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov Occupational Outlook Handbook: www.bls.gov/oco/ One Stop Center: www.oconestop.com Worksmart: www.worksmart.ca.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>STUDENT ACTIVITIES</u></p> <p>Exploring Program/Post: www.ocflf.org Junior Achievement: www.ja.org Program/Activity Ideas: www.afterschool.gov Volunteer Match: www.volunteermatch.org Internships: www.enrichmentalley.com</p>