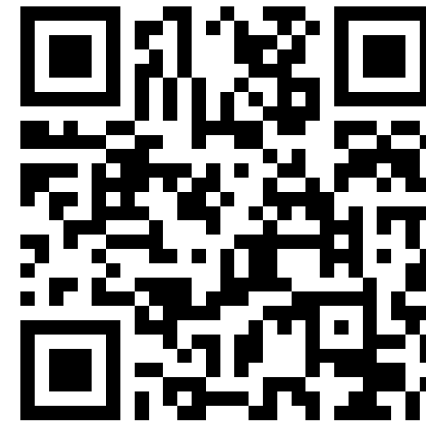


Welcome Parents & Students

College Application Process



Topics to be discussed:

- Timeline of dates
- Popular College Systems
- Preparing for College Application Process
- How to choose a College that's right for you
- College Financial Planning

Murrieta Valley High School

Counseling Department



Mr. Luevano
A-Di & FAESA



Mr. Vandenburg
Do-K & CTE



Mrs. Thornburg
L-Pa & IB



Mrs. Castro
Pe-Ve & AP



Mrs. Mendoza-Montoya
Vi-Z, AVID & EL



Mr. Bosna
Assistant Principal



Mrs. Cortez
Mental Health Specialist



Mrs. Velasquez
Guidance Technician A-K



Mrs. Finch
Guidance Technician L-Z



Mrs. Duarte
Counseling Secretary



JUNIORS



FALL SEMESTER

- ☐ Challenge yourself by taking AP, IB or MSJC Annex courses
- ☐ Complete 1 on 1 transcript review with your Counselor
- ☐ Sign up for PSAT or Pre ACT to help prepare you for SAT and ACT in Spring
- ☐ Attend College Fairs
- ☐ Sign up for ASVAB (career exploration) assessment
- ☐ Utilize CCGI or CaliforniaColleges.edu to explore College and Career choices

SPRING SEMESTER

- ☐ Junior Reflective Task
- ☐ Update Academic Plans and complete 1 on 1 Course Selection review
- ☐ CAASPP/CAST Testing in March
- ☐ Sign up for SAT or ACT
- ☐ Visit College Campus during Spring Break
- ☐ Narrow your College List and create a spreadsheet with application deadlines and requirements.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ TOTAL CREDITS NEEDED: 230
- ☐ On AERIES, go to Grades->Graduation Status
- ☐ 30 Hours Community Service (Class of 2025)
- ☐ Junior Reflective Task
- ☐ Senior Culminating Project

RESOURCES

- ☐ CCGI for college and career planning. Visit CaliforniaColleges.edu
- ☐ Tutoring in Library: before & after school (walk in, no appointment needed)
- ☐ Work Permits-Counseling Office
- ☐ Mental Health-Social Workers, Groups, Individual meetings-see your counselor

**CRY NOW.
LAUGH LATER.**

Feeling overwhelmed? Scan the QR codes on the right for resources to help you get through the year!



What's stress & anxiety?



Change to Chill

SENIOR TO DO LIST FALL



☐ **IMPORTANT**
Check your Grad Status" in Aeries
Go see your counselor immediately if you see any errors or are missing credits needed for graduation

☐ **CCGI**
Register your account at californiacolleges.edu
OCTOBER is COLLEGE APPLICATION SEASON
Log in at californiacolleges.edu to apply to colleges (CSU, UC, Community) and to link to FAFSA/CADAA.
You may also complete interest profiles and research colleges and careers here!

☐ **PARCHMENT**
This is your access to official transcripts. You may send them or email them to potential schools or employers through Parchment.
All students need to create a Parchment account.
Log in to parchment.com and create your account using a personal email, NOT your riversideunified.org account.

☐ **COLLEGE APPLICATIONS**
Launch your college application through californiacolleges.edu
Make sure to have your Brag Sheet, letters of recommendation, and essays ready to go if needed!
Deadlines:
UC & CSU Application December 2
"Private &" Out-of-State Schools Various dates -
check school website
Make sure to check for accuracy and change your courses from yearlong to semester after launching your UC application through CCGI

☐ **SENIOR PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT**
Counselors will host Senior Parent Information Night which will include a review of graduation requirements, financial aid, post-secondary options, and senior activities

October 9th @ 6:00PM

☐ **NCAA ELIGIBILITY**
If you plan to play sports in college, make sure you are meeting NCAA eligibility requirements
<https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>

☐ **SAT/ACT**
This is now optional for many colleges; however, some colleges or universities may still require it. Please check the admission requirements for your college choices. It is NOT required for community college. *You may qualify for a fee waiver.*

Anticipated Dates

August 24, 2024
October 5, 2024
November 2, 2024
December 7, 2024
March 8, 2025
May 3, 2025
June 7, 2025

Now offered at
Murrieta Mesa High School

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

MORRIETA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Recommendation Request Form
(For Recommendation Request)

1. Student Name: _____

2. Teacher Name: _____

3. Subject: _____

4. Please provide a brief description of the student's strengths and weaknesses in your subject area. (100-200 words)

5. Please provide a brief description of the student's character traits and how they relate to your subject area. (100-200 words)

6. Please provide a brief description of the student's extracurricular activities and how they relate to your subject area. (100-200 words)

7. Please provide a brief description of the student's leadership experiences and how they relate to your subject area. (100-200 words)

8. Please provide a brief description of the student's community service experiences and how they relate to your subject area. (100-200 words)

9. Please provide a brief description of the student's other achievements and how they relate to your subject area. (100-200 words)

10. Please provide a brief description of the student's overall strengths and weaknesses. (100-200 words)

Make sure to give your teacher and counselor at least two weeks before your deadline.

Popular College Systems

"Most Desirable" Colleges by State

California Community College

California State University

Historically Black College and University

Western Undergraduate Exchange

University of California Systems

Private and Out of State Colleges

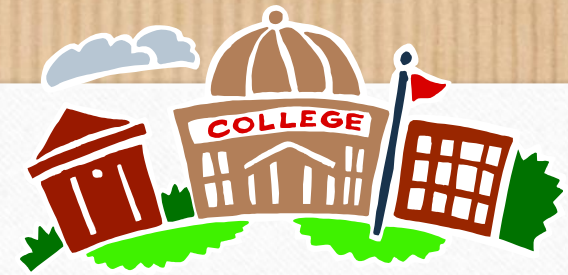
Choose a college for the programs, not the name...

- Is in the location/environment they want
- Offers the academics they are interested in
- Offers internships/research opportunities/ co-ops/career placement they are looking for
- Offers activities they want to join
- Is affordable for your family (Cost & Potential Debt)
- What are your chances of being accepted?
- Is a place they will be successful at (academically and socially)
- Is a place they will graduate from!!!!



...This is what makes a great college 😊 Choose which college is best for you!

Time to start choosing...



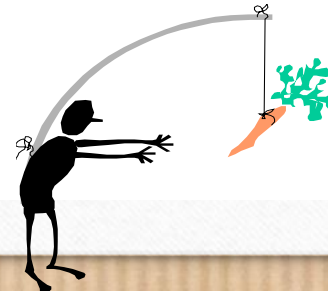
Narrow and categorize your choices:

- -“Safety” schools (2-3)



- -“On Target” schools (3 to 5)

- -“Reach” schools (1-3)



- IB Diploma is not an automatic acceptance into a university of your choice.
- Even if you are a strong candidate, your personal insights or essays must also be strong, otherwise you are giving the reader the perception you don't care.

PERCENTAGE OF COLLEGES ATTRIBUTING DIFFERENT LEVELS OF IMPORTANCE TO FACTORS IN ADMISSION DECISIONS: FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN, FALL 2023

	N	Considerable Importance	Moderate Importance	Limited Importance	No Importance
High school grades in college prep courses	185	76.8	15.1	4.9	3.2
Total high school grades (all courses)	185	74.1	18.9	5.4	1.6
Strength of high school curriculum	185	63.8	22.7	10.3	3.2
Positive character attributes	184	28.3	37.5	18.5	15.8
Essay or writing sample	185	18.9	37.3	26.5	17.3
Student's interest in attending	185	15.7	27.6	25.4	31.4

Choose a college you can afford

- Many students' dreams have been crushed because they cannot afford the universities they were accepted to. Make sure finances are weighed when choosing colleges. Send FAFSA to all colleges.
- Out-of-state tuition is higher, but often can be waived for merit scholarships.
- Private universities cost more but can also provide more aid.
- WUE: certain schools from Washington, Oregon, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, and Idaho will waive out-of-state costs for California residents.



Use the Net Price Calculators

- The net price is the discounted price you will pay after subtracting grant and scholarship awards. It is very important to focus on net price instead of sticker price when deciding where to apply.
- Grants and scholarships are the best kind of *financial aid* because they reduce the price. They are *discounts*. Other types of financial aid such as student loans and work-study are very useful resources that help you pay your share; but they do not reduce the price.

FAFSA (Studentaid.gov) or CADAA (Dream.csac.ca.gov)

U.S. Citizens or Legal Permanent Resident

Undocumented Students or DACA students

Counseling

Counseling Department Home

2024-2025 Scholarship
Information

+ Career Explore

▼ College

Calsoap Coaches Flyer

CaliforniaColleges.edu
(College Planning)

Cal State University
Information

College Bound Student
Athletes

CSU San Marcos

FAFSA/CADAA (Financial Aid
Application)

Mt. San Jacinto College (MSJC)

Post-Secondary Planning for
Students with Disabilities

SAT & ACT



Financial Aid and Scholarships
CaliforniaColleges.edu

2024-2025 College Scholarships | Application Deadlines for Students
(studentscholarships.org)

\$cholar\$hip\$ are gifts. They don't need to be repaid.

There are thousands of them, offered by schools, employers, individuals, private companies, nonprofits, communities, religious groups, and professional and social organizations.

Summer before Senior Year:

Steps to prepare for the application process

START WITH CCGI CaliforniaColleges.edu

- **Research and visit schools virtually and in-person (Admissions Websites; TheCollegeTour.com)**
- Complete “College Choices” Chart. Identify "Reach", "On Target", and "Safety" Schools.
- Create Common Application account (out of state and private universities)
- **Create Professional Email Account**
- **UC opens August 1 and Cal State opens October 1**
- CSU Direct Admission Mailers will go out in tail end of summer. Students who qualify will automatically receive admission to a CSU. Students who qualify will receive 1 free application to apply.
- Choose and register for any final SAT/ACT exams required. (collegeboard.org and act.org)
- **Begin personal insights & essays (English and Psychology will support this). Available online now!**
- Application fees: \$80 for each UC, \$70 for each Cal State, private universities vary
 - Fee waivers are built into the UC and CSU application. If student qualifies, they receive 4 free applications.

Q & A

