

VMHS

JUNIOR JUMP START COLLEGE PLANNING GUIDE

VISTA MURRIETA HIGH SCHOOL

OFFICE OF SCHOOL COUNSELING

START THE COLLEGE SEARCH PROCESS EARLY. SEE YOUR COUNSELOR!

COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS

The college admission process is an exciting challenge in which each student has the opportunity to find the school that best suits his /her interests and needs. The process involves looking at what is important to you as an individual and then locating the schools that will meet your needs. There is a college for everyone!

You are not alone in this process. There are many resources available in the

School Counseling office to assist you on your journey.

This booklet is intended to serve as a supplemental GUIDE to the college admission process. Information in this packet includes:

Student Resources and Responsibilities

College Fairs

College Tests

Special Programs

Selecting Colleges

College Visits



Remember to attend College Information Night and Financial Aid Workshops

Applications

Financial Aid Overview

Scholarships

Timelines

Web Resources

and more.

VMHS

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STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

As a college bound student you will be expected to assume an active role in meeting college requirements.

Meet with your counselor EARLY in your junior year and as often as needed. **Monitor** your

graduation status.

Study this guide and do your homework.

Attend college fairs and Financial Aid workshops. **Visit** the colleges you are considering.

Meet all deadlines.

Use your junior year to

do research, and junior summer to prepare your essays so you will not be weighed down at the start of senior year.

Apply as a senior, your first choice application should be mailed by Thanksgiving.



College fairs are
great exposure.

COLLEGE NIGHT, COLLEGE FAIRS, AND FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOPS

College Visits

Virtual college visits will be available this fall.

Click [HERE](#) for dates and times.

DISTINGUISH
YOURSELF WITH
GREAT
COMMUNITY
SERVICE
ACTIVITIES

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Remember, every college is different. The larger the school, the less time it has to spend with your application (often less than five minutes). Small schools may look past weak grades or test scores if they see something special about you. To decide whether you and a college are a good match, admission officers look at a variety of factors. Admissions counselors consider these factors in roughly the following order of importance:

Grades in all courses (9th — 12th)

Rigor of courses taken (AP, Adv, Dual)

SAT and ACT scores

Class Rank

Extracurricular activities and volunteer experiences

Essays

Teacher recommendations

Counselor recommendation

Interview (for select schools)



Colleges look for con-
sistency and commit-
ment.

Senior year will be **very important**. A good rule of thumb: “the more selective the college, the more important the senior year performance can be as a deciding credential.” Highly selective colleges look to the senior year for evidence of determined effort and committed involvement. Many withhold final decisions until mid-year grades can be evaluated.

Visit CCGI to explore colleges based on location, major, size, and more.

COLLEGE TERMS AND VOCABULARY

- **ACT (American College Test):** A college admission test covering English, social science, natural science, and mathematics.
- **AP (Advanced Placement Test):** The AP program is sponsored by the College Board and offers high school students a chance to do college level work in a variety of academic subjects.
- **CEEB (College Entrance Examination Board):** Company which provides college entrance testing, such as SAT I, SAT II, TOEFL, etc.
- **Common Application:** More than 400 different colleges use this form. Using this form reduces the time you need to spend composing multiple essays and typing multiple applications.
- **Cooperative Education:** These programs combine terms of study alternating with terms of work for an outside employer. The job is related to the student's field of study.
- **Deferred Admission:** Under this program, students who have been accepted by a college arrange to postpone their admission for one year.
- **Early Action:** This plan allows a student to apply early without making a commitment to attend the college if accepted. The student may apply to only one college as an "early action" candidate, but may apply to other schools at the same time under their regular admissions programs.
- **Early Admission:** This plan allows a student to begin college work after their junior year of high school. This program is usually limited to exceptional students.
- **Early Decision:** This plan involves a commitment between the student and the college. The student applies early and gets an answer from the college usually by December. If admitted, the student must enroll at the college.
- **Fee Waiver:** A form available to students having low family income. The fee Waiver form is submitted instead of money when applying for college admission or testing.
- **Financial Need:** The difference between the cost of education and what the family or applicant can reasonably be expected to contribute.
- **Legacies:** These are the sons and daughters of alumni. Colleges vary greatly in their treatment of these applicants.
- **Liberal Arts:** A broad representation of courses in the arts and humanities, social sciences, mathematics, and sciences which compose the curriculum of academic education as distinguished from technical or professional education.
- **Private or Independent College:** A college that operates independently and is primarily supported by tuition fees, alumni gifts, endowments, and investments.
- **Public or State College:** One supported primarily by state or local governments. They charge a higher tuition fee to out-of-state students.
- **Rolling Admission:** At Colleges that use this plan, the admission committee reviews application in the order in which they are submitted and students are promptly notified of the committee's decision. Colleges with rolling admissions may reach their quotas early, so it is to the student's advantage to apply early. Students who are accepted do not have to notify these schools about whether they will attend until May 1.
- **Scholarship:** An outright award that does not have to be repaid. It is usually given to a student for academic achievement, outstanding talent, or other special qualifications (including need).
- **Transcript:** This is the official record of your high school course work.
- **Tuition:** Is the charge for educational instruction. The amount varies according to the institution.
- **Undergraduate:** College student who is working towards their bachelor's degree.
- **Waiting List:** Being placed on a college's waiting list means that a student has neither been accepted nor rejected, but instead is being asked to wait in line while the college finds out how many of the students it has accepted will actually decide to enroll. If you are put on the waiting list by the college that is your first choice to attend, you would be wise to send a deposit to another school while you wait.
- **Work Study:** This is a government-supported financial aid program administered through college financial aid offices. It provides part-time jobs for student who help pay college costs.



Vista Murrieta
High School's
CEEB School Code
is **053004**

COLLEGE ENTRANCE TESTS

Most colleges require you to take college entrance tests. These schools use the results to determine whether you have the academic aptitude and educational background necessary for success in college. They also use the test results to place you in the appropriate courses. Since colleges vary in their test requirements, you must check each college catalogue for specific information. The company which provides college entrance testing, such as the SAT I, SAT II, TOEFL, etc. is the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB).

PSAT/NMSQT (*Preliminary Scholarship Aptitude Test/National Merit Qualifying Test (CEEB Test Program)*)—A shortened version of the SAT offered in October for high school sophomores and juniors. The PSAT is given at each high school.

SAT I (*Scholastic Achievement Test (CEEB Test Program)*)—A three-hour test measuring verbal, mathematical reasoning ability, and writing as it develops over time. Most colleges require either SAT or ACT. Register by mail using applications available in the Counseling Office or use the Internet. The test is held almost every month at various high schools. Meet with your counselor before registering.

SAT Subject Tests (*Scholastic Achievement Tests—Subject Area (C.E.E.B. Test Program)*)—one-hour tests measure knowledge and ability to apply that knowledge in specific subject areas. Three tests may be taken on one test date. It is recommended that you take the SAT subject tests at the conclusion of the year that you take the corresponding class. You cannot take the SAT and SAT subject tests on the same day. Many four-year colleges require three SAT subject tests. Register by mail using materials available in the School Counseling Office or use the internet.

ACT—American College Testing Program (A.C.T. Test Program) A four-year college admission test. Four 35-50 minutes tests in academic areas of English usage, mathematics usage, social science reasoning, and natural sciences reasoning. Most colleges will accept the ACT or the SAT. Register online or by mail using materials available in the School Counseling Office. It is recommended that students take the ACT plus writing.

AP (*Advanced Placement exams (C.E.E.B. Test Program)*)—The AP program is sponsored by the College Board and offers high school students a chance to do college-level work in a variety of academic subjects. AP exams, which students may take either at the end of AP courses or on their own, enable students to receive college credit or more advanced course placement. These exams are scored on a 1-5 scale, with 5 being the top mark. Most colleges award credits for scores of 3 or better. Registration is conducted through AP classes. Ask for specific registration information from the School Counseling Office.

TOEFL (*Test of English as a Foreign Language*)—The TOEFL is designed for students for whom English is not a native language and whose scores on the SAT would obviously be affected by the language difference. Register online or by mail using materials available in the School Counseling Office. The test is held at various high schools and local colleges.

SAT SUBJECT TESTS

Formerly called SAT II, the College Board offers and administers SAT Subject Tests. These tests measure your knowledge or skills in a particular subject and your ability to apply that knowledge. Look into taking the Subject Tests as you complete the courses and/or if the college requires them. There are 20 subject tests. Registra-

tion can be completed either via mail or online at www.collegeboard.org, just like the SAT Reasoning Test.

Subjects:

Literature

U.S. History

Mathematics Level IC

Mathematics Level IIC

Physics

French

German

Spanish

World History

Biology E/M

Chemistry

Italian

Latin

Modern Hebrew

Chinese

Japanese

Korean



Subject Tests are hour-long, content-based tests that allow you to showcase achievement in specific subject areas where you excel.

PREPARING FOR THE SAT AND COLLEGE

Course-Related Materials in the Library and College & Career Center

Available for students and parents to borrow:

SAT, PSAT, ACT, and ASVAB test preparation; SAT subject test preparation;

Advanced Placement test preparation (Calculus, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English Literature and Composition, American and European History);

Financial aid information;

Books on college applications, interviews, surviving the first year, etc.; and

College directories (including 2- and 4-year as well as vocational/technical schools).

THE SAT AND SAT SUBJECT TESTS ARE A GROUP OF TOOLS DESIGNED TO ASSESS YOUR ACADEMIC READINESS FOR COLLEGE

SAT RESOURCES AND COURSES

Khan Academy:

www.khanacademy.org

Kaplan Review:

www.kaptest.com

www.Number2.com

Princeton Review:

www.Princetonreview.com/SAT-prep-class

Sylvan Learning Center:

www.sylvan.learning-centers.com

The official SAT on-

line course: Register at www.collegeboard.com/satonlinecourseschool.



Score Choice gives you the option to choose which scores you send to colleges.



Register for the
SAT at
[www.
collegeboard.
org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

AM I READY FOR THE SAT?

WHY ARE YOU TAKING THIS TEST?

- Are you planning to go directly into a four-year college?

Note: Community Colleges do not require the SAT. They administer their own placement tests. However, you are encouraged to take the SAT after you have taken the appropriate courses.

- Does your college require the SAT? ACT?

ARE YOU PREPARED TO TAKE THE TEST?

- Have you taken higher level courses in English and mathematics?
Adv, AP, or Dual
Completed Math I, Math II, Math III with solid academic grades
- Are you in a college preparatory completer program?
World languages
High level mathematics and science classes (including Biology and Chemistry)
- Have you examined your PSAT results to know what you need to do to be ready for success on the SAT?
Score report
MyCollegeQuickstart
- Have you taken SAT preparatory classes?
SAT prep class, SAT on-line, College Board preparatory materials online, SAT practice tests, College readiness reading and/or writing, or other school or community based classes

**THE SAT IS THE
MOST WIDELY
USED COLLEGE
ADMISSION TEST.
SAT SUBJECT
TESTS CAN
COMPLEMENT OR
ENHANCE YOUR
COLLEGE
ADMISSION
CREDENTIALS.**



Vista's
CEEB code:
053004

IS THIS THE RIGHT TIME FOR YOU TO TAKE THE SAT?

- Are you as prepared as you can be?
- Are you in the spring semester of your junior year or beyond?
- Are you ready?
- Do you know what to expect? Length of test; Types of questions on test; and Deadlines to register

If you answered "no" to any of these questions you need to talk to your school counselor about your options and support available to help you.

SAT/ACT TESTING

Due to COVID-19, many colleges are announcing plans to shift their testing policies for the Class of 2021 and beyond. Please visit www.fairtest.org for test optional schools.

SAT ASSESSMENT: 2020-2021 Test Date Schedule

Test Date

October 3

November 7

December 5

March 13

May 8

June 5

ACT ASSESSMENT: 2020-2021 Test Date Schedule

Test Date

October 10, 17, 24, & 25

December 12

February 6

April 17

June 12

July 17

You can register for these tests at: www.collegeboard.org (SAT) www.act.org (ACT)

***Due to COVID-19, testing centers are limited. Check SAT and ACT Websites for further information**

***VMHS will not be a testing center for the 2020-2021 school year**

***To obtain an SAT fee waiver, please email Mrs. Morris at mmorris@murrieta.k12.ca.us**

SELECTING COLLEGES: CRITERIA TO CONSIDER

If you are planning to attend a college, this is the time to begin to establish some direction. Before you come to the School Counseling Office for help, you may want to do the following:

Look at a map. Decide in which geographic area you would like to live for four years. Consider the following:

- New York and Hawaii are glorious, but it is very difficult and expensive to get home to visit family several times during the year.
- Climates differ - do you like to ski? surf?, etc.
- California state schools have the benefit of in-state residence tuition.

Consider size. There is a tremendous difference between a school with a population of 5,000 and one with a population of 40,000. Compare it to your high school student body. Visit a small school (Sonoma State, Loyola Marymount University, or Pepperdine), a medium school (Stanford, CSU East Bay, or CSU San Marcos) and a large school (UCLA, CSU Fullerton, or Berkley). Get the feel!!!

Consider your PSAT's, SAT's and your grade point average. Take a hard look at your prospects for admission. Your list should include: (1) dearly desired, long-shot hopes; (2) solid, fifty-fifty bets; and (3) comfortable, safe choices. It is important that you apply to at least one college where you feel quite certain of admission.

Cost: Ask your parents how much they can afford to spend. Although many students will qualify for financial aid, many will not. It is okay to choose a couple of schools outside of your means, but at least three colleges should be within your parents' ability to pay.

What extracurricular college activities are important to you?

What religious/ethnic groups are you looking for at your institution?



There is not a "perfect" college. You should try to find the best fit for you.

"IDENTIFY YOUR PRIORITIES, AND THEN RESEARCH THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A RANGE OF COLLEGES"

THINGS TO INVESTIGATE

- Geographic area: Do I want to commute or live on campus?
- Community surroundings: Cultural and religious opportunities; Local transportation; and Recreational and entertainment opportunities
- Students: Attitudes; Socio-economic status; and Interests
- Academic pressure
- Cooperative Education Opportunities
- Types of programs available: Independent study in your field; Seminars for underclassmen; and Work-study opportunity or field work
- Library: Is it used? Is it adequate? Is it comfortable?
- Student-faculty relationships: Are faculty members accessible? What is the student/faculty ratio?
- Size of the college
- Student organizations: What is the social climate on campus? Is there Greek life? Do I want to participate in a performing arts ensemble? Would I want to see concerts and performances? What kinds of social activities predominate? Are the student organizations supervised by students, or administrators?
- Athletics: Are there intramural sports? Fitness facility? Inter-collegiate sports?



The more you know, the more likely you are to find the right fit.



Make sure your
credentials match
those of the colleges
you apply to for
admission

COMPARING COLLEGE SELECTIVITY

Most Selective: Small % accepted

Highly Selective: Admits 25% or less

Very Selective: Admits between 35 to 50%

Selective: Admits between 50-75%

Less Selective: Admits 85% or more of applicants

PROS:

COST OF
TUITION,
FLEXIBLE
SCHEDULE,
EXPLORING
MAJORS, AND
SMALLER CLASSES



Plan ahead if you want
to transfer. Check out
articulation agreements.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

What is Community College?

Community college is the most common type of two-year college. They offer many types of educational programs leading to associate degrees and certificates. Even though tuition at community colleges is usually low, financial aid is available. More than 40 percent of U.S. undergraduate students attend community colleges.

Why should you consider going to one?

Costs are generally much lower than those at four-year colleges. **On average, students at two-year colleges pay less than \$3,000 a year for tuition and fees.** Many community college graduates decide to transfer and complete their bachelor's degrees. If you want to enter the workforce sooner, you can earn a certificate or degree in a career-oriented field, such as firefighting or engineering technology. Most programs are open admission. This means that you can go to college even if your high school grades aren't strong.

In order to succeed in college, you need a solid foundation in reading, writing and math skills. Unless you build them in high school, you may have to take remedial, or catch-up, courses when you arrive at a community college. They are also called developmental or basic skills courses. These courses don't count toward your degree, so graduating will take you longer and cost you more if you're not prepared.

California Colleges	Average GPA	AVG SAT Score (Critical Reading ,& Math)	% Admitted
UCLA	4.29	1290-1520	14%
SDSU	3.97	1283	34%
Cal State San Marcos	3.4	1100	59%
UC Davis	4.15	1260-1480	39.1%
UC Irvine	4.11	1195-1435	26.6%
Chapman University	3.82	1316	53%
Cal State Sacramento	3.35	1038	59%
San Francisco State	3.26	1055	70%
USD	3.97	1200-1350	49%
UC Riverside	3.9	1300-1400	56.3%
University of San Francisco	3.54	1130-1310	71%
Cal State Dominguez	3.0	No Data	77.2%
Sonoma State University	3.2	980-1170	77%
Pepperdine University	3.59	1220-1420	35.7%
San Jose State	3.45	1035	55%
Cal State Long Beach	3.87	1175	31.9%
USC	3.9	1420-1540	11.4%
UC Berkley	4.2	1290-1520	17%
UC Davis	4.13	1260-1480	42%
	Minimum G.P.A for Cal states is 2.0	SAT scores not required for some Cal States if G.P.A is 3.0 or above	VMHS numbers are Larger for Cal state San Marcos due to Alliance

TIPS FOR VISITING COLLEGE CAMPUSES

- Start looking during junior year and try to visit while school is in session
- Picking schools to visit: Visit as many as you can, 6 to 8 is a good balance
- Planning travel
 - Use Fodors.com forums to post questions on college trips
 - People who have already been through the process have advice on saving time and money, fitting in some fun, and finding out what student life is really like
- Scope out campus parking in advance (some campuses are huge)
- Research the school, check out web sites and prepare questions to ask
 - Sample questions can be about class size, school spirit, weekend life, etc.
- Scheduling an interview:
 - Some schools require one, most don't
 - An interview at a "safety" school could be practice for an interview at a "reach" school
- Take admissions tour and then take your own tour
 - Wander off the beaten path
 - Visit a class/building in your major (arrange in advance)
 - Sleep over to get a great sense of student life (most admission offices can and will arrange it)
 - Talk to current students about their experiences
- Check out residential buildings; are they single-sex or coed
- Read bulletin boards to get a good idea about what's happening on campus
- Eat in the dining hall; do the students seem happy or stressed out?
- Investigate safety issues such as off campus crime and surrounding neighborhoods
- Leave proof you've visited (For example: Sign-in at the Admissions Office)
 - Some colleges use demonstrated interest as a factor in the decision
- Keep notes on what you want to remember

Check out:

www.collegeview.com

www.campustours.com

www.collegiatechoice.com

www.college-visits.com



When you are looking at colleges, don't believe the sticker price.

COLLEGE STICKER PRICE VS. AFFORDABILITY

Before you cross a college off your wish list because of sticker shock, understand that the real cost of college is the "net price" (list price minus the amount of financial aid) which may make the college tuition look a lot better. For students eligible for significant aid, it is not unusual for the "net price" of attending a private college to be less than a public university. In fact, the typical private school routinely cuts its tuition by 33.5%, according to the College Board. And even the less expensive public universities are offering an average break of 14.7%.

FINANCIAL AID

Types of Financial Aid

- 1) *Grants*: State and federal grants do not have to be repaid. Based on financial need.
- 2) *Scholarships*: Awarded based on merit or high academic achievement. Scholarships do not have to be repaid.
- 3) *Loans*: There are public and private loans. Unlike grants, loans must be repaid.
- 4) *Student employment or work study*: An opportunity to work and earn money while in school to pay for college expenses.

ALL COLLEGE
BOUND
STUDENTS
SHOULD SUBMIT
A FAFSA

APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

- 1) Go to <http://pin.ed.gov> to request a PIN that you will need for your next step below.
- 2) To apply for student financial aid from the federal government, including grants, Perkins Loan, Stafford Loan and work-study, you will need to submit the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#). There is no charge for submitting this form.
- 3) The FAFSA, should be submitted as soon as possible after October 1 of your senior year. You cannot submit the form before October 1, because the need analysis process uses your financial information from the prior tax year when calculating eligibility for the upcoming award year. To meet the deadline for California, you should submit the form no later than March 2.
- 4) Some private colleges and universities will require one or more supplemental forms to obtain information not included on the FAFSA. They may have their own forms or they may ask you to complete the College Board's [CSS PROFILE](#) form.
- 5) If the college of your choice and your parents cannot meet the expenses for your college tuition, you may have to borrow money. Educate yourself about loans.
- 6) Check out these sites for additional financial aid resources:



Submit your FAFSA as soon as possible after October 1 of your senior year.

<http://www.student-loans.com/Repay.html>
<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>
<http://www.finaid.org>

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship money comes from three basic sources: governments (federal and state), colleges and outside benefactors. Eligibility criteria will correspond to your qualifications, such as: corporate/employer, disabilities, field of study/intended major, gender, international students, military participation, minority status, ethnic background, organization/civic affiliation, reli-

gious affiliation, state of residence, and study abroad.

Use web-based search engines such as collegeboard.org, fastweb.com and Scholarshipexperts.com

When applying for scholarships:

- Apply early
- Follow directions
- Be organized
- Check your work

- Keep copies of everything
- Reapply subsequent years



Searching for private scholarships takes effort.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA)

If you want to participate in Division I or II athletics as a freshman, you must first register and be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. If you don't register you will not be eligible to play or practice during your freshman year.

Athletes who want to compete at College level must file a form with the NCAA Clearinghouse. Registration is a one-time fee of \$65 US.

Students must graduate from High School and have a grade point average {GPA} of 2.00 in a core curriculum of 16 academic subjects for Division I and 14 for division II.

It is recommended that student athletes register with the NCAA clearinghouse at the start of their junior year in high school. There is no actual registration deadline, but you must be cleared by the clearinghouse before you can receive a scholarship or compete in your sport.

For additional information, see your counselor, coach, and/or check out these web sites:

www.eligibilitycenter.org

<http://www.ncaa.org>

<http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CB11.pdf>

**ATHLETES:
REMEMBER,
YOU ARE
CHOOSING A
COLLEGE,
NOT A TEAM**



Join a community service organization; The American Legion: A patriotic, mutual-help, war-time veterans organization.

COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE FOR JUNIORS

Junior Year:

Fall: Take the PSAT offered in October if possible. When taking the PSAT, sign up for the Student Search Service to hear from colleges and scholarship programs. Start your college search by making a list of your preferences. Use online college searches to find colleges with criteria that match your preferences.

Winter: Get ready for the SAT. Use your College Board access code to access a personalized SAT study plan. Use SAT practice web sites and preparation books to strengthen your skills.

March: If you have not yet done so, start to narrow your college choices based on what you want rather than on such things as difficult admissions requirements, popularity, or national reputation. Identify a date to take the SAT or ACT and complete the registration.

April: Develop a preliminary list (approx. 15-20) of colleges that interest you. Visit web sites and submit an online request for information. If appropriate, apply for an interview and prepare for it by reviewing the web site, your goals and interests. Make an appointment to see your counselor (if you have not already done so) to determine your grade point average and class rank.

May: Identify teachers, administrators, counselors, and other adults who you could ask for letters of recommendation. Read your local newspapers carefully this Spring to find out which service, civil, cultural, and service organizations in your area award financial aid to graduating seniors. Start a file.

June: Most colleges and families expect students to help pay for college costs. If possible, use your summer to earn money for college in a job related to your career interests.

Summer:

Reduce your college list to approximately 6-12 schools. Chances are you will have to submit an essay as part of your application. Start to develop an outline. Work on a resume to submit to colleges to highlight your extracurricular activities. Consider college visits in conjunction with any travels you (and your family) may do.

If you want to take SAT Subject tests in the fall, look up registration dates at www.collegeboard.org. You may take up to three tests on a given date. In the fall, your counselor will visit your classes to acquaint you with application procedures, teacher recommendation requests, and other pertinent information regarding the college application process.

Visit CCGI to start applying for scholarships!

www.californiacolleges.edu

WEB RESOURCES FOR CAREERS & COLLEGES

Career Information:

www.californiacolleges.edu

<http://www.jobbankinfo.org>

www.thehighschoolgraduate.com

www.mappingyourfuture.org

College Information:

www.californiacolleges.edu

www.collegeboard.org

www.students.gov

<http://hbcuconnect.com>

www.christianconnector.com

www.hillel.org

www.princetonreview.com

www.usnews.com

www.collegedata.com

www.collegenet.com

<http://www.careersandcolleges.com>

www.collegeview.com

Technology/Apprenticeships:

www.techschooldirectory.com



Many college web sites have virtual campus tours.

WEB RESOURCES FOR FINANCIAL AID & EMPLOYMENT

Scholarship and Financial Aid:

Scholarship and Financial Aid:

www.californiacolleges.edu

www.fafsa.ed.gov

www.mhec.state.md.us

www.fastweb.com

www.scholarships.com

www.simpletuition.com

www.collegeanswer.com

www.gocollege.com

www.finaid.org

www.free-4u.com/minority.htm

www.minority-scholarship-guide.com

Employment Opportunities:

www.snagajob.com

<http://citypaper.com>

www.gotajob.com

www.jobbankinfo.org

www.monster.com

www.myfuture.com

“THE INTERNET
IS THE MOST
COMPREHENSIVE
RESEARCH TOOL
FOR YOUR
COLLEGE
SEARCH.”



Vista Murrieta High School

28251 Clinton Keith Avenue
Murrieta, CA 92563

Phone: (951) 894-5750

Fax: (951) 304-1828

Counselors at VMHS

Gabriela Arizola: garizola@murrieta.k12.ca.us

Demetrius Caldwell: dcaldwell@murrieta.k12.ca.us

Karen Candaele: kcandaele@murrieta.k12.ca.us

Claudia Hill: cghill@murrieta.k12.ca.us

Aurora Padilla: apadilla-napoles@murrieta.k12.ca.us

Eric Peterson: epeterson@murrieta.k12.ca.us

Diana Ruiz: druiz@murrieta.k12.ca.us

**VISIT YOUR SCHOOL
COUNSELOR EARLY
AND OFTEN. WE
ARE HERE TO HELP.**

FINAL ADMISSION TIPS

Sell yourself to colleges! Brag! Complete a resume to send to colleges with your application materials. Show colleges that you will continue to make a valuable contribution to their campuses, just as you have at your high school.

List your extra-curricular activities, volunteer work (yes, that includes church and synagogue, etc.), awards and honors (athletes: were you written up in the newspaper?), jobs, summer experiences, and interests. List when and amount of time spent on the above.

It is better to be involved in a select few activities over a long period of time. It

shows colleges that you can make a commitment. You may seem noncommittal if you try out multiple different clubs every year. Stick to a few favorites instead!

Your resume is a way for you to distinguish yourself from the other applicants.

Be productive this summer. Get a job or volunteer. Looking for volunteer opportunities? Check out:

www.mdservice-learning.org

Admission Counselors review thousands of applications each year. In making sure you stand out, also make sure you are yourself. Find something you really enjoy and do it long-term, rather than doing something you do not enjoy because you think it will

look good to colleges. Make the details count! It will help your application stand out from the rest.

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