

A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR ALL THINGS COLLEGE!

***Find out about the different college
systems, financial aid & scholarships,
personal statements, and more!
Tons of resources to help you make
your college dreams come true!***



HELLO STUDENTS AND FAMILIES!

We hope this guidebook inspires you to begin planning for your future. Deciding what to do after high school can be one of the most important choices you make in your life. It's a decision that needs to be made after carefully considering what is best for you and your situation.

The journey after high school will be different for everyone, and it should be as everyone has different interests and talents. Always remember that there are many people to help you along the way! Always ask questions.

We have packed this College & Career Resource Guide full of important information that will help you on your journey.

So... LOOK AROUND, HELP OUT, BE GOOD, FIND YOURSELF, SMILE, DO SOMETHING, APPRECIATE, LOOK UP, STICK WITH IT!

Contents

UC - University of California

CSU - California State University

Privates in CA

Out of state, WUE, out of state private college universities

Common App, Coalition App

Personal statements

College of the Desert and CA community colleges

FAFSA, FSA ID

Cal Dream Act

Cal Grants

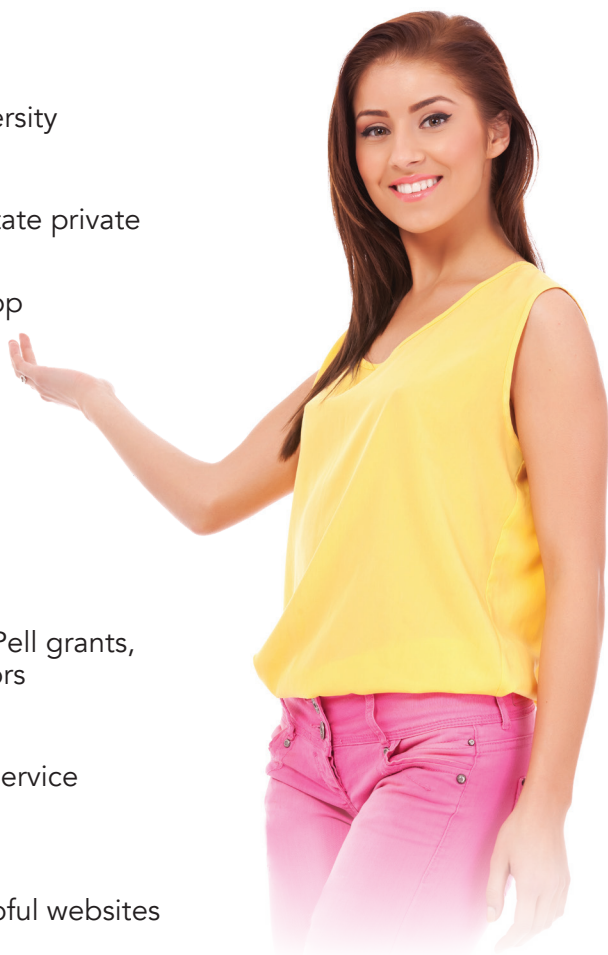
Middle Class scholarships, Pell grants, loans, financial aid calculators

Scholarships

Military and United States Service Academies

Career Voc Tech

Resources - a variety of helpful websites



Planning to attend a four-year college or university after graduation?

- **Make sure you are taking the A - G courses at your high school!**
A - G is the key!
- **Work with your counselor to get the appropriate courses for each year you are in high school.**

A History/Social Science , U.S. Government, Civics, World History, Cultures, Geography	2 years of history/social science, including one year of World History and one year of U.S. History or one half year of U.S. History and one half year of civics or American Government.
B English	4 years of college preparatory English and literature
C Mathematics , Algebra, Geometry, Intermediate Algebra, or Higher Level Mathematics, Math 1, Math 2, Math 3 etc.	3 years – 4 years recommended. Algebra in the 8 th grade recommended.
D Laboratory Science	2 years – 3 years recommended. Minimum one year of Biological Sciences with lab and one year of Physical Science with lab. UC recommends three years with at least two of the following: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or other approved college preparatory laboratory science.
E Language Other Than English (Foreign Language)	2 years – UC recommends three years. American Sign Language is acceptable.
F Visual and Performing Arts , Dance, Theatre, Music, Visual Art	1 year of the same course
G College Preparatory Electives	1 year of academic courses in any of the above A - F areas and other approved alternative electives.

For a complete list of the A-G courses offered at your high school, go to the University of California A - G Guide: www.ucop.edu/agguide

On the right hand side, click on A - G Course Lists. When you get to the site, type in your school's name and a list with all the A - G courses offered at your school will be generated.

These courses also satisfy the requirements for the CSU campuses and most private and out-of-state schools, but always check the requirements for private and/or out-of-state schools.

Thinking about going to a California community college? All you need is a high school diploma or the equivalent. Be sure to check the college's website for information about required assessment exams, registration and orientation. Find out more at www.cccco.edu

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - UC

www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, UCLA, Merced, Riverside,

San Diego, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz

**Apply Nov. 1 - 30; \$70 each application; a 3.0 or higher
is required (A-G courses).**

Applications are available Aug. 1.

Personal statements are required but NO letters of recommendation.

Prompts for the personal insights, questions and additional resources, go to:

<http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/personal-questions/freshman>

What is ELC? (Eligibility in the Local Context)

The ELC program ensures that academically talented and deserving students from all over California have the opportunity to attend a UC. ELC status adds value to your application and is one of 14 factors considered. ELC students not admitted to any of their campus choices are offered a spot at a UC campus that has space, if minimum UC requirements are met.

How Do I Qualify? If you rank in the top 9 percent of students in your California high school class - you may be eligible for ELC designation. This is calculated when you apply; you do not need to do anything other than apply to a UC. After submitting the application, you can return to the "My UC Application" web page to see whether or not you've been designated as being in the top 9 percent of your class.

Tuition costs: Average tuition at a UC campus is about \$13,450. If living on campus, room and board will average about \$15,000 per year. Total cost of attendance averages about \$31,000 if you choose to live on campus.



Fiat lux...let there be light.
The University of California, UC

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY - CSU

<https://www2.calstate.edu/apply> OR <https://www2.calstate.edu>

You can learn about all 23 CSU campuses on these websites. Examples of CSUs are: Chico State, San Diego State, CSU San Bernardino, Fullerton, Cal Poly Pomona and Cal Poly SLO, CSU Channel Islands, Humboldt State, Cal Maritime, CSU San Marcos and 13 other great schools! Apply between October 1 and November 30, \$55 each application. Calculate your Eligibility Index on <https://www2.calstate.edu/applyeligibility-index>; this is a combination of you're A-G GPA and test scores (SAT or ACT).

EOP (Educational Opportunity Program) – for first-generation/lower income students. A short, separate application is required after the main application is complete. EOP offers all kinds of support to students, priority registration for classes and more! It's worth applying for if you are eligible; the program is competitive.

Beginning with in the fall of 2018, the Cal State system will no longer require the English and Math Placement exams. The new policy is as follows:

"All Cal State students will be allowed to take courses that count toward their degrees beginning on Day 1. Students who need additional support in math or English, for example, could be placed in "stretch" courses that simultaneously provide remedial help and allow them to complete the general math and English credits required for graduation."

Some students may be contacted about participation the Early Start Program (ESP), which is a CSU enrollment requirement for first-time freshmen who need help getting ready for college-level English and/or math. "The goal of Early Start is to better prepare you in math and English for your first semester so that you have a better chance of completing a college degree."

EAP (Early Assessment Program) - The Early Assessment Program (EAP) lets you know if you are ready for college-level work in English and mathematics at the end of your junior year of high school. The early signal gives you the opportunity to improve your skills during your senior year or the summer before attending a CSU or community college. Your school will provide you with your CAASPP results that include your EAP status in mid to late August.

Average tuition at a CSU is about \$7,500.00. If living on campus, room and board will vary from \$10,000 to \$13,000 per year.



Vox Veritas Vita...Voice Truth Life

California Private Colleges & Universities

The Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities are committed to making college affordable, personal, and attainable.

- All applications are personally reviewed
- Classes are smaller
- Students receive personal attention to help them succeed in college & in life

www.aiccu.edu You can find all 76 California schools on this website.

Private colleges and universities are not always more expensive than state schools. They often offer merit scholarships and have more money at their disposal to assist with grants and various types of scholarships. If you are looking for a more personal college experience, be sure to look into private schools when making your college list.

Examples of local private colleges & universities:

University of Redlands, www.redlands.edu

University of La Verne, www.laverne.edu

The Claremont Colleges - Pomona College, Scripps, Harvey Mudd, Pitzer, and Claremont McKenna, www.claremont.edu

Occidental, www.oxy.edu

Calif Baptist University, www.calbaptist.edu

University of San Diego, www.sandiego.edu

University of Southern Calif., www.usc.edu

Calif Lutheran University, www.callutheran.edu



INDEPENDENT CALIFORNIA COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES



WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Out-of-State, WUE, out-of-state private colleges and universities

Going out-of-state for college can be exciting and an education in its own right! You will learn about new places, new people and so on! But you need to be informed on how to access out-of-state colleges and universities. **Most PUBLIC out-of-state colleges and universities charge out-of-state tuition, which is higher than attending college in-state.** For example, if you want to attend the University of Oregon, it will most likely cost you more than it would for a student from Oregon; just like it would cost a student from outside of California more to attend the University of California.

Fortunately, many schools in the west have an agreement to provide a discount to students from other states. **It's called the Western Undergraduate Exchange or the WUE.** NOT all schools in the west participate. Please go to this website, <http://www.wiche.edu/wue> to find out which colleges and universities offer a WUE discount. Each WUE school has different rules about what will qualify to get the tuition discount. Many schools use WUE as a merit scholarship for out-of-state students and some schools only offer WUE to certain majors. For example, Western Oregon University offers WUE, but the University of Oregon does not.

States that have WUE schools are: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.



What about out-of-state PRIVATE colleges and universities? Private colleges and universities charge the same price to EVERYONE. The way to get a lower cost at a private out-of-state university is to be a great student or to have a special talent. This way you may receive a MERIT scholarship, a music scholarship, an athletic scholarship and so on. Remember, privates often have more money for students who need it than public colleges and universities, but you will need good grades, good test scores, leadership, special talents and so on to access these funds. Don't rule out an out-of-state university because of its cost. Look into what they have to offer GOOD students!

A few examples of private out-of-state colleges and universities include: Notre Dame, Reed College, Luther College, Gonzaga University, Skidmore College, Carnegie Mellon University, Texas Christian University.

THE COMMON APPLICATION

What is the Common Application? The Common Application (Common App) is used by more than 500 American universities. You will save time by being able to complete information and essays that you can submit to multiple universities. However, bear in mind that approximately two-thirds of universities ask for supplemental information and/or essays. **You can access the Common Application online at: <https://www.commonapp.org/>.** Here you can see all the universities that use the Common Application and all their deadlines. Some schools, for example, the University of Southern California, exclusively use the Common App.

How does the Common App support students? Here's what the Common App website says: "The Common App is the most seamless way to manage the application process. We make it simpler by collecting all of your students' information in one place, eliminating the need to repeat the details of their home, education, activities, and exams for every college on their list." The Common App is free to use, but each application has a cost associated with submitting the application.



COALITION for ACCESS,
AFFORDABILITY, and SUCCESS

What is the Coalition Application? This platform is designed to be convenient, straightforward and easy-to-use. The Coalition Application and its member schools -which include more than 90 institutions, are committed to broadening access and increasing affordability of higher education for students of all backgrounds. Schools that participate in the Coalition graduate at least 70 percent of their students within six years and many have much higher graduation rates.

Examples of schools that are using the Coalition application are: Duke, the University of Michigan, Yale, Grinnell, and Colby. See all the schools, the application and more at:

<http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/>

It is FREE to use the Common App and the Coalition App. Both have information about college application fee waivers on their websites!

PERSONAL STATEMENTS

Personal statements are just one of the important elements of the college and university application. With that in mind, consider the following advice and information from college admissions officers so you can write an essay you are proud of!

- The essay is your time to tell us who you are, why something is important to you and why you have continued to do it.
- What do you want to say about yourself that is different from your GPA and test scores?
- Delve into what something means to you, provide perspective. Describe how this affects the person you have become or how it affects your beliefs. (You could include information about the sport you play, an activity or club, your job or even a situation in your life or how you relate to something in the news.)
- Use proper English, and write in complete, thoughtful sentences. (Don't use words you don't normally use in conversation with your friends).
- Have someone you trust read your essay and provide suggestions on how to make it better. This can help you strengthen YOUR VOICE, strength, humor etc. Make sure it is NOT boring, unorganized, or unclear.
- Show your enthusiasm for learning! And, expand on whatever you are excited about.
- It's EASY to spot when a student is trying to tell the reader what they "think they want to hear." BE AUTHENTIC!
- Don't try to cover too much material. Write it, leave it for a few days and come back to it.
- **Devote EQUAL time to explaining how a hardship was overcome, as opposed to the hardship itself.**
- If writing about someone who influenced you, make sure the focus is YOU, not your uncle etc.
- Give examples of actions you've taken related to what you are writing about – don't just use adjectives to describe it. SHOW, don't just tell.
- Triple check grammar and spelling!

Many websites have good personal statement advice. Here are a few to check out:

- **HScounselorweek.com** – they regularly have articles about the College Admissions Process/Strategies, Personal Essays, SAT & ACT, Financial Aid and Scholarships and more.
- <http://lutherancolleges.org> - Click on "Get Ready"
- **www.unigo.com** -Just type in "personal statements" in the search box. This has good scholarship information too.
- www.questbridge.org - Under High School Students, see Student Resource Center.



COLLEGE
of the **DESERT**

Why attend COD?

It's affordable! Coachella Valley seniors can sign up for EDGE and pLEDGE. The pLEDGE Program provides for two full years of free tuition at COD if a student commits to the following:

- Full-time enrollment during the Fall & Spring semesters
- Maintain good academic standing and participate in 10 hours of community service
- Take part in mentoring or internships
- Attend a career pathway workshop at the COD Career and Workforce Solutions Center
- Submit a FAFSA or Dream Act application that is received by the COD Financial Aid Office

What is EDGE? EDGE is a 3-week program that offers a fast-paced review of basic skills in Math and/or English to "Engage, Develop, Grow and [be] Empowered". New and continuing students who have not taken a math and/or English course are eligible to participate. The program provides students with ongoing support throughout their first year including follow up calls, workshops, EDGE club events and informational emails. If student is not able to participate in EDGE and pLEDGE they still may qualify for free or reduced tuition by completing the FAFSA or Cal Dream Act applications. Seniors must apply to COD in the spring, take the ACCUPLACER exam and sign up for EDGE and pLEDGE before May 1.

More reasons to attend COD.

- Transfer counselors help you decide what to take for the University of California, California State University campuses, out of state schools, and privates. If you work hard – anything is possible!
- COD offers MANY certificate programs that lead to a job in two years or less. For example: Turfgrass Management, Construction Management, Automotive Technology, Culinary Arts and more!
- COD offers programs through PaCE - Partnership and Community Education that include Clinical Medical Assistant, Dental, Pharmacy and Veterinary Assistant and more!



Looking for a new experience outside the valley?

You can learn about ALL of California's 123 community colleges on www.cccco.edu.

Tip: If you are looking to transfer to a large school such as San Diego State University, make sure you check the SDSU website for the community colleges in San Diego that have agreements with SDSU; some are associated with Cal State San Marcos and some with SDSU. Do your research!



MONEY MATTERS

FAFSA, FSA ID, CA Dream Act application, CSS Profile

What is the FAFSA? It's the **FREE APPLICATION for FEDERAL STUDENT AID** and it determines a student's eligibility for need-based financial aid, grants, and student and parent loans.

Who needs to complete the FAFSA? All students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents who plan to enroll -- or are currently enrolled -- in postsecondary education. "Postsecondary education" means any form of education beyond high school. That includes two-year and four-year colleges, graduate schools, professional schools (like law, business or medical school) and just about any program rewarding a degree, certificate or credit, including most vocational and technical schools.

To **complete** the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA**), students and parents will need: Social Security Number, Alien Registration Number (if you are not a U.S. citizen), students and parents' most recent federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned. **Use returns two years prior. For example, the Class of 2019 will use the 2017 federal returns.**

NOTE: Most students fill out their first FAFSA when they are beginning the college application process. However, you need to submit a new FAFSA application for each year that you intend to receive financial aid. So if you attend a four-year college, you will need to fill out and submit the FAFSA four separate times. This is because the government needs the most up-to-date and accurate financial information to make its calculations.

Before completing the FAFSA, each student and one parent will need an FSA ID – Federal Student Aid ID – which consists of a username and password combination that allows you to sign the FAFSA electronically.

You can create your FSA ID and complete the FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov.

Complete your FAFSA as early as possible!

You can do this between Oct. 1 and March 2 every year.



www.fafsa.gov



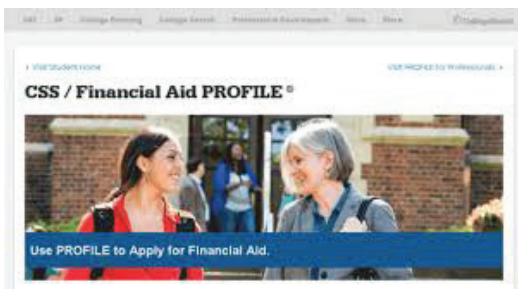
The California Dream Act Application - www.caldreamact.org

The California Dream Act allows undocumented and nonresident documented students who meet certain provisions to apply for and receive private scholarships funded through public universities, state-administered financial aid, university grants, community college fee waivers, and Cal Grants.

WHAT YOU NEED TO FILL OUT THE DREAM ACT APPLICATION: student identification information. You'll be asked to enter personal identification information such as your name, permanent mailing address, citizenship status, Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (if you have one), Statewide Student Identification number (if you have one), Social Security number (if you have one) or Alien Registration number (if you have one). Note: Most males between 18-25 must be registered with the Selective Service to receive state aid and can do this within the Cal Dream Act application.

File your application between Oct. 1 and March 2 – earlier is always better! Need help with completing the Cal Dream Act application and answers to questions such as: What is AB540? What is DACA? Where can I find financial aid resources for dreamers? What is a Cal Grant?

Go to: dream.csac.ca.gov



CSS stands for College Scholarship Service. The CSS Profile is an application distributed by the College Board and is primarily used by private colleges and universities to provide a closer look into the finances of a student and family. It is much more detailed than the FAFSA. Many colleges with early acceptance programs use the CSS Profile in addition to the FAFSA. There is a small fee to file the CSS Profile. Examples of schools that require the CSS Profile include: Harvey Mudd, Pitzer, Santa Clara, and USC.

Check your college/university website to see if you are required to complete it!

css.collegeboard.org

WHAT IS A CAL GRANT?

A Cal Grant is money for college you don't have to pay back. To qualify, you must meet the eligibility and financial requirements as well as any minimum GPA requirements. Cal Grants can be used at any University of California, California State University or California Community College, as well as qualifying independent and career colleges or technical schools in California.

There are three kinds of Cal Grants – A, B and C – but you don't have to figure out which one to apply for. Your eligibility will be based on your FAFSA responses, your verified Cal Grant GPA, the type of California colleges you list on your FAFSA and whether you're a recent high school graduate. **To learn more about the qualifications, go to Calgrants.org.**

Cal Grant A

- Will help pay for tuition and fees at four-year colleges
- Award amounts vary by type of college – Cal Grants are up to \$12,240 at a University of California campus, up to \$5,472 at a California State University campus, and up to \$9,084 at independent colleges
- Has a GPA requirement. If you're applying using your high school GPA, you must have at least a 3.0 GPA in your a-G courses 10th & 11th grade years.
- Requires that your course of study leads directly to an associate or bachelor's degree, or qualifies you for transfer from a community college to a bachelor's degree program

Cal Grant B

- Provides a living allowance of up to \$1,656, in addition to tuition and fee assistance after the first year, at a two-year or four-year college
- Pays most first-year students a living allowance only, which may be used to pay living expenses, books, supplies and transportation, as well as tuition and fees
- When renewed or awarded beyond your first year, you'll receive the living allowance **as well as a tuition and fee award**
- Requires at least a 2.0 GPA

Cal Grant C - Interested in a technical, vocational or career education?

- Assists with the costs of a technical or career education
- Provides up to \$547 for books, tools and equipment—and up to \$2,462 more for tuition and fees if you'll be attending a school other than a California Community College (community colleges don't charge tuition and your fees will be waived as a Cal Grant recipient)
- Is available for up to two years
- If you qualify, you'll receive an e-mail or letter notification to complete the online Cal Grant C Supplement in Web Grants for Students by the deadline. Even though a GPA is not required to apply for a Cal Grant C, you're still encouraged to submit yours because it can only help your chances of receiving an award.

More information about CAL GRANTS - www.calgrants.org

IMPORTANT!

In order to be considered for a Cal Grant, you must complete the FAFSA or the Cal Dream Act Application between Oct. 1 and March 2 in your senior year. Remember, the earlier you submit it, the better!

You must complete a GPA verification form and turn it into your school registrar. It's a very simple form! It gives the school permission to send your A-G grades from 10th and 11th grade to the California Student Aid Commission. They do this electronically.

FAFSA or Cal Dream Act Application + GPA = possible Cal Grant (FREE \$\$ for college!)

PELL GRANTS

A form of need-based financial aid from the federal government

A Pell Grant is money the government provides for students who need it to pay for college. Grants, unlike loans, do not have to be repaid. Eligible students receive a specified amount each year under this program. More than one-third of undergraduate students received a Pell Grant in 2014-15.

How much money can I get?

Amounts can change yearly. The maximum award is usually close to \$5,800. The amount you get, though, will depend on:

- your *financial need*,
- your cost of attendance,
- your status as a full-time or part-time student, and
- your plans to attend school for a full *academic year* or less.

How do I qualify for a Pell Grant?

You're eligible for a Pell Grant if you have **financial need**. The U.S. Department of Education determines your financial need by taking the information you supply when applying for a Pell Grant (for example, your family income) and plugging it into a standard formula to produce a number called the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC is then compared to the expected cost of attending your college (tuition and fees, room and board, books, and supplies) to determine the financial aid for which you're eligible.

To be eligible for a Pell Grant, you must complete your FAFSA and also:

- Be an undergraduate student who has not earned a bachelor's degree (with some exceptions for students in post baccalaureate teaching programs)
- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a regular student in an eligible degree or certificate program
- Have earned a high school diploma or a GED or have completed a high school education in an approved home-school setting
- Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen

California's Middle Class Scholarship (MCS)

- ❖ The Middle Class Scholarship began in the 2014-2015 academic year and provides undergraduate students with family incomes up to \$156,000 a scholarship to attend a UC or a CSU campus.
- ❖ Students must be California residents attending a UC or CSU, a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or have AB 540 student status.
- ❖ All you have to do to apply is complete your FAFSA or Cal Dream Act application on time! Make sure your email address is listed on your FAFSA or Cal Dream Act application!
- ❖ Students may receive between 10 to 40 percent of tuition at a UC or CSU.
- ❖ If you are selected for a MCS, you will be notified by the California Student Aid Commission.

Learn more at <http://www.csac.ca.gov/middle-class-scholarship>

STUDENT AND PARENT LOANS FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

www.studentaid.gov

Almost all students who complete the FAFSA will see student loans included in their financial aid award letter. To be eligible for a federal student loan, you must complete the FAFSA. Freshmen are typically limited to borrowing between \$3,500 - \$5,500; the amount goes up as the student progresses through college. You do not have to borrow the full amount offered. Try to avoid loans by working part-time and looking for scholarships, but most students with financial need will need to take out a few student loans to make it through college.

The federal **Parent Loan** for Undergraduate Students (PLUS), available through the Direct **Loan** Program, lets **parents** borrow money to cover any costs not already covered by the student's financial aid package, up to the full cost of attendance.

Student loans do not have to be paid back until you graduate or drop out of college. If you can graduate with \$25,000 of loan or less, you are doing well. Many people don't think twice about borrowing money for a car. You are borrowing money for your future. The repayment of your loan can also be based up the income you are making after graduation. Repayment of your loan will help you build credit and help fund loans for other students.

There's A LOT to learn about loans. Here are some links to good information:

Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans:

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/subsidized-unsubsidized>

Direct PLUS Loans (for graduate and professional students or parents):

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/plus>

Federal Perkins Loans:

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/perkins>

For veterans - Free college for your kids. The Post 9/11 GI Bill, which was passed in 2009, can provide valuable education benefits for anyone who served for at least 90 days in the military, reserves or National Guard since Sept. 11, 2001. The GI Bill pays up to the full cost of in-state tuition and fees for public colleges for up to four academic years, or up to \$17,500 per year for private colleges and foreign schools. To qualify for the maximum benefit, you must serve (or have served) at least 36 months since 9/11.

FINANCIAL AID CALCULATORS

The Financial Aid Calculators are tools to help you figure out what you would have to pay at each college you are interested in.

Colleges and universities are required to have financial aid calculators on their websites; usually within the Financial Aid home pages. If you can't find it for a particular school, just type "financial aid calculator" into the website's search box.

The best calculators take into account a student's grades and test scores so that merit awards can be estimated and included with other forms of aid.

Several tools and calculators can be found at:

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/tools-calculators>

You can also check out:

Savings Plan Designer (Flat Contribution)

<http://www.finaid.org/calculators/savingsplan.phtml>

Expected Family Contribution and Financial Aid Calculator

<http://www.finaid.org/calculators/finaidestimate.phtml>

Loan Calculator <http://www.finaid.org/calculators/loanpayments.phtml>

SCHOLARSHIPS!

The Gates Scholarship is a highly selective, full scholarship for exceptional, Pell-eligible, minority, high school seniors. Starting in 2018, the scholarship will be awarded to 300 top student leaders each year with the intent of promoting their academic excellence through college graduation, and providing them the opportunity to reach their full potential. It opens July 14 and closes September 15. <http://www.thegatesscholarship.org>

**Best scholarship for local Coachella Valley students with financial need
OneFuture Coachella Valley Pathways to Success www.OneFutureCV.org.**

Hundreds of valley students are annually awarded scholarships ranging from up to \$2,500 per year for community college and up to \$5,000 a year for four-year institutions. The application usually opens in January for graduating seniors. This scholarship comes with all kinds of support to help you succeed in college!

Scholarships require time and organization on your part and the more you apply for the better. Create a resume and/or portfolio that you can modify for different scholarship applications. Each high school will post scholarship information on their websites and you can ask about them in your College & Career Center. Stay positive! Often times you are competing with students from all over the country. Seniors - make sure you look on the website of every college on your list to find out about scholarships they offer.

Check out these scholarships search engines where you can create a profile and the program will generate scholarships you can apply for.

www.studentscholarships.org | www.fastweb.com | www.cappex.com
www.collegeboard.org | www.unigo.org

FOR THE CHILDREN OF MARINES OR U.S. NAVY CORPSMEN

The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation - <http://www.mcsf.org/eligibility> Applications are usually available Jan. 1 and are due March 1. <http://www.mcsf.org/timeline>

Ronald McDonald House Charities:

<http://www.rmhc.org/rmhc-us-scholarships>

The Generation Google Scholarships: Just Google it!

Scholarships and Grants for African Americans:

The Jackie Robinson Foundation Grant: <https://www.jackierobinson.org>

The Network Journal: A great list for anyone.

Go to <https://tnj.com> and search "African American Scholarships".

AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND

EDUCATION IS THE ANSWER



For Native Americans: www.collegefund.org

The Richard M. Milanovich Fellowship, offered by the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, allows students who are enrolled members of a Native American tribe to study for a semester at the Native American Political Leadership Program at The George Washington University in Washington D.C. For more information:

<http://semesterinwashington.gwu.edu/milanovich>



www.apiasf.org

FOR HISPANIC STUDENTS... CHECK OUT THESE SITES!

<http://lulac.org/programs/education/scholarships/>

League of United Latin American Citizens -several scholarships and resources

www.hsf.net

Hispanic Scholarship Fund - awards over 150 types of scholarships

This site also supports the Latino College Dollars search tool

http://www.hacu.net/hacu/Scholarship_Resource_List.asp

HACU - the Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities

www.thedream.us A new multimillion dollar scholarship fund for Dreamers

www.unitedwedream.org



The Armed Service (Military)

Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, National Guard, Navy

The eligibility requirements for joining the armed forces can differ among the branches. Knowing the requirements can help you avoid wasting time and effort. An issue that may make you ineligible for one service may not preclude you in another branch of service. (www.military.com)

For a lot of people who join directly after high school, the military means being away from home for the very first time. For others, adjusting to the "military way of life" is a complete 180-degree turn from the life they are currently used to. Either way, the more you know about what to expect, the easier it will be to settle in and prepare for success in your new career. This information is a good place to start, and then a recruiter can give you more information about specific U.S. Military Service branches. (www.todaysmilitary.com)

For each branch, there are slightly different enlistment requirements:

TO JOIN THE...	YOU MUST:
AIR FORCE	Be between the ages of 17-27. * Have no more than two dependents. Pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude test. (Minimum AFQT Score: 50)
ARMY	Be between the ages of 17-34. * Have no more than two dependents. Pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude test. (Minimum AFQT Score: 31)
COAST GUARD	Be between the ages of 17- 39* Have no more than two dependents. Pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test. (Minimum AFQT Score: 45) Have a willingness to serve on or around the water.
MARINES	Meet exacting physical, mental, and moral standards. Be between the ages of 17-29. * Pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test. (Minimum AFQT Score: 32) Women are eligible to enlist in all occupational exception of combat arms specialties: infantry, tank and amphibian tractor crew.
NAVY	Be between the ages of 17-34. * Pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test. (Minimum AFQT Score: 50) Women are eligible to enlist in all occupational fields, with the exception of serving in the Navy Seals or on submarines.

THE UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMIES



For students who would like to experience a military environment while getting a first-class education, the five Service academies – the U.S. Military Academy (Army) in West Point, N.Y.; the U.S. Naval Academy (Navy/Marine Corps) in Annapolis, Md.; the U.S. Air Force Academy (Air Force) in Colorado Springs, Colo.; the U.S. Coast Guard Academy (Coast Guard) in New London, Conn.; and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, N.Y. – offer an outstanding education and full four-year scholarships. Tuition, books, board, medical and dental care are all fully paid for all four years.

The competition to get in is fierce. Admissions criteria include:

- High school academic performance
- Standardized test scores (SAT or ACT)
- Athletics and extracurricular activities
- Leadership experience and community involvement
- A congressional letter of recommendation (not required by the Coast Guard Academy)

Graduates of all four academies receive a Bachelor of Science degree and are commissioned as officers in their respective Service branch. In all cases, there is a service obligation of a minimum of five years.

You can learn more about the military and the service academies at
www.todaysmilitary.com

If you need a Congressional letter of recommendation, contact Congress Raul Ruiz's office at 760-424-8888 or visit www.ruiz.house.gov.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Many California Community Colleges offer a variety of career and technical education programs and can often times be more affordable than a career college, depending upon what you want to study. Not all community colleges offer the same programs.

For example, Crafton Hills College in nearby Yucaipa, offers Radiologic Technology, the training needed to become an x-ray technician. At Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, you can earn a certificate in Aviation and Maintenance Technology. Mt. San Antonio College, located near Cal Poly Pomona, offers Air Traffic Control training and courses to become a Registered Veterinary Technician. To find all of the career and technical programs offered by California Community Colleges, visit, www.cccco.edu.

We have several career colleges in the valley and examples of what they offer include:

Aesthetician-Esthetician, Barbering, Computer Support Technician, Cosmetology, Manicurist, Medical Assisting, Massage Therapy, Pharmacy Technician, Holistic Health Practitioner and more. Please visit each school's website to see exactly what is offered.

Brightwood College in Palm Springs - www.brightwood.edu

Mayfield College in Cathedral City - www.mayfieldcollege.edu

Milan Institute of Cosmetology in La Quinta - www.milaninstitute.edu

Somatherapy Institute, School of Massage in Rancho Mirage - www.somatherapy.com

If you are looking for automotive technology, check out College of the Desert and also the Universal Technical Institute, www.uti.edu. UTI's California campuses include: Rancho Cucamonga, Long Beach, and Sacramento. They have several more in other states. Examples of programs at UTI are: Collision Repair, Diesel, Motorcycle NASCAR, and Welding.

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU WITH ALL THINGS COLLEGE!

(Most sites also have info in Spanish)

www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org

www.icanaffordcollege.com

www.californiacolleges.edu

For everything about the CSU (Calif State Universities)

<https://www2.calstate.edu>

www.universityofcalifornia.edu – UC system

www.thecollegesolution.com – Invaluable site for parents and students

www.HScounselorweek.com – Weekly articles about college going process, essays, SAT, ACT, financial aid and more

www.nacacnet.org – National Association for College Admission Counseling; excellent for students & parents

www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator – National Center for Education Statistics; find out a college's retention rate, graduation rate, and more.

www.CollegeWeekLive.com

www.KnowHow2go.org

www.ajcunet.edu – Information about the 29 Jesuit colleges and universities in the U.S.

www.catholiccollegesonline.org – The National Catholic College Admission Association

www.lutherancolleges.org – Find Lutheran schools across the country

www.hillel.org – Hillel's college guide offers information on Jewish life at colleges and universities around the world

www.topchristiancolleges.org

www.ctcl.org – CTCL, Colleges That Change Lives. Dedicated to the advancement and support of a student-centered college search process



FINANCIAL AID SITES

www.fafsa.gov – The Free Application for Federal Student Aid, English & Spanish

www.studentaid.ed.gov – Information about ALL kinds of federal student aid in English & Spanish

www.csac.ca.gov - California Student Aid Commission, Cal Grants, Cal Dream Act

ACT & SAT

www.actstudent.org - ACT

www.collegeboard.org - SAT (www.khanacademy.org - FREE SAT prep)

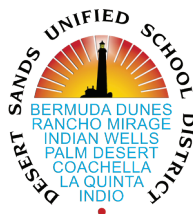
www.fairtest.org/university/optional - 850+ colleges & universities that do not use SAT/ACT scores to admit substantial numbers of students into bachelor degree programs

WANT TO PLAY SPORTS IN COLLEGE?

www.ncaa.org; www.athleticscholarships.net

Notes:

Thank you to our partners



Thank you to our partners



SO, WHAT'S NEXT?

THINK BIG!

"In the long run, we shape our lives, and we shape ourselves. The process never ends until we die. And the choices we make are ultimately our own responsibility."

~ Eleanor Roosevelt

"Success comes from knowing that you did your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming."

~ John Wooden

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

~ Nelson Mandela

"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

~ Thomas Edison

"Sí, se puede!" ~ Cesar Chavez

Never give up on a dream just because of the time it will take to accomplish it. The time will pass anyway.