



# THE COLLEGE CONNECTION NEWSLETTER

FOR HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS

February 2022

Volume 29 Issue 6

## CHANGES COMING TO SAT AS COLLEGES DROP TESTING REQUIREMENTS

*(forbes.com)*

The College Board announced wide-sweeping changes to modernize the SAT standardized test used for college admissions as colleges across the country ditch standardized testing requirements.

Most colleges dropped their standardized testing requirements during the pandemic, including Harvard University, which extended its policy through at least 2025. The College Board, a non-profit organization that administers AP exams in addition to the SAT, has been for more than 50 years, but many take issue with its near-monopoly status and favoring wealthier students who can afford SAT tutoring and thus score higher. The ACT, the SAT's sole competitor for pre-college standardized testing, administers its exam online internationally and in some U.S. schools and already allows calculators on its whole math section.

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## THE BEST QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR COLLEGE ADVISOR

*(teenlife.com)*

As you prepare for your college admissions process, you likely find yourself working with a private college counselor. Or maybe you'll simply meet with your high school college advisor. Either way, you're likely to have lots of questions and not much time. That's why we've put together this list of the best questions to ask your college advisor. Be sure to use your time well and to take notes in your meeting. That way you can get the most out of it.

You'll first need to obtain a copy of your unofficial transcript. Review your transcript for any errors in reporting. It is important that this document is accurate. If there is anything on your transcript that you do not recognize or have a question about, meet with your high school college advisor right away.

### Some other questions to consider are:

- Am I on schedule for graduation?

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## EVALUATING ADMISSION DECISIONS

*(parentingforcollege.com)*

It's that time of year. Students who applied ED and EA have already heard from the colleges regarding their admission decisions. Students who are applying regular decision will be sending off those applications this month and hearing early in the spring. What happens next?

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## SCHOLARSHIPS

### HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Every year, HSF selects ~10,000 outstanding students as HSF Scholars from a broad and talented pool of applicants. Deadline February 15th, 2022



### BMW/SAE ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is provided by BMW AG in recognition of its commitment to excellence in engineering. BMW is world famous for designing and building luxury, high-performance passenger cars and motorcycles. Deadline March 21, 2022



### MYIMPACT CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP

MyImpact Challenge is a civic engagement contest hosted by the Bill of Rights Institute. Deadline to apply May 16th

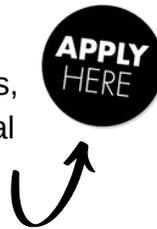


### JAMES WOLPERT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

For those who express an intent to work in the field of viticulture or enology extension. Deadline to apply March 1st 2022

### BANATAO FAMILY FILIPINO AMERICAN EDUCATION FUND

Major: engineering, mathematics, computer science, environmental or physical science and be at least 50% Filipino heritage. Deadline to apply Feb. 28th



## SENIOR CHECKLIST

-  Keep a close eye on deadlines
-  Submit the FAFSA
-  Check portals for offers and financial aid packages
-  Ask for teacher recommendations
-  Apply for scholarships

### CALIFORNIA STATE SUMMER SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS



A four week summer program for talented and motivated high school students in California and beyond. Application Opens in December

### HORATIO ALGER ASSOCIATION

Manages 70 of the largest need based scholarship opportunities in the country for high school juniors who have faced or overcome obstacles. Scholarships by state and by career.



### FUN FACT

**Finding the perfect fit college is crucial to staying in college and remaining where you begin**

## THE RISE OF HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIPS

(usnews.com)

High school seniors are expected to do a great deal. College applications. Community service. Sports, clubs, and classes. Now, there's a new item on the list: internships.

Some high schools are encouraging students to complete internships in their junior and senior years as a way to gain real-world experience, explore potential career paths and learn basic workplace skills.

Once the purview of college students looking for an on-ramp to the job market, high school internships focus more on experience and learning than on obtaining full-time work, education experts say. They allow students to investigate fields of study and career options that are still years away.



“Working and interacting with various employees and being exposed to the basics of what a future career in the industry would entail gets students out of their high school bubble,” says Laurie Kopp Weingarten, a certified educational planner and president of One-Stop College Counseling in New Jersey. “We find that students who take on an internship in high school often mature, rising to meet the level of responsibility expected.”

Interning with local companies, nonprofits or community organizations can be an educational alternative to the low-wage work often offered to teenagers, and it can be an asset on college applications. Kevin Davis, founder, and chair of First Workings, a nonprofit that pairs low-income students with paid internships, says high school internships can also help students develop professionally.

“Through the internship experience, high schoolers gain the confidence to succeed in their chosen path,” he says.

Studies at the college level show that internships can dramatically increase employment potential for students. A 2019 survey of internship programs by the National Association of Colleges and Employers found that 70% of interns received a job offer.

At the high school level, statistics show that interning is still catching on. A 2020 study by American Student Assistance, a nonprofit that helps students obtain college degrees, cites a recent survey showing that only 2% of high school students had completed internships.

Educators say that internships also build valuable professional skills, including communication, self-advocacy and the ability to effectively work with other people in a professional setting.

When looking for a high school internship, it's important to understand what the student's responsibilities will be and to ensure that the work aligns with a student's goals.

**COLLEGE NEWS**

A new, free online certificate program from **Arizona State's Thunderbird School of Global Management** will be offered in 40 languages and seeks to reach refugees, women and others in the developing world.

The Education Department is investigating **Brigham Young University** to determine whether its punishments for gay students violate Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, The Salt Lake Tribune reported.

A **Stanford University** administrator and her husband, a professor, sued the university over the death of their son from an accidental drug overdose at his fraternity house, NBC Bay Area reported.

Facebook founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg and his wife, Priscilla Chan, donated \$50 million to the **University of Hawai'i** —the largest gift the public university has ever received, Hawaii News Nowreported. The gift is earmarked for research on the impact of climate change on Hawaii's oceans and ecosystem preservation.

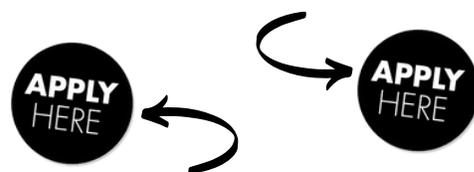
Gov. Gavin Newsom announced that 45 colleges and universities in California will be part of a new public service program called **Californians For All College Corp** that will subsidize tuition for students who do community service alongside their studies. The program will start in the fall 2022.

**JUNIOR CHECKLIST**

-  Attend virtual college visits
-  Make plans to visit college campuses
-  ACT - Next test date is April 2nd. You must register by February 25th. It takes 30 minutes to complete registration and you will need a photo
-  SAT - Next test date is May 7th. You must register by April 8th

**CHILDREN OF WARRIORS SCHOLARSHIP**

The American Legion Auxiliary sponsors the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship to support the children of our warriors. Deadline to apply March 1st



**CLIMATE JUSTICE SCHOLARSHIP**

\$1,000 awarded to one lucky applicant. Jamie Sarai Margolin co founder of Zero Hour created this scholarship. Deadline April 15th.



**AROUND THE CORNER FROM COLLEGE**

\$1,000 scholarship to one applicant each season. Deadline is June 30th

**VFW's AUXILLARY YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST**

Auxillary Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest - More than 4,000 high school students from across the country compete for a \$33,000 scholarship. Deadline to apply is March 31st.

**HSF SCHOLARSHIPS**

More than 150 scholarships for Latino students with or without US citizenship.



## THE BEST QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR COLLEGE ADVISOR

(Continued from page 1)

- Should I consider taking advanced placement courses? If I choose to take an advanced placement course and I decide it is not for me, what is the process to drop the course?
- If I really like a core academic subject (Math, Science, English, Social Studies) is it possible to take additional courses in those areas? When would that fit into my schedule?

**Even if your plan is to only apply to colleges and universities where testing is optional or not required for the application you must still consider testing.** Many will skip testing only to realize there is a school they do want to apply to but because they have no score at all, they are not eligible to apply. Take the test, regardless of the score. If you choose not to report the test score, that's fine. You should also ask:

- Is there a diagnostic test that will help me to know if the SAT or ACT is the better test for me?
- If testing makes me anxious does the school have any recommendations for accommodations?
- What free standardized testing resources does the high school offer?
- 

**Your school counselor is an extra pair of eyes to review your transcripts, résumés, and more.**

Additionally, they're likely to have information on certain colleges and universities that you may not be familiar with. Don't be afraid to ask the following questions:

- If you'll review my applications, is there a deadline or a sign up sheet?
- Is the high school doing any group work on essays or applications?
- Is there a list of colleges who will be visiting our high school?
- Are there schools you believe I'd be best suited for?
- Where do you think I should apply?



Very few people who graduate college actually work in the field in which they majored. Most people attend college and change their major at least once before graduation. Most adults change their career field two or three times over their lifetime.

**As you make your decision, ask yourself and your counselor these questions:**

- Does my high school have any career assessment resources?
- Are there activities, clubs, leagues offered by my high school that I don't know about?
- Are there ways I can try out new interests at school?

Paying for college is a challenging topic for everyone. Don't be shy about presenting your circumstances and asking for resources. It's important that you come into college with some sense of financial stability. Applying for loans or understanding FAFSA seems like hard work but there are plenty of internet resources that break down the steps into easy-to-understand tutorials.

**Start with the government website, the move on to the following questions:**

- Is the high school doing any group work on how or when to file my FAFSA?
- How do I apply for financial aid?
- If I apply for scholarships, will those interfere with the award a college might give me?
- Am I qualified to waive my college application fees? Can you tell me how to contact the college for an application fee waiver?
- Are there any special scholarships, awards, or state aid that I should apply for?

## EVALUATING ADMISSION DECISIONS

*Continued from page 1*

Colleges will provide your student with one of four responses: offered admission, wait-listed, deferred, or not offered admission. Today, students hear as the notices are posted online. The days of waiting for the letter are over. We live in an instant gratification world. You can expect, however, for your student to be hitting that computer refresh button on the day notices are posted!

**Offers of admission** After all your teen's hard work, there is nothing more satisfying or rewarding than reading this: *Congratulations, and welcome to State University*. Offers of admission are the prizes at the end of this long journey. You and your teen have done the work and will reap the rewards of your focused labor.

**Wait-listed: what can you do?** - If you land on a school's waitlist, you'll need to decide whether you will pursue or decline the waitlist invitation plus make plans to attend another college. Follow these tips to make sure you're covered.

- Quickly respond to let the school know whether you will accept or decline your position on the waitlist.
- If you accept, Send a follow-up letter to let the school know why you would be excited to attend and the reasons why their college is still the best-fit school for you.
- Stay focused on your grades and prepping for AP exams.
- Request an interview, so you can reiterate your commitment to the school.
- If you decline, reevaluate the rest of your list. What schools do you need to learn more about? Which schools can you still visit?
- No matter what, get excited about the schools that accepted you. Decide which college fits you best and send in your deposit. If you do get off another college's waitlist (and accept!), you'll forfeit your deposit.

**Deferred: how should you respond?** If you applied early decision or early action, you may receive a notification that your application has been deferred to the regular admission pool. This can happen if a college decides they need more information (like senior year grades or test scores) before making their final decision. Here are your priorities:

- Work hard to keep your grades up.
- If you plan to submit new SAT/ACT scores, prep thoroughly.
- Keep in touch with the admissions committee, and make sure you're sending them the information they need to evaluate your application.
- Keep up your college search! If you applied Early Decision, you may not have done any additional college searching. Start looking at other options and apply to several colleges before the Regular Decision deadline.
- Look at the data. How often are deferred students offered admission? Be ready to move forward with other choices.

**No offer of admission** As with the word acceptance, I prefer to refer to this response as "no offer of admission" instead of rejection. It softens the blow a bit. If that does happen, help your teen focus on the colleges that said YES. It's another of those life lessons that your teen will learn throughout college. And it's another opportunity for you to reinforce the fact that sometimes life hands us disappointments. It's what we do with those disappointments that build character.

## CHANGES COMING TO SAT AS COLLEGES DROP TESTING REQUIREMENTS

*Continued from page 1*

### KEY CHANGES

- The SAT will solely be administered online beginning in 2024 in the U.S. and in 2023 internationally, though the exam will still take place at a proctored test center, according to the College Board release.
- The exam itself will look different, as the test time will shrink from three hours to about two hours and calculators will be allowed on all math sections.
- The College Board said that students will be able to take the exam on a personal or school-issued device or the College Board will provide a device to students, a policy that seemingly addresses criticism of inequities for the exam.
- In the release, the College Board said 83% of students surveyed said they still want the option to submit standardized testing scores to universities as many schools make submitting results optional.

## NORTH ISLAND CREDIT UNION SCHOLARSHIP

North Island Credit Union Scholarship - This year we are awarding 10 scholarships of \$1000 each. Resident of Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego or Orange Counties OR a North Island Credit Union member/dependent of a member who may live outside of our core service area. Application deadline April 8, 2022



## TYLENOL FUTURE CARE SCHOLARSHIP

Each year the makers of TYLENOL® award annual scholarships to well deserving students pursuing careers in healthcare. Application opens May 1st



## COLLEGE NEWS

The Supreme Court announced yesterday it will reconsider race-based affirmative action in college admissions, a move that could eliminate campus practices that have widely benefitted Black and Hispanic students. Justices will hear challenges to policies at **Harvard** and the **University of North Carolina** beginning next October, with a decision likely by June 2023.

The **California State University** (CSU) has temporarily suspended the use of ACT/SAT examinations in determining admission eligibility for all CSU campuses for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years

Roughly \$3.75 billion in Pell Grant funding went unclaimed by the high school class of 2021, according to an analysis from the **National College Attainment Network**. The group cited a low FAFSA completion rate as one reason for the increase.

University Mistakenly Tells 5,500 Students They Won Huge Scholarships **Oakland University** in Michigan said “human error” was to blame for the incorrect emails. It was the second university in the state this month to make such a mistake