



# SENIOR UPDATE

September 2019

Counseling Department:

Mr. Sotomayor	(A – G)
Ms. Nabors	(H – P)
Ms. Gomez	(Q – Z, ELD)
Ms. Doane Dixon	(support)

WELCOME BACK CLASS OF 2020!! This year is going to fly by for you, and there are a lot of important things you need to do outside of just passing your classes. To help you with that, the counselors write this monthly Senior Update that is posted in your English and government classes, the counseling hallway, and the Senior Google classroom.

## **Google Classroom Code: 88xb1ma**

- If you joined our Junior classroom, you are already in the Senior one.
- This is our primary way to communicate with you! Please join the classroom soon so you do not miss important deadlines, updates, and reminders.

**Like us on Facebook @FUHScounselors** to get college and career info, volunteer and internship opportunities, and other counseling related info on your news feed.

## **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT:**

- Fortuna High Back to School Night is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**. At the conclusion of the classroom visits, we will have a SENIOR PARENT COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT in the library. Parents will learn what to expect during your senior year in regards to colleges, financial aid, scholarships, graduation, etc. Please ask them to attend. Thank you!

## **CREDITS/GRADUATION:**

We will be calling each of you down over the next few weeks to make sure you are on track for graduation and to talk about where you are going next year. If you are behind in credits, you will be called down first so we can talk about your credit recovery options. Remember, **you must pass all of the classes you are taking this year or your credit situation will change and you may not graduate.**

## COLLEGE VISITS:

- College reps visit us throughout the year. This is a great opportunity to meet with them and ask questions about their school. Visits will be posted in the bulletin and on Google Classroom. If you are interested in attending you will need to sign up in the front office once a visit has been announced.
- Many schools host preview days in the fall for parents and students to come see their campus, check out the offered programs, and take tours of the facilities. If you are interested in attending one, check out the college website for more details on how to register to attend. You can also stop by counseling and we will help you. Humboldt State Fall Preview Day is 11/08!
- College Week Live ([www.collegeweeklive.com](http://www.collegeweeklive.com)) gives you access to hundreds of colleges around the country. It's free, and once registered you can attend live webinars and college fairs, chat with admissions counselors, learn about scholarships, and watch video tours.

## COLLEGE AND CAREER EXPO @ EUREKA HIGH:

- On **Tuesday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 – 8:00 pm** the annual College and Career Expo will be at Bayshore Mall. This is a great place to speak with admissions representatives from various colleges, universities, community colleges, trade schools and military branches.
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## FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS:

- **FAFSA:**
  - The federal financial aid application – the **FAFSA** – is your first step to financial aid for both colleges and trade schools. If you qualify for federal financial aid, your application information will be automatically sent to the colleges you have applied to. The college will then report back to you in the spring with your financial aid package – including federal grants and loans, state grants, and scholarships from your college. **We will walk you through this process in your English classes in October once the application is available online.** Right now, you should ask your parents to locate their 2018 Tax Information and learn your social security number – you will need both things to apply.
- **DREAM ACT:**
  - If you are an undocumented immigrant, you do not have access to the FAFSA or any federal aid. You DO have access to state aid and college scholarships, and will fill out a Dream Act application instead of the FAFSA. Your application information will be processed by the state of California instead of the federal government. **We will walk**

**you through this process in your English class in October.** Right now, you should ask your parents to locate their 2018 Tax information and learn your DACA number if you have one.

- **Local Scholarships:**

- Local community organizations, such as Coast Central Credit Union, Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, etc. offer scholarships. Most of these open in the winter and spring, and will be announced in the Senior Update along with deadlines and qualifications.
- **NorthCoast Scholarship Finder** (<http://www.ncsfinder.org/>) is a search engine for local scholarships, many of which we do not advertise in our update.

- **National Scholarships:**

- Scholarships from national and state programs are generally looking for great students with the good grades and lots of activities, extracurricular involvement and community service. Applications come in to counseling and will be announced in the Senior Update each month along with deadlines and qualifications.
- **Raise Me** (<https://www.raise.me/>) is a micro-scholarship website where you can earn scholarship money for achievements already completed in high school.

- **Other Scholarships:**

- Merit Scholarships are available from many colleges and are not tied to financial need or the FAFSA. We also do not advertise all of these in our update. Check your school's financial aid office website to get more information about what merit scholarships they offer and how to apply.

- **Scholarship searches:**

- Many web sites will perform scholarship searches for you and give you a list of scholarships that apply to you. **DO NOT PAY FOR SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH ENGINES.** Pay sites are often scams. Three great websites that are completely free include:
  - Fast Web ([www.fastweb.com/](http://www.fastweb.com/))
  - The Financial Aid Information Page ([www.finaid.org/](http://www.finaid.org/))
  - Scholarships.com ([www.scholarships.com/](http://www.scholarships.com/))

## **SAT AND ACT:**

- Those of you applying to four-year universities or colleges must take either the SAT or ACT. You can also take both and colleges will take your highest score.

- Those of you applying to community colleges or technical schools do not need to take the SAT or the ACT.

**SAT:**

- Registration is done online at [www.sat.collegeboard.org](http://www.sat.collegeboard.org). You will need to enter our school code (050965), upload a photo, and provide your SSN and/or date of birth. You will also need a credit card to pay the registration fee. (If you think you qualify for and need a fee waiver, see your counselor before you register). After you register, print out your registration ticket ASAP. You'll need to take that ticket to the test along with your photo ID, 2 number 2 pencils, a calculator, and your social security number.
- You can send your score to four colleges for free, after that they will charge you for each score sent. If you are applying to a CSU, the code **3594** will send your SAT scores to ALL CSUs and save your other 3 choices for other colleges. If you are applying to a UC, only send it to one UC campus and they will share it with other UC campuses, saving your other 3 scores for other schools.

**ACT:**

- Registration is done online at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). It is a similar process to the SAT registration, and we also have fee waivers for this test available for eligible students.
- There is currently no ACT testing site in Humboldt County. The closest one is Ukiah.

**Which test should I take?** The two tests are very similar. The biggest difference is that the SAT has more math and the ACT has more science, so you can pick the test that best shows your strengths. If you want more detail on the differences, go to <http://www.studypoint.com/ed/act-vs-sat/>

**Test prep:** These websites offer free test prep and practice...

- <http://www.kahnapcademy.org> (SAT)
- <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice> (SAT)
- <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation.html> (ACT)
- <https://uniontestprep.com/> (ACT and SAT)

## ACT

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Scores Available
July 13, 2019	June 14	July 23
September 14, 2019	Aug. 16	Sept. 24
October 26, 2019	Sept. 20	Nov. 5
December 14, 2019	Nov. 8	Dec. 23
February 8, 2020	Jan. 10	Feb. 18
April 4, 2020	Feb. 28	Apr. 14
June 13, 2020	May 8	June 23
July 18, 2020	June 19	July 28

## SAT

SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Scores Available
June 1, 2019	May 3	July 10
August 24, 2019	July 26	Sept. 6
October 5, 2019	Sept. 6	Oct. 18
November 2, 2019	Oct. 3	Nov. 15
December 7, 2019	Nov. 8	Dec. 20
March 14, 2020	Feb. 14	Mar. 27
May 2, 2020	Apr. 3	May 15
June 6, 2020	May 8	July 15

### NCAA:

- This is the governing body of college athletics for Division I and II colleges. If you anticipate playing sports at college, you must obtain a clearance form from NCAA. What this does is establish your eligibility to play sports. The forms are available online at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) and should be filled out as soon as you can. If you are being recruited to play a particular sport, your college coach will probably inform you of this procedure. If you have questions about the clearance process, speak with your coach or Mr. Sotomayor.