

## GRADE 12

### ALL YEAR

Register and take the SAT/ACT as appropriate. **Students must register for these tests independently.**

Students should continue the college and career research and visiting process, aiming to bring their college list down to an appropriate range, typically 6-8 possibilities, for final consideration during the fall.

NAVIANCE is a fantastic resource to help you initially make and then narrow down your college list while also providing contact information for any college or university in which you may have an interest. Another year-round use of NAVIANCE is the local and national scholarship search engines found in the “Colleges” tab. Students/parents should continually monitor these sections of NAVIANCE to find and apply for various scholarships [www.connection.naviance.com/ucrhs](http://www.connection.naviance.com/ucrhs).

Students should begin/continue preparing a final draft of their personal statements/essays for college applications.

ATHLETES interested in playing for Division I or II schools **MUST REGISTER ONLINE** with the **National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Clearinghouse**. The address is [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org). After registering, be sure to complete the Athletic Release Form found on the School Counseling webpage so that your transcripts will be sent to the NCAA . Also, remember to have your SAT scores and/or ACT scores sent directly the NCAA Clearinghouse from [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) and/or from [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). Remember that you must have your SAT scores and/or ACT scores sent to the NCAA Clearinghouse directly from [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) and/or [actstudent.org](http://actstudent.org)

Students should continue to prepare videotapes, audiotapes and art portfolios, if appropriate, to submit to colleges.

**Students need to continue to achieve at their highest level!** Students must maintain a solid academic course schedule and strong grades. Colleges will be requesting mid-term senior grades (February, 2019) and final transcripts (June/July of 2019). College acceptances (always conditional) have been reversed in situations where seniors did not maintain the quality of their academic performance.

**Avoid senioritis!! Senioritis is a choice.....you don't catch it like the flu!**

Students (and parents) should keep in frequent touch with their counselor. BE PROACTIVE.....COUNSELORS ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!!

Students should continue to build on their base of experiences outside the classroom. Maintain or get involved in some activities that **show commitment** (i.e. clubs, sports, work, school/community service) and feel free to try new things. Remember to keep a sane balance between academics and activities!

## **SEPTEMBER 2018**

Attend **COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT FOR SENIORS AND THEIR PARENTS/GUARDIANS** in September for an important update on the college application process, requesting transcripts, student essays, interviewing, teacher/counselor recommendations, etc.,etc.,etc.

Register for SAT or SAT Subject Tests [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org), and/or ACT testing [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org), as appropriate. *Test dates, deadline dates, testing locations, etc. are found on these websites.*

**College representatives will be visiting UC in the fall during the lunch periods.** Students should not hesitate to stop by their tables in the cafeteria and meet with representatives from colleges in which they are interested. **A schedule of college visits** can be found on NAVIANCE.

Students should consult with their counselor if they are planning an **EARLY DECISION** application (binding) or an **EARLY ACTION** application (non-binding). Deadline dates are October/November depending on the college.

Students should start working on college applications. Colleges/universities generally prefer online applications. If you want to save some time, you may find out which of the colleges to which you will be applying subscribe to the **COMMON APPLICATION** and you will complete only one application which you can send to your desired schools (over 500 colleges/universities are members of the **COMMON APPLICATION**). For those colleges that are not members (75% of colleges), you may visit the college website and complete their applications online.

Students can begin submitting our blue UC Transcript Request and Release Form with appropriate documentation to the School Counseling Department to meet Early Decision, Early Action deadlines.

Be careful re: **DEADLINES!** Due dates for transcript requests to be submitted to Mrs. Kahney in the Counseling Office can be found on the blue form available in the School Counseling Office.

**Families applying to colleges for financial assistance for college are strongly encouraged to attend our **FINANCIAL AID NIGHT** on Tuesday, October 9th at 7:00pm. A college financial aid expert will provide information about the types of financial assistance that are available and, very importantly, explain the **FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)** item by item. Parents may begin to file the **FAFSA** after October 1, 2018. Approximately 75% of all student financial assistance is funneled through the **FAFSA!** Keep in mind that the Class of 2018 was awarded an astounding **\$36,000,000.00** in scholarships and grants (not counting student loans).**

If applying for financial assistance to attend a PRIVATE college or university, you may be asked to complete the **COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP SERVICE FINANCIAL AID PROFILE**. This is a special filing requirement by a number of PRIVATE colleges and universities especially if you are applying **EARLY DECISION (binding)** and usually by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Later filings are okay if you are applying regular decision. Go to [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) to complete the form online. ***IMPORTANT! DO NOT CONFUSE THIS WITH THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA) WHICH MAY BE SUBMITTED AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2018.***

Work on application **ESSAYS/PERSONAL STATEMENTS**; It is critical that you work on these early in the fall if you are considering applying Early Decision or Early Action.

### **OCTOBER 2018**

Families applying to colleges for financial assistance are strongly encouraged to attend our **FINANCIAL AID NIGHT** on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. A college financial aid expert will provide information about the types of financial assistance that are available and, very importantly, explain the **FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)** item by item. Parents may begin to file the **FAFSA** after October 1, 2018. Approximately 75% of student financial assistance is funneled through the **FAFSA!** Keep in mind that the Class of 2018 was awarded an astounding **\$36,000,000.00** in scholarships and grants (not counting student loans).

Take the SAT or SAT Subject Tests as appropriate.  
Seniors take ACT, if appropriate.

Seniors should consult with their counselor to refine their list of college choices.  
Attend College Open Houses  
Seniors are encouraged to set up a calendar to record application deadline dates to insure they meet those deadlines and other college application requirements.

Seniors are encouraged to make arrangements for interviews, weekend overnight visits and the opportunity to sit in on classes at the colleges/universities to which they may be interested.

**SEARCH FOR SCHOLARSHIPS** at [www.connection.naviance.com/ucrhs](http://www.connection.naviance.com/ucrhs);  
[www.collegeboard.org/scholarships](http://www.collegeboard.org/scholarships); and [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com).

**IF YOU WISH YOUR HIGH SCHOOL RECORDS TO BE MAILED TO THE COLLEGE BEFORE THANKSGIVING YOU MUST SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST TO THE COUNSELING OFFICE BY OCTOBER 25th.**

## **NOVEMBER 2018**

Seniors register and take SAT Reasoning or SAT Subject Tests, as appropriate.

Seniors continue college/career research, visits and interviews

Attend college Open Houses

Students/parents are encouraged to attend local college nights to meet with admissions representatives, ask questions and learn more about what colleges have to offer. See the UC website for dates and times.

Seniors continue to work on applications. Don't put them off!

***If you wish to have school records sent to colleges before the Christmas break, you must make your request to the School Counseling Office by DECEMBER 3rd.***

## **DECEMBER 2018**

Seniors register for and take the SAT or SAT Subject Tests, as appropriate.

Seniors register for and take the ACT, as appropriate

## **JANUARY 2019**

Seniors register for and complete any additional standardized testing (SAT or SAT Subject Tests).

Next ACT administration is offered in February.

Parents/students complete and submit financial aid forms (**FAFSA**) and, when required, the **CSS FINANCIAL AID PROFILE and any financial aid forms requested by the individual colleges.** File well before the college financial aid deadlines to have the greatest chance at financial assistance. Early is always better! Also, even if you do not **think you can qualify for financial assistance, you may consider filing a FAFSA anyway because some college academic scholarships may require it. Many times also, student/parent educational loan providers require the FAFSA.**

**Also, in the category of “I never thought of that,” call the Counseling Office of your community’s public high school for a list of your community’s scholarships; remember that you are a taxpayer in your community and entitled to apply for and receive scholarship awards if you meet scholarship donor requirements.**

## **FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL 2019**

Students begin to receive decisions from colleges (although some colleges wait until April 1<sup>st</sup>).

Keep track of your admission decisions and financial aid awards in your **SENIOR PACKET**.

Students should **revisit** campuses if they are still not sure about which college they will ultimately choose to attend.

Once the final decision has been made as to which college/university you will attend, inform all other schools by whom you have been accepted because this would allow those schools to offer admissions to other applicants. **This falls into the category of “The Right Thing To Do.”**

Line up a summer job, internship volunteer opportunity or other activity.

## **MAY 2019**

May 1<sup>st</sup> (Candidate’s Reply Date) is the final date by which you must notify the college that you are going to attend. Check your email for important deadlines for college deposits, etc.

Submit your completed **SENIOR PACKET** to the Counseling Office. Make sure you have added college admissions decisions in Naviance and report the college to which you want your final transcript to be sent.

Breathe a sigh of relief. **CONGRATULATIONS!!!!**

Advanced Placement Exams administered this month.

**Send thank-you notes** to teachers and other people who wrote recommendations for you if you haven’t done so already.

## **JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2019**

Enjoy your transition time before your next important step in your life.

**START PACKING!!**

