

Setting Yourself Up
For Success While
in High School

Overview

- Benefits of a College Degree
- College Readiness
- A-G requirements
- High School
- UC's and CSU's
- College Planning
- Community College
- Finding Help
- Opportunities

Benefits of a College Degree

- Higher earning potential
- More likely to get hired and have a stable job
- More job options
- Job Satisfaction
- Empower you to be more in control in your life
- Make better decisions
- More Marketable
- Better able to weather adversity
- More access to resources
- Opens door to achieve personal goals rather than professional goals
- Strong sense of pride in self

College Readiness = Career Readiness

- While not every high school graduate plans to attend college, the majority of the fastest-growing jobs that require a high school diploma, pay a salary above the poverty line for a family of four, and provide opportunities for career advancement require knowledge and skills comparable to those expected of a first-year college student.



A-G REQUIREMENTS

High School Graduation – College Freshman
Admissions

A-G Requirements

- A-G requirements are state mandated for high school graduation, CSU and UC freshman admission.

Completing and excelling in them not only makes a student eligible for UC and CSU admission but also makes the student a strong competitor amongst the rest of the applicants.



The Minimum: High School Graduation Requirements

- English: 3 years
- Mathematics: 2 years
- Social Studies/Science: 3 years
- Science: 2 years
- Foreign Language: 1 year
- Visual & Performing Arts: 1 year
- Physical Education: 2 years



High School Counselors



- Your counselor will guide you, but you have to ask.
- Don't wait for your counselor to come to you

California State University: Requirements for Freshman Admission

- English: 4 years
- Mathematics: 3 years
- Social Studies/Science: 2 years
- Science: 2 years
- Foreign Language: 2 years
- Visual & Performing Arts: 1 year



University of California: Requirements for Freshman Admission

- English: 4 years
- Mathematics: 3 years
 - ❖ RECOMMENDED: 4 YEARS
- Social Studies/Sciences: 2 years
- Science: 2 years
 - ❖ RECOMMENDED: 3 YEARS
- Foreign Language: 2 years
 - ❖ RECOMMENDED: 3 YEARS
- Visual & Performing Arts: 1 year





WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

Differentiating a UC from a CSU



What is the difference between a UC and a CSU?



- UC's
 - Primary Academic Research Institutions of California
 - Better funded
 - Support Graduate Education (Masters and PhD)
 - Renowned faculty
 - Prestige
 - Many opportunities to get involved
 - Professors are dependent on the Teacher Assistant
 - More expensive



What is the difference between a UC and a CSU? (Pros and Cons)

- **CSU's**
 - The Teaching Institutions of California
 - Professors spend more time teaching
 - More affordable
 - A limited amount of Graduate Programs for continued education (Masters and PhD)



A-G REQUIREMENTS

For UC Freshman Admission

University of California Requirements

English



- 4 years
- If it is not your strongest subject get tutoring
- Planning with your counselor to take Honors/AP

University of California Requirements

Mathematics

- Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Math Analysis (or other similar course), Calculus AB, and Calculus BC
 - 3 year min: Must include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II
 - **4 years recommended:** Must include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-calculus
- Planning on pursuing a major in science? Take AP Calculus!!



University of California Requirements

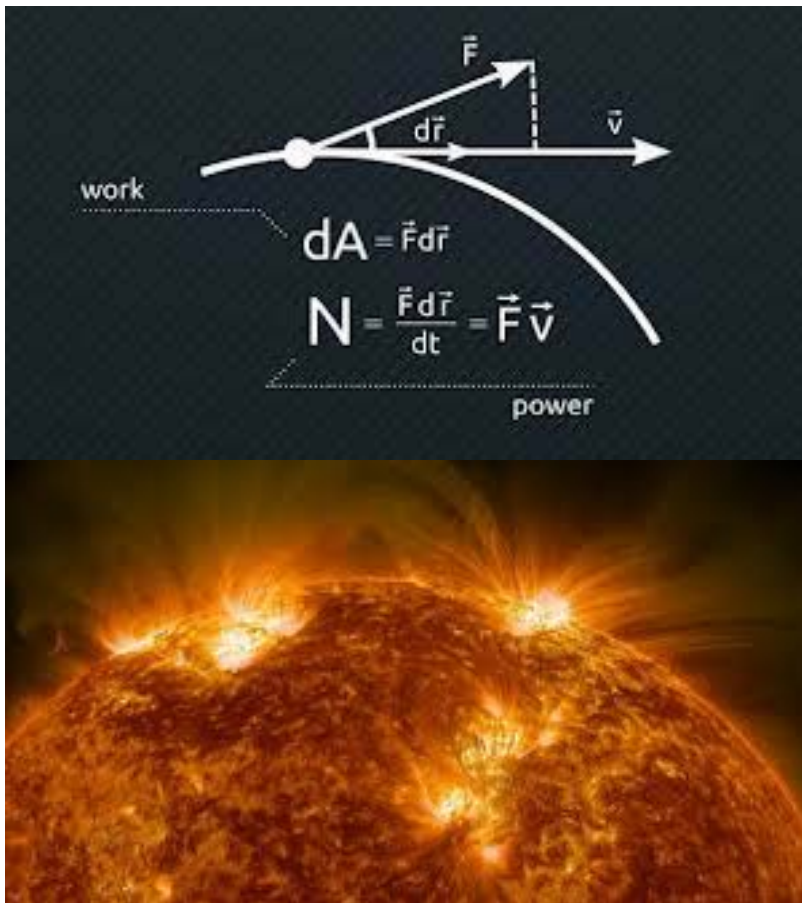
Social Studies/Science

- US History, American Government, and World History
- **2 years:** Including one year of US History OR one semester of US History and one semester of American Government and one year of World History



University of California Requirements

Science



- Biological and physical science courses (biology, anatomy, chemistry, physics, etc.)
 - 2 year min: must include a biological and physical science course
 - 3 years recommended: must include a biological and physical science course
- Plan on pursuing a major in science? Take AP and Honors Chemistry, Physics, and Biology

University of California Requirements Foreign Language



- Study the same foreign language for the required 2 and recommended 3 years
- Tip: The advanced placement (AP) test counts for two years of a foreign language

University of California Requirements

Visual & Performing Arts



- Dance, Drama/Theatre, Play Production, Music, Pottery, etc.
- 1 year

**GET
INVOLVED!**

College Planning: High School Freshman - Juniors

- Know which high school courses satisfy college requirements
- Create a 4-year high school curriculum plan
- Get involved in an extracurricular
 - Initiative, dedication, and motivation.
- Volunteer
- Talk to your school counselor and/or parent about your career goals and college plans
- List possible college choices, and visit their websites and the campus



College Planning

(Verify the following dates. This is only a general idea and dates must be verified by YOU)

- Apply to college: November 1st
 - Personal Statement: What makes you or breaks you
 - Use everything you have!
- File for FAFSA: January 1st – March 2nd
 - Apply as early as possible. The earlier the higher the chances to get sufficient aid.
- Take the SAT and Subject Tests: Upcoming registration date is September 7th – 20th
 - You need to take these two tests your Junior year, if you want to go to a UC or CSU
- ACT College Readiness Test: Upcoming registration date is September 21
 - Same as SAT's, but not all college campuses require it. Verify if the campus you would like to attend requires it.

Personal Statement Tips

- The personal statement tells the college admissions panel who you are as a person.
- Tips
 - Turn hardships into positives
 - If you didn't do well academically a certain year, explain why.
 - This is your time to show them exactly why they need someone like you in their school



Community Colleg

VALLEY COLLEGE



Your local and more affordable way to get access to university-level material

- Typical Admissions
 - Complete application for admission
 - Placement tests (Depending on what you want to study)
 - Schedule a meeting with your counselor
 - Apply for financial aid
 - Register for classes (Early!)
 - Pay tuition
 - Review courses

Community College: PACE Program

- Program for Accelerated College Education
- What is the purpose of PACE?
- What does it have to offer?
- How do I sign up?





Finding Help

- Your High School's College & Career Centers
 - Offers great resources
- High School Counselors
 - Planning
- Teachers
- The Internet
- Anyone who is attending or has completed their college education





Finding Help



- A few scholarship websites:
 - www.collegescholarships.com
 - www.gocollege.com
 - www.rmhc.org
 - www.fastweb.com
 - www.hispanicscholarship.com
 - www.studentsawards.com
 - www.scholarshipexperts.com
 - www.collegeprowler.com
 - www.dellscholars.org
 - And many more...

Opportunities

A wise man [or woman] will
make more opportunities than
he [or she] finds.

- Francis Bacon