



# EIGHTEEN 75

THE DONS COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER NEWSLETTER  
FOR STUDENTS/PARENTS/GUARDIANS

June 1

2020

## Rising Seniors College Prep Edition



### CONTENT

- Senior Year Timeline
- Virtual College Visits
- Webinars
- SAT/ACT
- College Apps
- Letters of Recommendation
- Financial Aid



### Rising Seniors & Parents/Guardians:

Please spend some time and read through this message. There is A LOT of information regarding your senior year, timelines, and resources for SAT/ACT testing, College Apps and Financial Aid.

- **Weekly YouTube videos** will be coming out on all of these topics throughout the summer and into the Fall. Check back frequently for videos to help you.
- **Weekly College & Career Coffee Chats.** Wednesday mornings at 8:30am starting on Wednesday, June 10th. 10-15 minute presentations followed by Q&A on college-related topics. Full schedule and Zoom invites coming soon.



**Santa Barbara High School  
SENIOR YEAR "PREP FOR COLLEGE"  
TIMELINE**

| Summer before Senior Year   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Make up D or F grades on your transcript.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Continue your college research. Read guidebooks, visit websites, talk to current students, and <a href="#">visit</a> college campuses. Read about admission and application requirements.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Make a list of colleges you want to apply to. This list should include at least 2-3 "safety" schools, 4-5 "target" schools, and 2-3 "reach" schools.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Organize yourself with a bin or file folder or binder or Google Drive. Write down all application deadlines and requirements.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Make a list of all essay and short answer topics for each college. Brainstorm ideas for all essays.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Student athletes planning to play in college must register with <a href="#">NCAA Eligibility Center</a> (if haven't done so already during Junior year).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Register to take the <a href="#">SAT</a> and/or <a href="#">ACT</a> exams in the fall, if needed.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Request admission or alumni interviews for schools that require it.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Work on the 'Brag Sheet' for Counselor and for Teachers.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Look into scholarships. It is never too early to search for scholarships.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pay attention to emails &amp; StudentSquare messages!</li> </ul>   |
| August  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Start the Common Application at <a href="#">www.commonapp.org</a>.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Start the UC application at <a href="#">www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply</a>, available on August 1 but cannot submit until November.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Check your email regularly for information from the Counseling Office/College &amp; Career Center on deadlines, college visits, college workshops, and required procedures.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Check our website for upcoming college visits and sign to meet with the college reps.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> If the college you are interested in is not visiting SBHS, check the college website for scheduled visits or receptions in the Santa Barbara or Ventura area.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Visit the College &amp; Career Center and make an <a href="#">appointment</a> to discuss your college choices.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Finalize your college list; reduce your list to 8-12 schools. This list should include at least 2-3 "definite" schools and 4-5 "target" schools and can include 2-3 "reach" schools.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Contact each teacher that you want a letter of recommendation from. Follow their instructions and deadlines.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Work on your 'Brag Sheet' for Counselors if you are applying Early Decision, Early Action, Restrictive Early Action, or Rolling Admissions.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Continue to edit and finish writing your college essays.</li> </ul> |
| September   |

# Senior Year College Timeline

- Please [download](#) and print the Senior Year "Prep for College" Timeline which provides, in detail, a month-by-month timeline of your Senior Year beginning with this summer.
- Please also utilize the resources provided on our [Digital College Counseling](#) page as well as our [12th Grade Google Folder](#) specifically designed for rising Seniors.



## Virtual College Visits, Open Houses, Preview Days and Webinars

- Upcoming virtual opportunities to visit with colleges are being posted on our [College Visit & Webinar Google Calendar](#). Please check back often as we will be updating this calendar each week throughout the summer. Colleges and Universities are doing a fantastic job with turning all their in-person visit opportunities into online formats
- Don't forget to also utilize the [Virtual Campus Tour](#) resources listed on our website. Since you won't be able to visit these colleges in-person for some time, this is the next best thing!

C&C Center Website



# Mr. Barr Summer Webinars + Special Guests



- **Creative Summer Planning + Creating an Impact When You Can't Go Outside**
  - When: **Thursday, June 18th**
  - Time: **3:30pm**
  - What you will learn: During this period of adjustment, students & parents may be experiencing some uncertainty when it comes to summer plans. We'll discuss how you can really use this time to develop curiosity, initiative, and passion, along with some creativity, to learn and grow during a summer (potentially) at home.
  - RSVP : <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/creative-summer-planning-creating-an-impact-when-you-cant-go-outside-tickets-107241953570>
- **Changes + Myths for UC Admissions**
  - When: **Thursday, July 9th**
  - Time: **3:30pm**
  - What you will learn: Campus closings. SAT cancellations. Online instruction. Each day, even every hour, brings news of an educational landscape that is rapidly shifting. Or is it? In this timely webinar, Collegewise experts will separate fact from fiction and give parents the information they need to make critical upcoming decisions. We'll discuss everything from adjusting SAT/ACT timelines to building out alternative summer plans to learning more about colleges when you can't visit in-person. Join us for this conversation on college admissions and the power of perspective and keeping the focus on what you can control in these challenging times.
  - RSVP: Coming soon!
- **How to Make Your Common App a Lot Less Common**
  - When: **Thursday, July 30th**
  - Time: **3:30pm**
  - What will you learn: Ready to start working on your Common App? Join us to get the inside scoop on the following: How admissions officers review and evaluate the different sections of the Common ApplicationHow to effectively list and describe your activities, accomplishments, and hobbies in the Activities sectionWhat to write in the Additional Information section (and what you should definitely steer clear of writing in there) How you can make the most out of the limited space you have
  - RSVP: Coming soon!





## SAT and ACT

- Priority registration is open **NOW**. If you plan on taking one or both of these tests, please register soon. --> [collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org) for SAT --> [act.org](https://act.org) for ACT
- Email your counselor if you receive Free/Reduced lunch as you are eligible for a Fee Waiver for these tests.
- **Many colleges/universities are now test-optional.** This means you will not be required to submit an SAT or ACT test score for the general application.
  - Be sure you understand the policies for each college regarding this. There are some colleges that will NOT consider you for Merit Financial Aid unless you submit a test score.

## College Application Information



- Be sure to visit our [\*\*Digital College Counseling\*\*](#) resources on our website here.
- This [\*\*one-page document\*\*](#) is also very helpful for you to understand what each application is asking for.
- Know which application(s) you need to complete and when they are due
  - **Common Application & Coalition Application-** are open now (but further updates will be made late July)
  - **University of California** system - Application opens August 1
  - **California State University** System - Application opens October 1
  - **Santa Barbara City College** - Application opens late January 2021
  - Are there any college-specific applications you need to complete?

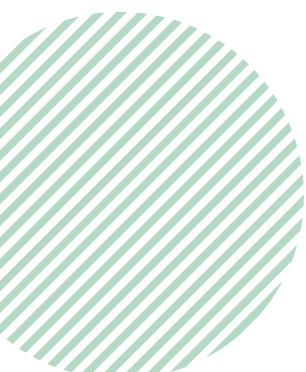


The California  
State University



# Letters of Recommendation

- For most Private Colleges/Universities and many out-of-state Public Colleges/Universities, you will be asked to submit **at least one Letter of Recommendation**. Typically colleges will ask for a letter from your Counselor and one from a Teacher.
- You must ask your Counselor and/or Teachers for a Letter of Recommendation. Do not assume they will write one for you. And also, ask early! Give them plenty of time to respond and be able to write a great letter for you.
- If your Counselor and Teachers say "yes", they will ask you to complete a "**Brag Sheet**". Please notice that a Counselor Brag Sheet and a Teacher Brag Sheet are different.



## Financial Aid

- There are scholarship applications that will open up this summer! We have a **large list of scholarships** on our website. Most local scholarship applications begin around November/December - including **Scholarship Foundation of SB**
- Ask your parents/guardians to start looking for their tax returns and/or pay stubs from 2019. You will need them starting **October 1** to complete the FAFSA or Dream Act
- Be sure to pay attention to Financial Aid deadlines specific to each college. Some FA deadlines are earlier than you might expect.
- Will your college/university require the **CSS Profile**? Your parents will need to help you with this FA application