

COLLEGE – In a Nutshell

Junior/Community Colleges – Apply at www.cccapply.org

FACTS:

- **NO** application fee required
- **NO** essay required
- **NO** letters of recommendation required
- **NO** SAT/ACT ever! **NOT** even when you transfer!
- **NO** application deadline, however classes fill up quickly if students wait too long to apply
- Earn an Associate's Degree (in 2 years) or earn Career/Vocational Certificate
- Designed as the first half of a 4 year education path (basically attend 2 years at JC, then transfer to finish 2 years at UC or CSU or Private University to earn a bachelor's degree)
- Most affordable college option – California College Promise AB19 = The first year of tuition at a JC is **FREE** for all full time incoming freshmen who take 12 or more units (to qualify students must apply to a community college, complete all admission CORE steps and complete the FAFSA or Cal Dream Act)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BxrPPSf2Wlc>

California State Universities (CSU) - Apply at: www2.calstate.edu/apply

FACTS:

- Minimum 2.5 GPA and must meet A-G course requirements with grades of C's or better
- Online application opens October 1st and closes November 30th
- **NO** essay required
- **NO** letter of recommendation required
- Application fee \$70
- Optional application to fill out for those students who qualify for EOP (students who are 1st generation college students and qualify for free/reduced lunch) <https://www2.calstate.edu/attend/student-services/eop>
- CSU tend to be more hands on, career focused
- Earn a bachelor's degree (4 year degree)
- Applicants self-report their academic history from their HS transcript to the application
- Soon after graduation, final transcripts are sent from Downey's registrar office to the college you plan to attend (your college of attendance is indicated on the Senior Exit Survey you completed in Naviance by May 1st)
- How to request a CSU application fee waiver: Before fee waiver eligibility is determined, you must complete the questions you answered on the application about your **family income** and **family size**. At the end of the application process, you will see a "Check My Fee Waiver Status" link on the "Submit Application" tab to determine whether or not you are eligible for an application fee waiver.
- For Class of 2022, CSU's will **NOT** consider SAT or ACT test scores when making admission decisions or when awarding scholarships. CSU's have affirmed that they will **NOT** penalize students for the absence of a standardized test score.

University of California (UC) - Apply at: www.universityofcalifornia.edu

FACTS:

- Minimum 3.0 GPA and must meet A-G course requirements with grades of C's or better
- Online application opens November 1st and closes November 30th (opened NOW but cannot submit app online until November 1st)
- **NO** letter of recommendation required
- Application fee \$70
- UC's are more research focused and more competitive
- Earn a bachelor's degree (4 year degree)
- Applicants self-report their academic history from their HS transcript to the application
- Complete short answers to personal insight questions on the application
- Soon after graduation, final transcripts are sent from Downey's registrar office to the college you plan to attend (your college of attendance is indicated on the Senior Exit Survey you completed in Naviance)
- How to request a UC application fee waiver: You must fill out the **family income** and **family size** questions in the "**Your Household**" section the application (if you didn't complete that section, you will have an opportunity to provide that information on the submission page of your application)
- More expensive college option then applying to JC's and CSU's
- UC's offer the Blue & Gold Opportunity Grant if a student qualifies
<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/tuition-financial-aid/types-of-aid/blue-and-gold-opportunity-plan.html>
- For Class of 2022, UC's will **NOT** consider SAT or ACT test scores when making admission decisions or when awarding scholarships. UC's have affirmed that they will **NOT** penalize students for the absence of a standardized test score.

PRIVATE and OUT OF STATE colleges

FACTS:

- Admission requirements, application fees and deadlines vary by each individual private university so it's the student's responsibility to check with university admission office or visit their websites to research this info.
- Privates can be 2 or 4 year colleges
- Private universities can be research focus, liberal arts or career focused
- A few private universities will still require SAT/ACT test scores, so it's the students responsibility to check with the college admission office or visit the website of the private university or out of state college, to confirm that they do **NOT** require SAT/ACT test scores. REMEMBER to consider colleges that have YOUR health and safety in mind!

MOST PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES USE THE COMMON APP www.commonapp.org which requires the following school documents be submitted electronically to the private college via your Naviance account

<https://student.naviance.com/auth/fclookup>

1. Official HS Transcript
2. A secondary and mid-year school report
3. Most require a teacher letter of recommendation
4. Most require a personal statement (essay)
5. Some require supplemental essays

Important! Students must work with the college counselor to have all the school documents listed above submitted in Naviance **well before** the application deadline. This is where the Naviance program can help organize and electronically submit the required documents via Naviance. **Visit the career center (rm. 42) to inform the college counselor of your decision to apply to a private university.**