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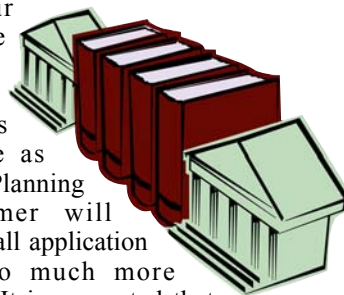
Future editions of the Academic Bulletin will be available on the IUSD website. (Previous editions are also available online.)  
[http://www.iusd.org/parent\\_resources/academic.htm](http://www.iusd.org/parent_resources/academic.htm)



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## JUNIORS... Organize Your College Search and Application Process This Summer

Ok, juniors...you're next year's seniors!! You need to get organized this summer to make your college application and search process as stress free as possible. Planning this summer will make the Fall application process go much more smoothly. It is suggested that each student/family devote a large binder (2" or 3") to the college search process. Start your binder with The College Information Chart on page 2 to keep track of deadlines, and the dates that you send required information to each college. Everyone has a different way of organizing information, so choose the one that works best for you. It might be tab dividers by college, or it might be tab dividers by dates of things that need to be done. Although your binder will not be very full at first, save room for the following items, most of which you will be adding next Fall:



1. Your "brag" sheet. You can get this form from the counseling office, or just put together a school and activity "resume." You'll need this to give to your teachers and/or counselor whom you're asking for letters of recommendation.
2. Notes on the various colleges you're considering. Download and print information and a few pictures off the internet for each college you're considering. A good place to start is [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). You can print out information and then go to each college's website for pictures. This will give you a quick reference point to check back now and then on different college characteristics you might want to compare.

3. A record of applications you have requested and received, along with their appropriate deadlines.
4. A record of tests you have taken, when you took them, and the colleges to which you have sent them.
5. A record of interview appointments.
6. A record of which teachers you have asked to write recommendations and when you gave them the forms and stamped envelopes. Yes, it is your responsibility to provide an addressed and stamped envelope for each letter of recommendation to get to your schools of choice.
7. Photocopies of applications and accompanying essays you have completed and submitted to the colleges. This will save you hours of work in the event your application is lost in the mail or misplaced among thousands in the admissions office. It does happen!
8. A record of all Certificate of Mailing receipts. Absolutely no college applications should be sent through the mail without proper certification which can give proof of the post-marked date if necessary. If an application is sent through cyberspace, an acknowledgement from the college will be sent back to you. Print these out each time and keep them.
9. A record of all correspondence between you and the colleges.
10. A record of your college-related internet accounts, usernames and passwords.

Your college binder will make the college selection process that much less stressful for you and your family!!

**(You can use this page and page 2 as your front page for organizing your binder)**



## Important Test Dates for the 2007/2008 School Year



**SAT & SUBJECT TEST DATES**  
log on to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) to sign up for the SAT & Subject Tests

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration</u>	<u>Late Reg.</u>
Oct. 6	Sept. 10	Sept. 14
Nov. 3	Oct. 2	Oct. 11
Dec. 1	Oct. 30	Nov. 8
Jan. 26	Dec. 26	Jan. 4
Mar. 1 (SAT only)	Jan. 29	Feb. 7
May 3	April 1	April 10
June 7	May 6	May 15

### ACT TEST DATES

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration</u>	<u>Late Reg.</u>
Sept. 15	Aug. 10	Aug 11-24
Oct. 27	Sept. 21	Sept 22-Oct 5
Dec. 8	Nov. 2	Nov. 3-15
Feb. 9	Jan. 4	Jan. 5-18
Apr. 12	March 7	March 8-21
June 14	May 9	May 10-23

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR JUNIORS & SENIORS

### Hispanic Scholarship Fund

**Award:** varies

**Eligibility:** Students of hispanic heritage, U.S. citizen or legal resident, 3.0 GPA or higher, apply for FAFSA. Many various scholarships available. Check out the website!!

**Website:** [www.hsf.net/scholarships.php](http://www.hsf.net/scholarships.php)

### A. Bannister Scholarship

**Award:** \$1,200

**Eligibility:** Seniors planning on majoring in arts, business, pre-law or law. Essay of 500 words or less on why you think you are deserving of the scholarship.

**Website:** [www.surrey-lawyers.com/philanthropy.htm](http://www.surrey-lawyers.com/philanthropy.htm)

**Deadline:** June 15, 2007

### Irvine Valley College Scholarship

**Award:** see website

**Eligibility:** Seniors with financial need planning to attend Irvine Valley College.

**Website:** [www.ivic.edu/finaid](http://www.ivic.edu/finaid)

**Deadline:** When filing your application to attend

### Leonardo Da Vinci Scholarship

**Award:** \$1,500

**Eligibility:** Students between the ages of 16 and 25. 500 word essay that answers the following question: Of the countless accomplishments that Leonardo Da Vinci has made in the field of art, science, mathematics, etc., what do you believe is his most significant accomplishment?

**Website:** [www.leonardo-davinci.org/leonardo-davinci-scholarship.php](http://www.leonardo-davinci.org/leonardo-davinci-scholarship.php)

**Deadline:** July 15, 2007

### Elder & Leema Publishers

**“Challenge the Experts”**

**Award:** up to \$10,000

**Eligibility:** Juniors and seniors and undergraduate students. You must submit an essay of 500 words or less addressing one of the topics on the sponsor’s site.

**Website:**

[www.elpublishers.com/content/scholarship-challenge-the-experts.php](http://www.elpublishers.com/content/scholarship-challenge-the-experts.php)

**Deadline:** July 1, 2007



### Asian Business Association of Orange County

**Award:** \$1,000

**Eligibility:** Academic performance, community involvement, and an essay on a given topic.

**Website:** [www.abaoc.org](http://www.abaoc.org)

**Deadline:** June 30, 2007

### Common Knowledge Scholarships

**Award:** various

**Eligibility:** Numerous varied scholarships found on the same website.

**Website:** [www.cksf.org](http://www.cksf.org)

**Deadline:** varies



**Check out the following websites. There’s a wealth of information just waiting to be found!!**

- [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- [www.prepseeker.com](http://www.prepseeker.com)
- [www.scholarships4Student.com](http://www.scholarships4Student.com)
- [www.gocollege.com](http://www.gocollege.com)
- [www.scholarships101.com](http://www.scholarships101.com)
- [www.srnexpress.com](http://www.srnexpress.com)
- [www.embarck.com](http://www.embarck.com)
- [www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com)
- [www.scholarshipproviders.org](http://www.scholarshipproviders.org)
- [www.Scholarships.com](http://www.Scholarships.com)
- [www.financialaidnews.com](http://www.financialaidnews.com)
- [www.studentscholarshipsearch.com](http://www.studentscholarshipsearch.com)

# SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Things you should know to succeed in your freshman year of college:

- **Ask questions.** Talk to counselors and instructors.
- **Know yourself.** What do you like and dislike? Identify what you want to achieve.
- **Be flexible and develop a “can-do” attitude.** Be open-minded.
- **Manage your money.** Establish a budget and stick to it.
- **Use campus resources.** Find out about resources through freshman orientation.
- **Stay healthy.** Get enough sleep and eat right. Find the right balance.
- **Manage your time.** Set a schedule and stick to it. Make choices.
- **Learn study skills.** Review notes after class. Join a study group.
- **Set academic goals.** Set long-range goals for after college.
- **Maintain a support network** of family, friends, academic advising and staff.

Remember — you’re not alone... and yes, your mother wants to hear from you now and then!!

## College Placement Tests

College Placement Tests are qualifying tests to determine the course of study for freshman students. It could possibly delay your progress if, for instance, you need to take an entry-level algebra class in your freshman year because you didn’t do well in college placement tests. Often students don’t do well because they haven’t taken basic math and algebra classes since the 8th and 9th grades and have forgotten much of it by the time they take the college placement test. To improve your chances of placing well, review basic algebra and vocabulary skills before taking these tests.

## Colleges That Change Lives Information Session and College Fair



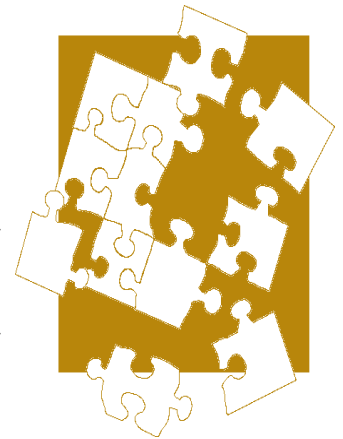
Wednesday, August 8, 2007  
7:00-9:30 p.m.

Hilton LA Universal City  
555 Universal Hollywood Dr.  
Universal City, CA

For more information log on to...

[www.ctcl.com](http://www.ctcl.com)

## College Gameplan



### Freshmen and Sophomores

- Start a summer reading list. Ask your teachers to recommend books.
- Plan to visit college campuses to get a feel for your options. Start with colleges near you.
- Finalize your summer plans.

### Juniors

- Visit colleges. Take campus tours and, at colleges you’re serious about, schedule interviews with admissions counselors. Be sure to bring a campus visit checklist (found on the collegeboard website).
- Request applications from colleges to which you’ll apply. Check important dates; some universities have early dates or rolling admissions. Consult the College Application Calendar and Financial Aid Calendar at [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com) for a basic idea of the applications timeline.
- Work on organizing your binder!

## What to Do If Your Academic Performance Drops

Not all people have a smooth experience in high school. It takes some people longer to adjust, and others make choices that could have been better. And some students have to deal with serious life issues while in school: death, divorce, athletic injuries, or an end of a serious relationship.

Whatever the situation, it might have meant a bumpier road rather than the one expected - and students may think they've ruined their chances of getting into a good school. Not true. There are ways to deal with the circumstances and salvage your college hopes.

### **Deal with It Directly**

The professionals who read your college application are just that - professional. That means they're almost certainly going to notice the drop in your performance, which means that you have to talk about it. If you don't, they are likely to make some assumptions that may not be in your favor - particularly if it's a highly selective school. Use the essay part of the application - or submit an additional brief statement - to describe the circumstances. Be straightforward and succinct when describing the situation; don't dramatize or exaggerate.

### **Take Responsibility**

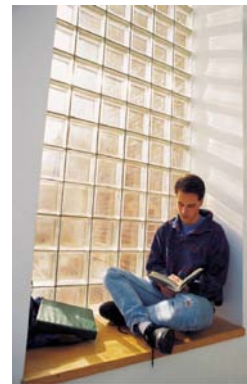
By taking responsibility, you show admissions officers that you're not making excuses and that you've learned from the experience. Remember, admission officers aren't going to high school with you and have no reason to believe that a difficult or unfair teacher is the real reason for that "C" in biology. So instead of making excuses, briefly describe how you dealt with the situation and the steps you've taken to rebound academically. Be sure to conclude on a note of optimism and determination.

### **Perform**

The best way to convince an admission officer that your slip was momentary is to pick up your grades. Even a single semester's improved performance indicates that you have rebounded from the situation and that you possess the inner strength to overcome obstacles. More importantly, admissions officers are likely to believe that you will continue your upward trend as you move on to college.

An academic slump doesn't necessarily mean that you can't go to your first-choice college or that you won't achieve your goals. Both are possible, as long as you take steps to address the situation and to prove to the admissions officers that you have the talent and ambition that their college is looking for.

Source: Stephen Pemberton for fastweb



# Seniors: Get Ready for College!



As graduation approaches, high school seems to matter less and less. You begin to think more and more about what comes after. First, a summer filled with friends, fun, and good-byes. Then, packing and leaving for college. You wonder what your first weeks at college will be like. Will you get along with your roommate? Will you be able to keep up with the work? Will you ever see your high school friends again?

These questions and others may have you in an emotional tizzy. After all, big changes are ahead in almost every area of your life. You may feel anticipation, fear, excitement, and sadness—often all at the same time. One minute you’re wiping away a tear at the thought of leaving home. The next minute, your parents are so annoying you can’t wait to get out of the house. Believe it or not, this is normal. Your friends are probably going through the same thing. Talk to them. Often, you feel better just knowing you’re not alone.

The end of the school year can be hectic, especially for seniors. You want to pack in as much fun and make as many good memories as you can. But don’t get so distracted that your grades suffer.

“We tell students again and again that they are never admitted [to college] unconditionally,” says Charles Purcell, director of guidance at Mater Dei School (CA). “When that last transcript gets there, if it isn’t somewhat equal to your previous grades, colleges could very well disenroll you.” So eke out some time to study for finals or finish up that last paper. That way, you can begin your summer confident of your college plans.

Also, remember that sending in your deposit is not the end of your preparation for college. About the time that high school ends, you’ll probably start getting information from your chosen college. Don’t just toss the envelopes in a pile to deal with later. Many colleges have deadlines for you to express your preferences for housing, sign up for a meal plan, RSVP for freshman orientation, or even pre-register for certain classes. Sending in forms late could reduce the number of choices you have.

Students with special housing, diet, or academic needs should make sure to notify the relevant department(s). Often, this is as simple as making a note on your housing form. Students with disabilities may want to contact the college’s office for students with disabilities (all colleges have one, although it may have different names at different colleges) if they need special accommodations. Keep in mind that discussing your special needs with one office doesn’t necessarily mean that others at the college will know about it. If you have specific needs in housing and in diet, for example, you may need to call the housing office and the food service department separately.

From now until the end of freshman year, you’ll probably have all sorts of questions about the college.

“Oftentimes, students have many questions about moving in, what to bring to campus, how to plan for their fall courses, what kind of work-study job they will have, and many other things,” says Marcy Kraus, Director of Orientation Programs at the University of Rochester (NY). “Many students find that their college’s Web site offers a great deal of information that will be useful to them, including how to contact offices and programs with questions.” If the college Web site doesn’t have the answers you need, don’t hesitate to call the admissions office, the residential life office, or whatever department might have the answer to your question.

Sometime during the summer, you’ll probably receive the name and contact information of your freshman roommate(s). Take the time to write, call, or e-mail your soon-to-be roommate. You probably won’t be best friends immediately, but you can get to know each other a little and plan what to bring to college. Perhaps your roommate can bring a TV, while you contribute the coffee pot or the stereo. A few conversations may be all it takes to feel a bit less awkward while you’re hauling suitcases into your dorm room.

The summer after senior year is also an important time to reaffirm your high school friendships and family relationships. No matter how busy you are, make sure to spend time with your friends and family.

Some colleges hold freshman orientation during the summer; others schedule it for the week before fall classes begin. Either way, orientation is a great time to learn about the college, meet bunches of people, and have some fun. “Orientation programs help students adjust to their new environment and cope with the changes they will experience,” says Kraus. “My advice to new freshmen is to attend as many orientation events as possible, since much of this information will be very useful to students during their first year on campus.”

Expect your first weeks of college to be both exciting and overwhelming. Remember that you’re in a completely new situation—the people, the place, even your daily schedule is probably very different than what you’re used to. You may be more tired than usual, simply from learning and experiencing so much in such a short time (not to mention from staying up late chatting with your new friends). That’s to be expected.

Many freshmen are unprepared for the amount of work college classes require and for the amount of free time they have. Especially in the first weeks, it’s easy to choose an afternoon of Frisbee with new friends rather than an afternoon in the library. It will help to establish your study habits early. During the first week or two of classes, decide on a regular place and time to study. It may take some experimenting before you find a schedule that’s right for you, but try to do at least some work every day.

And don’t be afraid to ask for help. Your first resource will probably be your residence advisor (usually an upperclassman or graduate student who has had special training) or your academic advisor. Either one can direct you to people who can help you with whatever problem arises.

Times of transition can be stressful. Make sure you leave yourself some time to relax, to think, and to just take in the experience of being at college. You’ve worked hard to get here—so let yourself enjoy it!

Source...Jennifer Gross for fastweb