

Develop & Refine Your College Applications

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2023 - 2024



JCS FAMILY

20 YEARS OF EMPOWERING LEARNERS



Guide to College Degrees, Professional Studies & Certifications

Associate Degree

An associate degree is a two-year degree typically offered at community colleges, technical colleges, and career colleges. However, some four-year universities offer them as well. Examples of some associate degrees include Associate of Arts (AA) and Associate of Science (AS).

AS degrees are generally more narrowly focused and prepare students for science and math-related careers. AA degrees are broader and focus on fields outside of math and science such as liberal arts, business administration, criminal justice, and culinary arts.

Some students who earn an associate degree transfer to a four-year program to earn a bachelor's degree. Others complete associate degrees and then go straight to work.

Bachelor's or Baccalaureate Degree

Bachelor's degrees require students to complete four- or five-year programs in a specific academic discipline. The two most common types of bachelor's degrees are bachelor of arts (BA) and bachelor of science (BS). Other types of bachelor's degrees include the bachelor of fine arts (BFA), and bachelor of architecture (BArch).

Because bachelor's degrees train students to enter a specific field, many professional careers require them. Earning a bachelor's degree can open the door to many job opportunities and increase your potential income.

Some institutions offer a liberal arts and career combination program, also called a 3-2 program. This is a type of dual degree in which a student completes three years of liberal arts study followed by two years of professional or technical study. In the end, students earn two bachelor's degrees, usually a BA and a BS.

An example of this is Columbia University's 3-2 Combined Plan program in which students can earn a BA and a BS in five years.

Some colleges also let you earn a teacher certification by combining bachelor's degree study with state certification requirements. State requirements vary, but these programs usually feature professional education courses, including student teaching.

Graduate Degree

Graduate degrees are advanced degrees that some students pursue after earning a bachelor's degree. The two most common are master of arts (MA) and master of science (MS). Other examples include master of fine arts (MFA) and master of business administration (MBA). A graduate degree is like an extension of a bachelor's degree whereby a student further enriches their knowledge of their field and narrows their focus of study.

Graduate degrees usually take around two years to attain, but this can vary based on the degree. Many institutions allow students to enroll in a graduate program in a field unrelated to their bachelor's degree. This may require some extra credit hours, though.

Professional Degree

Students earn professional degrees to become licensed to work in professions like medicine or law. The M.D. degree is an example. Professional programs generally require a college degree before you start them and then at least three years of study to complete.

Doctoral Degree and Professional Degree

The doctorate and professional degrees are the highest levels of education one can attain. They signify mastery of a subject and often come with the coveted title "doctor." Although the two are similar, there are some important differences.

A doctorate or doctoral degree is a research-oriented degree focused on scholarly development. The most common doctorate is the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). Despite the name, a PhD covers many disciplines, not just philosophy.

A professional degree is an application-oriented degree, meaning it prepares students for a specific working position. There are many types of professional degrees. Some examples are: doctor of medicine (MD), doctor of pharmacy (PharmD), and doctor of medicine in dentistry (DMD) in the field of medicine, and juris doctor (JD) and doctor of juridical science (SJD) in the field of law.

A graduate degree does not need to precede a doctorate or professional degree. Often, students will go straight into a doctorate or professional program following their bachelor's, however some programs will require a master's degree to gain entry. Completion can take anywhere from four to eight years, depending on the field of study.

Many doctoral students work either full-time or part-time while they study in the program. This, along with the field they are studying, will significantly affect the time it takes to complete their degree.

Joint Degrees

Some students may choose to pursue a joint degree, also known as a dual degree, which means they simultaneously study for a bachelor's degree and a graduate degree. Joint degrees can be pursued in the same college or can be split between two different colleges. For example, Berklee College of Music and Harvard University offer a dual bachelor's/master's program in which a student receives a bachelor of arts (BA) at Harvard and a master of music (MM) or master of arts (MA) at Berklee.

Depending on the program, it may be possible to study at the same time for a master's degree and a doctorate. For example, the University of Southern California offers a program leading to doctor of pharmacy and master of public health degrees.

Community College vs. Four Year Universities

There are thousands of community colleges and universities throughout the United States. While universities have long attracted international as well as domestic students, community colleges have historically attracted a largely local cohort. Today, however, many do now welcome international students too.

The choice of community college vs. university really depends on your overall plan for higher education, and for US students in particular, aspects which community colleges have in their favor such as lower overall fees, low admissions requirements and local access to the classes can be the deciding factors. It is also a great opportunity for students who are unsure of what they want to major in, and allows them the time and low cost opportunity to explore different courses before committing to a major.

Lots of students are still drawn to traditional 4-year universities, however, which offer many things a community college does not, including extensive campus facilities, sports and a more rounded student life.

Community colleges primarily offer 2-year programs that provide an **"associate's" degree**, which students can then use to transfer to a full college or university and complete their undergraduate degree in another two years.

During a college student's first two years, their schedule will mostly consist of General Education classes, or what they like to refer to as GE's. GE's are going to be your basic core classes that every student is required to take in order to graduate college. This may include classes such as: english, math, science, history, etc. These classes will take up the majority of your first two years of college, regardless of what your major is. If you choose to go to community college or university, you will be taking the same (or similar) courses those first two years. Once you reach your third and fourth year of college, you will then move into your major specific classes, or what they like to refer to as your "upper division" courses. This is important to keep in mind, because it reminds us that community college is a viable option that will provide you with the same education as a student who is doing their first two years at a four year university.

Many community college students in California choose to participate in the [Transfer Admission Guarantee Program \(TAG\)](#) or the [Associates Degree for Transfer Program \(ADT\)](#) before transferring to complete their degree at a four year university. These programs allow students to have guaranteed admission to select UC, CSU, and other California universities, as long as they follow the specific requirements they need, which often include taking certain courses and passing them. If a student has a specific school they are interested in going to, and they are unable to attend or do not get in when they apply straight after high school, following one of these paths is a way they could have guaranteed admission into the school of their dreams.

If you did not get excellent grades in high school, community college could be a chance for a fresh start, and give you the opportunity to transfer to a great college. On average, universities accept more transfer students than incoming freshmen. Please feel free to Google the specific acceptance rates for the schools that you are interested in.

What is Community College?

In the US, a community college is a higher education institution that primarily serves its surrounding community.

Community colleges offer traditional academic classes like math and history that will transfer to a four-year college or university but also offer more community-focused or vocational programs like resume writing, or junior swim classes. Historically, community colleges were known as junior colleges.

Most offer a variety of degrees or certificates that prepare both domestic and international students either for their first entry-level job, or for entry into a traditional, and often large, university to gain a full bachelor's degree.

Difference #1: Class Size

Class sizes in community colleges are generally quite small. You are unlikely to attend big, crowded lectures, and most classes will have around 20 students. This allows for much more interaction in classrooms. However, many of the faculty members are lecturers who are employed part-time and students may find it difficult to have access to their professors.

Big, public research universities on the other hand can have lectures which are attended by **over 100 students** at any one time. Of course, there are exceptions to this, but it is a definite trend in universities of this type.

Difference #2: Degree Programs

As already referenced, the main difference between a community college and a university is that most degrees at a community college only take two years to complete, while degrees at a traditional, four-year institutions span four years.

At four-year universities students spend their first two years taking general education requirements, also known as “**GE’s**,” such as math or history, regardless of what their area of focus will be.

Instead of doing the first two years at a traditional university, some students will choose to do those two years of general education requirements at a community college first and then move to a traditional university as a transfer student to complete the last two years of their degree.

Even though both programs offer “GE” courses, it can be common for students attending community colleges to have difficulty registering for these courses due to community colleges enrolling more students than they can handle.

Difference #3: Transferring Credits

Those people who attend a two-year community college to fulfill their general education requirements and earn an Associate's degree gain general credits which can then be transferred to a 4-year university to earn a Bachelor's degree.

Across the country, community colleges have worked to ensure that their Associate's degrees match the general education requirements of most universities, especially local ones, but not **all** credits are transferable to a four-year Bachelor’s degree institution.

Difference #4: Cost of Tuition

In general, community college education is deemed to be more affordable. The average tuition is half that of a public university — partly because community colleges avoid

costs like big campus infrastructure and extracurricular programs. Books and food still cost the same, but many US community college students save money by living at home.

Difference #5: Learning Styles & Academic Quality

In the past, community college classes have often been viewed as less academically serious and rigorous than those at traditional four-year schools. But a lot has changed and academic standards have risen, as have the qualifications of the professors. Many community colleges now require most professors to have a master's or doctoral degree in their discipline. Professors at community colleges are more likely to have a background in industry (as opposed to academia) than university professors. However, most of the professors working at community colleges are part-time lecturers, often with another vocation or working at several institutions.

As already highlighted, the smaller classes at community colleges mean that there is **much more one-to-one interaction with teaching staff**, which can be very beneficial to overall learning and progress. Teachers and professors here are likely to spend most of their time teaching and working with students, whereas at large universities, professors may spend a good amount of time conducting original research and therefore less time teaching.

Difference #6: Extracurricular Activities & Student Life

This is one area where universities will generally always have an advantage over community colleges. Most community colleges don't invest as much in campus facilities, athletics programs, and student clubs/organizations, although they do often still exist. That makes it more affordable, but it means that many students miss out on "the college experience", which includes living in student dorms and participating in campus life.

Those community college students who transfer to a traditional university after two years can sometimes struggle to adapt to this new type of environment.

However, most community colleges have small, safe and inclusive campus environments, which are ideal for new students adapting to college student life. Many community colleges allow students to have opportunities to join activities and

organizations that they are passionate about, which in turn will help them build their profile as a strong student.

Difference #7: Flexibility

Within community colleges, the student body can often be much more varied in terms of age and background than traditional universities. Students' ages can range from 17-60 and sometimes above, although the average tends to be around 30 (28, according to the American Association of Community Colleges). For this reason, the flexibility that local community colleges offer can be of huge benefit in particular to students who are studying alongside work, or who have a family to take care of and therefore need to study part time.

The flexibility of the schedule can rarely be found in traditional schools. Community colleges offer many more night classes.

Your level of participation and what you get out of it are up to you — this can be hugely helpful to those with other commitments, but for **those students whose primary focus is study**, the more stringent and intensive study schedule of many universities can sometimes be preferable.

Difference #8: Financial Aid

Financial aid isn't only for four-year college students — community college students are eligible as well. About 60% of US community college students who apply for financial aid receive some, according to the American Association of Community Colleges.

There are also forms that students can fill out at most community colleges which will allow them to attend classes at discounted rates or for free.

Difference #9: Online Classes

As is the case with traditional universities, certain community colleges have expanded their online offerings to attract a wider range of students.

Online course offerings and components at both types of institutions will have of course increased exponentially over the past few years, given the global Covid pandemic.

Difference #10: Career Prospects

Career prospects for those who attend community college after high school are likely to vary according to whether they finish their education with a two-year degree (Associate's degree), or transfer to a university to complete a Bachelor's degree.

There are plenty of jobs which can be accessed with an Associate's degree rather than a Bachelor's degree, including radiation therapist, engineering technician and registered nurse. Some of the fastest-growing careers for people with Associate's degrees include dental assistants, paralegals and legal assistants, and web developers, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projections for 2018 to 2028. While these career fields offer strong job prospects one thing to note is that there is generally a cap on their maximum salary and they may be limited when it comes to progressing to a management position.

Public vs. Private Universities

Public	Private
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Funded mostly by state governments● Tuition is usually lower● Larger student population● Wider range of majors● Larger class sizes-sometimes up to 500 students!● Professors can be more difficult to access● Out-of-state tuition is a factor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Funded mostly by tuition and private contributions● Tuition is usually higher● Smaller student population● More narrow range of majors● Smaller class size● Professors are easier to access● Out-of-state tuition is not usually a factor

UC vs. CSU: What's the Difference?

UC vs CSU: they might have similar letters, but they're definitely *not* the same thing! The University of California and the California State University are two highly regarded public university systems based throughout California.

Whereas the UC system offers about 900 bachelor's degree programs, **the CSU system offers more than 2,700 bachelor's programs**. Obviously, what's available at each specific UC and CSU school will vary, so make sure to check ahead of time what majors and minors are offered at the UC and/or CSU schools you're considering.

You can look at [the list of UC majors by school here](#), and [the list of CSU majors by school here](#).

UC

The University of California system is a group of highly prestigious public research universities in California. Established in 1869, UC has grown to include over 280,000 students and 227,000 staff and faculty members.

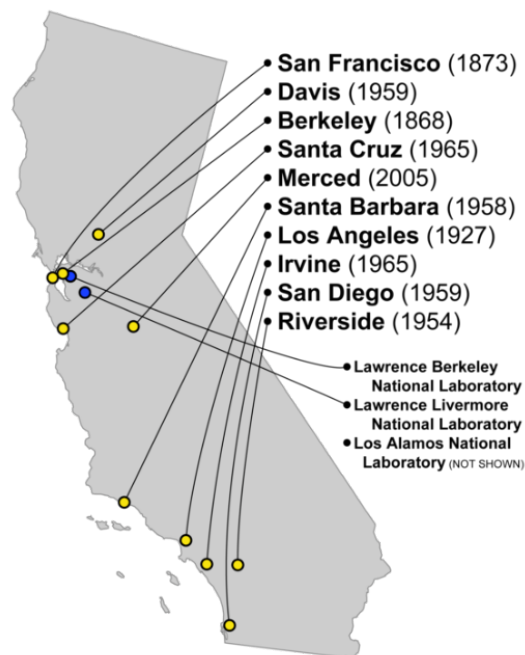
The UC schools are large schools, typically with 20,000 or more undergrads. UCLA has the biggest undergrad enrollment of the UC schools at 32,119, while UC Merced has the smallest enrollment at around 8,000 (it's also the newest of the UC schools, having opened its doors in 2005).

As a whole, the UC system offers 160 academic disciplines and 800 degree programs.

UC schools are highly regarded and top-ranked. They are extremely competitive to get into and are considered some of the best public universities in the nation.

Universities of California (UC's)
UC Berkeley
UC Davis
UC Irvine
UCLA

UC Merced
UC Riverside
UC San Diego
UC San Francisco*
UC Santa Barbara
UC Santa Cruz



CSU

The California State University system is a group of public universities based in California. It is the largest public four-year university system in the US.

Even though the CSU schools aren't nearly as competitive as the UC schools, they're still pretty popular because they offer quality academics at an affordable price for California residents.

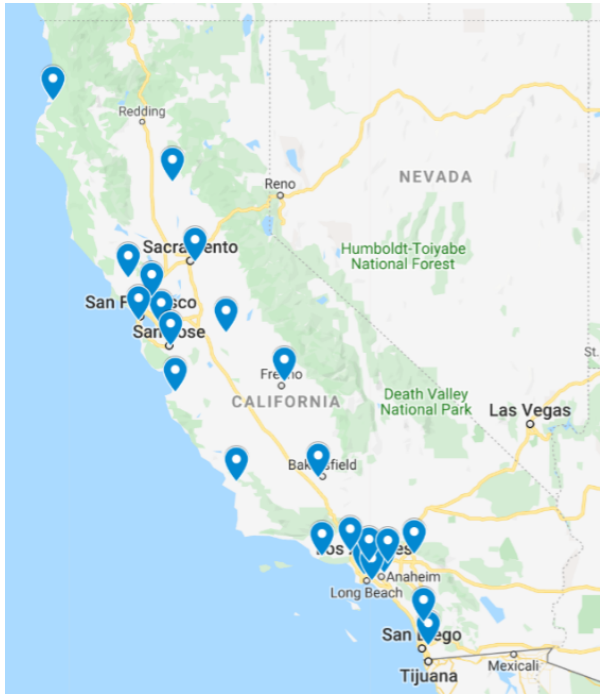
Officially established in 1972, the CSU system comprises 23 schools, which all have undergraduate programs available.

Additionally, CSU has an incredibly diverse student body, with a high percentage of non-traditional and commuter students, and is known for catering to minority and low-income students.

Unlike the UC schools, which focus more on research and academic publishing, CSU focuses more on helping students develop professional, practical skills that will lead them to great jobs right out of college.

California State Universities (CSU's)
<u>CSU Bakersfield</u>
<u>CSU Channel Islands</u>
<u>CSU Chico</u>
<u>CSU Dominguez Hills</u>
<u>CSU East Bay</u>
<u>CSU Fullerton</u>
<u>CSU Long Beach</u>
<u>CSU Monterey Bay</u>
<u>CSU Northridge</u>
<u>CSU San Bernardino</u>
<u>CSU San Marcos</u>
<u>Cal Maritime</u>
<u>Cal Poly Humboldt</u>
<u>Cal Poly Pomona</u>
<u>Cal Poly San Luis Obispo</u>
<u>Cal State LA</u>

Fresno State
Sacramento State
San Diego State
San Francisco State
San Jose State
Sonoma State
Stanislaus State



Comparison Chart

	University of California	California State University
Nickname(s)	UC	CSU, Cal State

Location	Mostly large cities in northern and southern California	Mix of small and large cities throughout California
Public or Private?	Public	Public
Total Enrollment	<u>294,662</u>	<u>477,466</u>
# of Campuses	9 + 1 graduate school	23
# of Bachelor's Programs	~900	~2,700
US News Ranking	Highest: UC Berkeley, UCLA (tie) #20 (Nat'l) Lowest: UC Merced, #97 (Nat'l)	Highest: Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, #2 (Regional West) Lowest: CSU East Bay, #331-440 (Nat'l)
Niche Grades	Highest: A+ (UCLA, UC Berkeley, UC Irvine) Lowest: B (UC Merced, UC Santa Cruz)	Highest: A- (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, CSU Long Beach, San Diego State) Lowest: C+ (Humboldt State, Sonoma State)
Acceptance Rate	Highest: UC Merced, 87% Lowest: UCLA, 11%	Highest: CSU Fresno, 97% Lowest: Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, 33%
6-Year Graduation Rate	<u>86.3%</u>	<u>62.0%</u>
Gender Ratio	Female: 53% Male: 45% Unknown: <1%	Female: 58% Male: 42% Non-Binary: <1%

Ethnicity Breakdown	Asian: 31.4% Pacific Islander: .3% White: 22.9% Hispanic/Latinx: 22.2% International: 15.4% African American: 4.4% American Indian: .5% Unknown: 2.9%	Hispanic: 45% White, Non-Hispanic: 22% Asian American: 16% International Student: 5% Black/African American: 4% Two or More Races: 4% Unknown: 3% American Indian: <1% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: <1%
Commuter Schools?	Not really, except for UC Irvine and UC Riverside	Yes, most campuses
Average Tuition & Fees	In-state: \$13,752 Out-of-state: \$46,326	In-state: \$5,742 Out-of-state: \$23,364
Overall Reputation	World-class public university system known for its premier academics, selectivity, and research	Very large, high-quality public university system known for its affordability and flexible class offerings

Acceptance Rates: (UC Schools are in Green)

School	Acceptance Rate
UCLA	11%
UC Berkeley	15%
UC Irvine	29%
UC Santa Barbara	29%
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	33%
UC San Diego	34%
San Diego State	38%
CSU Long Beach	47%
UC Davis	49%
CSU Fullerton	59%

UC Santa Cruz	59%
Cal Poly Pomona	61%
UC Riverside	66%
CSU Northridge	73%
CSU East Bay	73%
CSU Channel Islands	79%
Cal Maritime	82%
San Jose State	84%
CSU Chico	85%
CSU Bakersfield	85%
UC Merced	87%
CSU Dominguez Hills	90%
Humboldt State	91%
CSU Los Angeles	91%
CSU San Bernardino	91%
San Francisco State	93%
CSU Monterey Bay	93%
CSU San Marcos	93%
CSU Sacramento	94%
CSU Stanislaus	94%
Sonoma State	94%
CSU Fresno	97%

Tuition and Fees

Since both the UC and CSU systems are public university systems, what you pay in tuition and fees will ultimately depend on whether you're a California resident or not. In-state tuition every year is \$5,742 at CSU and \$13,752 at UC. As you can see, **CSU is far cheaper to attend than a UC school—in fact, it's about \$8,000 cheaper!**

When it comes to out-of-state tuition and fees, these figures jump dramatically. At UC, out-of-state students must pay **\$46,326 per year**—over three times higher than what in-state students pay. By contrast, CSU charges tuition differently to out-of-state students, either by the semester unit (\$396 each) or by the quarter unit (\$264 each).

UC vs CSU: Which Schools Should You Apply To?

When it comes to Cal State vs UC, which schools should you apply to? Here are **four useful tips** to help you make your decision.

#1: Think About Size and Setting

Two big factors for many students are the size and overall location of the school.

With UC schools, most are on the larger end in terms of undergrad enrollment (with 20,000-40,000 students), whereas the CSU schools vary significantly, from as few as 1,000 undergrads to as many as 40,000.

If you're interested in having a smaller, more intimate student body, first **look at the CSU schools** before you consider any UC schools. If you'd prefer a more bustling environment, then feel free to look at pretty much all the UC schools (except UC Merced) and about half the CSU schools.

In terms of setting, location can vary a lot for both UC and CSU depending on the campus. It might help to remember, though, that UC schools are mostly based in larger cities, whereas CSU schools can be found in smaller cities as well as larger ones.

If you plan on commuting to school, keep in mind that larger cities might have worse traffic.

#2: Figure Out Your Academic Interests

Another factor to consider is your academic interests and what you want to major in (if you know).

UC and CSU schools don't all offer the same majors and minors, so you'll definitely have to do some research to see what kinds of programs each school offers and whether they have the ones you're interested in. You can do this by using [the list of UC majors](#) and [the list of CSU majors](#).

For example, a few CSU schools offer majors in apparel/fashion merchandising and management, whereas no UC schools offer any equivalent undergraduate program.

You might also want to **take into consideration whether your field has a better reputation at UC or CSU**. For example, [both UC Berkeley and UCLA have premier engineering programs](#), so you might want to prioritize applying to these schools if you're planning to be an engineering major.

#3: Consider Costs and Financial Aid

UC and CSU differ a lot in what they charge you for tuition and fees each year, so **make sure that you're fully aware of what you'll be responsible for paying**. Although it's clearly a lot cheaper to attend CSU instead of UC, **doing this might mean sacrificing quality of academics and overall prestige for affordability**.

Remember, too, that you'll need to consider financial aid packages. Despite UC's high cost, [55% of California undergrads at UC pay absolutely nothing in tuition](#). As for CSU, there are [tons of merit-based scholarships](#) you can apply for to try to save some money.

Whether you apply to UC schools, CSU schools, or a combination of the two, it'll be a smart idea to [look into external scholarships as well](#).

#4: Compare Your Academic Profile With Those of Admitted Students

Lastly, you'll need to consider your own academic profile—**that is, your GPA and advanced coursework**—and see how you compare with real admitted applicants to the UC and/or CSU schools you're looking at. Doing this should help you make an ideal college list that includes **a balanced number of safety schools, target schools, and reach schools**.

For example, if your GPA is about the same as those of admitted students to a particular UC or CSU school, then that institution can be considered a match, or target, school.

If your GPA and scores are higher, then that's a safety school, as you're very likely to get accepted.

Finally, if your GPA and test scores are significantly lower than the averages at a certain UC or CSU school, then that institution can be considered a reach school, as you're unlikely to get in with your current academic profile (but still could, of course).

Choosing a Major

Choosing a major can be a tough decision. Maybe you are interested in several different fields and can't decide on a direction. Maybe you think you don't have what it takes to succeed in a particular field (even though you probably do.) Maybe you have no idea which major you should choose as you step into college and find hundreds of degree options available to study.

Fear not. Many first-year college students have no idea what they want to do with their lives, much less what they want to major in. In fact, 20 to 50 percent of your fellow freshmen are undecided, and about 75 percent of you will change your major at least once in your college career, according to Liz Freedman (cited below). It's perfectly normal to be undecided.

Read on to find ways to navigate this major decision.

What does “declaring a major” mean, anyway?

A college major is the main course of study for your undergraduate degree. “Declaring a major” means you're officially choosing your major, and you'll do this with the help of your advisor. So let's say you settle on a major in Environmental Studies, with a minor in Geology. Your advisor goes over a list of required courses for a bachelor's in environmental studies: general education requirements, a number of required core classes, and a list of electives to round out the degree. These courses are the basis for the rest of your college career. You'll also choose classes for your minor – that is, the second subject you will study in college, though it is not as intensive as your major (and choosing a minor is optional).

How important is it to choose the right major?

Once you've graduated college with your environmental science degree, you'll (hopefully) get a job in some aspect of environmental science and build your career around that. This means you can spend a big chunk of your life in this field ... so choose your major wisely.

How NOT to choose a major

Some students are pushed by family and peers into a major they're not interested in. Others will look to an authority figure to make this decision for them. Or this decision might go wrong from a lack of information. Some students start a major that sounds interesting, but later discover that

it's much different than they expected. Some choose a major because it offers a potential lucrative salary, and find themselves well-off but miserable every day in their career.

HOW TO CHOOSE A MAJOR

Here are some tips to help you find the answer to the question, "What should I study in college?"

1. Know what you're truly interested in – and what you're good at. Avoid burnout by choosing a major in a subject you truly love. Enjoying your studies goes a long way toward a positive time in college.

2. Talk to your school counselor to learn more about your degree options. Ask for help. Your school counselor has been navigating this world for a long time. They can talk you through available options for your major and let you know what your school can offer.

3. Consider program cost, career possibilities, and salary expectations. College is a significant investment in time and money. So, find out what you can earn in this field, and see if jobs will be available once you leave school.

You absolutely should go chase your dreams – but try to find ways to make those dreams earn a thriving wage.

4. Explore your interests if you're undecided.

- Join student organizations/organizations in the fields you're interested in.
- Take part in summer programs.
- Take career assessments.
- Find somebody who would let you shadow them at their job.
- Volunteer at local nonprofits in your subject of interest.
- Sign up for JCS's Internship Program.

Be sure to keep a list of career-related events, workshops, and volunteering that you've participated in. These look good on your resume – an additional benefit.

5. What have you wanted to do since you were a little kid? Were you talked out of a childhood dream at some point in your life? Were you discouraged from taking subjects you loved as a kid? Change this. Go get that dream back. If it brings you joy again, consider making that your college major.

6. Take general-education requirements first. Gen-eds are meant to make you a more well-rounded person, so you can better understand the world. They also introduce you to fields that you didn't know about before.

Are you enjoying the ecosystem unit in biology? Do you find yourself reading more about the humanistic movement in psychology? Pay attention to what engages you. These breadcrumbs could lead to your major.

7. Assess how strongly you want a specific major. "During my first year of college, I signed up for marching band and wind symphony, took organ and clarinet lessons, and played piano at church. I wanted to major in music performance. But I hated practicing – and practicing is a central tenet of every musician.

Music eventually ended up going by the wayside. I loved it, but not enough to do what was necessary to succeed." Phyllis A. Whitney said of being a writer, "You must want it enough. Enough to take all the rejections, enough to pay the price of disappointment and discouragement while you are learning." These words apply to any field you want to go into.

8. Look at job boards to see where your major can take you. Go to a job search board such as LinkedIn or Indeed, click on the Jobs tab, and type your would-be major into the search bar – whether it's writing, entomology, philosophy, or rocket science. Scroll through and browse the jobs that interest you. Copy job titles and descriptions that make you think, "Oh, I want to do this." See what degree you will need – and investigate them. Try different search terms for your interests, too. Compare what's available locally to what's available nationwide.

This simple exercise might show you job possibilities that you've never heard of. Then, when you declare your major, you'll know what specialized classes you'll need to succeed, and network with people who can help you land your dream jobs.

9. Don't rush the process. You don't have to choose a major right away. During your first year, concentrate on your general education requirements. You can wait until your sophomore year to declare your major if you decide to apply as "Undeclared". However, be sure to check the acceptance rate at the school you are applying to for students who apply as "undeclared", because often it can be lower.

10. **Take some time off.** If you're struggling with the decision, take a semester or two off. You don't have to finish your degree in four years. Find a full-time job, or go traveling if you can afford it. Find out a little more about the world and what it can offer you – and what you can offer it. Then go back to college once you've settled on what you want to do there.

In the meanwhile, if somebody asks you what your major is, don't say you're "undecided." Say you're "exploring your options."

What do I need to complete in order to apply to a Four Year University?

A-G Requirements

A-G requirements are requirements that California State Universities (CSU's) or Universities of California (UC's) are going to look to see that students have completed in high school. If students do not fulfill all of these requirements, they will not be eligible to apply to any CSU's or UC's as incoming freshmen.

To meet minimum admission requirements, you must complete 15 year long high school courses **with a letter grade of C or better** — at least 11 of them prior to your last year of high school. Keep in mind that taking high school (A-G) courses isn't the only way to satisfy these requirements. You also may meet them by completing college courses or earning certain scores on various acceptable exams. With the exception of math and language other than English, all subject requirements must be met in 9th through 12th grade.

A) History

Two years of history, including:

- One year of world history, cultures or historical geography (may be a single yearlong course or two one-semester courses), and
- one year of U.S. history or one-half year of U.S. history and one-half year of civics or American government

Exams & coursework that satisfy "A":

AP or IB Examination

- U.S. History: score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP U.S. History exam; score of 5, 6 or 7 on the IB History of the Americas HL exam.
- U.S. or Comparative Government: Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP exam satisfies a half year.
- World History/Cultures/Geography: score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP exam in European History, World History, Modern World History or Human Geography; score of 5, 6 or 7 on the IB History HL or Geography HL exam

College Courses:

- U.S. History: grade of C or better in a transferable course of 3 or more semester (4 or more quarter) units in U.S history; grade of C or better in a transferable course of 3 or more semester (4 or more quarter) units in civics or American Government meets one semester of the requirement.
- World History/Cultures/Geography: grade of C or better in a transferable course of 3 or more semester (4 or more quarter) units in world history, cultures and geography

B) English

Four years of college-preparatory English that include:

- Frequent writing, from brainstorming to final paper, as well as reading of classic and modern literature.
- No more than one year of ESL-type courses can be used to meet this requirement.

Exams & coursework that satisfy "B":

ACT English Language Arts (ELA):

- Score of 24 meets the first three years; a score of 30 meets the entire four-year requirement.

SAT Writing and Language Test:

- Score of 31 meets the first three years; a score of 36 meets the entire four-year requirement.

AP or IB Examination:

- Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP English Language and Composition or English Literature and Composition exam; score of 5, 6 or 7 on the IB HL English: Literature exam (formerly IB HL English A1)

College Courses:

- For each year required through the 11th grade, a grade of C or better in a non-transferable college course of 3 or more semester (4 or more quarter) units in English composition, literature (American or English) or foreign literature in translation. Courses used to satisfy the fourth year and/or the entire requirement must be transferable.

C) Mathematics

Three years of college-preparatory mathematics that include:

- The topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry. A geometry course or an integrated math course with a sufficient amount of geometry content must be completed. Approved integrated math courses may be used to fulfill part or all of this requirement, as may math courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades if the high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses; also acceptable are courses that address the previously mentioned content areas and include or integrate probability, statistics or trigonometry. Courses intended for 11th and/or 12th grade levels may satisfy the required third year or recommended fourth year of the subject requirement if approved as an advanced math course.

Exams & coursework that satisfy "C":

AP or IB Examination

- Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP Calculus AB or Calculus BC exam satisfies two years of the requirement (but not geometry).
- Score of 5, 6, or 7 on the IB Mathematics HL Analysis and Approaches exam satisfies two years of the requirement (but not geometry).

College Courses:

- Three semester (4 quarter) units of non-transferable college courses in elementary algebra, geometry, intermediate algebra or trigonometry, with a grade of C or better, satisfy one year each of the math requirement.
- Grade of C or better in a transferable mathematics course of at least 3 semester (4 quarter) units that has intermediate algebra as a prerequisite satisfies two years of the requirement (but not geometry).
- NOTE: *All students must complete a geometry course or integrated math with geometry content. One transferable college course will not satisfy the full three-year math requirement.*

D) Science

Two years of college-preparatory science, including or integrating:

- Topics that provide fundamental knowledge in two of these three subjects: biology, chemistry, or physics.
- One year of approved interdisciplinary or earth and space sciences coursework can meet one year of the requirement.
- Computer Science, Engineering, Applied Science courses can be used in area D as an additional science (i.e., third year and beyond).

Exams & coursework that satisfy "D":

AP or IB Examination

- Score of 3, 4 or 5 on any two AP exams from different disciplines in Biology, Chemistry, Physics (B, C, 1 or 2) and Environmental Science; score of 5, 6 or 7 on any two IB HL exams in Biology, Chemistry or Physics

College Courses:

- For each year of the requirement, a grade of C or better in a transferable course of at least 3 semester (4 quarter) units in a natural (physical or biological) science with at least 30 hours of laboratory (not "demonstration")

E) Language other than English

Two years, or equivalent to the 2nd level of high school instruction, of the same language other than English are required. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding, and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading, composition and culture. American Sign Language and classical languages, such as Latin and Greek, are acceptable, as are Native American languages.

Exams & coursework that satisfy "E":

SAT Subject Tests:

The following scores satisfy the entire requirement:

- Chinese With Listening: 520
- French/French With Listening: 540
- German/German With Listening: 510
- Modern Hebrew: 470
- Italian: 520
- Japanese With Listening: 510

- Korean With Listening: 500
- Latin: 530
- Spanish/Spanish With Listening: 520

AP or IB Examination

- Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP exam in Chinese Language and Culture, French Language and Culture, German Language and Culture, Italian Language and Culture, Japanese Language and Culture, Spanish Language, Spanish Language and Culture, Spanish Literature and Culture or Latin; score of 5, 6 or 7 on an IB HL language B exam.

College Courses:

- Grade of C or better in any transferable course(s) (excluding conversation) held by the college to be equivalent to two years of high school language.
- Many colleges list the prerequisites for their second course in language as "Language 1 at this college or two years of high school language." In this case, Language 1 clears both years of the requirement.

F) Visual and performing arts

One yearlong course of visual and performing arts chosen from the following disciplines:

- Dance, music, theater, visual arts or interdisciplinary arts — or two one-semester courses from the same discipline is also acceptable.

Exams & coursework that satisfy "F":

AP or IB Examination:

- Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP Art History, Art and Design (2-D Art and Design, 3-D Art and Design or Drawing) Music Theory exam; score of 5, 6 or 7 on any one IB HL exam in Dance, Film, Music, Theatre Arts or Visual Arts

College Courses:

- Grade of C or better in any transferable course of 3 semester (4 quarter) units that clearly falls within one of four visual/performing arts disciplines: dance, drama/theater, music or visual art

G) College-preparatory elective

One year (two semesters) chosen from courses specific to the elective (G) subject area or courses beyond those used to satisfy the requirements of the A-F subjects.

Exams & coursework that satisfy "G":

- Requirements
- Freshman requirements
- Subject requirement (A-G)
- GPA requirement
- Admission by exception
- English language proficiency
- California residents
- Out-of-state students

- Home-schooled students
- UC graduation requirements
- Transfer requirements
- International applicants
- AP & Exam credits
- For California students

Look here to see if your courses are A-G approved: <https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist>.

Four Year Planning

An example of a JCS student who college bound:



JCS-Family of Schools Four-Year College Bound High School - Four-Year Graduation Plan

UC	CSU	Other
Name:		
Exp. Grad Date:		
EF/Coordinator:		
Date Submitted to Counselor:		
Last Revision Date:		

Courses accredited by WASC may be considered transferable to other public high schools and courses approved

by the

University of California or the California State University as creditable under the a-g admissions criteria may be considered to meet college entrance requirements.

Subject Graduation Requirements	9th Grade		10th Grade		11th Grade		12th Grade	
	Subject	(Credits)	Subject	(Credits)	Subject	(Credits)	Subject	(Credits)
CP English (4 Years-40 Credits) (Writing-5 Credits)	English I Writing	(10) (5)	English II	(10)	English III	(10)	Expository Reading & Writing	(10)
CP Math (3 Years-30 Credits) 30 credits must be integrated I or higher	Integrated Math I	(10)	Integrated Math II	(10)	Integrated Math III	(10)	Pre- Calculus or Statistics	10)
CP Social Studies (3 Years-30 Credits)			World History	(10)	US History	(10)	American Government Economics	(5) (5)
CP Science (2 Years-20 Credits) (1 year Physical Science) (1 year Life Science)	Earth and Space	(10)	Biology	(10)	One year Physical Science w/Lab (UC): Chemistry Physics	(10) (10)		
Physical Education (2 Years-20 Credits)	P.E.	(10)	P.E.	(10)				
CP VAPA & CP Foreign Language (CP VAPA: 1 Year-10 Credits) (LOTE: 2 Years-20 Credits)	Spanish I	(10)	Spanish II	(10)			V.A.P.A. (See JCS Course List for CP courses)	(10)
Health/Life Skills (1 Year-10 Credits)	Health Life Skills (See JCS Course List)	(5) (5)						
Electives (45 total credits)	Elective	(10)	Elective	(10)	College Prep Elective Elective	(10) (10)	Elective	(10)
Total Credits to Graduate (220 Credits)	Credits	9th Cumulative	Credits	9th-10th Cumulative	Credits	9th-11th Cumulative	Credits	9th-12th Cumulative
	60	60	60	120	60	180	40	220

College Preparatory Requirements (C or better required to meet a-g) (See JCS Course List for approved courses)	English	Math Through Integrated Math III	U.S. History	World History	Science (w/Lab)	Foreign Language (2 Years of Same Language)	CP Visual & Performing Arts	CP Electives	Student Signature
CSU—California State University (4 th year of math recommended)	4	3	1	1	2	2	1	1	Parent Signature
UC—University of California	4	3	1	1	2	2	1	1	

last revised 8/15/17 LGC

[Click here](#) for a blank four year plan that you can fill out with your parents, teachers, counselors, or by yourself!

College Applications

[California State University \(CSU\) Application](#) - The California State University (CSU) application is for all 23 campuses within the CSU system. The CSU App simplifies the process of applying to CSU campuses. Once your application is received by Cal State Apply, your application and materials are transmitted to all the campuses you have indicated on your application.

[University of California \(UC\) Application](#) - The University of California's application for undergraduate admissions and scholarships. All University of California campuses use the UC application.

[Common Application](#) - The Common Application is a streamlined college application system that allows you to apply to multiple schools at once. Over 1,000 colleges and universities use the Common Application including the majority of private schools and many public institutions. Note that many schools have a supplemental application found on the platform that students will need to complete.

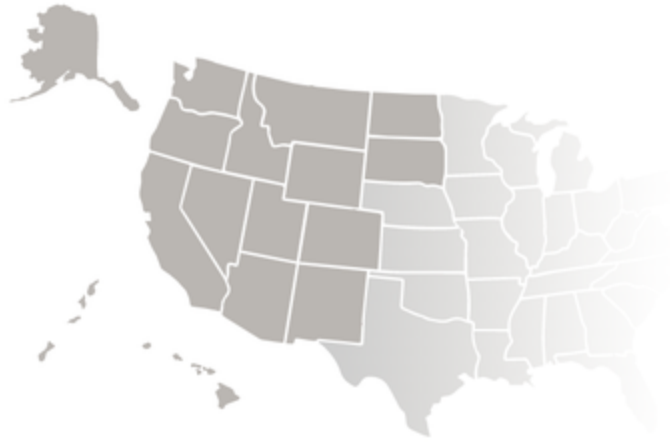
[Common Black College Application](#) - The Common Black College App can be used for 65 member Historically Black colleges and universities (HBCU's). The cost is \$20 and students can apply to as many of the schools as they would like, ranking their top four choices.

[Coalition Application](#) - The Coalition for Access, Affordability and Success is a relatively new application option for college admissions. The Coalition App can be used for 150+ colleges and universities.

[California Community Colleges](#) - The California Community Colleges site will connect you with community college applications throughout the state of California.

[UCAS](#) - UCAS, which stands for Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, is a UK-based organization that operates the application process for British universities.

NOTE: *There are some colleges and universities that may require their own application for admission. Please check the college website for more information.*



Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)

The Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) is a regional tuition discount program, which enables students from one of 16 WICHE states and territories in the Western U.S. to enroll as nonresidents in 160+ participating public colleges and universities and pay 150 percent (or less) of the enrolling school's resident tuition—which annually saves students an average of \$9,000 each on the cost of non-resident tuition. Please visit the [WUE website](#) for more information.

Still Deciding Where to Apply?

WHERE SHOULD I APPLY?

StreamYard

Reach
1-2

Target
2-3

Safety
3-4

GPA & test scores are lower than the average

GPA & test scores are at the average

GPA & test scores are above the average

Personal Information	Phone	Address	City	State	Zip
Name (Last)					
Name (First)					
Address (Street Address)					
City					
State					
Zip					
Current Income					
High School Graduates Or General Education (GED) Test Passed?	Yes	No			
Credits Earned					
School, Military (What recent level)					
Quantity or Other					
Graduated					
Major or Subject					

Community College Resources



California Community Colleges

Interested in learning more about the benefits of Community College? Check out the [California Colleges website](#) and the [Community College Resource Guide](#) for more information.



Palomar College

More information about [Palomar College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [Palomar Promise Program](#)



Miramar College

More information about [Miramar College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [Miramar Promise Program](#)



Mesa College

More information about [Mesa College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [Mesa College Promise Program](#)



MiraCosta College

More information about [MiraCosta College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [MiraCosta Promise Program](#)

G R O S S M O N T
C O L L E G E



Grossmont College

More information about [Grossmont College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [Grossmont Promise Program](#)

SAN DIEGO
CITY COLLEGE

San Diego City College

More information about [San Diego City College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [SD City College Promise Program](#)



Saddleback College

More information about [Saddleback College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [Saddleback College Promise](#)



Golden West College

More information about [Golden West College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [Golden West College Promise Program](#)



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Cuyamaca College

More information about [Cuyamaca College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [Cuyamaca College Promise Program](#)

MSJC
Mt. San Jacinto College

MSJC

More information about [MSJC](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [MSJC Promise Program](#)



Southwestern

More information about [Southwestern College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [Southwestern College Promise Program](#)



Orange Coast College

More information about [Orange Coast College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [Orange Coast College Promise Program](#)



Coastline College

More information about [Coastline College](#)

Find out if you qualify for the [Coastline College Promise Program](#)

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) For Community College

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) is here to make sure students disadvantaged by social, economic, educational or linguistic barriers get the resources they need to enroll and succeed at any California community college. How? By offering comprehensive academic and support counseling, financial aid and a bevy of other

services aimed at keeping students from dropping out and helping them reach their educational and career goals. [Click Here](#) to find out more information.

Career Readiness

San Diego Area Skilled Trades

Do you enjoy making things, being creative, solving problems, and working in settings that are not in an office?

- An estimated 31 million skilled trade workers in the United States retired in 2020, and many of those jobs remain unfilled.
- 62% of companies report that they struggle to fill skilled trade labor positions.
- Skilled trades jobs are high skill, high wage, high demand careers with a high degree of job satisfaction.

Apprenticeship Programs - Earn While You Learn



Associated Builders and Contractors Apprenticeship and School

Earn while you learn!

ABC provides training in:

Electrical, Electronic Systems Technician (EST),

Associated General Contractors of America Apprenticeship

Earn while you learn with on-the-job training and education

Video [presentation](#)

- Carpenter
- Cement Mason

Hawthorne Caterpillar ThinkBIG Apprenticeship - Diesel

Hawthorne Cat's *ThinkBIG* apprenticeship program teaches you how to service Cat equipment using cutting-edge diagnostic and maintenance systems,

Sheet Metal, Plumbing, and Pipefitting.

As an apprentice, you will receive **paid on-the-job training** with no tuition fees, but still earning college credits.

You graduate with life-long job mobility, skills that you can take anywhere, and debt-free.

<https://abcsd.org/future-apprentices/>

- Drywall Finisher
- Drywall Lather
- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Laborer
- Painter

<https://www.agcsdatt.org/>

advanced technologies and high-tech tools.

ThinkBIG combines classroom work with hands-on learning in the field and in state-of-the-art labs, so students see technologies in real-world applications.

<https://www.caterpillar.com/en/careers/career-areas/dealer-technician/thinkbig.html>



California Apprenticeship Coordinators Association

"Sampling of Programs Offered"

- [Air Conditioning & Refrigeration](#)
- [Asbestos](#)
- [Automotive](#)
- [Bricklayer](#)
- [Carpenter](#)
- [Cement Masons](#)
- [Culinary & Pastry](#)
- [Drywall-Lathing](#)
- [Electrician](#)
- [Firefighters](#)
- [Floor Coverer](#)
- [Hardwood Floor Layer](#)
- [Ironworker](#)
- [Lithographers](#)
- [Machinists](#)
- [Meat Cutters-Sausage Makers](#)
- [Mill Cabinet](#)
- [Operating Engineer](#)
- [Painter](#)
- [Plasterer](#)

US Department of Labor Apprenticeship Guide

[Apprenticeship.gov](#) is the one-stop source to connect career seekers, employers, and education partners with apprenticeship resources. Discover apprenticeships across industries and how to become an apprentice.

Electrical Training Institute Apprenticeship

Click [here](#)

[San Diego County Office of Education & ETI & IBEW Apprenticeship information video](#)

Apprentices can learn in two areas through ETI - inside wiring electrical and telecommunications/sound technician. Apprentices work during the day at training assignments with contractors (employers), who pay the apprentice directly for time worked. Apprentices may be sent to work anywhere in San Diego and Imperial counties.

Apprentices attend school two nights per week two semesters during the year (ETI operates on a trimester

- [Plumber](#)
- [Power Lineman](#)
- [Roofers & Waterproofers](#)
- [Sheet Metal](#)
- [Solar Turbines](#)
- [Sprinkler Fitter](#)
- [Surveyors](#)
- [Trolley](#)

More Information Click [HERE](#)

year). [Our apprenticeship classes are credited through Palomar College, San Marcos, California.](#) All classes are held in classrooms and labs at our training facility in San Diego and/or Imperial Valley. <https://etiedusandiego.org/ca/reer-opportunities/>



Sheet Metal Apprenticeship - SMART Local 206

San Diego County Office of Education Sheet Metal Joint Apprenticeship Training [information video](#)

The San Diego Sheet Metal Workers are proud to offer the following apprenticeship and journeyman training:

Southwest Carpenters Apprenticeship

With a network of 15 state-of-the-art training centers across 6 states, we provide cutting-edge, hands-on training on the best practices and latest technologies to ensure you

Western Electrical Contractors Association Apprenticeship

Click [here](#)

- Commercial Inside Wireman Apprenticeship
- Residential Wireman Apprenticeship
- Low Voltage (Sound and Communication Installer: Voice Data

Click [here](#)

State certified apprentice training programs (5-year program)

- 960 hours of classroom instruction
- 8000 hours of on-the-job training

Advanced journeyman training programs

- Specification and blueprint reading
- Sketching and drafting
- CAD (computer aided drafting)
- Welding
- Testing and balancing of air systems
- HVAC service work
- Green Technologies

<https://www.smart206.org/apprenticeship-training-programs.html>

are fully prepared for the workplace. Click [here](#)

[San Diego County Office of Education & Carpenters Union Apprenticeship information video](#)

CARPENTER CRAFTS

- [Acoustical Installer](#)
- [Cabinetmaker / Millworker](#)
- [Carpenter](#)
- [Drywall Applicator \(IS\)](#)
- [Floor Layer / Worker](#)
- [Insulator \(IS\)](#)
- [Lather](#)
- [Millwright](#)
- [Modular Furnishing Installer](#)
- [Pile Driver](#)
- [Plasterer \(IS\)](#)
- [Residential Carpenter](#)
- [Scaffold Erector](#)
- [Terrazzo Finisher](#)
- [Terrazzo Installer](#)

Virtual [Tour](#)

(858) 621-2667 San Diego

Contact: Reiner Hopfner

<https://www.swcarpenters.org/training/>

<https://www.swctf.org/become-a-carpenter/>

Video and Fire Life Safety) Apprenticeship

3 training locations in California

San Diego location is in Sorrento Valley

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

SAN DIEGO & IMPERIAL COUNTIES

CAREER EDUCATION

San Diego & Imperial Valley Community College Career Ed Resource

The San Diego & Imperial Valley community colleges have created this fantastic [Career Ed](#) resource to help link people to career industry sector community college programs that are hiring and growing and expected to continue to grow. The list of industry sectors is below with direct links to those pages on the resource. You can compare different programs in the same sector, see expected salary information and find the links to apply to the community college of your choice. It also has a great tool to [find community college programs](#).

- [Advanced Manufacturing](#)
- [Advanced Transportation & Logistics](#)
- [Agriculture, Water & Environmental Technologies](#)
- [Business Entrepreneurship](#)
- [Energy, Construction and & Utilities](#)
- [Healthcare](#)
- [Information Communication Technologies & Digital Media](#)
- [Life Sciences & Biotech](#)

Local Community College Specialty Trade Programs



Southwest Regional Apprenticeship Program SWRAP

This program is located in San Diego and is a partnership between the US Navy and Southwestern College to provide skilled tradespeople to perform maintenance and repair work on naval vessels and other equipment. Apprentices

Miracosta College Technology Career Institute Certificate Programs

Click here [Programs Offered](#)

MiraCosta College [video tour](#)

- [Advanced Manufacturing](#)

Palomar College Apprenticeship Programs

Palomar College partners with local unions to train new apprentices to earn certificates while earning college credits at the same time

<https://www.palomar.edu/wc ce/apprenticeship/>

[Acoustical Installer \(AP AC\)](#)

attend college and trade classes at the apprentice school at NAS North Island and on the job learning at one of 3 sites: NAS North Island, Naval Base San Diego or Naval Base Point Loma. Apprentices also become federal employees with federal employee benefits of annual and sick leave, health insurance, accrual of retirement benefits and group life insurance. This is a 4-year program.

Click [here](#) to learn more about pay and find out how to apply for this unique program

- Machinist
- Welder
- Marine Machinery Mechanic
- Rigger
- Pipefitter & Temp Service Pipefitter
- Electrician & Temp Service Electrician
- Electronics Mechanic

- [Leadership Certificate](#)
- [Biomedical Equipment Technician](#)
- [Brew Tech Certificate](#)
- [CNC Operator Certificate](#)
- [CNC Programming Certificate](#)
- [Electronics Certificate](#)
- [Engineering Technician Program](#)
- [Fabrication Certificate](#)
- [Machinist Technology Program](#)
- [Unmanned Systems \(ROV/Drone\) Operator Technician Certificate](#)
- [Welding I Certificate](#)

[Engineering & Machinist program video](#)

[Automotive Technology program video](#)

[Welding program video](#)

[Carpentry \(AP C\)](#)
[Drywall/Lather \(AP DL\)](#)
[Inside Wireman \(AP IW\)](#)
[Plasterer \(AP PL\)](#)
[Sheet Metal \(AP SM\)](#)
[Sound Technician \(AP SC\)](#)



Miramar College School of Business, Technical Careers, & Workforce Initiatives

Click here [Programs Offered](#)

- Miramar's Automotive program is one of the best in the United States and has unique training opportunities for specific makes of vehicles
- [Automotive Technology](#) program information and [program video](#)
- [Toyota T-TEN](#) program information

Southwestern College

click here [Career Education Programs](#)

- [Advanced Manufacturing](#)
- [Advanced Transportation & Logistics](#)
- [Agriculture, Water & Environmental Technologies](#)
- [Business & Entrepreneurship](#)
- [Culinary Arts, Hospitality & Tourism](#)
- [Energy, Construction & Utilities](#)
- [Health Care](#)
- [Information Communication Technologies & Digital Media \(includes sound recording technology\)](#)
- [Life Sciences & Biotechnology](#)

Palomar College Trade & Industry Drafting, Machining & Fabrication

Click here [Programs](#)

Machinists and Technicians make and design parts and equipment for a variety of applications

- [Drafting and Design CAD/CAM Technology](#)
- [Electrical Engineering Drafting & Design Technology](#)
- [Mechanical Engineering Drafting & Design Technology](#)

Trade & Industry Department

- and [Toyota/Lexus T-TEN program video](#)
- [Honda PACT](#) program information and [Honda PACT program video](#)
- [MOPAR CAP](#) program information [MOPAR CAP program video](#)
- [Aviation Operations](#)
- [Aviation Maintenance Technology](#)
- [Computer & Information Sciences](#)
- [Computer Business Technology](#)
- [Diesel Technology](#) - includes Hawthorne Cat equipment

- [Public Safety & Services \(Police, Fire, EMT, Paramedic\)](#)

Click here

<https://www.palomar.edu/ti/>

Palomar [program video](#)

- [Advanced Air Conditioning and Refrigeration](#) see [video](#)
- [Auto Body Technology](#)
- [Automotive Technology](#)
- [Cabinet Furniture Technology](#)
- [Diesel Mechanics Technology](#)
- [Public Works Management](#)
- [Water & Waste Water Programs](#)
- [Welding Technology](#)

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE



San Diego
Mesa College

San Diego Mesa College
[virtual campus tour](#)

Mesa College [YouTube channel](#)



GROSSMONT
COLLEGE

Grossmont
Community
College

Click here for [Career Programs](#)

- [Allied Health and Nursing](#)

SAN DIEGO
CITY COLLEGE



San Diego
City College

- [Air Conditioning, Refrigeration, and Environmental Control Technology](#)
- [Electricity](#)
- [Electronic Systems](#)

[Click here for SD Mesa CTE programs website](#)

[Click here for detailed information on each program](#)

- [Architecture](#)
- [Building Construction Technology Inspection](#)
- [Computer Business Technology](#)
- [Computer & Information Sciences](#)
- [Culinary Arts](#)
- [Dental Assisting](#)
- [Fermentation Management](#)
- [Health Information Technology](#)
- [Multimedia](#)
- [Radiologic Technology](#)
- [Veterinary Technology](#)
- [Web Development](#)

- [Cardiovascular Technology](#)
- [Occupational Therapy](#)
- [Orthopedic Technology](#)
- [Nursing](#)
- [Respiratory Therapy](#)
- [Telemetry /ECG/EKG Technician Program](#)

- [Energy and Geo-Environmental Engineering](#)
- [Engineering](#)
- [Machine Technology](#)
- [Music and & commercial music production](#)



Los Angeles
Trade-Technical
College



Santiago
Canyon
Community



Orange Coast
College

Orange Coast College is one
of the highest ranked

[Los Angeles Trade Technical College](#) is a public, accredited community college. It has one of the top-ranked plumbing programs in the country. [LATTTC Orientation video](#)

[Campus Tour video](#)

LATTTC Pathways [video tour](#)

Pathways at LATTTC:

- [Advanced Transportation and Manufacturing](#)
- [Applied Sciences](#)
- [Business and Civic Engagement](#)
- [Construction Maintenance and Utilities](#)
- [Cosmetology](#)
- [Culinary Arts](#)
- [Design and Media Arts](#)
- [Health and Related Sciences](#)

College Trade Apprenticeships

Click [here](#)

Santiago Canyon is located in Orange, CA (Orange County)

You earn while you learn and are paid a wage from the first day you're hired. You're making money at no cost to

you for the training. In addition to the on-the-job training, you will attend related and supplemental instruction in the classroom. The

Apprenticeship Program at Santiago Canyon College, in conjunction with various employers and the Division of Apprenticeship Standards, offers training in the following programs:

- [Carpentry-Acoustical Tile, Drywall/Lather, Drywall Finisher, Plastering](#)
- [Carpentry-Concrete, Finish Carpentry, Framing, Tilt-up](#)
- [Carpentry-Millwright](#)
- [Carpentry-Pile Driver](#)
- [Early Childhood Education](#)
- [Electrician-Inside Wireman, Sound Installer](#)

community colleges in California and is located in the south Orange County city of Costa Mesa. [Campus Tour video](#)

[OCC YouTube channel](#)

One of the few community colleges that has on-campus student housing available!

[Orange Coast Career](#)

[Advantage](#) offers programs within 13 career clusters.

Career Clusters are groups of jobs and career paths that are included within the same broad field of work or industry sector.

[OCC A-Z Career training list](#)

with links to programs

Explore Programs in:

- [Agriculture and Natural Resources](#)
- [Dance Instructor](#)
- [Digital Media Arts and Design](#)
- [Entertainment and Narrative Illustration](#)
- [Film & Television](#)
- [Photography](#)
- [Building & Construction Trades](#)
- [Business & Finance](#)

- [Maintenance Mechanic and Electrician](#)
- [Operating Engineers-Heavy Equipment Operator, Heavy Duty Repair, Inspection, Rock Products Industry](#)
- [Power Lineman](#)
- [Surveying-Survey Chainman, Chief of Party](#)
- [Education, Child Care & Family Services](#)
- [Energy, Environment & Utilities](#)
- [Engineering & Architecture](#)
- [Fashion & Interior Design](#)
- [Health Science & Medical Technology](#)
- [Hospitality, Tourism and Recreation](#)
- [Information & Communication Technology](#)
- [Manufacturing & Product Design](#)
- [Transportation](#)

and many more...

Skilled Trades Training Scholarships



Mike Rowe Works Work Ethic Scholarship

The [Work Ethic Scholarship Program](#) is about recognizing people who understand the importance of work ethic, personal responsibility, delayed gratification, and a positive attitude. These are hardworking men and women who will keep the lights on, water running, and air flowing. These are people who show up early, stay late, and bust their tails day in and out. These are the people we want to reward.

<https://www.mikeroweworks.org/scholarship/>



TechForce Foundation Scholarships

This organization is funded by companies and organizations related to the transportation industry to help develop trained technicians and move them to the industry.

<https://techforce.org/scholarships/>



Porch Skilled Trade & Technology Scholarships

Growing demand and lack of qualified workers in skilled trades and technology means it's a great time to go to school and enter these lucrative and fast-growing industries. To help keep up with demand and assist the next generation of professionals, Porch will award a \$2,000 scholarship four times a year to eligible students.

<https://porch.com/resources/scholarships>



American Welding Society

[The American Welding](#)

[Society](#) hosts a variety of scholarship opportunities for undergraduates interested in welding engineering or welding engineering tech studies.

<https://www.aws.org/foundation/page/welder-training-scholarship>

Society of Women Engineers (SWE)

Click [here](#)

The SWE Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to those who identify as a female/woman and are studying community college, baccalaureate, or graduate programs in preparation for careers in engineering, engineering technology and computer science.

<https://scholarships.swe.org/applications/login.asp>

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers Scholarships

Through its scholarships, ASHRAE seeks to motivate students and prospective students worldwide to pursue an engineering or technology career in the HVAC&R field, part of the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) industry. Scholarships are designed to help people qualify to practice as engineers in HVAC&R. Scholarships up to \$10,000 each for students and prospective students who are pursuing an engineering or technology career in the HVAC/R field.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/student-zone/scholarships>

[arships-and-grants/ashrae-scholarship-program](#)



CNC Machines Scholarship

There are not enough skilled technicians for the demand in CNC machining. The CNCMachines.com scholarship is a yearly scholarship awarded to exceptional students working towards a degree or certification in manufacturing, engineering, or related fields. Applicable degrees include certifications, certificates, associates, bachelors or masters. The total award of this scholarship is \$2,500. This Scholarship renews and accepts new applications every September and funds



American Society of Plumbing Engineers

Want some help getting your degree in engineering? Apply for the ASPE Alfred Steele Scholarship. Up to \$3,000 in scholarship monies may be awarded each year to qualified applicants. The deadline is January 31!

This scholarship is named in honor of Alfred Steele, PE, a long-time member of the American Society of Plumbing Engineers and a visionary and pioneer in advocating education and professional development for



Automotive Women's Alliance Foundation Scholarship

The Automotive Women's Alliance Foundation provides scholarships to women who intend to enter or advance within the automotive industry. Applicants must also be women who are North American citizens. Applications from members and non-members are welcome. Candidates must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited college program and have at least a 3.0 GPA. Scholarships are awarded quarterly.

are awarded to the ideal student May of the next year.

<https://cncmachines.com/scholarship/apply>

plumbing engineers and designers.

The Alfred Steele Scholarship is limited to ASPE members and their immediate families who have a GPA of 3.0 or higher who are in or plan to attend a college, university, or technical school on a full-time basis (minimum 12 credit hours), enrolled in an engineering program.

<https://www.aspe.org/membership-global-community/membership/alfred-steele-scholarship/>

- Award Amount: \$2,500
- Application Deadline: Applications are accepted any time

<https://awafoundation.org/Scholarships>



**Horatio Alger
Association
Career &
Technical
Scholarships**



**Travers Tool
for Schools
Metalworking
Scholarships**

Awarded to one underclass (freshmen through junior class) high school student,



**Women in
Aviation
Scholarships**

Applicants for the WAI scholarships must be an active member of Women in Aviation International by

Scholarships are awarded to students who have faced and overcome great obstacles in their lives who wish to pursue a career or technical education at an accredited non-profit post-secondary institution in the United States. See the link for eligibility criteria

<https://scholars.horatioalger.org/about-our-scholarship-programs/technical/>

one high school senior class student, and one college student, these tool scholarships are designed to lessen the financial burden students face and allow them join the ranks of the skilled machinists, CNC operators, welders and exacting craftsmen that make up the fabric of the manufacturing industry. See the link for eligibility and other information.

<https://www.travers.com/scholarship>

October 1 and may apply for up to three scholarships. Online scholarship applications available July 1.

<https://www.wai.org/scholarships>



Associated
General
Contractors of
California
Scholarships



Home Depot
Foundation
Path to Pro
Scholarships



Pep Boys Find
Your Drive
Scholarship

Pep Boys is helping support automotive technicians of tomorrow through its annual

AGC offers scholarship opportunities to current professionals, and students pursuing an education and career in construction. Students must be enrolled in either a certified training, pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship program, as well as those attending a two- or four-year degree program at a college or university.

Deadline for applications is August 15

<https://www.agc-ca.org/resources/workforce-development/scholarships-giving/>



Organization
of Black
Aerospace

The Home Depot Foundation has pledged to invest \$50 million in training the next generation of skilled tradespeople and bridging the opportunity gap through its Path to Pro program.

Home Depot wants to help create the next generation of skilled trade leaders by providing scholarships to further your education.

<http://www.myscholarship.app/home-depot-foundation>



Latino Pilots
Association
Scholarships

Find Your Drive Scholarship Program. The program will award two \$10,000 and six \$5,000 scholarships to assist with educational expenses for the following school year. Applications are being accepted each year with a deadline in late May.

<https://careers.pepboys.com/scholarship-form/>



Whirly Girls
International
Helicopter

Professionals Scholarships

OBAP is dedicated to supporting minority interests and placement in aerospace careers. To date, OBAP has awarded \$5.8 million in scholarships to more than 470 diverse recipients nationwide. The scholarships, made available through strengthened partnerships with key carriers and aviation-related businesses, allow award recipients to advance or pursue diverse aviation-related careers.

<https://obap.org/outreach-programs/scholarships/>



Organization of Black Maritime

The Latino Pilots Association is committed to our community and providing opportunities in aviation careers. LPA has established key partnerships with both aviation- and non-aviation-related organizations and companies that allow us to make scholarships available to a diverse group of recipients. These scholarships help recipients further their careers in aviation-related fields.

<https://www.latinopilot.org/scholarships>



Women's International Shipping &

Pilots Scholarships

Whirly-Girls International is a nonprofit, educational and charitable organization dedicated to advancing women in helicopter aviation.

<https://whirlygirls.org/scholarships/>



NMRA Marine Trades Scholarship

Graduates Scholarships

OBMG's scholarships help to support minority representation and placement in maritime careers.

These scholarships, made possible by our members and donors, provide assistance and encouragement to Black and other minority undergraduates who are full-time students and pursuing a career in the maritime and engineering professions. Each year the scholarships are named in honor of individuals who have fostered minority involvement in the maritime profession or have made sacrifices and meritorious contributions and therefore epitomize the organization's founding mission "to assist and encourage".

<https://www.obmq.org/general-information>

Trading Association Scholarships

The goal of the scholarship program is to provide individuals with deeper knowledge of the maritime industry– the Foundation Diploma is ideal for individuals with maritime experience who are interested in gaining additional practical and commercial skills and knowledge.

<https://wistainternational.com/our-work/ics-scholarship/>

Since 2008, NMRA has actively contributed to the future of the marine industry by offering scholarships to students pursuing education in the marine trades.

The NMRA scholarship is awarded annually. Funds for the scholarships are raised by NMRA members, Affiliate Members and non-members. The scholarship program begins accepting applications in the spring annually and recipients are selected during the summer.

<https://nmraonline.org/about-nmra>



APPA & DEED Scholarships

From The American Public Power Association, for students accepted or enrolled in a full-time technical/trade school, accredited college, or university. Scholarships for \$2,000, \$4,000, and \$5,000 are available.

[Student Guide to DEED Scholarships](#)

<https://www.publicpower.org/grants-scholarships>

<https://www.publicpower.org/deed-funding-students>

American Association of Blacks in Energy Scholarships

The American Association of Blacks in Energy is a professional organization of African Americans in the energy industry. Through its Scholarship Program, AABE seeks to help increase the number of African Americans, Latino, Latinx and Native Americans (underrepresented minorities) in energy-related fields. By doing so, we help our nation address a critical need and a challenge to our future economic vitality in the world market.

Click [here](#) for eligibility criteria, more information and the application link.

IEEE Power and Energy Society Scholarship Plus

[IEEE Power and Energy Society Scholarship Plus Initiative](#) - Power and energy engineers work with some of today's most exciting technologies, developing solutions to problems that affect our lives and lifestyles. First-year students are encouraged to apply for the PES Scholarship.

Sample Trade School Programs



Northwest Lineman College - California Campus

Northwest Lineman College is a for-profit private vocational technical school.

[Electrical Lineworker Program](#)

LEARN HOW TO SAFELY CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE THE NATION'S POWER GRID.

Northwest Lineman College
[YouTube channel](#)

Northwest Lineman College - Texas Campus

[Natural Gas Technician Program](#)

LEARN THE TOOLS AND METHODS OF NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION, INCLUDING GAS PLUMBING, METERING, AND TESTING.

Northwest Lineman College - Idaho Campus

[Telecommunications Lineworker Program](#)

LEARN HOW TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE THE NATION'S 5G, DATA, WIFI, RADIO, CABLE, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS.



Universal Technical Institute

[UTI](#) is a for-profit trade school and has several programs for technician training and locations across the United States. [FAFSA](#) free federal aid, scholarships and grants can be used to attend UTI.

[UTI YouTube channel](#)

UTI offers technician training in the following areas:

[Automotive](#)

[Diesel](#)

[Motorcycle](#)

[Marine mechanics](#)

[Welding](#)

[CNC machining](#)

[Collision repair](#)



Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology

Spartan is a for-profit private trade-technical school that has been in operation since 1928

Locations in Los Angeles, Riverside and Tulsa OK

<https://www.spartan.edu/>.

[Spartan YouTube channel](#)

[Skywest Airlines Pilot Career](#)

[Pathway](#) - Skywest Airlines will assist cadets with education and training costs

[Women in Aviation scholarships](#)



Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics

Click [here](#)

PIA is a non-profit private trade school with 501(c)3 status

Locations in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, and South Carolina [PIA YouTube](#)

[channel](#)

[Women in Aviation scholarships](#)

[FAFSA](#) free federal aid, scholarships and grants can be used to attend PIA.

PIA's specialized [Aviation Maintenance Technology \(AMT\)](#) and [Aviation Electronics Technology \(AET\)](#)

programs provide hands on skill-sets based on aviation

[Motorcycle Mechanics](#)

[Institute](#)

[Marine Mechanics Institute](#)

[Nascar Technical Institute](#)

[FAFSA](#) free federal aid, scholarships and grants can be used to attend Spartan.

Explore programs in the following areas:

- Flight
- Aviation Maintenance Technology
- Aviation Maintenance Technology/Airframe and powerplant
- Aviation Electronics (avionics)
- Nondestructive testing technology/quality control management
- Bachelor's degree in Technology Management

industry practices, but transferable into a diverse set of related occupations. Our aviation maintenance program will prepare you for an exciting career as a

Federal Aviation

Administration (FAA)

certified aircraft mechanic,

and our aviation electronics

(or avionics) program leads

to opportunities as a **Federal**

Communications

Commission (FCC) licensed

avionics technician.

Military Resources

Career Camouflage: The Many Paths of Military Careers

The military, often thought of as a world of strict discipline and combat, offers an incredibly diverse range of career opportunities that cater to various interests and skills. In this issue of

Career Headlines we will explore possible career paths you can consider when thinking about your future.

A World of Options

Contrary to popular belief, a military career isn't just about fighting on the front lines. It encompasses a multitude of roles, each with its own set of challenges and contributions to national security. Here are some of the many career options you can explore:

- **Combat Roles:** These brave soldiers stand at the forefront, ensuring our nation's safety in challenging environments.
- **Pilots:** These skilled individuals soar through the skies, controlling powerful aircraft and contributing to various missions.
- **Engineering and Technical Specialists:** The military requires experts in technology, engineering, and mechanics to maintain and operate its sophisticated equipment and vehicles.
- **Healthcare Professionals:** Saving lives and providing essential medical care, these individuals play a significant role both on and off the battlefield.
- **Cybersecurity Experts:** In the digital age, the military relies on tech-savvy individuals to safeguard against cyber threats.
- **Intelligence Analysts:** These professionals solve complex puzzles and uncover vital information, contributing to national security.
- **Logistics and Supply Chain Specialists:** Keeping the military running smoothly, they ensure that supplies and resources reach where they are needed.

Rewards and Opportunities

Beyond offering a unique and exciting career, the military provides a variety of benefits and opportunities for those who serve:

- **Education:** Many military branches offer financial support for college and advanced training, paving the way for further career opportunities.
- **Travel:** Military service often means experiencing new cultures and places, offering a chance to see the world.
- **Healthcare:** Comprehensive healthcare plans are available for military personnel and their families, ensuring their well-being.
- **Stability:** The military provides a secure job, regular paycheck, and a clear path for career advancement.
- **Leadership Development:** Service members learn valuable leadership skills that can be applied to various careers and life situations.

*Check with your local recruiter and speak to those enlisted to learn more about the benefits and opportunities.

Action: Visit bls.gov/ooh/military/military-careers.htm and review the Types of Enlisted Personnel on the page. Which career most interests you and why?

Military Resource Guide

Interested in learning more about joining the Military? Check out the [Military Resource Guide](#) for more information.



What to Expect on the ASVAB

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a timed multi-aptitude test designed to determine if you are qualified to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces and assign the appropriate job in the military. The test covers standard academic areas, such as math and English, but also measures your knowledge of mechanics, electronics, science, and assembling objects. For more information about the ASVAB, [click here](#).



United States Air Force

More information about the [U.S. Air Force](#)



United States Army

More information about the [U.S. Army](#)



United States Coast Guard

More information about the [U.S. Coast Guard](#)



United States Marine Corps

More Information about the [U.S. Marine Corps](#)



United States Navy

More information about the [U.S. Navy](#)



United States Space Force

More information about the [U.S. Space Force](#)

Applying To College

College Workshops

Khan Academy How To Write A College Essay: October 19, 2023 at 5 PM via Zoom

JCS Financial Aid Workshop: January 30, 2024 at 6 PM via Zoom

College Essay Webinars: <https://www.collegeessayguy.com/webinars-live-events>

College Field Trips & Fairs

San Diego State University Tour:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/708034699847?aff=oddtcreator>

Southwestern Automotive Mechanics Trade School Tour:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/736773809297?aff=oddtcreator>

Paul Mitchell Beauty School of Temecula Tour:

Projected Date: January 2024

Community College Fair at JCS Pine Hills Vallejo Campus:

Projected Date: February 2024

University of California Los Angeles & University of California Irvine:

Projected Date: March 2024

Financial Aid Information

THE IMPORTANCE OF FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid Resources

FINANCIAL AID FOR STUDENTS

A Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) allows students to be considered for financial aid and student loans. Completing a FAFSA or a CADAA provides access to awards and that allows to receive financial aid packages, allowing them to make an informed decision about pursuing a college, university, or vocational school.



WHAT'S NEW?

The State of California adopted a new requirement that starting in the 21-22 academic year, local education agencies will be required to confirm that all high school seniors have completed a FAFSA or CADAA, expanding access to financial aid to thousands of students, who may have otherwise not been aware of this opportunity.



WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

In California, only 52% of high school seniors completed a FAFSA or CADAA in the 21-22 academic year. According to the National College Attainment Network, "Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is one of the best predictors of whether a high school senior will go on to college. Seniors who complete the FAFSA are 84% more likely to immediately enroll in postsecondary education. For students in the lowest socioeconomic quartile, FAFSA completion is associated with a 127% increase in immediate college enrollment."



FAFSA DEADLINE

Although a definite release date for the FAFSA & CADAA has not been determined, Federal Student Aid has announced that the applications will be delayed to December 2022. Submit your FAFSA or CADAA no later than March 31, 2024 to be eligible for the aid. Students who file the FAFSA early receive more than twice as much grant funding, on average.



FAFSA/CADAA WORKSHOPS

- [Watch FAFSA/CADAA Self-Service Financial Aid Workshops](#)
- [Watch Self-Service Financial Aid Workshops](#)
- Attend Valley Financial Aid Workshop on January 23, 12:00-3:00 pm, 16116 Theater



ADDITIONAL FAFSA RESOURCES

- [Using MyFSA](#): Seniors can submit the FAFSA through Using MyFSA, using their more user-friendly version of the government form, which they call "the FAFSA@ Made Easy."
- [FAFSA The Essentials by CASFAA Financial Aid Administration](#)
- [Original and Revised Financial Aid Requirements](#)
- [Financial Aid Office's Office of Student Support and Financial Aid Officers](#)
- [Financial Aid Office's Financial Aid Officers](#)
- [FAFSA Self-Service Events and the FAFSA Fair](#)
- [Financial Aid Office's FAFSA Fair](#)
- [Workshops for Financial Aid Officers](#)
- [Financial Aid Office's Financial Aid Officers](#)
- [Financial Aid Office's Financial Aid Officers](#)
- [Financial Aid Office's Financial Aid Officers](#)
- [Financial Aid Office's Financial Aid Officers](#)
- [Financial Aid Office's Financial Aid Officers](#)



The advertisement features a vertical green bar on the left with the text "GOING MERRY" in large, bold, black letters. At the bottom of this bar is the "goingmerry" logo. The main content area has a black header with the text "More Scholarships, Less Search" and the URL "https://www.goingmerry.com/". Below the header are four icons representing different features: a map pin for local scholarships, a pencil for auto-filled forms, a stack of papers for bundled scholarships, and a mobile phone for multi-platform access. A black box at the bottom contains a list of bullet points.

GOING MERRY

More Scholarships, Less Search
<https://www.goingmerry.com/>

- More local scholarships**
Less competitive, easier to win.
- Auto-filled forms**
Never type the same thing twice.
- Bundled scholarships**
Apply for multiple scholarships at once.
- Multi-platform**
Mobile app or Desktop, we've got you covered

- **Financial aid applications: Seniors can submit the FAFSA® through Going Merry, using their more user-friendly version of the government form, which they call "the FAFSA® Made Easier."**
- **Scholarship bundles**
- **Vetted scholarships**
- **Personal matching**
- **Clear organization**
- **Direct, auto-filled applications**

goingmerry

CalSOAP Offers Free College Bound Webinars for Students and Families

CalSOAP will be offering several opportunities this fall for students, families and educators to learn more about college admissions, financial aid, scholarships, and more. [Registration is open](#), and all webinars run from 6 to 7 p.m.



College Bound Webinars 2023 - 2024

All Webinars are free and open to all students and families
in San Diego and Imperial Counties.

Times are 6:00pm - 7:00pm PST



* 10/18/23 6:00pm - 7:30pm

- 8/30/23**- FSA ID/Financial Aid 101
- 9/13/23**- UC PIQs & How to write a College Essay
- 10/18/23** - UC Admissions (45mins) & CSU Admissions (45mins) *
- 11/1/23** - FSA ID/Financial Aid 101
- 11/15/23** - Financial Aid FAQs
- 12/13/23** - All About Scholarships
- 1/17/24** - Community College Admissions
- 2/7/24** - Understanding the Financial Aid Package
- 3/13/24** - So You Got Accepted...Now What?
- 4/17/24** - How to Accept Your Financial Aid
- 5/1/24** - 11th Graders - Preparing for Fall Application Season
- 5/15/24** - Financial Aid for 11th Graders

Want more info about Cal-SOAP?

<https://www.calsoapsandiego.org/>

 @calsoapsandiego
 @SanDiegoCalSOAP

 @SanDiegoCalSOAP
 Cal SOAP: San Diego and Imperial
Counties

Complete your FAFSA

Before each year of college, apply for federal grants, work-study, and loans with the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form. Your college uses your FAFSA data to determine your federal aid eligibility. Many states and colleges use FAFSA data to award their own aid. After submission, you'll receive your *Student Aid Report*.

[Filling Out the FAFSA® Form](#)

[Understanding Work-Study Jobs](#)

[Understanding Loans](#)

[Reviewing Your Student Aid Report](#)

Review your Aid Offer

Your aid offer explains the types and amounts of aid a college is offering you, and your expected costs for the year. If you've been accepted to multiple colleges, compare the costs and aid offers. Accept the aid from the school that's best for you and inform them of other sources of aid (such as scholarships) you expect to receive.

[Comparing School Aid Offers](#)

[Accepting Financial Aid](#)

[Understanding College Costs](#)

THE FAFSA® PROCESS

We provide more than \$120 billion in grants, loans, and work-study funds each year to help pay for college or career school. To apply for this aid, you must complete the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* form. Also, state governments and many colleges and career schools use your FAFSA information to award you their aid.

DID YOU KNOW?

Some schools won't consider you for merit scholarships (scholarships based on academic achievement or other talents or skills) until you've submitted a FAFSA, so complete one even if you think you won't qualify for federal aid.

RELAX!

The FAFSA is designed to be simple to fill out. Tips throughout the application help you understand the questions. Most people finish filling out the FAFSA in less than half an hour.

PREPARING FOR THE FAFSA®

The FAFSA process is quicker and easier when you have a username and password called an FSA ID. (If your parent is providing information on your FAFSA, he or she will need his or her own FSA ID as well.) Learn more about the FSA ID and how to create yours at StudentAid.gov/uid.

GATHER THIS INFORMATION

The FAFSA asks questions about you and your finances, so have the information below handy.

- Social Security number
- Alien registration number
- Federal tax information or tax returns
- Records of untaxed income
- Cash, savings, and checking account balances
- Investments other than the home in which you live

DON'T HAVE ALL YOUR INFO READY YET?

That's okay: you can start the FAFSA, save it, and come back later to finish it. (To find out whether you need to report info about your parents, visit StudentAid.gov/dependency.)

FILLING OUT THE FAFSA®

Each October, the FAFSA is available for the next school year. It's important to fill it out as soon as possible to meet school and state financial aid deadlines.

SUBMISSION OPTIONS

- Electronic form** (fill out at fafsa.gov)
- Mail-in application** (download PDF at fafsa.gov or request a printed PDF by calling us at 1-800-433-3243)
- Electronic submission by your college or career school** (ask if they can submit the FAFSA for you)

MEETING FINANCIAL AID DEADLINES

Each state and school has its own FAFSA deadline. Check a college's or career school's deadline on its website or by calling its financial aid office. Most state deadlines are at fafsa.gov/deadlines.htm.

DID YOU KNOW?

You may be able to retrieve and transfer tax information into the form automatically using the Internal Revenue Service Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT).

PROCESSING THE FAFSA®

After you submit your FAFSA, your information will be sent to the colleges and/or career schools you listed on the form.

PROCESS TIMELINE

You'll receive an e-mail within a few days, letting you know your FAFSA was processed.

Your college or career school might request additional information from you. Make sure you respond by any deadlines.

FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS

You'll receive an aid offer from each college or career school you applied to and listed on your FAFSA, stating the amount of aid you could receive at the school.

Review and compare your offers, and decide which school to attend based on the school's net cost and how well the school suits your needs.

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

You'll receive an aid offer from your school stating the amount of aid you could receive at the school.

RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID

Formally accept the school's aid offer - and remember, if you're offered student loans, borrow only as much as you really need.

Your school will handle your aid. Ask the financial aid office when and how your aid will be paid out, what it'll cover, and how much (if any) money will come directly to you once tuition and fees are paid.

Get free assistance and answers at fafsa.gov or 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).



California Dream Act

For information visit the [CA Dream Act website](#).

For more information check out [10 things you need to know about the CA Dream Act Application](#).

Scholarships

[JCS Scholarship Spreadsheet](#)

Other Trustworthy Websites:

Going Merry

CareerOneStop

Big Future Scholarship Search

Sallie Mae Scholarship Search

Unigo / Scholarship Experts

Fastweb

Scholarship America

JCS Class of 2024 Important College Application Information



JCS Family High School - Class of 2024 Important Information for College Applications

Senior Schedule	JCS Counseling Website
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General College Application Information
CSU Application Deadline: November 30th UC Application Deadline: November 30th
Private & Out-of-State Application Deadlines: Varies by campus
Quarter vs. Semester: Semester: Julian Charter School (JCS LIVE), JCS Pine Hills, JCS Manzanita, JCS Cedar Cove, JCS Pine Valley <small>*All JCS Schools use the Semester system</small>
Community College Application Deadline: No deadline but aim for February/March
Financial Aid Applications: FAFSA/CADAA : Opens December 2023 CSS Profile : Used by some colleges, deadlines vary
Counselor Letter of Recommendation: If you need a counselor letter of recommendation, you must request it at least two weeks prior to your earliest application deadline. Fill out this questionnaire . CSU/UC DO NOT ACCEPT LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
Teacher Letter of Recommendation: Deadline's are up to each individual teacher. Fill out this form and turn it in to your teacher.
Transcripts: Request unofficial or official transcripts here .
Scholarships: Look at scholarships here .

Important Dates	
Mandatory Senior Meeting	x
College Application Workshop	x
Financial Aid Workshop	1/30/2024 @ 6 pm
Fall SAT Dates	8/26/23, 10/7/23, 11/4/23, 12/2/23
Fall ACT Dates	9/9/23, 10/28/23, 12/9/23
UC Applications Open	8/30/23
CSU Applications Open	10/01/23
UC Applications Due	11/30/23
CSU Applications Due	11/30/23
College Decision Day	5/01/24

JCS Family School Information	
Class Rank	Ask your counselor
GPA Scale	4.0
GPA Type	Weighted
Date of Entry	August 2020
Graduation Date	May 28, 2024

JCS Family School Information				
JCS Cedar Cove	JCS Manzanita	JCS LIVE	JCS Pine Hills	JCS Pine Valley
Class Size: 5	Class Size: 6	Class Size: 31	Class Size: 71	Class Size: 8
School/CEEB Code: 062830	School/CEEB Code: 052919	School/CEEB Code: 052929	School/CEEB Code: 052720	School/CEEB Code: 052800
Address: 1221 Encinitas Blvd, Encinitas, CA 92024	Address: 5300 Jackson Dr, La Mesa, CA 91942	Address: 1704 Cape Horn Ave, Julian, CA 92036	Address: 29141 Valjejo Ave, Temecula, CA 92592	Address: 28876 Old Hwy 80, Pine Valley, CA 91962

Requesting Letters of Recommendation

From Your Counselor: If you would like to request a letter of recommendation from your school counselor, please fill out one of the linked Google Forms below.

If you attend JCS Pine Hills and your counselor is Mrs. Chavez, please fill out [this Google Form](#).

If you attend JCS Cedar Cove, JCS Pine Valley, JCS Manzanita, or JCS LIVE (Julian Charter School) and your counselor is Ms. Miranda, please fill out [this Google Form](#).

From Your Teacher: If you would like to request a letter of recommendation from your teacher or EF, please fill out this [Brag Sheet](#) and submit it, along with a resume, to the teacher that you are asking.

Transcripts Request

[Instructions on how to request your JCS Transcript](#)

Sending Scores

SAT Scores

[Instructions to Send SAT Scores](#)

Send ACT Scores

[Instructions to send ACT Scores](#)

Send ASVAB Scores

[Instructions to send ASVAB Scores](#)