

PLANNING FOR FOUR YEAR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ADMISSION

STUDENT:

- 1) Send for college catalogs and READ them.
- 2) Take PSAT exam in junior year. PSAT is a qualifier exam for National Merit scholarships and other national recognition programs.
- 3) Determine eligibility for Colleges / University by calculating GPA and PSAT scores.
- 4) Decide on a tentative major.
- 5) Take SAT for the first time in spring Junior year.
- 6) Take SAT prior to December of twelfth grade year.

PARENTS AND STUDENT:

- 1) Visit college campuses and talk with admissions officer .
- 2) Practice exams may be taken in prior years.
- 3) Discuss finances.
- 4) Discuss areas of interest and possible majors
- 5) Have on-going dialogue concerning future
- 6) Keep educational financial records for costs for all sibling students at all levels: elementary level, high school, and college, including tuition paid.

The College Board.

Get information on tests, find colleges, learn about financial aid and get application help.

PREPARING TO TAKE THE PSAT/NMSQT OR SAT

10 Real SATs, The College Board, Prepare to take the SATs using real questions from previous tests. Book and/or CDs are available at local bookstores.

Khan Academy provides free on-line SAT preparation via multiple short videos.

<http://www.khanacademy.org/video/sat-prep--test-1-section-3-part-2?playlist=SAT%20Preparation>

AP STANDS FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT. *AP course* is a copyrighted term by the College Board. Course requirements and materials that can be found on the Subject II tests can be found at the College Board website. This page has a list of AP subjects (pdf files for each subject include detailed topic lists):

<http://www.collegeboard.com/ap/students/subjects.html>

When to Take the SAT

Most students take the SAT during their junior or senior year of high school. At least half of all students take the SAT twice — in the spring as a junior and in the fall as a senior. Most students improve their score the second time they take the SAT.

Register Online

The quickest and easiest way to register is online:

Choose your test date and test center in real time.

Receive immediate registration confirmation.

Get 24-hour access to registration for printing or correcting your Admission Ticket.

Say "Yes" to Student Search Service®

When you say "yes" to Student Search Service, College Board will send some of your information to colleges, giving them the opportunity to reach out to you — a potential new student.

Register by Mail

You need to register by mail if you:

- Pay by check or money order (payable to "The College Board").
- Are [younger than 13 years old](#).
- To register by mail, you need *The Registration Guide for the SAT and SAT Subject Tests*, which is available from your school counselor. The *Guide* includes a registration form and return envelope.
- When filling out the form, you may need a College Board code number for college majors, college and scholarship programs, test centers or high schools. To find these numbers, use our [Code Search](#) tool or the code list from your counselor.

Waitlist Registration

Missed the deadline? Learn about requesting [Waitlist Status](#).

Photo Requirements

You must submit a photo with your registration for the SAT. The photo you provide will become part of your Admission Ticket.

You must provide a photo with your registration, which will become part of your Admission Ticket. By providing your photograph, you help us to ensure the integrity of the test administration for all students.

PLANNING FOR FOUR YEAR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ADMISSION

Note: You are responsible for ensuring your photo meets the requirements below. Successful upload of your photo only indicates that it meets the technical requirements (correct file type and size). It **does not** indicate that your photo is acceptable for test day (e.g., recognizable as you, no sunglasses, no other people, etc.)

Photos must be properly focused with a full-face view, be clearly identifiable as you, and match your appearance on test day. You will have the opportunity to crop and reposition your photo after uploading it. **If you are not easily recognizable in your photo, you will not be admitted to the test center.**

✔ Examples of acceptable photos



✘ Examples of non-acceptable photos



Too light

Too dark

Too far

Too close

Do not cover
your face

Head must not
be cut off



No profile or
3/4 shots

Must be alone
in picture

Must be human

PLANNING FOR FOUR YEAR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ADMISSION

You must provide a photo with your registration, which will become part of your Admission Ticket. By providing your photo, you help us to ensure the integrity of the test administration for all students.

You can use any photo such as an existing digital photo, scan in a school picture or passport-type picture or take a new picture with a digital camera or smart phone. The photo you provide must be easily recognizable as you, and conform to the requirements noted below for you to be admitted to the test center

Choose a photo that:

- Shows only you, fully facing the camera — there cannot be any other people in the image
- Shows your head and shoulders only, fully facing the camera
- Does not have anything obscuring your face, such as hair, hands, shadows or glare
- Does not show you with a covered head unless for religious purposes (see below)
- Is easily recognizable as you and matches how you will appear on test day
- Is properly focused and does not appear fuzzy, grainy or have visible pixels
- Is properly exposed to eliminate shadows and flash reflection

Head coverings, prescription glasses or other articles:

- If you wear a hat or head covering for religious purposes, it may be worn for your photo. Make sure your full face is visible, and that the hat or covering does not cast any shadows on your face
- If you wear prescription glasses, a hearing device or similar articles, they may be worn for your photo. Avoid glare from eyeglasses by tilting them slightly downward, by removing the glasses or by turning off the camera flash.

Avoid issues that can require the test center supervisor to disqualify your photo, such as:

- Wearing sunglasses — these are not acceptable in your photo because they hide your eyes
- Wearing a hat or head covering not used for religious purposes
- Having your full face not viewable or recognizable because
 - The image of your head is cut off
 - You are shown in profile or three-quarter view so only part of your face can be seen
 - Your photo was taken too close up or from too far away
 - Your photo is too blurry or light

Digital photos must be in one of these file formats:

- .jpg
- .gif
- .png

Registering by Paper

If you are registering by paper form, your printed photo must match the size requirements of at least 2 x 2 inches and no more than 2.5 x 3 inches, as provided in Item 1 on the registration form. Do not use a laminated photo (such as an ID card). Write your full name, date of birth and high school code on the back of your photo, and then tape all four edges of the photo to the registration form, using transparent tape. Take care not to obscure your face or hair on the photo or any of the information you have filled in on the registration form. Do not use paper clips, staples or glue.

What to bring — and not to bring — to the SAT

Must Bring

- Your Admission Ticket
- You must have your Admission Ticket on test day. Sign in to [My SAT](#) and click "Print Admission Ticket".
- Two No. 2 pencils and a soft eraser
- Photo identification
- You must present acceptable photo identification (ID) for admission to the test center. You are responsible for understanding and following the [SAT Test-Taker Identification Requirements and Policies](#).
- You may be denied entrance to the test center or your scores may be withheld or canceled if you can't present acceptable ID, if the validity of the ID is in question, or if you fail to follow the Identification Requirements and Policies.
- An Acceptable Calculator
- Calculators permitted while testing are:
 - Graphing calculators
 - Scientific calculators
 - Four-function calculators (not recommended)

Note: SAT Subject Tests with Listening require a [CD player](#).

Nice to Have

- A watch (without an audible alarm)
- Extra batteries and backup equipment
- A bag or backpack
- A drink or snacks (for your break)

Not permitted as a calculator:

- A laptop or a portable/handheld computer
- Electronic writing pad or pen-input/stylus-driven device (e.g., Palm, PDAs, Casio ClassPad 300) Note: The Sharp EL-9600 may be used without the stylus.
- Pocket organizer
- Cell phone calculator
- Calculator that has QWERTY (keyboard-like) keypad (e.g., TI-92 Plus, Voyage 200)
- Calculator that uses an electrical outlet, makes noise or has a paper tape

What NOT to Bring CONTINUED

What NOT to Bring to the SAT

The use of cell phones and certain other electronic devices as noted below is prohibited within SAT test centers, and you should not bring these devices to the test center. See the [Cell Phones and Electronic Devices policy](#) for more information. Prohibited devices include, but are not limited to:

- Cell phones or smart phones, including

- BlackBerrys, iPhones or Android devices
- iPods or other MP3 players
- iPads or other tablet devices
- Laptops, notebooks, PDAs or any other personal computing devices
- Pagers or any other texting devices
- Separate timers of any type
- Cameras or other photographic equipment
- Any device capable of recording audio, photographic or video content, or capable of viewing or playing back such content.

HOMESCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND, Beverly Adams-Gordon is an excellent workbook for helping high school students determine future course.

PLANNING FOR FINANCIAL AID: There are some critical dates during Senior Year:

Federal Application Financial Student Aid (FAFSA) forms available on-line: www.FAFSA.ed.gov

(Note that this is a FREE site. There are bogus sites that will charge a fee. You do not need those sites.)

January 1 to March 2 File Federal Application Financial Student Aid FAFSA report.

You will need to complete your current Income Tax return prior to completing the FAFSA application.

March 2 submission deadline for Cal Grants.

HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMA

Most states provide a graduation exam from high school. The CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL PROFICIENCY EXAM, (CHSPE) is a California statewide scored exam. The CHSPE can be taken in the second semester of tenth grade or at age 16 years.

The Graduate Equivalency Diploma, GED, a nationally scored exam, fulfills the requirement for high school diploma. There is some discrepancy between students who obtain a high school diploma versus acquiring a GED. I recommend that high school students obtain both the CHSPE in tenth grade and their high school diploma. The armed services do not accept the GED or CHSPE in place of a diploma.

PLANNING FOR FOUR YEAR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ADMISSION

FINANCING COLLEGE

Planning for Financial Aid: There are some critical dates during Senior Year:

Federal Application Financial Student Aid (FAFSA) forms available on-line: www.FAFSA.ed.gov

January 1 to March 2 File Federal Application Financial Student Aid FAFSA report.

Tax returns required for application prior to completing FAFSA report.

· Updates for the resources below are available.

The College Board and HSLDA websites have excellent reputable resources for parents /students searching for colleges and financial aid.

· **Cost Effective College: Creative Ways to Pay for College and Stay Out of Debt** by Gordon Wadsworth

Web site: www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0802422314/hslida-20?creative=327641&camp=14573&link_code=as1

· **Fastweb** - A search engine for local, national and college specific scholarships

Web site: www.fastweb.com

· **"Homeschooler Awarded Rhodes Scholarship"**

Web site: <http://nche.hslida.org/docs/BrightSpots/200405130.asp>

· **How to Go to College Almost For Free** by Ben Kaplan

Web site: http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0060937653/hslida-20?creative=327641&camp=14573&link_code=as1

· **Federal Trade Commission: Scholarship Scams**

Part of the Federal Trade Commission's website which alerts people to scholarship scams

Web site: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/scholarship/cases.shtm>

· **FinAid!** The SmartStudent Guide to Financial Aid - Website that includes everything you want to know about college financial aid

Web site: <http://www.finaid.org/>

· **Financial Aid for College Study**

Information relating to home schooled students and the college application process as well as financial aid

Web site: <http://learninfreedom.org/collegemoney.html>

PLANNING FOR FOUR YEAR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ADMISSION

· Scholarship Coach.com

Web site:

http://www.scholarshipcoach.com/?SCOACH_SESSID=95dc3e1ee0be0fe6b02c73ada284ee37

· *Scholarship Handbook 2011* - published by the College Board

Web site: <http://store.collegeboard.com/sto/productdetail.do?Itemkey=009065>

· *Winning Scholarships for College: An Insider's Guide, 3rd Ed.* by Marianne Ragins

(Includes sources for scholarships, tips on applying, and internet sources)

Web site:

http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0805075216/hslida-20?creative=327641&camp=14573&link_code=as1

· **FREE PUBLICATIONS EXPLAINING STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AND HELPFUL WEBSITES:**

· [US Dep't of Education offers numerous brochures and web site](#)

· [College Board \(type financial aid in search box\)](#)

· [The Student Guide to Financial Aid](#)

· [Funding Your Education](#)

· [Help completing the FAFSA](#)

· [Direct Loan website](#)

· [The American Legion - "Need a Lift?"](#)

The American Legion publishes a handbook entitled "Need A Lift?" that provides helpful college financial aid information -- it may be ordered from their website by typing "need a lift" in the search box (\$3 fee) topics include: Financial Aid Basics, Federal and State Financial Aid Programs, Military Financial Aid Benefits, Scholarships, Career Info, and more

PLANNING FOR FOUR YEAR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ADMISSION

CAREER ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM (CAPP)

Career Advanced Placement Program (CAPP) is designed for the college-bound student who would like to get a head start in college. Through the High School Program Juniors and Seniors are able to take college classes, which can be used towards their Bachelors or Associate Degree.

High school students in the eleventh and twelfth grades may enroll in junior colleges. Enrollment will require the signature of SMMA Director and a copy of the Academy's affidavit. Students may earn high school credits as well as college credits from their junior college courses. There are some restrictions. Math and English entrance exams may be required prior to enrollment. Also, restrictions may apply to the number of units per semester / quarter that high school students may take at the junior college level. This is an excellent way for private satellite program high school students to take laboratory sciences, foreign languages and/or advance math courses while completing their other high school courses at home. Caution that students do not earn more than 60 college units. They will be considered as fulfilling their lower level college credits and a transferring college student.

SOME OF THE MANY ADVANTAGES TO THE PROGRAM:

- Students will have the opportunity to take a college class while still in high school.
- Many of your classes are specifically designed to prepare students for the rigors of college.
- **These classes, which normally cost \$26 a unit, are free to students while they are in high school.**

HOW TO REGISTER FOR A CAPP CLASSES:

1. Fill out a college admissions application.
2. Fill out the "Career Advanced Placement Program" (CAPP) form. This form needs to be signed by your high school counselor or high school authorized personnel, approving the program of study for you.
3. Bring your admissions application and CAPP form to the College Admission office.
4. After turning in the application and CAPP form, the admissions office will give you a permit to register. On your day to register you will have to register in person in the admissions office.
5. Approximately one week prior to the first day of class books will go on sale in the school bookstore.

TO LOCATE A JUNIOR COLLEGE NEAR YOU, SEARCH THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE.

<http://www.cccco.edu/find/alphabetical.htm>

National Association for Athletics NCAA Eligibility Center

August / September is time for college-bound student-athletes to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

Who Should Register?

Any current sophomore, junior or senior who wishes to participate in intercollegiate athletics at an

How Does Registration Work?

Registrants may access the site at www.eligibilitycenter.org. From the home page, click on “Enter Here” for NCAA college-bound student-athletes, then on the “New Account” link in the upper right corner. From there, they simply follow the prompts.

The NCAA DIVISION I BOARD AMENDS INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY RULES

The Division I Board of Directors maintained its support for higher grades and a core-course progression, but adopted legislation that would keep the test score/grade-point average sliding scale at the current level.

What does this mean?

- Still in Effect: The minimum core-course GPA of 2.300 for college-bound student-athletes who will enroll at an NCAA Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2016.
- Still in Effect: The requirement that a college-bound student-athlete complete 10 core courses before the beginning of his/her senior year (seven of the 10 must be English, math or science). These 10 courses are “locked in” for GPA purposes. This is also effective August 1, 2016.
- What is Different: The current sliding scale (in effect now) will remain in effect for the foreseeable future. The Board determined that the more stringent scale, originally scheduled to take effect in 2016, would have yielded a number of unintended consequences. Also, that taken as a whole, the academic reform changes already underway or adopted are likely to result in improved graduation performance of student-athletes. This has been the goal of academic reform from the outset.

What is New: Only the best 16 core courses will be used in determining the core-course GPA. Current practice allows as many courses a college-bound student-athlete takes within the time limitation to count toward the core-course GPA. Effective August 1, 2016, only the best 16 will be used.

To read more about Divisions I and II initial-eligibility rules, please visit the Resources tab on the High School Portal.