

High School Roadmap to College

March 2, 2023

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Goal: *give parents a roadmap so you can help your student navigate through high school and graduate with good options for college.*

Agenda:

- **It's a TEAM EFFORT!**
 - Counselors, students, parents, partners each play a role
- **Graduation vs. "A-G" (4-year college eligibility)**
- **Year by Year:**
 - key themes/focus for students
 - counselor services
 - parent pro tips
- **Additional resources**



PASADENA EDUCATION NETWORK



It's a **TEAM EFFORT!**

Counselors
Students
Families
Partners

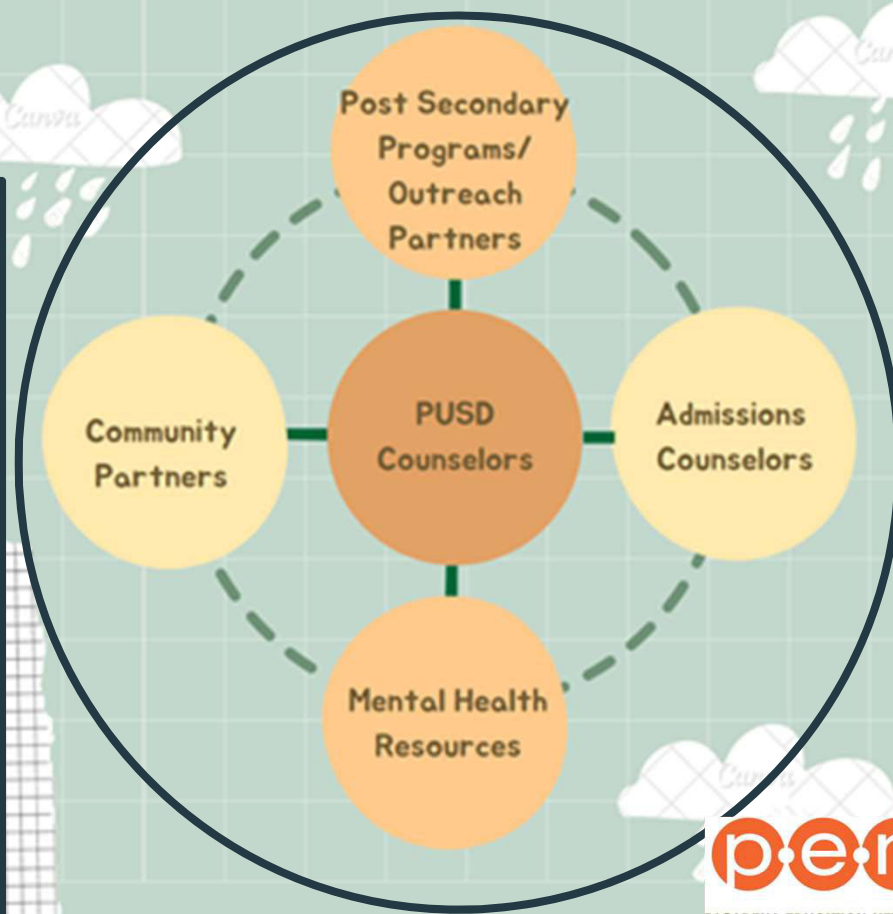


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PUSD Counselors & Partners

Counseling tools and Services Provided

- 4 year Academic Plan
- Grade level guidance lessons
- Grade level student and parent orientations
- Grade level one on one educational planning
- Student Achievement Recognition Ceremonies
- Dual Enrollment & Concurrent Enrollment



Students and Parents (Caregivers)

Our STUDENTS are:

- Discovering & developing their interests
- Beginning to imagine/explore future possibilities
- Learning to manage responsibilities
- Developing self-advocacy skills
- Asking questions
- Learning to seek support as needed
- Still a work in progress (executive functioning!)

We PARENTS are:

- Tracking details / monitoring progress
- Checking Aeries, email
- Encouraging our students' involvement in extra-curricular activities
- Learning about financial aid
- Helping students visit colleges
- Helping tap support resources



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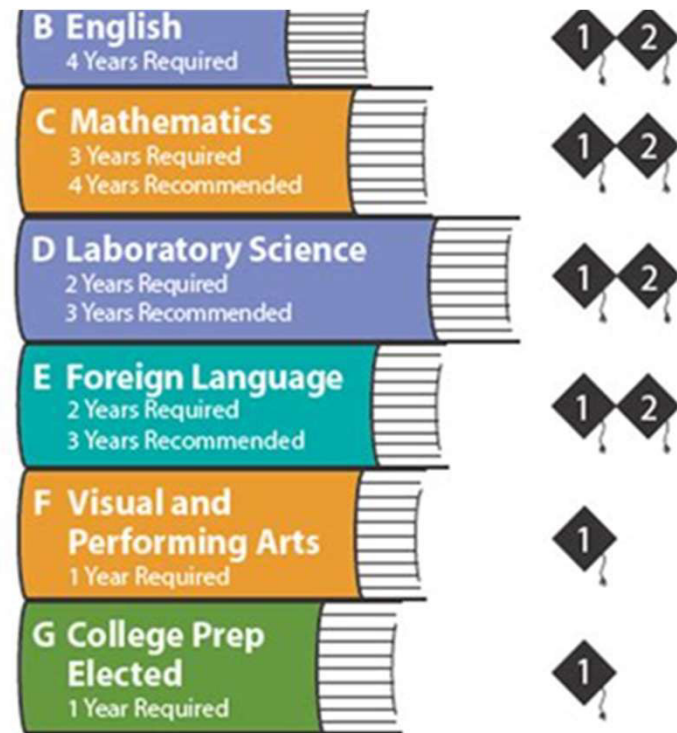
**HS Graduation
≠
College-eligible**



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“A-G” Requirements with C or above

A grade of C or above required!



* Grades of C or better required.



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PUSD Graduation Credit Chart (one semester = 5 credits)

Lang Lit	10	English 2 English 2 or AP Eng. Lang ETWC or AP Eng. Lit	10	English I, II, III, IV
Math or extended Eng	10	Math I & Math II Math III, Statistics or College Prep Math recommended as 3rd year of study	10	Math I & Math II
Science	10	World History or Social Science Elective U.S. History American Gov't/Economics	10	History/Social Science U.S. History American Gov't Economics
Art	10	Physics Chemistry Biology S.A. Science)	10	Biology Physics/Chemistry
Foreign Language	10	10 units of the same Language required for 4 year college admission	10	Five Arts, World Language, or CTE
Physical Education	10	Required for UC/CSU admission	10	Must pass fitness exam or continue in P.E.
Health Education	10	Must pass fitness exam or continue in P.E.	10	Must pass fitness exam or continue in P.E.
Career Education, Agriculture, and Art, AOE	10	CTE	10	CTE
Advanced Placement, IB, AOE	10	AP, IB, and Honors courses, Choir, Band, Arts, Robotics, AOE	10	Courses with certification, Dual enrollment in Junior College pathway programs
Community Service	10	Complete 200 hours of Work Based Learning (incl. service)	10	Qualified students who have earned less than 130 credits their first year

Requirements

1. 220 Credits of Required Coursework
2. 40 hours of Community Service or Work-Based Learning (WBL)
3. Graduate Portfolio and Defense



A one-semester class is worth 5 credits, so 10 credits equals one full school year. Note that dual or concurrent enrollment courses taken for college credit can earn 10 credits over a shorter period of time.

World Language requirement - PUSD requires only one year of a world language, but A-G requires 2 years, with 3 years recommended. Students entering high school with dual language or who are bilingual and can demonstrate proficiency can be placed in an appropriate language class, including classes for native speakers.

Grades matter! A student can “pass” a high school course and earn credit towards graduation requirements with a grade of D. But students need a grade of C or better in their A-G courses in order to be eligible for 4-year college admissions. Higher grades increase student’s competitiveness for admissions and scholarships. (Free money!)

Honors and Recognitions

3.0 GPA - Cum Laude	<p>Key Words</p> <p>CTE - Career Technical Education</p> <p>AP - Advanced Placement</p> <p>IB - International Baccalaureate</p> <p>HL - Higher Level IB Courses</p> <p>SL - Standard Level IB Courses</p>	<p>California Scholarship Federation Requirements</p> <p>Membership is based on scholarship and is gained after qualifying grades are earned each semester. csf-cjsf.org</p>	<p>Seal of Bi-literacy</p> <p>Students will earn a Seal of Bi-literacy when they complete all AB815 requirements, demonstrating bilingualism and bi-literate competencies in English and an additional language. sealofbilitery.org</p>	<p>National Honor Society</p> <p>Requirements in grades 10 through 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cumulative GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) • demonstrating volunteer/service hours • excellent record of behavior • participating in leadership
3.5 GPA - Magna Cum Laude		<p>International Baccalaureate Diploma</p> <p>The International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme (DP) is recognized and respected by the world's leading universities, and evidence suggests that higher rates of DP students go on to university and higher education study than non-IB students. Students complete a rigorous internationally benchmarked college bound course of studies and have to pass 3 HL and 3 SL courses.</p>	<p>AP Capstone Diploma</p> <p>3 AP's with 3's or higher in AP Seminar and an AP Research</p> <p>Earns score of 3 or higher on four additional AP Exams of their choosing</p>	<p>Golden Seal Diploma</p> <p>Minimum B in US History</p> <p>Minimum B+ in ELA, Math and Science for one year (9th-11th)</p> <p>Minimum B+ in two other subject areas for one year</p>
4.0 GPA and above Summa Cum Laude				

California Scholarship Federation - <https://csf.cjsf.org>

National Honor Society - <https://www.nhs.us/>

Golden Seal Diploma - <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/meritdiploma.asp>

AP Capstone Diploma - <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-capstone>

International Baccalaureate Diploma - <https://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme>

Seal of Bi-Literacy - <https://sealofbilitery.org/>



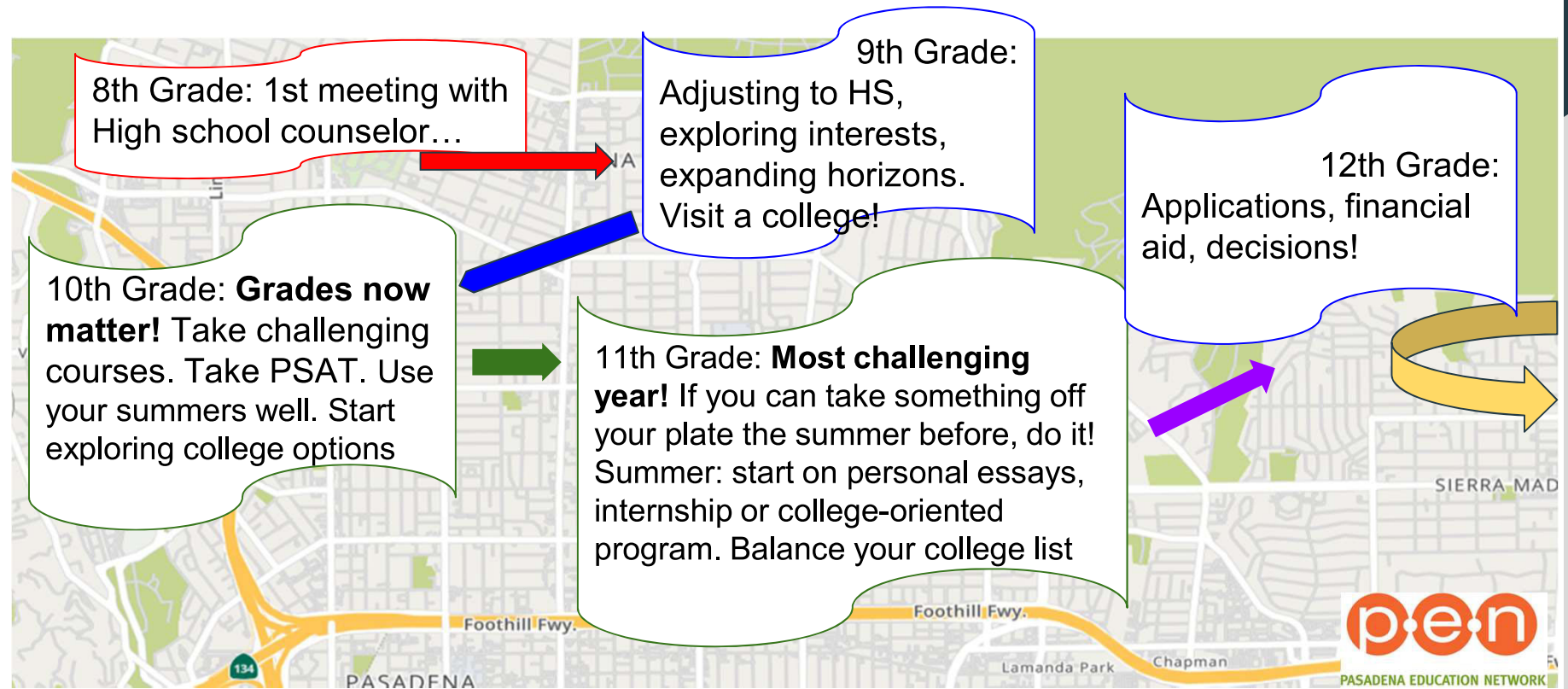
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Roadmaps by Year



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An Overview of the Territory



Zooming in: 8th Grade

Middle school is important because your child is laying the foundation in a lot of subjects and forming study habits. Developing certain skills now will make it easier for your child to adjust to the challenges of high school and college later — and will lead to more college options.

- Check out [College Access Plan](#) (CAP)!
- April - high school counselors meet with 8th grade students to initiate a 4-year Academic Plan and schedule courses for 9th grade. This is a quick meeting, without a lot of time for getting questions answered. Parents may attend, but are not encouraged to ask a lot of questions. (District will send home registration packets ahead of time.)



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Zooming in: 8th Grade

Pro-Tips:

- If your student is in a special program (IB, DLIP, Academy, Puente), be sure to let the counselor know. You may want to check with the program director about requirements (and options for fulfilling them) prior to your student meeting with the counselor.
- Keep in mind that changes *can* be made after this meeting, if necessary.
- Be sure your student's plan includes 4-year college as a goal!



Zooming in: 9th Grade

The beginning of high school is an exciting time. Your child may be adjusting to a new school, making new friends and becoming more independent. But many children struggle academically at the beginning of high school, so your child still needs your help and involvement.

- High Schools also offer “Wellness” services and mental health support. Check school website or ask!
- See PUSD’s [Orientation to High School Handbook](#)



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Zooming in: 9th Grade

PUSD Opportunities & Academic Support

- [College Access Plan](#) (CAP) CAP offers drop-in college counseling services after school twice-per-week at Blair, John Muir, Marshall Fundamental, and PHS. CAP also offers school-day programs at CIS and Rose City. Visit their [High School Drop-In Program page](#) for the current academic year schedule. Any student may take advantage of this program, whether to explore college options, discuss course (and other) requirements, learn about financial aid, work on a personal statement - anything college-related!
- Upward Bound and the Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP) are also available to PUSD students. These programs are both designed to expand postsecondary education opportunities for California's educationally disadvantaged students.
- Check your high school counseling office webpage for other school-specific academic support programs.
- High Schools also offer "Wellness" services and mental health support. Check school website or ask!



Zooming in: 9th Grade (continued)

9th Grade: Counselor-initiated activities

- Transcript Review/Graduation Requirement/A-G Lessons
- 4-year plan - individual counseling (2x/year)
- Post-Secondary Planning
- PSAT Intro
- Interventions for Academic Gaps
- Transitions/Adjustments to High School

Helpful Links:

Aeries (Parent Portal): <https://pasadenausd.asp.aeries.net/student/LoginParent.aspx> - Save the login info to your device; use it to monitor and scaffold for your child the way you used to check their backpack! You can sign up to get weekly updates emailed to you. Note that there may be a lag between Canvas and Aeries, with the most recent grades taking longer to get entered into Aeries.

College Board: <https://www.collegeboard.org/> - Make a [College Board](#) account together with your student. Have the login information so that you can check it.

College Board's "Big Future" website also has a wealth of resources for exploring colleges and careers, learning about financial aid, and even year-by-year "action plans" for families: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/communities-events/for-parents>

California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI): <https://www.californiacolleges.edu> - Support your child's college and career planning: * Keep an eye on their academic progress. * Learn about money that can help them pay for college. * Help them navigate applying for college and financial aid.



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Zooming in: 9th Grade (continued)

Pro-tips:

- Many students struggle a bit academically when they start high school.
- Get in the habit of using [Aeries Parent Portal](#) to view your student's Academic Plan and make sure they are on track with course requirements as well as grades.
- A-G required courses must be passed with a C or higher to count towards college eligibility. Courses can be made up if necessary over summer or in twilight school.
- Check weekly e-bulletins sent out by the school for reminders of important dates or announcements of special programs or opportunities. (See also social media.)
- Use the summer between 9th & 10th to explore interests. Note that courses taken for high school credit during the summer before 10th grade count towards the student's high school GPA (grade point average) for college admissions purposes.



Helpful websites

Aeries (Parent Portal): <https://pasadenausd.asp.aeries.net/student/LoginParent.aspx>
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Your student's Academic Plan

Pro-tip:

In Spring, before signing up for next year's classes, check Aeries to ensure student is **on track**

Student Academic Plan

//pasadenausd.asp.aries.net/student/StudentAcademicPlan.aspx

High School Graduation View UC College Requirements View CSU College Requirements View

Subject Area	Credits Needed	8th Grade					9th Grade					10th Grade					11th Grade			
		Semester 1		Semester 2		Summer	Semester 1		Semester 2		Summer	Semester 1		Semester 2		Summer	Semester 1		Semester 2	
		Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4		Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4		Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4		Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
A-History/SocScience	0/20											AP Euro Hist A (112511)	AP Euro Hist B (112512)				AP US Hist H A (112621)	AP US Hist H B (112622)		
B-English	0/40						English 1H A (211435)	English 1H B (211436)				English 2 H A (211539)	English 2 H B (211540)				AP Eng Lang A (212653)	AP Eng Lang B (212654)		
C-Mathematics	0/30	AP Calculus A (31235H)	AP Calculus B (31236H)				LinAlgMultVar A (311915)	LinAlgMultVar B (311925)				AbsAlg Discrt A (311935)	AbsAlg Discrt B (311945)				ProbStatMSGTA A (311955)	ProbStatMSGTB (311965)		
D-Lab Science	0/20						AP Physics C A (41291X)	AP Physics C B (41292X)									AP Chemistry A (412905)	AP Chemistry B (412906)		
E-Foreign Language	0/20						Spanish 1P A (510911)	Spanish 1P B (510912)	Spanish 2P A (510913)			Spanish 2P A (510913)	Spanish 2P B (510914)				Spanish 3P A (510941)	Spanish 3P B (510942)		
F-Visual and Perf Arts	0/10																Film Hist P A (610737)	Film Hist P B (610738)		
G-Electives	0/10						Web APP Dev 1HA (76297A)	Web APP Dev 1HB (76298A)				AdvComSciApp A (810718)	AdvComSciApp B (810728)							
		US History B A (110321)	US History B B (110322)				Phys Ed 9 A (810445)	Phys Ed 9 B (810446)				Basketball A (810915)	Basketball B (810916)							
		Phys Ed 6/7 A (810845)	Phys Ed 6/7 B (810846)																	
Not a Requirement		Science B A (410327)	Science B B (410328)																	

PUSD Graduation Requirements & Diploma Options information:
<https://www.pUSD.us/Page/2961>

Zooming in: 10th Grade

10th Grade: Counselor-initiated activities

- Career Exploration
- College Readiness
- Visit local colleges and attend College Fair (October)
- PSAT Overview and Results (which content areas does student want to focus on)
- Healthy Habits



Zooming in: 10th Grade

Pro-Tips

- Beginning the summer before sophomore year (10th grade), **GRADES MATTER!** The UCs and CalStates no longer consider SAT scores, so a student's GPA (grade point average) and extracurricular activities matter even more.
- **Take AP and Honors courses in areas where student is interested and has potential to do well.** Colleges want to see that students are challenging themselves, but it's better to do so in areas of interest/strength than to try to take on more than student can manage successfully.
- **Encourage student to explore interests** - clubs, sports, volunteer opportunities, summer programs - it's great to explore possible interests in 9th and 10th grade, but students who can tell a compelling story about who they are and how they are pursuing the things that interest them will be more attractive college candidates than those who are just randomly doing a lot of different kinds of activities.
- **Use your summers well!**



Zooming in: 10th Grade

Links:

- High school websites and social media pages
- City of Pasadena Library website:
<https://www.cityofpasadena.net/library/teens/>
- College websites (summer courses or programs for high school students)
- PEN 2023 [Summer Opportunities for Teens](#) - Summer activities range from credit recovery or trying a college-level course to volunteer experience to internships that allow your student to explore possible career interests.



Exploring college options



There are a LOT of options, so do not limit your thinking to a handful of colleges or universities. In addition to over 100 community colleges that grant 2-year Associate's degrees (as well as opportunities to transfer to a 4-year college), there are:

23 Cal State University campuses	Min. GPA 2.0; deadline 11/30 Short answers, letters of rec.
9 University of California campuses	Min. GPA 3.0; deadline 11/30 4 essays, worksheets, letters of recommendation
100s of private colleges and universities in and out of state.	Min GPA varies, may req. SAT; Common Ap + some additional essays, letters of rec.



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Zooming in: 11th Grade

Junior year marks a turning point, when academics and college planning activities kick into high gear.

11th Grade: Counselor-initiated activities

- PUSD students create CCGI account (if they have not already) & complete resource interest inventories; parents can also create an account to track/monitor college planning progress
- College list matched to careers
- PSAT/NMSQT (Fall) - In addition to predicting success on the SAT, the PSAT taken junior year qualifies students to be eligible for possible National Merit Scholarships
- SAT/ACT (Spring)
- “Brag Sheet” - students compile list of achievements and activities for teachers and counselors who will be writing letters of recommendation for them
- Social Emotional Learning - dealing with anxiety



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Zooming in: 11th Grade

- **California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI):**
<https://www.californiacolleges.edu>
- College Board “Big Future” Junior Year Family Action Plan:
<https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/CollegePlanning/media/pdf/parent-action-plan-11th-grade.pdf>





California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI):

<https://www.californiacolleges.edu>

Register Your Account



As parents, we can see information about the student's interests and strengths, and ask them questions. It lets us help them plan for their future.

Flor Navarro, Parent and Academic Counselor, Delhi USD

Parents

Your child is taking a big step toward their future. CaliforniaColleges.edu will empower you to help them along their journey.

- Support your child's college and career planning.
- Keep an eye on their academic progress.
- Learn about money that can help them pay for college.
- Help them navigate applying for college and financial aid.

Register Your Account

Zooming in: 11th grade, continued



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Pro-tips for Junior Year

- Have your child make a College Board account using non-PUSD email, save the information, and share with you. (You should also be able to create a parent account to see your student's CCGI account activity.)
- It's not so much about doing ALL THE THINGS as it is about a student discovering her or his passions, strengths, and interests. Get involved with just a couple of clubs or activities and grow involvement and leadership in those areas rather than joining half a dozen clubs.
- Similarly - do not try to take ALL the AP classes! Match your child's interests, strengths, and possible major.
- Summer programs - if there is a program of interest that requires an application to participate, that will look better than a program anyone can participate in by just paying a fee. Students in PUSD's College & Career Academies can get a leg up on internship opportunities the summer after junior year.
- Internships, jobs, or volunteer positions where a 3rd party can attest to the hours your student put in carries more weight than a family-based activity.

Zooming in: 11th grade, continued

Pro-tips for Junior Year

Don't forget to look for College Access Plan (CAP)-sponsored workshops for students and info sessions for parents. For example, CAP currently runs a 6-week (March-April) after-school program for juniors: Enrolled students will get a head start on their college list, college resume, and the college and financial aid application process in a fun, low-key workshop series open to all PUSD juniors.

<https://collegeaccessplan.org/2023/01/19/college-101-for-juniors-is-back/>



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Dual & Concurrent Enrollment

You may have heard that PUSD students have the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. Research shows that students earning college credits while in high school not only graduate high school, but are much more likely to complete a college degree. Pasadena Unified School District partners with Pasadena City College to give students this opportunity, but the options vary by school, and students need to check in with their counselor to discuss what courses are available, what kind of credit they can earn, and how this will work with their schedule and academic goals.

Dual & Concurrent Enrollment

Concurrent Enrollment - Students can enroll in Pasadena City College courses offered after school hours (or during the summer) to receive transferable college credits while still in high school. These courses do *not* count toward the 220-credit requirement for PUSD graduation, but may be used to fulfill specific high school course requirements.

Dual Enrollment allows eligible students to enroll in college courses that earn them credit *both* toward their high school diploma *and* transferable college credit. Courses are offered on the high school campus and are considered part of the student's instructional day.

penfamilies.org/news-posts/2023/1/18/options-for-earning-college-credit-as-a-pusd-high-school-student

Zooming in: 12th Grade

12th Grade - Counselor-initiated activities

- College Applications (Fall - Oct. 1-Nov. 30)
 - Ask for letters of recommendation early!
 - “PIQ”s - Personal Insight Questions - students choose 3 of 5 topics to respond to in preparation for writing college essays
- Financial Aid & Financial Literacy lessons (Oct 1- Mar 2) - go over difference between public & private colleges, loans vs. scholarships or grants, etc.



Zooming in: 12th Grade

- 4-Year Plan - individual counseling (graduation requirement checks & A-G checks)
- Next Steps (Spring Semester)
 - Meeting deadlines
 - Checking college portals
 - “Commit Day” is May 1



Zooming in: 12th grade, continued

PUSD Opportunities & Pro-tips

- College Access Plan can help students research scholarships and grants, as well as complete financial aid forms and understand loan options. CAP also helps families evaluate financial aid offers once college acceptances arrive.
- There is a lot going on Senior year, and for many students this is a time to enjoy the present rather than worry about the future. Having things organized so you can help your student keep track of what needs doing (and when) can help everyone have a better senior year!
- College Board's "Big Future" Family Action Plan for Senior Year:
<https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/CollegePlanning/media/pdf/parent-action-plan-12th-grade.pdf>



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https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/communities-events/for-parents

BigFuture

Plan for College ▾

Pay for College ▾

Explore Careers ▾

Communities & Events ▾

My Profile

For Parents

Parents and guardians play an important role in helping teens get ready for life after high school. We've gathered resources and tools to help guide you.

Planning for College →

Knowing what colleges are looking for can help you and your child plan their high school years.

Paying for College →

Can your child afford to go to college? The answer is yes, but you need to carefully plan together how to pay for it. We have resources to help guide you through that process.

Explore Careers →

See which jobs match your child's interests and skills.

Action Plans →

See which steps to take and when to take them to help your child plan for life after high school based on their

Para Padres →

Solicitar ingreso a la universidad es un momento emocionante y, a veces, estresante en la vida de los

Webinars for Parents

Watch our webinars about planning and p college.



THANK YOU!

Contact us with questions or comments
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Laura Diaz Allen: laura@penfamilies.org

