

### **GOING TO COLLEGE 1980'S:**

DO OK IN SCHOOL, TAKE SAT, GET INTO COLLEGE.

GROWN AND FLOWN

### **GOING TO COLLEGE NOW:**

TAKE AP CLASSES, TAKE SAT PREP COURSE, TAKE SAT,  
UP VOLUNTEER HOURS, TAKE ACT, GIVE FAFSA MORE  
INFORMATION THAN IS REQUIRED FOR CIA CLEARANCE,  
ACQUIRE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION, TAKE SAT  
AGAIN, PLAY A SPORT, WORK A JOB, ASK YOUR PARENTS  
FOR A MILLION DOLLARS FOR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS,  
AND THEN PRAY THAT YOU GET INTO ONE OF THE  
DOZEN COLLEGES YOU'RE APPLYING TO.

**GROWN & FLOWN**

#### **How many universities are there in the US?**

Over 5000

Over 1600 of them are public universities

#### **How many universities are there in California?**

146 public universities

83 private universities and colleges

#### **What is the difference between a college and a university?**

Colleges are often smaller institutions that emphasize undergraduate education in a broad range of academic areas. Universities are typically larger institutions that offer a variety of both undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Many universities are also committed to producing research.

#### **What is the difference between a public and a private university?**

Public colleges and universities are higher education institutions that are mainly funded by state governments. In contrast, private colleges and universities rely more heavily on student tuition fees, alumni donations, and endowments to fund their academic programs.

Does it matter which college you go to? Not always. There are 2 important factors about going to college.

1. to gain knowledge in the field you want to work in
2. to show your future employer that you can set a goal and complete it

Do all universities require that you take honors or AP classes? No  
Do all universities give you college credit if you pass the AP exams? No  
Do you have to take the AP class to take the AP test? No  
Do you have to take the AP test if you take the AP class? No

## **a-g requirements**

The A-G / College Entrance Requirements are a sequence of high school courses that students must complete (with a grade of C or better) to be minimally eligible for admission to the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU). These requirements apply to many other universities across the country and are a good goal for college bound students.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/hs/hsgtable.asp>

Colleges want to know that you have taken the kinds of classes that will prepare you to do well when you arrive at their campus. Which courses they count and which they don't might vary from one college to another, so the best way to be sure that you are eligible at any college you might want to apply to is to satisfy the UC and CSU's required courses. These are known as the A-G requirements. If you satisfy them, you will have the courses you need to meet the basic eligibility requirements for almost any university.

- **History / Social Science (2 years) "A"**  
Two years of history/social science, including one year of world history, cultures and geography; and one year of US history, or one-half year of US history AND one-half year of American government.
- **English (4 years) "B"**  
Four years of college-preparatory English. If taking ESL-type classes, only the highest year can be counted towards this requirement.
- **Math (3 years required; 4 years recommended) "C"**  
Three years of college preparatory mathematics; the minimum pattern is Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. Math courses taken in the 7th and 8th grades that the student's high school accepts as equivalent to its own may be used to fulfill a part of this requirement.
- **Laboratory Science (2 years required; 3 years recommended) "D"**  
Two years of laboratory science in at least two of these three subjects: biology, chemistry, and physics.
- **Language Other than English (2 years required; 3 years recommended) "E"**  
Two years of the same language other than English. Courses taken in the 7th and 8th grades may be used to fulfill part of this requirement if the student's high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.
- **Visual and Performing Arts (1 year) "F"**  
A single yearlong visual or performing arts class such as dance, drama, music, or visual art (drawing, painting, etc.).
- **College Preparatory Elective (1 year) "G"**  
One year chosen from additional "A-F" courses beyond those used to satisfy the requirements above, or courses that have been approved elective classes.

### Summer after your Sophomore year

What summer activities could help your resume?

Local universities you might visit

- Occidental College <https://admission.oxy.edu/portal/campus-visit>
- USC <https://admission.usc.edu/meet-us/on-campus-tours/>
- UCLA <https://connect.admission.ucla.edu/portal/tours>
- UC Santa Barbara <https://admissions.sa.ucsb.edu/campus-visits>
- Cal Poly San Luis Obispo <https://www.calpoly.edu/tours>
- San Diego State (California State University, San Diego)
- UC San Diego
- Claremont Colleges

Research colleges.

Thinking about Majors –

Can you combine a science related major with a humanities major?

Unique majors –

A student liked geology and art. He majored in scientific illustration. He can illustrate for science books or go on scientific expeditions and provide illustrations for their reports.

A girl majored in biology and then she added a second major - journalism and a minor in creative writing because she liked to write. She has the unique talent of being a scientist who knows how to write and a writer who understands science. It's made her very marketable.

### Questions to help choose a college

Do you know where you would like to go to school?

If yes, where and why?

Do you know what you want to major in? (If yes, google "Best universities for \_\_\_\_\_ major" and "Best CA universities for \_\_\_\_\_ major")

Do you want to start with community college?

If yes, do you want to transfer to a 4-year university afterwards?

If yes, do you want to work toward a certificate or a degree?

Do you want a commuter school?

Do you want to go to a large university?

Do you want to go to a university that is the same size as your high school?

Do you want to go to a university that is smaller than your high school?

Do you want to go to a religious university? If yes, which religion?

Do you want to go to a co-ed university?

Do you want to live at school or commute from home? Can you afford to live at school?

Do you want to go to school in California? Yes, no, doesn't matter

Do you want to go to school out of state? Yes, no, doesn't matter

Check off the parts of the country you are interested in

Or if you have a specific state, what is it?

- |                  |             |             |            |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| - west coast     | - northwest | - southwest | - midwest  |
| - Rocky mountain | - southeast | - Texas     | -northeast |
| - Alaska         | - Hawaii    |             |            |

Do you want to go to school in another country?

Do you want a school that offers the opportunity to study abroad for a semester?

Do you want to participate in a sport while in college?

Do you want to participate in a arts (drama, choir, band, dance, etc) while in college?

Do you want to go to a school in a big city or a small city? Yes, no, doesn't matter

Does weather matter? If so, what do you like and what don't you like?

Do you expect to have a car when you are in school or will you rely on public transportation? Yes, no, don't know

Do you plan to have a job when you are in school?

Do you want a school that has football games like Big 12 or Pac 12 schools?

How do I determine if a school is a safety school, target school, or reach school for me? Using college scorecard and big future are the easiest way to look at average test score/GPA. Students should compare their GPA (and test score if they took it) with the average GPA (and test score) of admitted students.

<https://collegescorecard.ed.gov>

Enter College

Click on "More Details"

Click on "Tests Scores and Acceptance rates"

If a parent is really detail oriented and wants extensive data, common data set for each of the colleges will give them more info. Google common data set (Name of the college). Then scroll down to **"Relative importance of each of the following academic and nonacademic factors in your first-time, first-year, degree-seeking (freshman) admission decisions."**

**READ sections C7-C12**

### Spring Break - Junior year

Consider visiting some of the colleges that you are interested in

### Summer after Junior year

Once you have a list of 8-10 universities, here are some more questions to consider.

What is the acceptance rate for your major?

Will weighted grades matter at the university you are applying to?

What is the application deadline for each school?

What is rolling admissions and which schools have it?

College	Application Deadline	Desired GPA	Test Optional? Or desired SAT?	# of essays required	Housing expenses	Tuition expenses	What major are you interested in? Is it impacted?

Create a resume.

- GPA
- SAT/ACT scores
- extra curricular activities
- volunteering
- list of personal/family challenges
- work experience
- leadership

Work on essays – Check the universities that you are interested in and begin writing essays.

If these facts apply to you, you should include them in your essay.

First generation American

First one in your immediate family to go to college

Socio economically disadvantaged

Parent or sibling is ill or passed away

For the UC schools, you will have to answer 4 of the 8 questions that they offer. This is the 2022 list: <https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-freshman/personal-insight-questions.html>

Advice from UC about essays: <https://www.ucdavis.edu/admissions/blog/answering-uc-personal-insight-questions>

Create application accounts in June

Common App <https://www.commonapp.org>

Create application accounts in August

UC <https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/>

CSU <https://www.calstate.edu/apply>

### Senior year

August – contact teachers and counselor and request letters of recommendation

- find tab on school website to order transcripts

October – UC and Cal State applications due

- Complete FAFSA and send to schools you are applying to

### **FAFSA**

fafsa.gov

What is it?

The FAFSA is **the official form that students or their families use to apply for financial assistance for college from the federal government**. States, individual colleges and universities, and private scholarship programs rely on the information provided in the application as well.

Who should apply for it?

Everyone. Even if you don't have financial need, often merit scholarships require that you fill out the FAFSA.

When do I fill out out?

Between October 1<sup>st</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>

FAFSA – create 2 accounts, one under parent name and one under student name

Are there other financial aid forms to fill out?

Besides completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA, about 400 colleges and universities require another, even more detailed, financial form called the College Scholarship Service or CSS Profile.

Don't fill this out until you have a college application that requests it.

TAG programs – check to see if your Community College and major are part of the TAG program

Berkeley, San Diego, and ??? don't participate

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/transfer-requirements/uc-transfer-programs/transfer-admission-guarantee-tag.html>

### Spring of Senior year

Plan B suggestions

Rolling admissions

<https://www.nacacnet.org/openings>

### Things to consider

You can't control luck and luck does not define your value.

Admissions is, to some extent, a lottery. There are more qualified students applying than spaces available. Applications are read by different people. Your application could resonate with one person but not another and you can't control which person on the committee is going to read your application. Acceptance does not reflect your value as a person.

Applications to UC schools are way up, so acceptance rates are way down.

CSUN seems to be taking those with 3.75+ for impacted majors.

However, for a major that is NOT impacted, a 2.85 GPA is enough.

CSUN – accessible majors with 2.85 GPA

<https://www.csun.edu/prospective-students/freshman-impaction>

### Information for Socio Economically disadvantaged students

Go over how to strategically choose the UC schools and Cal State schools that they are going to apply to with their 4 free applications

Go over their personal challenges and help them understand how they can convey these challenges to the college/scholarship committee in their application

Explain how financial aid is provided -- scholarships, Federal/State grants, loans (that aren't paid off until later), work study

### Where You Go is Not Who You'll Be" Excerpt by Frank Bruni

<https://www.msnbc.com/morning-joe/where-you-go-not-who-youll-be-excerpt-frank-bruni-msna555761>

TAG programs – check to see if your CC and major if they are in the TAG program  
Berkeley, San Diego, and ??? don't participate

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/transfer-requirements/uc-transfer-programs/transfer-admission-guarantee-tag.html>

**What if I want a school where I might be able to compete in sports?**

There are currently 438 [American](#) colleges and universities classified as [Division III](#) for [NCAA](#) competition. Schools from 35 of the [50 states](#) and the [District of Columbia](#) are represented. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_NCAA\\_Division\\_III\\_institutions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_NCAA_Division_III_institutions)

**Are merit scholarships available or do you have to have financial need?****University of Arizona Merit Scholarships**

Core GPA Range	Non-Resident Arizona Awards Merit Scholarships
4.0	\$35,000
3.90 - 3.999	\$30,000
3.75-3.899	\$20,000
3.50 - 3.749	\$12,500
3.25 - 3.499	\$7,500
3.0 - 3.249	\$2,500
2.75 - 2.999	\$1,000



Can BUSD offer college seminars to review what students should be doing?

- end of sophomore year
- end of junior year

Can we set up a volunteer program to help students put together their resumes?

Can we set up a volunteer program where people read essays and provide feedback?