

SENIOR

PLANNING

PRESENTATION

for

parents & students

WELCOME back!

Know your counselor and their contact information.
Senior year is a fun and exciting time, but it's important to stay organized in order to minimize the stress you may feel!

Jessica Franco

(916) 716-7968

Jessica.franco@pacificcharters.org

STAY organized

- 
- digital calendar in your phone?
 - paper agenda?
 - setting reminders to get things done?

Figure out the best systems for you.

Keep a list of important dates and deadlines.

This is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY... NOT the parent's.

STANDARDIZED testing

Be familiar with the terms.

Set goals for scores then study and practice.

Know your deadlines for sending test scores for college acceptance and scholarship considerations.



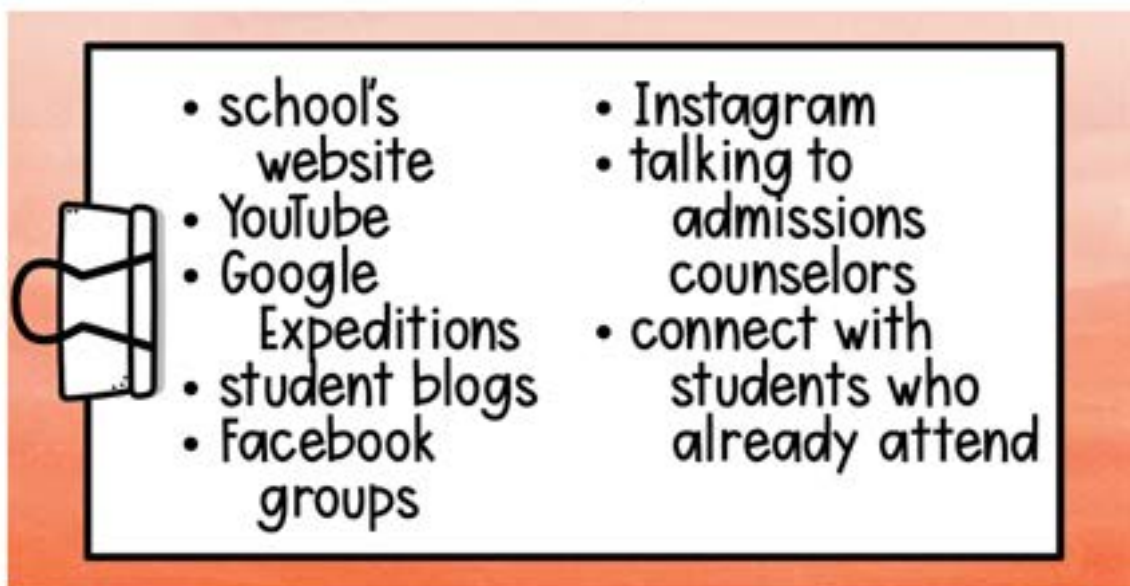
Test Optional

Test Blind

Superscoring

CAMPUS tours

Lots of opportunities to get to know a campus even if you can't physically get on the campus.



NARROW your list

Applying to A LOT of schools can be expensive and stressful. Ask the right questions, and apply to schools you could really see yourself attending.

Do they have my **major**?

What is their average freshman **retention rate**?

Is the **pricetag** realistic?
(Consider their scholarship options.)

Are there options for **study abroad**?

What is their 4 year **graduation rate**?

Are their students **employed** upon graduation?

START your applications



You don't have to finish it all in one sitting.

Proofread.
Then have someone else proofread!

Answer the "optional" essays & personal statements.

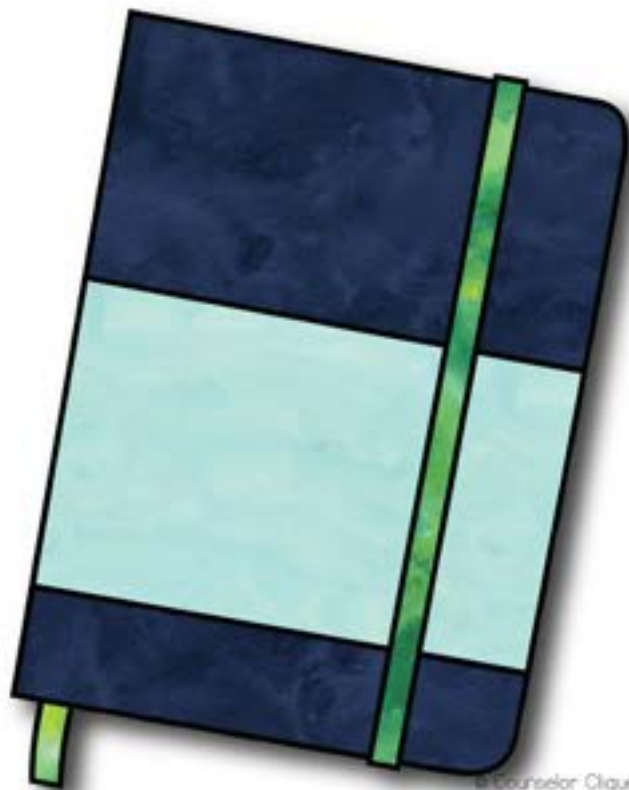
Send your test scores through College Board (for SAT) & ACT (for ACT).

Stay on top of your deadlines.

Remember your username and passwords.

TAKE care of yourself

- prioritize your mental health
(this is good practice for when you leave your home and are expected to navigate life more independently!)
- make time for exercise and fitness
- take time to participate in hobbies or learn new skills that you enjoy



Be financially savvy

Don't be afraid of private or out-of-state schools; often times, they can give great scholarships!

Know your in-state scholarship requirements and aim for those.

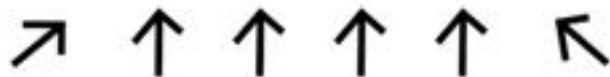
Look for scholarships for students at your school, in your district, in your city, in your greater community, and in your state.

Check colleges' websites for major-specific scholarships.

Apply to schools and take the SAT/ACT with fee waivers if you qualify for free or reduced lunch.

Apply to as many scholarships as possible!

Fill out the **FAFSA** December 2023. This is the **FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID.**



Be financially savvy

ALL FOUND ON THE
FAFSA WEBSITE!



More on the **FAFSA**:

-
- FSA ID & PASSWORD FOR STUDENT
 - FSA ID & PASSWORD FOR PARENT
 - SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
 - FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURNS, W-2, OTHER RECORDS OF MONEY EARNED FOR YOURSELF & YOUR PARENTS
 - (THIS CAN GENERATE FROM LINKING THIS FAFSA ACCOUNT TO YOUR IRS ACCOUNT)
 - RECORDS OF NON-TAXABLE INCOME IF APPLICABLE
 - BANK STATEMENTS AND INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS
 - RECORDS FOR UNIQUE FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES

- Every family's situation is different, so let it walk you through the process.
- Helpful Q&A on their website.
 - Live chat features with experts.
- Watch out for scam websites- the FAFSA will never COST you money.

Be financially savvy

- Check the "Net Price Calculator" on a college's website for a good indicator of what you'll be paying.
- Don't be afraid to directly call a financial aid office, and ask for help understanding a financial aid offer letter. Ask questions if something doesn't make sense!
- Fill out the FAFSA yearly. Your family's financial situation may change (abruptly), and it is much easier for the college to help you or adjust your financial aid package if they already have this on file.

EXPLORE your options

MILITARY

Study for and then take the ASVAB.
Meet with a recruiter and take notes.
Pass a physical training test.
Enlist in a branch of the military.

TRADE

Look into apprenticeships or technical jobs that require certificates or training at a local technical college. Some require less than 2 years of training.

WORK hard



"Senioritis" is real, but don't give up. Many of you have classes left that you still need for graduation. Give it all you have until the end.

Colleges can rescind your admission for poor grades. You can lose scholarships before you even start receiving money for them. A military branch or career may revoke their offer without your high school diploma in hand.

NEXT steps

Utilize College Resources

[College Board - SAT, AP, College Search and Admission Tools](#)

[Home – BigFuture | College Board](#)

[Apply to college with Common App | Your future starts here](#)

[Scholarships for College: Find and Apply Online for Free | Going Merry](#)

[Admissions | University of California](#)

