



COLLEGE PREPARATION GUIDELINES

GRADE
12

Senior Send-off

MYTH:

My senior year grades do not really count, so I'll spend most of my time on college applications.

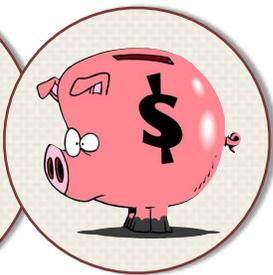
TRUTH:

Academics above all! Your classes should always be your top priority, especially since more and more colleges are requesting mid-year grade reports from seniors.

PERSONAL INVENTORY:

How do you learn best? Begin to determine the course style you prefer (e.g. lectures vs discussions). Then, apply to colleges that have a similar academic approach.

Ratio of
scholarship
applications to
awards received
20:1



PARENT CORNER

- **Submit your 2013 taxes electronically** (and early) to simplify the financial aid process.
- **Start letting go.** Books (like *Letting Go: A Parent's Guide to Understanding the College Years*), support from other parents, or even a new puppy can help you avoid empty nest feelings.
- **Be your child's biggest fan but give them the space to show everyone what they've learned.** Show your support by allowing them to shoulder more responsibility while providing positive reinforcement as they begin to make adult decisions. Your confidence in them will further prepare them for college.

TO DO LIST

- Sign up for College Apps Academy--if space is still available
- Develop a planning calendar to keep track of key deadlines including:
 - ▶ Nov. 15: Complete 10+ drafts of personal statement
 - ▶ Nov. 30: Cal State and UC applications
 - ▶ Mar. 2: FAFSA and Cal Grant
 - ▶ May 1: SIR Deadline
- Retake the SAT or ACT for the last time before the end of November
- Apply for local scholarships like the San Diego Foundation or Ford's Salute to Education

KEY SUMMER ACTIVITIES

- Register for on campus housing, student orientation and required placement exams
- Request your final high school transcript to be sent to your college by July 15th
- Follow up on all college portal to-do lists
- Order books online and make travel arrangements early to cut down on costs
- Pack!

