

EAST REGION COLLEGE & CAREER NEWSLETTER

In This Issue:

- Welcome Back
- Creating a College Timeline
- Contact Your College and Career Counselor
- Important Dates and Deadlines
- FAFSA Alert
- College Fairs
- Letters of Recommendation
- Financial Aid Basics
- ACT Prep
- Youth Career Fair
- Unique Scholarships

Welcome Back TUSD Students

You are reading this year's first issue of the TUSD College and Career Newsletter produced by your CCRCs in the East Region. Inside you will find important dates and deadlines, college application info, career readiness resources, and financial aid info. Make sure to read it through and focus on what applies to your college or career pathway.

Creating a College Timeline

When preparing for college, it is helpful to ask the following:

Q: What is the college application deadline?

A: Different schools have different application deadlines. Make sure to check each school you plan to apply to and add that deadline in your calendar. Also, read about the differences between Early Action, Early Decision, and Rolling Admissions.

Q: What tests are required?

A: Did you take the ACT? The SAT? Both? Although not all colleges require an SAT/ACT score, it is good to have one, including for scholarships. Check the registration and test dates online and put them in your calendar.

Q: What other dates to I need?

A: After admission and test deadlines, financial aid is the next area to have on your calendar. First, it is essential you complete the FAFSA with your parents/guardians which opens on December 1st. You also want to note the deadlines of any scholarships you plan to apply to.

Give Yourself Plenty of Time

Do not wait until a deadline to start on a task. If a college application is due on the 15th of December, plan to start completing it a month earlier to give yourself plenty of time to work on a personal statement, send in test scores and transcripts, and review your application with a parent/guardian or with your College and Career Readiness Coordinator (See Below).

“Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day-in and day-out.”

-Robert Collier

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

-Malcolm X

“So many of our dreams at first seem impossible, then they seem improbable, and then, when we summon the will, they soon become inevitable.”

-Christopher Reeve

CONTACT YOUR COLLEGE AND CAREER COUNSELOR

Palo Verde—[Email Andrea Vasquez](#)
 Sabino—[Email Alex Karaman](#)
 Sahuaro—[Email Sean Haynes](#)
 Santa Rita—[Email Lauren Peralta](#)

EAST REGION COLLEGE & CAREER NEWSLETTER

Important Dates and Deadlines

The following list of dates and deadlines can help you with college and career planning. Make sure to read this list through and mark anything that applies to your personal college or career plan.

September Dates

- ◇ September 20—Registration deadline for ACT: This registration deadline is for the ACT that will be held on October 26th. This ACT would be good for Seniors looking for a second chance to raise their score. There is a late registration deadline if you miss this one. [Click Here to Register](#)
- ◇ September 20—Registration Deadline for SAT: This registration deadline is for the SAT that will be held on October 5th. If you need to take or retake the SAT, this is the latest recommended date to do so to be able to send in your scores with college applications. If you want to take a college entrance exam and science was your worst section on the ACT, consider taking the SAT instead. Late registration deadline is September 24th. [Click Here to Register](#)
- ◇ September 26—Tri-University Student Workshop: This workshop for students and their families will provide you with in depth updates from each university in one convenient session. You will have the opportunity to learn about new programs, very important updates to the FAFSA for the 25-26 years, review of admission requirements and the evaluation process. It also give you a chance to explore the University of Arizona campus. [Click Here to Register](#)
- ◇ Throughout September—Various Scholarship Applications: While most scholarships are not due until the Winter or after New Year's, some are due as early as September. Make sure to add scholarship deadlines to your calendar. [Click Here for Scholarships Due in September](#)

October Dates

- ◇ October 1—FAFSA Preparation: This is the time to begin creating an FSA ID for students and one or more parents/guardians. Every student and at least one parent/guardian needs to create an FSA ID to complete the FAFSA. An FSA ID is basically a username that can be used to access the FAFSA form when it opens in December (See page 3 for more details about the FAFSA). [Click Here to Create Your FSA ID](#)
- ◇ October 5—SAT Testing: This is the next SAT test date during the Fall semester. Late registration is due on September 24th. [Click Here to Register](#)
- ◇ October 7—Late Registration Deadline for ACT: This late registration deadline applies to the ACT that will be held on October 26th. [Click Here to Register](#)
- ◇ October 18—Registration Deadline for SAT: This registration deadline is for the SAT that will be held on November 2nd. If you need to take or retake the SAT, this is the latest recommended date to do so to be able to send in your scores with college applications. Late registration deadline is October 22nd. [Click Here to Register](#)
- ◇ October 26—ACT Testing: This is the next test date during the Fall semester. Registration is due on September 20th. Late registration is due on October 7th. [Click Here to Register](#)
- ◇ Throughout October—Various Scholarship Applications: Make sure to add scholarship deadlines to your calendar. [Click Here for Scholarships Due in October](#)

EAST REGION COLLEGE & CAREER NEWSLETTER

School Specific Dates and Deadlines

The following list of dates and deadlines are unique to specific schools in the East Region. Look below to see what is happening at your high school and see Page 1 to find out how to email your College and Career Counselor if you have questions.

Palo Verde Info

- ◇ September 26: WNMU Application Workshop—12pm-3pm in Room 101
- ◇ September 30: ASU Application Workshop—9am-Noon in Room 101
- ◇ October 3: Senior Sunrise—6:30am-7:30am on Football Field
- ◇ October 15: UofA Next Steps Workshop—Conference Period in Room 101
- ◇ October 22: ASVAB—8am-11:30am in the Auditorium
- ◇ October 29: UofA Healthcare Career Pathways Presentation—5th period for Seniors and 6th Period for Juniors in Room 101

Sabino Info

- ◇ Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays: Senior Lounge Open—Lunch in Room 307
- ◇ September 26: Coast Guard and Navy Info Tables—Lunch Near the Cafeteria
- ◇ October 22: Army Info Table—Lunch Near the Cafeteria
- ◇ October 24: Field Trip to Grand Canyon University—6:30am in Bus Bay Return Before 3pm

Sahuaro Info

- ◇ September 27: ASVAB
- ◇ October 3: Grand Canyon University Visit
- ◇ October 21: Air Force Info Table—Lunch

Santa Rita Info

- ◇ October 2: 1st Senior Workshop including ASVAB
- ◇ October 3: Northern Arizona University Visit—Lunch
- ◇ October 16: Pima Community College WIN Session



EAST REGION COLLEGE & CAREER NEWSLETTER

FAFSA ALERT—DECEMBER 1ST

The Federal Application for Free Student Aid (FAFSA) is an essential part of the college process. This federal form is used to determine your eligibility for need-based financial aid. Make sure to have your parents or legal guardians with you to provide household financial information. The FAFSA opens on December 1st and should be completed by you as soon as possible.



FAFSA FAQs

Here are some answers to common FAFSA questions:

Q: Where can I complete the FAFSA?

A: Go to StudentAid.gov to complete the FAFSA or [Click Here](#).

Q: If my parents make a lot of money, should I still complete the FAFSA?

A: Yes. The FAFSA is often a requirement for other scholarships, not just scholarships based on financial need. You do not want to miss out on a scholarship because you did not fill it out.

Q: If I am an undocumented or DACA student, can I complete the FAFSA?

A: It depends. DACA students with a Social Security Number are eligible to complete the FAFSA. For non-DACA undocumented students, you cannot complete the FAFSA. However, there is a ton of financial aid out there so contact your school's college counselor (See page 1) to learn more in a confidential setting. You can also [Click Here](#) to learn more about the FAFSA for undocumented and DACA students.

Q: Where can I find other FAFSA FAQs?

A: [Click Here](#) to see more popular questions people have about the FAFSA.

FAFSA Prize Incentives

Your school might be offering prize giveaways or other incentives for completing the FAFSA beginning in January. Talk to your school's College and Career Counselor (See Page 1) to find out if your school participates.

Scholarship Search Engines

- ⇒ [Fastweb](#)
- ⇒ [Scholarships.com](#)
- ⇒ [Cappex](#)
- ⇒ [Petersons](#)
- ⇒ [College Board](#)
- ⇒ [Niche](#)
- ⇒ [Chegg](#)
- ⇒ [Scholly](#)

Click To Follow Links

EAST REGION COLLEGE & CAREER NEWSLETTER

College Fairs and Tours: In-Person and Virtual

College fairs offer a wonderful opportunity for students to meet college admissions advisors from many universities in a single setting. When the COVID-19 pandemic affected in-person events, many virtual college fairs popped up, allowing students to explore myriad colleges from home and to meet college representatives who might not travel to Tucson for an in-person fair, including those from East Coast, Southern, and Midwest schools. Below you will find information about the TUSD College and Career Fair, and information on virtual college fairs offered by the National Association for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC).

Southern Arizona College and Career Fair

We had a blast hosting a college and career fair at the Tucson Convention Center on September 17th. Hundreds of TUSD students showed up to tour the almost 200 colleges and universities present at the event. Do not forget, if you were a Senior who attended the event, you hopefully scanned the QR code to enter into the scholarship drawing. If you did, keep your ears open for when your college and career counselor announces the winner for your school. But do not worry, there are so many more scholarship opportunities out there for you!!



The College Tour is an amazing website that provides multiple, detailed, and engaging video tours of colleges all over the country. Not only do the videos help you tour campus from the comfort of your home, but they also highlight the fun aspects of student life including dorms and eateries, student events, recreation centers, and so much more. If you cannot make a campus visit, use The College Tour to check out schools outside of Tucson. [Click Here to Start Exploring Virtual College Tours](#)

NACAC Virtual College Fairs

NACAC Virtual College Fairs are online, remote fairs for students and parents to attend from home. They typically have between 200-300 schools represented at each fair, so you need to register and indicate which schools you plan to meet with during the event. All NACAC Virtual Fairs take place from 10am-3pm Arizona time.

NACAC Fair Schedule:

- October 13th
- November 3rd

[Click Here to Register for NACAC Virtual College Fairs](#)



EAST REGION COLLEGE & CAREER NEWSLETTER

Requesting Letters of Recommendation

Letters of recommendation are often required for college and scholarship applications. In some cases, they are optional, but submitting a good letter of recommendation is always a safe bet. Consider all the information below when requesting letters of recommendation from teachers or counselors:

- ◇ **Make a formal request to your recommender at least three weeks before a recommendation letter is due.** Teachers and counselors are very busy and writing a letter of recommendation takes time. Ask early to give them plenty of time to write you a good letter.
- ◇ **Be ready to provide a resume to your recommender.** School staff do not have your whole list of achievements and interests memorized, so provide a resume that includes your extracurriculars, major accomplishments and awards, volunteer or community service experience, employment experience if applicable, and additional skills to make the letter writing process easier.
- ◇ **Make sure you are requesting the right recommender.** Some colleges want a letter from a teacher, others from a counselor, and some from both. Make sure you know who the school wants a letter.
- ◇ **Know that you might not be able to read a letter of recommendation.** Students have a legal right to see letters of recommendation written for them, but a lot of colleges and the CommonApp ask students to waive that right to ensure they do not have influence over the letter writing process and that the letter is honest and true. It is recommended that you do waive your rights to see a letter, so make sure you are confident that your recommender will write a good letter.
- ◇ **Write a thank you letter.** It is proper to provide a formal thank you to whoever writes a letter for you. Don't forget!

College Spotlight

California State University, Long Beach (CSULB), is a public university located off the beach just south of Los Angeles. Boasting dozens of major, a diverse student body, a gorgeous campus, and a ranking of 3rd Best Public University in the West, you are certain to find a great education and college life. It is also the alma mater of Sabino's College and Career Readiness Coordinator, Dr. Karaman.

CSULB is known for being one of the most diverse student bodies of any university in the world. With over 80 different majors, hundreds of student organizations, and twelve Division I sports teams, you are sure to find something to study and plenty to do for fun. Located near to the Pacific Ocean, the beach is just a short walk from campus. Many people are amazed when they see the unique sports arena called The Pyramid which you can see below.

[Click to Learn More About CSULB](#)



EAST REGION COLLEGE & CAREER NEWSLETTER

Understanding Financial Aid: The Big Picture

The world of financial aid can be confusing, so you can use this general overview to gain some basic understanding of how to get money for college:

Q: What types of scholarships are out there?

A: Financial aid comes in a few forms. Scholarships are free money that can be given by the college you attend (called internal scholarships) or by private organizations and donors (called external scholarships). Normally, you will find out about potential scholarships a specific college once you are accepted for admission, either in your acceptance letter or shortly after. Scholarships can be merit-based, given for your academic record, need-based, given for those in financial need, or diversity and leadership-based, given to students from marginalized communities or students who have a history of volunteering and leadership.

Q: What else is required for scholarships?

A: Did you take the ACT? The SAT? Both? Although not all scholarships require an SAT/ACT score, it is good to have one. Check the requirements for scholarships before you apply to make sure you qualify. Additional requirements might include a personal statement, a letter of recommendation, and/or transcripts.

Q: What other types of financial aid exist?

A: Besides scholarships, students can be eligible for grants and loans. Grants are free money you can get, like scholarships, that does not need to be repaid. The most common grant is the Federal Pell Grant, given to students with financial need who complete the FAFSA. You can read about your Pell Eligibility on the email you receive when you submit the FAFSA. Loans, however, need to be repaid. For most student loans, you do not need to make payments until you graduate from college. The most common loan students use is the Direct Safford Loan, a federal student loan that is also mentioned in your FAFSA submission email (See page 3 for FAFSA info).

Q. What is the order of tasks for getting financial aid?

A. While there is no perfect approach, you should 1. Complete the FAFSA and list colleges you plan to apply to on your FAFSA (See Page 3). Check if you are eligible to receive a Pell Grant. 2. Apply to colleges and read about any potential scholarships you are awarded. 3. Calculate the remaining cost of college by subtracting any scholarships and grants you have been offered from the cost of attendance. 4. Search for and apply to additional scholarships to bring you total cost of attendance as close to zero as possible (See Page 3 for scholarship search engines).

[DOWNLOAD OUR SCHOLARSHIPS 101 PRESENTATION FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS](#)

Note: Open the Scholarships 101 presentation in PowerPoint and start the slideshow with your speakers turned up to hear the live narration of each slide.

ACT Re-Testing Preparation

If you are looking to re-take the ACT to boost your score and help with college applications or scholarship eligibility, we have something for you. Revolution Prep, a well known and respected company in the test prep industry, has graciously offered to provide a suite of free test prep services to TUSD students. One of the best ways to prepare for an ACT test is to do practice tests in the same setting and with the same time restrictions as the real thing.

From your own home, you can do a real ACT practice test and get feedback on what areas you need to improve on. The test is real-world accurate, with the same amount of time and number of questions as the real ACT.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR THE PRACTICE ACT](#)

EAST REGION COLLEGE & CAREER NEWSLETTER

Tucson Youth Career Fair



Looking for employment?

The Pima County Youth One-Stop is hosting an event for employers hiring youth age 16-24.

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 • 2-4 p.m.

320 N. Commerce Park Loop • Sentinel Building, 1st Floor

TIPS:

- **Dress for success!** Wear your best clothes. Be neat and clean. Go easy on the makeup, jewelry and perfumes/colognes.
- **Be prepared!** You may be interviewed on the spot. If you need help preparing for this event, come by our office between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday, September 30. Bring your resume. (We can make copies.)
- **Just relax!** This is a great opportunity for you to become more comfortable talking to employers about their company and about yourself. Ask questions. If you need any help, our staff will be there to assist you any way that we can. Computers will be available. A little nervousness is natural. Just be you. Good luck in your job search!

Questions? Call 520-724-9649.

Directions: The Pima County Youth One-Stop is located between Congress and St. Mary's, west of I-10. From Congress, turn north on Bonita at the Santa Cruz River and look for the Community Resource Campus on the west side of the street. We're located in the Sentinel Building, 2nd Floor.



Equal Opportunity Employment Program

Programs administered by the ARIZONA@WORK Pima County One-Stop are 100% funded by Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funds through the U.S. Department of Labor. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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Unique Scholarship Opportunities

MAKE IT MATTER FLINN SCHOLARS



SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

- A full-ride: Pays for tuition and mandatory fees, housing, and meals at ASU, NAU, or UA
- Funding for international group seminar and individual study abroad
- Personal mentoring from faculty and guidance finding internships and research experiences
- Honors college community of engaged, high-achieving peers
- Support from a diverse and accomplished alumni network

STUDENT QUALIFICATIONS

- Top 5 percent of graduating class and at least 3.5 grade point average
- A minimum ACT score of 26 or SAT score of 1230
- Leadership in variety of extracurricular activities
- U.S. citizenship or lawful permanent residency by time of application
- Arizona residency for two years prior to entering university

APPLICATION DEADLINES

STUDENTS:
October 21, 2024
5 p.m.

RECOMMENDERS:
November 4, 2024
5 p.m.

FLINNSCHOLARS.ORG
flinnscholars@flinn.org



Scholarship Program

Qualified engineering students have access to more than 100 scholarships totaling nearly \$1Million.



Students can receive up to a \$15,000 Scholarship

APPLY TODAY!

acecinstitute.awardspring.com

Deadline to apply for scholarships is March 14, 2025. Scholarships provided by ACEC State Member Organizations may have varying deadlines. Students must be enrolled in a college or university during the 2024-2025 academic year. Current high school students are not eligible. Scholarship funds awarded will apply to the 2025-2026 academic year only.

EAST REGION COLLEGE & CAREER NEWSLETTER

Unique Scholarship Opportunities



2024
**MAKE A
DIFFERENCE
SCHOLARSHIP**



Want to go to school?
Want to make a difference?
Want financial assistance?

\$1,000 available for Tucson-based students who:

- **Have plans for higher education**
- **Have a proven record of community leadership**
- **Submit a 600-word essay describing their leadership**

Please email submissions to both
Leslie Moe-Kaiser at: Lmoe_920@icloud.com
Allen Miller at: allmilschool@gmail.com
by 5:00 PM MST, October 14, 2024.

For complete requirements, please visit:
<https://www.ocatucson.org/scholarships>

OCA Greater Tucson
P.O. Box 31468



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Unique Scholarship Opportunities

DORRANCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Providing academic and financial support to Arizona's first-generation college students

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

\$12,000

PER ACADEMIC YEAR
FOR UP TO FOUR YEARS

THIS IS A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM VALUED AT OVER \$100,000.



YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY IF YOU:

IMPORTANT DATES:

Application opens online:
October 1, 2024

Phase I Deadline:
February 5, 2025

[APPLY ONLINE](#)



QUESTIONS? CONTACT US:

Dorrance@DorranceScholarship.org
www.DorranceScholarship.org
480-405-2410

- Will be a first-generation college student (neither parent, stepparent, or legal guardian holds a four-year degree in any country)
- Are an Arizona resident
- Are a current graduating senior attending a public, private, charter, or home school
- Have a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA (weighted or unweighted)
- Have a minimum test score of 1110 SAT, 22 ACT, or 72 CLT
- Demonstrate financial need by completing the FAFSA
- Plan to attend ASU-Tempe, NAU-Flagstaff, or UA-Tucson
- Agree to live in on-campus housing during freshman and sophomore year