

9th - 11th Grade Parent Information Session 2025



Foster Community Engagement

Connect with fellow parents and cultivate a supportive school community.



Explore Student Opportunities

Discover academic, extracurricular, and post-secondary opportunities for your student.



Strategic Planning & Guidance

Gain insights and resources to guide your student's educational journey through high school and beyond.

Evening Overview

Academic Pathways & Course Selection

Explore academic programs, advanced placement, and specialized courses. Understand the selection process and graduation requirements.

Post-Secondary Planning & College Readiness

Prepare for higher education, vocational training, or career entry. Topics include application timelines, standardized testing, financial aid, and career resources.

Student Support Services & Well-being

Discover support systems for academic and personal growth, including counseling, academic assistance, mental health resources, and extracurriculars.

Engaging with the School Community

Learn how to actively partner with educators and staff to foster a supportive learning environment and contribute to the school community.



Introducing Our College Counseling Team

Mrs. Natalie Williamson

Mrs. Williamson offers expert guidance in college admissions, supporting students through every stage of their application journey.

Mr. Alan Beaty

Mr. Beaty provides strategic guidance on college admissions, helping students align with institutions that match their aspirations.



Online College Counseling Resources

1

The Academy Website

The Rock Academy's official website is your central hub for all college counseling resources.

Access it directly at: therockacademy.org.

2

Dedicated Portal Access

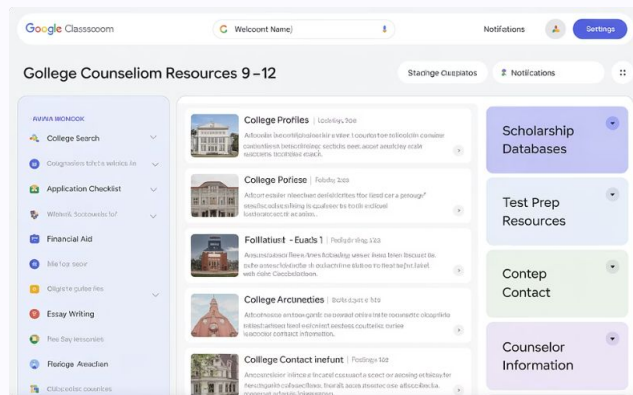
Find comprehensive college planning information by navigating to 'Academics' and selecting the 'College Counseling' link.

3

Essential Updates

The College Counseling section provides consistent updates on college events, the school profile, course details, and the college handbook.

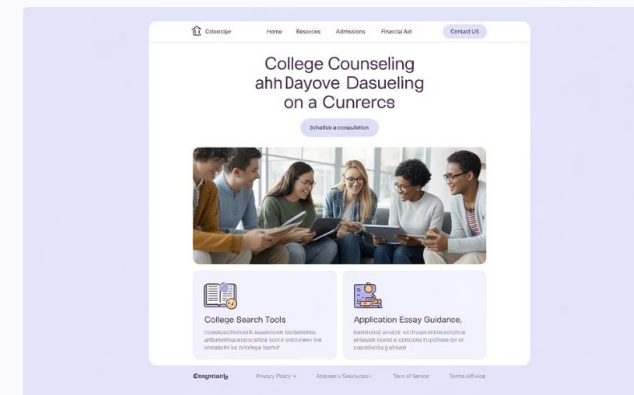
Key Communication Channels for College Counseling



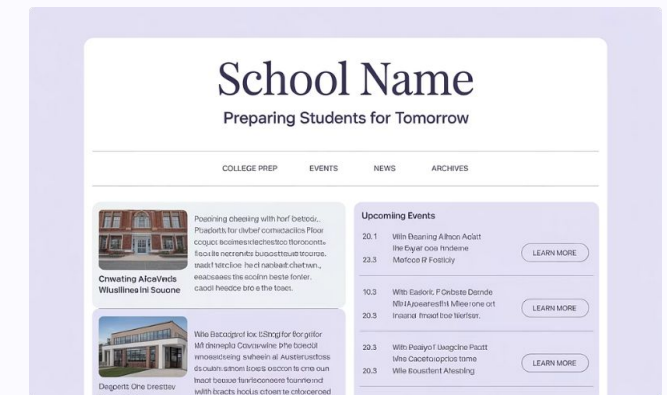
Google Classroom
Access all college counseling materials, presentations, and essential documents here.



Counselor Check-Ins
Meet weekly with your counselor to manage deadlines, set goals, and review progress.



Counselor's Corner
A dedicated online space for curated resources, advice, and announcements from your college counselors.



Warrior Weekly
Our weekly newsletter providing timely updates on college visits, application tips, and upcoming events.



Comprehensive Academic Counseling Services

Academic Planning & Guidance

Tailored support to navigate your academic journey and prepare for post-secondary success:

- Individualized 4-Year Academic Planning
- One-on-One Advising
- Strategic Course Selection
- Graduation Requirements Monitoring
- Official Transcript Review

College & Career Exploration

Explore diverse post-secondary options and build essential skills for your future:

- Naviance Platform for Planning
- StrengthsFinder Assessments
- Professional Resume Development
- Internship Opportunity Guidance
- Military & Service Academy Admissions
- Trade School Assistance

College & Career Counseling



California A-G Compliance

Guidance on UC approved A-G courses to meet college preparation requirements.



Campus Visits & Events

- Visits by college, military, and trade school representatives.
- Local college fairs and information sessions.



Workshops & Application Support

- Student and Parent Workshops.
- Naviance & Common App assistance.
- Financial Aid & Scholarship guidance.

Personalized Essay Guidance

Our college essay workshops empower students to craft compelling application essays,



UC A-G Admission Requirements

Core A-G Courses

These foundational courses meet the academic rigor required for UC college preparatory studies.

A - History: 2 years.

B - English: 4 years.

C - Mathematics: 3 years (through Algebra II). *4 years recommended.*

D - Laboratory Science: 2 years.

Additional A-G Requirements

E - Language Other Than English: 2 consecutive years of the same language.

F - Visual/Performing Arts: 1 year (within the same discipline).

G - College Preparatory Elective: 1 additional year from any A-F category.

All courses offered at The Rock Academy are officially approved to fulfill A-G requirements.

Rock Academy: Pathways to Success



Strategic Academic Planning

Academic plans are developed to align with UC A-G requirements, ensuring college preparedness.



Advanced Placement & Honors Programs

Our Honors and AP courses offer rigorous academic challenges, enhancing competitiveness for university applications.

Rock Academy: AP/Honors Course Offerings



Social Sciences

- World History
- US History
- Human Geography
- Psychology



English

- English I + II Honors
- Language and Composition
- Literature and Composition



Mathematics

- Pre-Calculus Honors
- Calculus
- Statistics



Science

- Biology



Visual & Performing Arts

- Art

A photograph of a modern classroom with large windows. Several students are seated at their desks, focused on writing in notebooks. The room has a bright, airy feel with natural light streaming in. The walls are a light purple color, and there are large windows on the right side. The students are diverse in age and appearance, all appearing to be high school or college students.

Gallup StrengthsFinder Program

Assessment Details

Administered to sophomores.

Purpose

Identifies natural talents, categorized into 34 themes.

Outcomes

Fosters self-awareness, enhancing academic and personal success.

Key Collegiate Engagement Opportunities

UC San Diego Visit

Meet UCSD representative David Thomas to learn about admissions, programs and student life. **October 7th.**

Chapman University Visit

Meet Chapman representative Christian Aguilar to learn about admissions, programs and student life. **October 16th.**

Vanguard University Visit

Meet Vanguard representative Christopher Orta to learn about admissions, programs and student life. **October 16th.**

Point Loma Nazarene University Visit

Meet PLNU representative Colin Mowers to learn about admissions, programs, and student life. **October 21st.**



Upcoming Higher Education Fairs

Christian College Fairs:

New Life Presbyterian Church **October 13th**

Maranatha Christian Schools **October 14th**

Ocean View Christian Schools **October 16th**

Christian College Fairs:

Connect directly with admissions representatives from various colleges and universities. Explore academic programs, campus environments, and extracurricular offerings to inform your higher education decisions.

Upcoming Higher Education Fairs

Cathedral Catholic High School

October 15th

Connect directly with admissions representatives from various colleges and universities. Explore academic programs, campus environments, and extracurricular offerings to inform your higher education decisions.

Scripps Ranch High School

October 16th

Connect directly with admissions representatives from various colleges and universities. Explore academic programs, campus environments, and extracurricular offerings to inform your higher education decisions.

Essential Workshops for College Planning

College Application Assistance

Personalized guidance for completing college applications and refining essay responses.

FAFSA Completion

Step-by-step assistance and comprehensive understanding of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

October 16th.



Comprehensive College Essay Support Initiatives



Summer Essay Workshop

Two-week workshop for developing strong college application essays.



English Class Integration

Essay development is integrated into first-semester AP and Standard English curricula.



Personalized Support

Faculty provide individualized guidance on college applications and essays during in-service days.

Standardized Testing: PSAT and SAT



PSAT/NMSQT Examination

Administered **October 8th** for sophomores and juniors.



SAT Examination

Administered **October 15th** for seniors.



University of California (UC)/California State University (CSU) System

SAT/ACT scores not required for admission.



Private University Admissions

Many private universities are test-optional; requirements vary. Some consider a 'Superscore'.



Public University Admissions

Most public universities are test-optional. Some consider a 'Superscore' from multiple attempts.

Naviance: College & Career Planning

Key Features

Access the platform here:

<https://student.naviance.com/rockacademy>

Explore tools for:

Career Exploration: Identify and explore career paths aligned with student interests.

College Management: Curate and track colleges of interest.

Application Tracking: Monitor college application statuses.

Application & Submission

Streamline your application process:

Common Application: Link and manage applications with Common App integration.

Letters of Recommendation: Request and track teacher and counselor recommendations.

Transcript Submission: Submit official academic transcripts to colleges.



Understanding California's University Systems: CSU & UC



California State University (CSU)

23 Campuses across California.

Application Window: October 1 - November 30
Official Filing: October 1 - November 30



University of California (UC)

8 Undergraduate Campuses.

Application Window: August 1 - November 30
Official Filing: October 1 - November 30

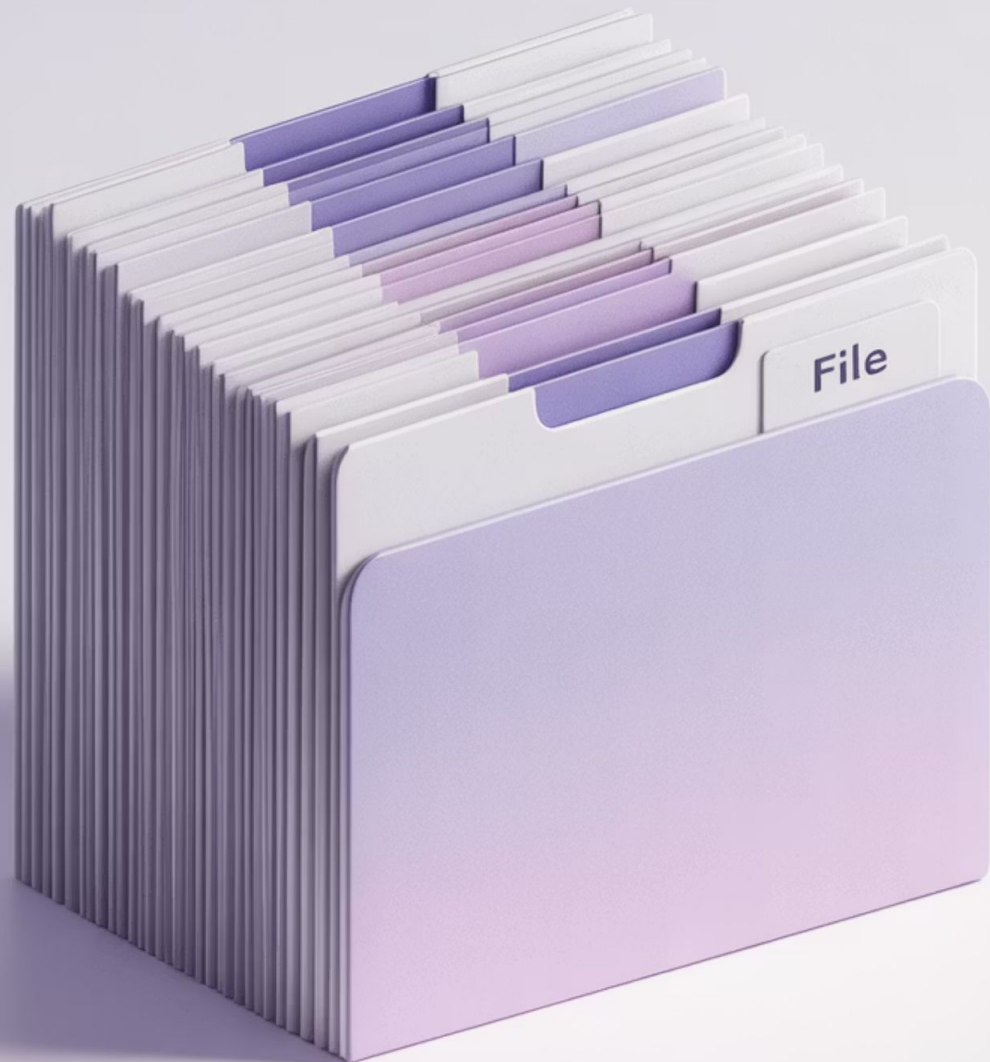


Guidance for College Athletic Recruitment

Athletic Director Aaron Anderson provides guidance for students interested in collegiate athletic recruitment.

Q&A Session





Supplemental Content

Additional details and resources are available on the following cards.

Early Action Admissions: Key Considerations

1 Non-Binding

Early Action applications are non-binding. Accepted students are not obligated to enroll and can consider other offers until the regular decision deadline.

2 Early Notification

Applicants receive admission decisions earlier, allowing for timely planning and decision-making.

3 Restricted Policies

Some institutions have "Restricted Early Action," limiting applicants to applying Early Action solely to that institution, while still allowing regular decision applications elsewhere.



Early Decision Characteristics



Binding Commitment

If admitted, applicants are committed to enrolling.



Expedited Notification

Admissions decisions are received earlier.



Admission Advantage

May increase likelihood of admission.



Regular Decision Admissions: Key Aspects



Flexible Commitment

Evaluate all admission offers before committing.



Enhanced Profile

Use fall grades to strengthen applications. Compare offers thoroughly before deciding.



Key Dates

Applications close Jan-Feb. Decisions released Apr-May.



Non-Binding Admissions Overview



Flexibility

Non-binding offers allow applicants to defer enrollment decisions, maintaining options until a final commitment is made.



Expedited Timelines

Applications, such as Rolling Admissions, often provide decisions within 4-6 weeks, offering quick feedback.



Strategic Review

This approach enables students to thoroughly compare financial aid, academic programs, and campus environments across institutions.



Navigating the UC Application: Essential Elements

Academic Self-Reporting

Applicants must accurately self-report academic coursework and grades. Organized transcripts are crucial for this process.

Extracurricular Activities

Detail extracurricular activities and significant awards. Provide comprehensive context and specific details to highlight involvement and achievements.

University Application

Requirements

Deadlines

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Submit application



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Unlock your
potential,”



CSU Application Requirements



Academic Record

Applicants self-report all academic coursework and grades directly on the application. Organized transcripts are recommended.



Online Submission

The CSU application is submitted exclusively online via the California State University system website.



No Recommendations Required

The CSU application does not require submission of recommendation letters.

The Common Application

Widespread Access

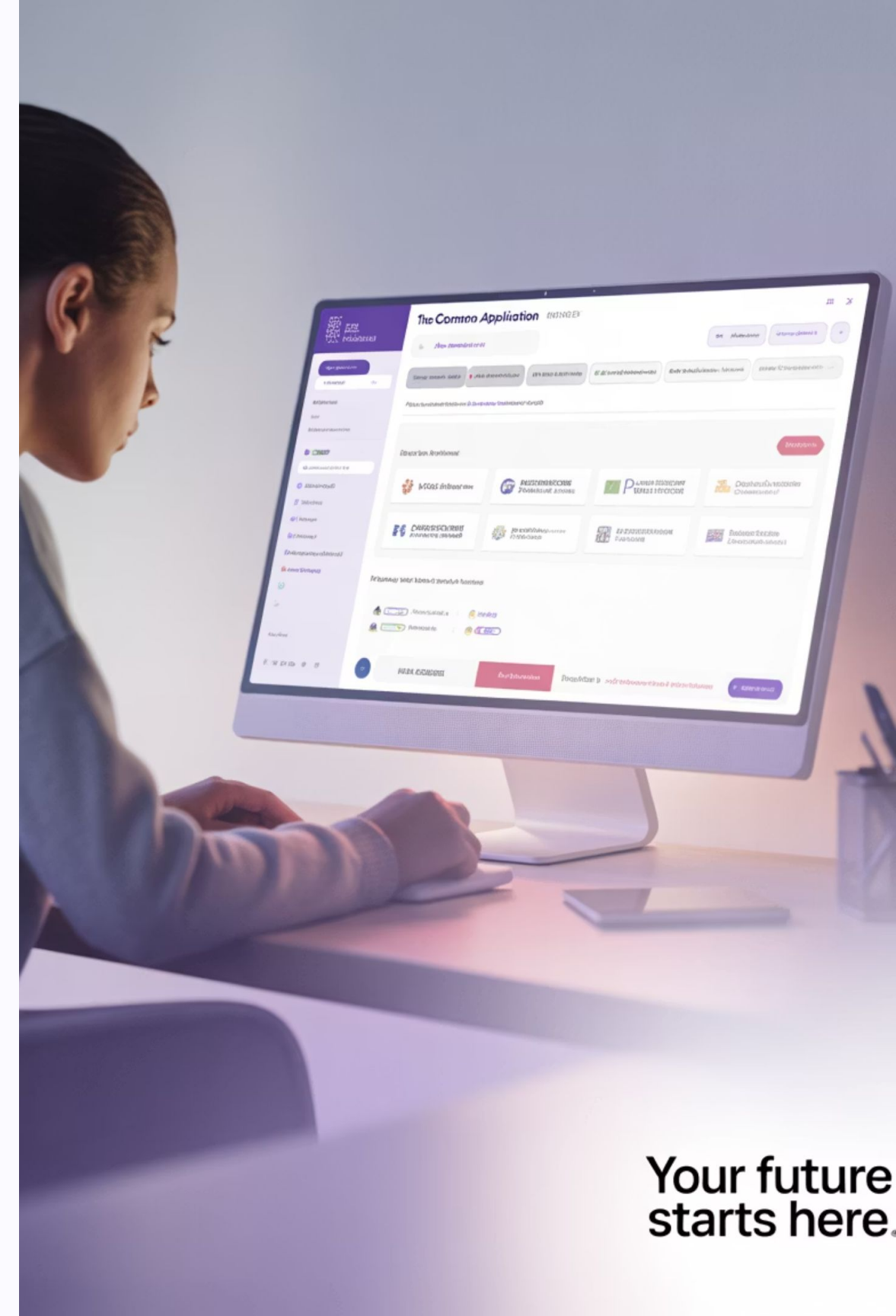
Apply to over 800 diverse institutions globally through one centralized platform.

Key Components

Includes academic transcripts, standardized test scores (often optional), activities list, essays, and recommendations.

Expert Support

Counsellors at Rock Academy provide personalized guidance for the application process.



Your future
starts here.

Key Aspects of Private College Applications



Application Decision Plans

Private colleges offer various admission plans, including Early Decision, Early Action, and Regular Decision. Choosing the right plan is key for applicants.



Standardized Testing Policies

Many private colleges are test-optional, but submitting strong SAT/ACT scores is often encouraged if they enhance your application.



Financial Aid Opportunities

Private colleges frequently provide robust financial aid packages, including grants and scholarships, offering more flexibility than public institutions.



Understanding Acceptance Rates

Acceptance rates at private institutions vary significantly.



College Application Essentials

Application Platforms

Submit your primary application through designated platforms: University Portals, the Common Application, or the Coalition Application.

Letters of Recommendation

Request insightful letters from counselors, educators, or others who can speak to your capabilities and character.

Supplemental Essays

Many institutions require supplemental essays. Use these to highlight personal experiences and qualifications.

Academic Resume

Submit a resume highlighting academic achievements, extracurriculars, and relevant experiences.

Application Timeline

Effective planning is key for college applications. Track important dates and deadlines to ensure timely submission.

1	August 1 Rolling admissions begin. UC and Common Application portals open.
2	October 1 UC filing period starts. CSU application and FAFSA open.
3	November UC and CSU application filing periods close on November 30th.
4	November 1 - November 15 Typical deadlines for Early Action (EA) and Early Decision (ED) applications.

Dates are approximate. Always consult each institution's official website for precise deadlines and requirements.

Senior Year Checklist



Complete Forms

- Cal Grant GPA Verification
- Transcript Release Form
- Senior Profile Questionnaire



Update Naviance

Add all intended colleges to your Naviance account.



Submit Academic Records

Send AP scores and SAT/ACT results to all colleges.



Synchronize Common App

Ensure Naviance college list matches Common Application entries.

FAFSA Information

FAFSA Opening Date

The FAFSA opens annually on October 1st. While there's no federal closing date, submit by June 2nd to maximize eligibility for state and institutional aid.

Application Process

The FAFSA is primarily an online application. Complete all required fields accurately to avoid processing delays.

