



SENIOR NEWSLETTER

October 2011

LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL
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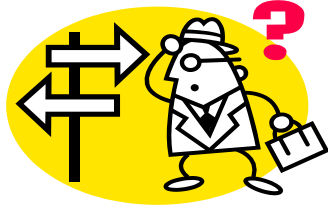
LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL

A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Class of 2012 ... We hope that your senior year has started off to a great start. As some of you may have noticed your senior year is going to fly by, which is why it is so important to pay attention to the minor details and make sure you don't miss out on anything! In addition to staying on top of your class work, it's important that you be sure to meet all the necessary deadlines for SAT and/or ACT testing, college applications, scholarships, and financial aid.

Decisions Decisions Decisions

College is Affordable and Sometimes Free Many La Quinta seniors every year think that attending a four-year university is unaffordable and out of their reach because they believe their parents do not make enough money to pay for it. In reality not only students who qualify for free or reduced lunch will receive grants when they apply for financial aid. Grants like the Cal Grant and Pell Grant are monies provided to families to pay for college which they do not have to pay back. Every year between 50% to 60% of La Quinta seniors receive Cal Grants for college which is enough to pay for the full California State University tuition. This means students who attend schools like CSU Fullerton will not be paying any tuition and fees and may have financial aid money to spare if they live at home. So it is possible for students to attend a four-year university and receive their four-year bachelor's degree for no money out of their pocket!



How to Receive Financial Aid for College All seniors should apply for financial aid through www.FAFSA.ed.gov no matter how much money they think their families make. In addition to grants, FAFSA provides work study aid as well as loans. The window to apply is from January 1st through March 2nd and the application is free. La Quinta counselors will be holding workshops to help students complete the applications in January.



Attention Seniors, please remember to turn in your green Cal Grant GPA release forms to the counseling office. This gives your counselor permission to send your GPA to the Cal Grant office before you complete the FAFSA application in January. If you need a new green form, please visit the counseling office.

Important Tips for Completing CSU Applications

1. Do not input \$0 into parent income. CSU Mentor will deny your fee waiver if you indicate you have zero income.
2. Have a counselor check your application before you submit for your fee waiver and final application. Mr. Tran has been noticing many mistakes from students who submit their application without review.

Starting your College Applications

Filling out your college application may seem completely overwhelming, which is why it is so important for you to start early. Make this process less stressful and time consuming by having your transcript, test scores, and your parent's income in order. This will help tremendously!

Applying to California State Universities - applications are available online at www.csumentor.edu beginning October 1st. The deadline to apply is November 30th.

Applying to Universities of California - applications are available online at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply. Beginning October 1st you can access the application, but you cannot submit it until November 1st. The deadline to apply is November 30th.

Applying to private and out-of-state colleges and universities - these schools vary in their application procedures and deadlines. Please visit the college website for further information. Most private schools require letters of recommendation.

Applying to community colleges - community colleges begin accepting applications in March. Check out www.californiacolleges.edu. Counselors will help students with this process as well as signing

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!!

You still have a chance to sign up for the SAT and/or the ACT. See your counselor for a fee waiver.

SAT December 3rd Register by 11/8 to avoid late fee

ACT December 11th Register by 11/4

When signing up for your SAT's on Collegeboard.com, if you want to send your scores to more than 4 Cal States use code 3594 (CSU Mentor, Long Beach). This will send your SAT scores to all Cal States for FREE! If who want to send your scores to at least 1 UC, list a UC, and Collegeboard.com will send your scores to all UC's for FREE.



Requesting Letters of Recommendation

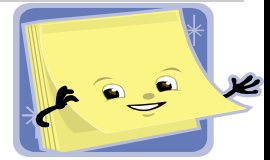
Many of you may need to request a letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor, group advisor and/or coach. In order to get a well-written letter you must give them at least two weeks notice. Provide them with a "resume/informational handout" that lists your extracurricular activities, volunteer work within the community, and challenges or obstacles that you may have had to overcome that have influenced your education. Take a few minutes to meet and discuss some of the things that you include in your "resume/informational handout".

Personal Statement

Writing your personal statement is another key component to your UC application. The personal statement allows you to really introduce yourself to the college admission readers. It is an opportunity for you to become an individual by sharing your experiences and/or challenges, your personality, and lifelong goals. Your personal statement consists of responses to two prompts. Be sure to read each prompt carefully and respond to all parts. Use concrete examples to help support your responses. It is important that you take the time needed to write and edit each individual response. Your English teachers will be a great resource with editing and content.



La Quinta High School Fall 2011



Mark your calendars ...important upcoming events!!!! College Application Help

- *Friday, October 14th, Counselors will conduct a workshop to help you fill out your Cal State University application. You must submit as soon as possible, no later than November 30th*

Where: 200 and 300 Computer Lab

When: Friday, October 14 with your English class

Bring your Social Security Number with you!

- **Brown University Visits La Quinta** *A representative from Brown University will be at LQ on Oct 18 during 6th period in the Library. Seniors interested in meeting the representative and learning more about Brown University and common applications may sign up for the presentation in the counseling office.*
- **Cal Poly Pomona** *A representative from Cal Poly Pomona University will be at LQ on Oct 26 during 4th period. Seniors interested sign up for the presentation in the counseling office.*

DISTRICT COLLEGE FAIR

When: Monday October 10, 2011

Where: Bolsa Grande High School

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- *Parents and students come take part in this unique opportunity to meet with California and out-of-state colleges and universities, including CSUs, UCs and several private universities. Stop by and get information from your favorite colleges! Don't miss this great opportunity!*

UC Application Workshop

When: Monday Oct. 17, Periods 2-4

UC Riverside will hold a UC application workshop at La Quinta. This is a great opportunity to get help filling out your UC application and completing your personal statement. Seniors who are considering a UC should attend!

Sign up in the Guidance Office.

Students will need to bring a copy of their transcript as well as an estimate of parent's income.

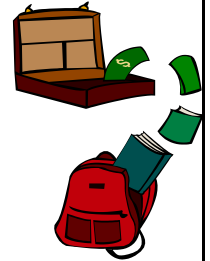
COLLEGE PREVIEW INFORMATION DAYS

- Oct 13 **UC Santa Cruz - International Day** - Online event
- Nov 2-3 **UC Santa Cruz - Fall College Fair** - Online event
- Oct 15 **UC Santa Barbara Preview Day** C735 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA
- Oct 15 **California State Monterey Bay - Open House - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM** 100 Campus Center, Seaside, CA 93955
- Oct 15 **UC Davis - Preview Day** One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616
- Oct 16 **University of Pennsylvania (Penn) - Introduction to Pennsylvania - 5:00 PM** Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado, San Diego, CA 92101
- Oct 20 **Washington University in St. Louis - Admissions Info Session 7- 8 PM** Irvine Marriott, 18000 Von Karman Ave
- Oct 23 **Loyola Marymount University - Open House** 1 LMU Drive, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90045
- Oct 23 **California State University, Chico - Preview Day - 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM** 400 West First Street, Chico, CA 95929
- Oct 29 **California State East Bay - Preview Day 8:30 - 12:30 PM** New University Union Lawn Area, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward, CA

How to Apply for Scholarships

Each month a section of the newsletter will be devoted to giving a brief description of scholarships that are being offered by colleges, private organizations, and corporations. Remember you and your parents can access the Senior Newsletter on La Quinta's web page at: www.laquinta.org Please read about all our scholarships as well as research your own. For every one we list, there are **thousands more!** Check these out! fastweb.com, meritaid.com, www.collegeboard.org, www.salliemae.com, www.csac.ca.gov, www.edfund.org, www.mapping-your-future.org, http://www.yahoo.com/Education/financial_Aid, www.ed.gov/index, www.usnews.com, www.scholarships.com, www.gocollege.com, www.educatorsconnection.com/register.php www.scholarshipcoach.com.

In completing the applications, be sure to follow all the directions and meet the necessary deadlines. Take time to work on the application because it will be time well spent. If you need help in completing your application see your counselor.



Scholarships are the ideal form of student aid, as they are basically gifts that never have to be paid back! Ü

| GRANTOR | REQUIREMENTS | DEADLINE |
|--|--|--------------------------|
| Washington University, St. Louis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to attend Washington University, St Louis in the fall • 3.5 GPA • Exhibit a capacity for service and leadership • Strong moral character, selflessness, community interests • See Ms. Grelle for info | October 13, 2011 |
| National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) Herff Jones presents the Principal's Leadership Award for the Prudential spirit of Community Awards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1,000- \$12,000 • Leadership, participated in service organizations & clubs • Achievements in the arts and sciences • Employment experience • 3.5 GPA or higher • Apply: http://spirit.prudential.com or www.nassp.org/spirit, click on "Apply Now" link and follow instructions | November 1, 2011 |
| Seattle University Sullivan Leadership Award | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-year scholarship: full tuition, room and meals • Must attend Seattle University in the fall • Commitment to service and leadership, Academic Rigor, Community, Spirituality and Global Awareness • Apply: www.seattleu.edu/sullivan | November 15, 2011 |
| Susan G. Komen for the Cure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10,000 per year up to 4 years to attend university in pursuit of a Bachelor's degree • If you are facing significant financial burdens due to the loss of a parent or guardian to breast cancer • If you have been diagnosed with breast cancer before 25 • Academic achievement • Community service • Financial need • Demonstrated leadership potential • Apply: www.komen.org/scholarship | November 15, 2011 |

| GRANTOR | REQUIREMENTS | DEADLINE |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| U.S. Navy Scholarship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$180,000 - pays 100% of tuition, books, lab fees and uniform allowance to over 160 college and universities nationwide, also receive a generous monthly stipend. • SAT: Crit Read: 530, Math 520, or ACT: Eng 22, Math: 21. Release scores electronically: NROTC Code 0656 • GPA 4.0 • Apply on-line: https://www.nrotc.navy.mil | December 1, 2011 |
| City of Garden Grove Invites Applications for the Position of: Police Cadet/Police Office Aide | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$11.20/hour • Must possess a valid CA driver's license • Currently recruiting for the part-time position of police Cadet and Police Office Aide • Hands-on experience, overview of what it takes to be a member of the Police Department | October 21, 2011, 12 pm |
| Boston University Annual Trustee Scholarship Competition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four-year, full-tuition to BU • Top 10% in Senior class • Active Leaders in school, community • Essay • Apply www.bu.edu/admissions/trustee | December 1, 2011 |
| Garden Grove Lions Host Club 75th annual Student Speakers Contest | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$20,000 for 1st prize • Write a speech on "What Could the America of Yesterday Teach the America of Tomorrow?" • For details go to: http://studentspeaker.md4lions.org/ • Email your speech to: tjc_clarke@yahoo.com | January 18, 2012 |
| Hispanic Scholarship Fund | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1,000 - \$15,000 • Min GPA 3.0 • US Citizens or Permanent residents • Plan to be enrolled full time in college in Fall • Apply: www.HSF.net | December 20, 2011 |
| Orange County Trial Lawyers Association | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-5 page essay "The Importance of Trial Lawyers in Society" • Two winners \$1,000/each • Essay will be published & press releases to local media. • See Ms. Grelle for flyer | November 30, 2011 |
| Animation Career Review Scholarship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Win one of three \$1,000 scholarships • If you are interested in pursuing an animation related field at an accredited post-secondary school or college • Visit: www.AnimationCareerReview.com for eligibility info along with application form • Include a reference to this scholarship program on the scholarship page | December 20, 2011 |

| GRANTOR | REQUIREMENTS | DEADLINE |
|---|--|----------------------------------|
| Gates Millennium Scholars Program (GMS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thru PhD, need based, merit scholarship • African American, American Indian/Alaska native, Asian Pacific Islander, American or Hispanic American • US Citizen, national, or legal permanent resident • Cumulative GPA of 3.3 • Demonstrated leadership abilities: community service, extracurricular or other activities • Meet the Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria • Attend Coll. or Univ. in Fall for Bachelor Degree • Must major in: computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health or science • Must complete and submit all 3 required forms • Apply: www.gmsp.org | January 11, 2012 |
| Disneyland Resort Scholarship Program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 scholarships with a value of \$5,000 each • Volunteered a min of 100 hours of local community service between Jan 1, 2011- Dec 31, 2011 • Has initiated a significant service project in hometown or school that executes programs in Creativity, Compassion and Well-Being, or Conservation • GPA 3.0 • Apply: www.disneyland.com/publicaffairs | January 31, 2012 |
| California Scholarship Foundation Miss Teenage California 2011 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female teenagers: have you ever dreamed of being a model? • \$10,000 Scholarship to College of your choice, all expense paid trip to Annapolis, Maryland to participate in the America's Miss Teen Pageant. \$1,000 shopping spree, digital camera, luggage, \$500 gift card to Macy's and the Gap • Poise & Presence • Achievements & activities in school or community. Personality • Check it out www.missteenageca.com • See Ms. Grelle | October 31, 2011 |
| Sister City of Garden Grove | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High School Student Exchange Program • Live w/host family in Anyang, South Korea during Spring Break. Experience South Korean culture and visit Korean sites! • US Citizen, have a passport at time of travel • Information/Application in Guidance office | November 4, 2011 |
| Vital Link Career Explorer Scholarship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1,000 • Tell about how you selected your future career and the inspiration that led you in that career direction. • Email Jorge@vitallinkoc.org for application | October 25, 2011, 5:00 pm |

