

12th Grade Parent Night

LAHS Counseling &
College/Career Center
2024-2025



TONIGHT'S AGENDA

- **Counseling & College/Career Center Staff Intros**
- **12th Grade School Counseling Overview**
- **Letters of Recommendation**
- **Resources and Events**
- **College Planning for 4-year & 2-year Options**



LAHS COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

- Ryan Carter
- Jenny Dumas
- Jacob Larin
- Deanna Mistele-Ali
- Jeamice Parker
- Ariel Rojas
- Tamesha Wise
- Mayte Vallado

[Check out the LAHS Counseling website!](#)

COLLEGE/ CAREER CENTER



COLLEGE ADVISOR

Ms. Angela Price
She/Her/Hers
C&CC Website



C&CC COORDINATOR

Ms. Laura Duran
She/Her/Hers
C&CC Website

12TH GRADE SCHOOL COUNSELING OVERVIEW

- **All 12th graders will have a one-on-one senior check-in with their counselor this Fall**
- **Topics to be covered in senior check-in:**
 - Review transcript, graduation status report, and A-G requirements
 - Discuss post-secondary/college plans
 - Connect with the College & Career Center
- **Counselors are available on a drop-in basis during brunch & lunch, A.C.T.**
- **Ongoing communication via counseling website, *Eagle News* newsletter, email & Parent Square**



**COLLEGE
LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

COLLEGE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- Students received workshops last Spring & 8/28 during A.C.T.
- Most private & some public out-of-state universities require letters from counselor & teachers
 - Typically 1-3 letters are required (teachers & counselor)
 - Some colleges also accept a supplemental letter
- UC/CSU do not require or accept LOR



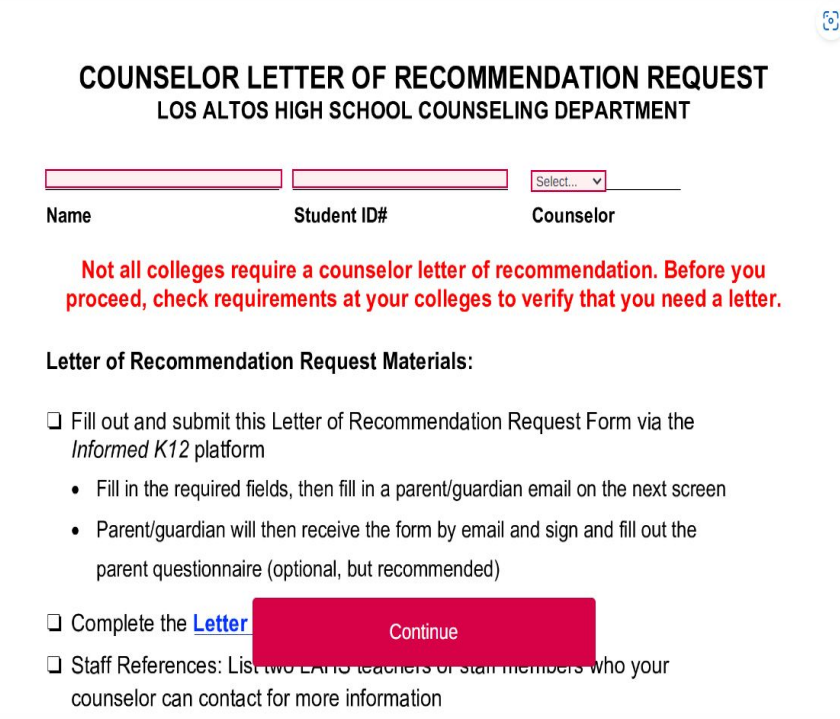
COLLEGE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- Teacher Letters of Recommendation
 - Focus on academic
 - **11th**/12th grade teachers preferred (in academic subjects)
- Counselor Letter of Recommendation:
 - Academic commitment, achievement
 - Personal qualities & characteristics/character
 - Personal & academic growth
 - College readiness
 - Contributions to community
 - Special circumstances



Counselor LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION REQUEST

- LOR Request Form is available on the counseling section of the LAHS website
- Students submit form to their counselor with a questionnaire, résumé, teacher feedback, & optional parent questionnaire
- Student initiates the form, which will be routed to the parent's email for signature & questionnaire
- Teachers processes are separate!



COUNSELOR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION REQUEST
LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

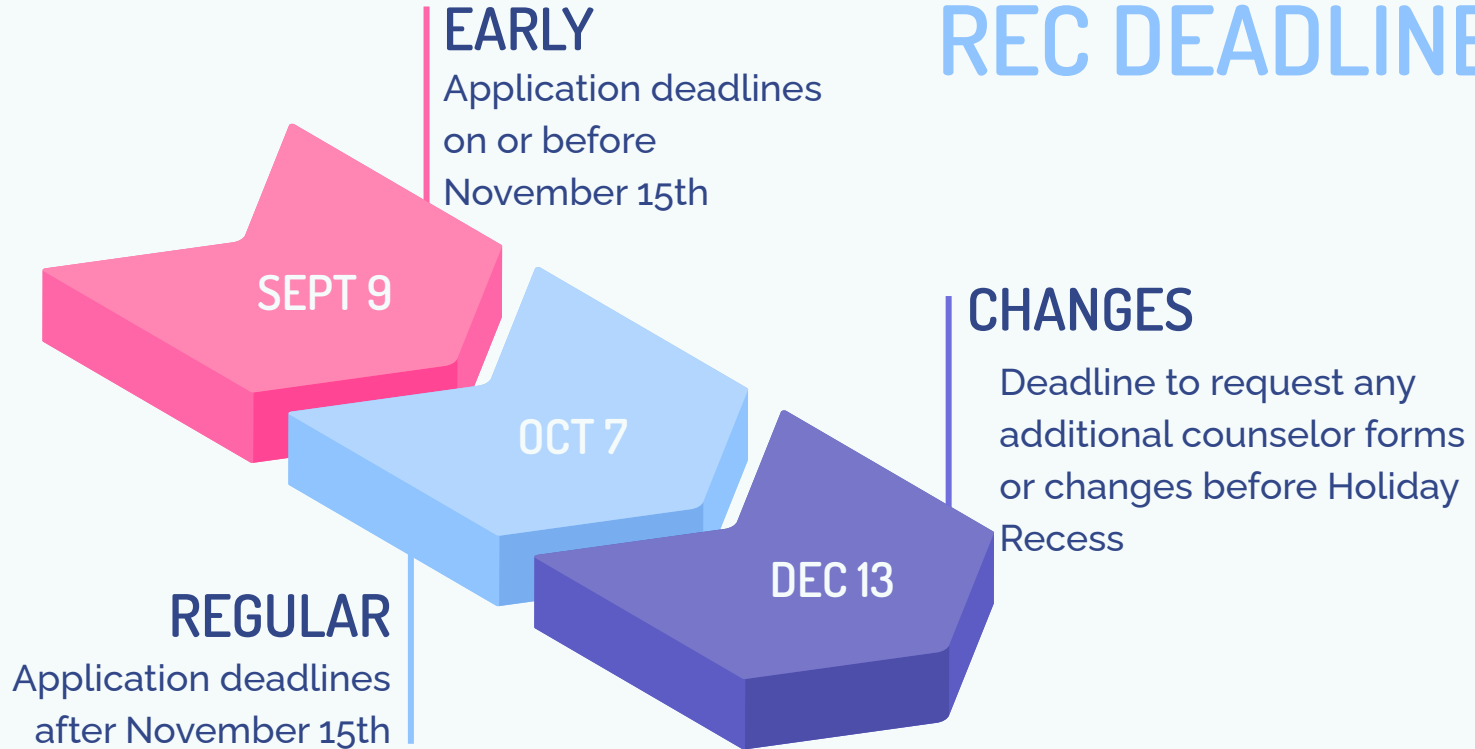
Name **Student ID#** **Counselor**

Not all colleges require a counselor letter of recommendation. Before you proceed, check requirements at your colleges to verify that you need a letter.

Letter of Recommendation Request Materials:

- Fill out and submit this Letter of Recommendation Request Form via the *Informed K12* platform
 - Fill in the required fields, then fill in a parent/guardian email on the next screen
 - Parent/guardian will then receive the form by email and sign and fill out the parent questionnaire (optional, but recommended)
- Complete the [Letter](#)
- Staff References: List two LAHS teachers or staff members who your counselor can contact for more information

COUNSELOR LETTER OF REC DEADLINES



RECOMMENDATION MATERIALS TIMELINE

Fall/Winter:

- Counselor submits LOR, Secondary Report, transcript
- Teachers submit letters of recommendation (separately)

End of January:

- Counselor submits MidYear Report & midyear transcript

June/July:

- Student requests final transcript in Naviance (sr. checkout)
- Counselor completes Final Report
- Registrar submits final transcript/report

MOST materials submitted electronically through Naviance eDocs





COLLEGE/CAREER CENTER

COLLEGE/CAREER CENTER RESOURCES

ONLINE & IN-PERSON

- Naviance
- College admission rep visits
- Scholarship information
- Volunteering, internships, jobs
- MVLA College Counseling Handbook
 - Located on the LAHS Website → CCC section



ACT WORKSHOPS & Drop-In Help

- College essays
- UC & CSU applications
- Common Application
- Community college
- International universities

COLLEGE/CAREER CENTER DIGITAL RESOURCES

LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL
Home of the Eagles

Translate | District Sites

Home | About Us | Academics | Athletics | Parents/Students | Student Activities | Student Services

Home > Student Services > College & Career Center

Welcome to the LAHS College & Career Center

HOW TO CONNECT

The College and Career Center has two full-time staff members to help you with your college and career needs. We are located on the second floor of the student services building.

We welcome students in all grade levels to visit the College & Career Center before school, during student brunch, ACT, lunchtime, and any free period on a drop-in basis. Office hours are only available to students. *Parents should email staff as needed to determine the next steps.*

Student Services

- + Student Services
- + Counseling
- **College & Career Center**
 - Events Calendar (Students & P...
- + Explore Pathways after High S...
- + Helpful Resources
 - Naviance
 - Scholarships
- + Registrar

CCC Website

Instagram

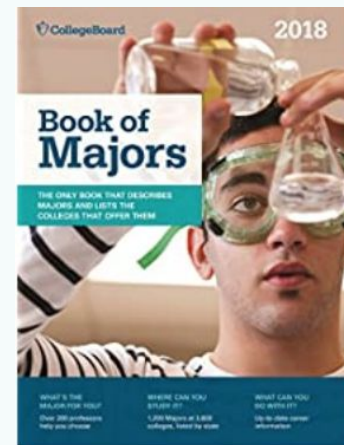
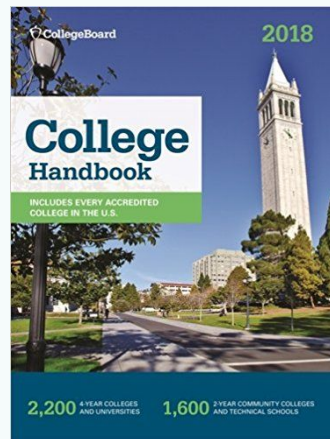
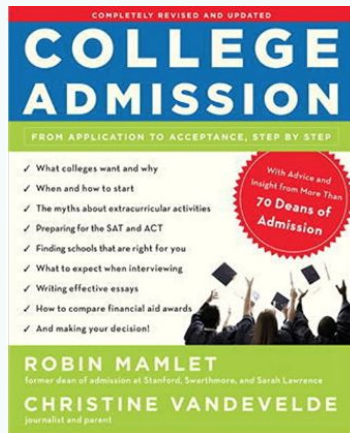
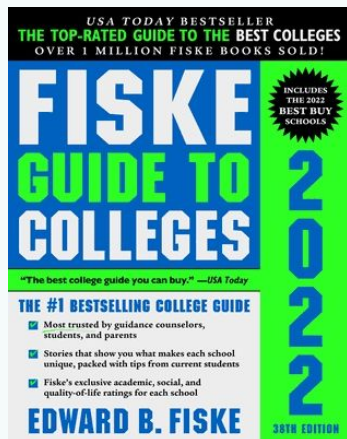
Search | Log In | Sign Up

POSTS | TAGGED

- Find the college for you at the **Aug 29** College Fair. All high school students, transfer students, and families are welcome. [virtuacollegefair.org](https://www.virtuacollegefair.org)
- Week of 8/30-9/3**
 - Tuesday: Common App w/Tulane & Penn State @4:30PM
 - Wednesday: U of Pittsburgh @4PM
 - Thursday: Common App w/Salve Regina @4PM
 - Friday: LAHS Senior Parent Night @6:30PM
- CLASS OF 2022** SIGN-UP FOR 1:1 COLLEGE ADVISING WITH MS. PRICE
- College Counseling Handbook**
- BE A LEADER AT YMCA CAMP CAMPBELL'S OUTDOOR SCIENCE SCHOOL**
- ONE WEEK FROM TODAY! COUNSELOR LOR PACKET GOES LIVE!**

Instagram @ Los_Altos_CCC

COLLEGE/CAREER CENTER RESOURCES



Resources for college
exploration

INFORMATION EVENTS FOR FAMILIES

College Info

- **MVLA College Fair: Sept. 18** 5-7 PM @ LAHS
- **CSU & UC Night: Oct. 3** @ 6-8:00pm (virtual)
- **UC & CSU Application Party Nov. 2-** 4-6 PM
- **Countdown to College:** Recordings [2023](#) & [2022](#)
- Check out the [YouTube Channel!](#)

Financial Aid

- **Paying for College Info Night: Nov. 14**
@ 6:00-7 pm
- **Cash for College: Jan 10** FAFSA & CADAA
@ 6-7:30 pm @ LAHS



COLLEGE/ CAREER CENTER EVENTS



COLLEGE ADVISING

COLLEGE ADVISOR

ANGELA PRICE

angela.price@mvla.net

8:00am - 3:30pm

Students sign up via
Calendly



COLLEGE PLANNING

- Focus on “college fit”
- Create a master spreadsheet with deadlines & tasks
- Decide on a day for weekly family college discussions
- Put student in the driver’s seat
- Attend MVLA Parent Ed Speaker Series





**YOU HAVE
OPTIONS!**

U.S. COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES



115

California community colleges

23

California State University campuses

9

University of California campuses

1,600+

Private colleges

1,500+

Out-of-state public universities

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- General Education for Associate's degree, transfer, or certificate options
- Career apprenticeship programs
- Explore coursework for personal interests



- Students must also complete major preparatory courses which are critical to admission to many transfer majors
- [CA Community Colleges Website](#)

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- California Promise (tuition free for 2 years)
- Transfer pathways
 - Transfer Agreement Guarantee (TAG)
 - Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)

CSU APPLICATIONS



- 1 application for all 23 CSU campuses
- Application opens October 1st
- Apply at Cal State Apply

CSU REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum 2.5 weighted GPA (10th & 11th grades in 'a-g' coursework)
- No essays or recommendation letters unless applying for EOP(Support Program for Low-income and first generation students)
- Self-reported grades on application - transcripts generally submitted at end of year
- *SAT/ACT is no longer considered for admissions*

WHAT IS EOP?



What is EOP?

- Established in 1969 under SB 1072
- Provides academic support and retention services to historically low income and educationally underserved students
- Targets students who have the potential to perform satisfactorily in the CSU but have not been able to realize this potential because of economic or educational background
- Provides admission, academic, and financial assistance to accommodate the needs of the individual campus student population
- Tailors their programs to accommodate the needs of the individual campus student population

UC APPLICATIONS



- 1 application for all 9 undergraduate UC campuses
- Application opens August 1st
- Apply at University of California Admissions

UC APPLICATIONS

- Minimum 3.0 weighted GPA (10th & 11th grades in 'a-g' coursework)
- Personal Insight Questions - 4 short-answer responses
- No letters of recommendation accepted
 - Occasionally requested by UC Berkeley after applying
- Self-reported grades on application - transcripts submitted at end of senior year
- Create & check UC application campus portals frequently
- *SAT/ACT is no longer considered for admissions*

PRIVATE & OUT-OF-STATE PUBLIC COLLEGES

- Most colleges use the Common Application
- Some colleges use their own application through their website
- Counselor & teacher letters of recommendation often required
- Essays/Personal Statement typically required
- Check 2024-25 testing requirements on individual college websites

COMMON APP & COALITION

Common App

- Almost 900 colleges & universities
- 1 application for all participating schools
- Connected to Naviance system

Coalition

- Some public out-of-state universities use Coalition App exclusively
- Students should indicate they're applying "direct to institution" on Naviance

FINANCIAL AID

- FAFSA & CADAA: Applications open **TBA in December (for Class of 2025)**. **Create your FSA ID now!**
 - Loans
 - Grants + Cal Grants
 - Middle Class Scholarship
- CSS Profile (private colleges): Application opens October 1st
- Scholarships - local, statewide, & national
- Every college has a Net Price Calculator on their website
- Compare financial aid packages

WUE (WESTERN UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGE)



- Participating universities in Western states offer substantial scholarships to out-of-state applicants
- Some colleges have minimum requirements to qualify
- Does not apply to all majors
- List of colleges & requirements found on WUE website

COLLEGE TESTING

- UC/CSU are not considering SAT/ACT testing
- Many other colleges have retained test-optional policies; some have reinstated requirement. **Check requirements for specific colleges.**
- MVLA Foundation will be sponsoring an SAT for our students only on October 23rd (PSAT Day)
 - Optional for 12th graders - instructions have been communicated to families

WHAT SHOULD STUDENTS DO NOW?

- BREATHE
- Maintain progress on 'a-g' course requirements/grades
- Review requirements for schools on their college list
- Complete Counselor Letter of Rec packet materials
- Ask 1-2 teachers to write academic recommendations, depending on college requirements
- Check email/Canvas regularly

A FEW LAST THINGS...

Remind your students:

- Check email & college application portals frequently to make sure that application files are complete
- Use a professional-sounding email address for college communications, such as firstname.lastname@gmail.com
- Be careful about what they post on social media
- Pay attention to meeting deadlines
- Take advantage of support resources at LAHS!



QUESTIONS?

MVLA Foundation supports the college process at
LAHS through funding the
College Adviser & College/Career Center

