HOW TO GET TO COLLEGE

6-8TH GRADES

- **Take English and Algebra I** or another rigorous math course and aim for good grades.
- **Take a language other than English**.
- **Begin your Academic Planner** on **californiacolleges.edu**.

9TH GRADE — Freshmen

- **Take "a-g" courses to meet the CSU's admission requirements:** college prep English, Algebra I or Geometry, and a foreign language.
- **Aim for As and Bs in all your classes;** focus on homework and develop good study skills.
- **Begin or update your Academic Planner** on **californiacolleges.edu**.

10TH GRADE — Sophomores

- **Take Geometry or Algebra II**.
- **Take college prep English**.
- **Take the PSAT exam** to help you prepare for the SAT or ACT and to keep you on track for college.
- **Take courses from the "a-g" course list:** history, English, math, laboratory science, a foreign language, and visual and performing arts.
- **Update your Academic Planner** on **californiacolleges.edu**.

Abbreviations

ACT	American College Testing
AP	Advanced Placement
CAASPP	California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress
CSU	California State University
EAP	Early Assessment Program
PSAT	Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test
SAT	Scholastic Assessment Test

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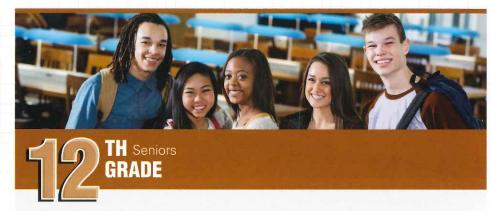scholarshare.com

11TH GRADE — Juniors

- **Take college prep English and advanced math:** English (writing and critical reading) and Algebra II or advanced math.
- **Update your Academic Planner** on **californiacolleges.edu**.
- **Do your best on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment**. Your CAASPP EAP results will help determine if you are ready for college-level courses before attending the CSU. In a college-level course you earn credit towards a baccalaureate degree. Visit **csusuccess.org/caaspp**.
- **Register for the AP exams in the spring**. You can earn college credit if you score well on the test(s).
- **Register for the PSAT exam** if you didn't take it in 10th grade.
- **Take the SAT or ACT in the spring as an additional way to determine if you are ready for college-level courses**. Many CSU campuses require you to take the SAT/ACT by October of your senior year.

"a-g" COURSES

9th-12th Grades

The California State University requires the following college preparatory pattern of classes (referred to as the "a-g" courses) for admission:

a **History and Social Science**
2 years (1 year of U.S. History and 1 year of Social Science)

b **English** 4 years required

c **Math** 3 years
(4 years recommended)

d **Laboratory Science**
2 years with a lab class

e **Language Other than English**
2 years of the same language

f **Visual and Performing Arts**
1 year

g **College Preparatory Electives**
1 year of any college preparatory subject

See your school counselor for a detailed list of classes or visit **gotocsu.com**.

12TH GRADE Seniors

- **Complete all final "a-g" course requirements,** including college prep English and advanced math. Trigonometry or Analytic Geometry/Calculus are also recommended.

- **If your CAASPP EAP result is "Standard Met," you are Conditionally Ready for college-level English and/or math coursework**. You are required to take an approved senior year-long English and/or math course and pass with a grade of "C" or better in both semesters.

- **If your CAASPP EAP result is "Standard Nearly Met" or "Standard Not Met," you are Not Ready for college-level English and/or math coursework**. Visit **csusuccess.org** for more information on EAP, including how to improve your English and math skills.

- **If you are planning to transfer** from a California Community College, visit **calstate.edu/transfer**.

Early Sept:	Register for the October SAT or ACT, if you haven't already taken the exam.
Oct 1 - Nov 30:	Apply to the CSU early—the deadline is November 30! Begin to apply for scholarships.
Oct 1 - Mar 2:	Apply for financial aid starting October 1. The priority deadline is March 2.
Late Spring:	If you are taking AP classes, register for the AP exams. You can earn college credit if you score a 3 or more on the exams.

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SAN LUIS OBISPO
NORTHRIDGE
SAN BERNARDINO
POMONA
CHANNEL ISLANDS
LOS ANGELES
DOMINGUEZ HILLS
LONG BEACH
FULLERTON
SAN MARCOS
SAN DIEGO

HOW TO GET TO COLLEGE
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How to PAY FOR COLLEGE

- **See if you qualify for financial aid:** fafsa.ed.gov

- **Students without lawful immigration status may be eligible for financial aid:** dream.csac.ca.gov

- **You may also be eligible for a Cal Grant:** mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov

- **Check out the many scholarship opportunities:** scholarships.com

- **Learn how to save for college:** scholarshare.com