



ALL students will see their counselors this semester:

- Seniors have already seen counselors once and will do so again for their final grad check in June.
- Juniors will be called in individually beginning late March. At that time, post high school options and course requests for senior year will be discussed. We recommend that all juniors review the *Course Description Book* - paying attention to pre-requisites for all courses - prior to their junior counseling session. **Students need to come prepared to make senior course requests.** If you want to get into the most competitive college that is right for you, as a senior you should plan to take English, history, math, science and a foreign language.
- Sophomores have received a letter inviting students and their parents to sophomore counseling. It is vital that all sophomores attend this group meeting. Post high school plans are discussed, as well as graduation requirements, summer school and college admission expectations. Students will be completing their junior year course requests at this meeting, and if they do not attend, they will have no input in elective choices.
- Counselors will visit Freshman English classes in April. At this time, course requests for sophomore year will be discussed. Materials will be sent home for parent signature and must be returned to school by the designated deadline, to be determined. Freshmen should review their four-year plan for help in requesting courses.

Testing

Claremont High School will be conducting the state mandated STAR testing for grades 9-11 from Tuesday, May 1st through Thursday, May 3rd. During these testing days, there will be a modified bell schedule with a combination of both instruction and STAR testing. It is vital that students be present, as the data derived serves as an individual student achievement profile and for school program evaluation. Juniors: **The Cal State University's Early Assessment Program (EAP) will use portions of the STAR testing to determine which juniors are college-ready and those who need additional remediation necessary for college success.** (The English essay portion was administered on March 13th in junior English classes.) Seniors will attend regular classes in the morning those days.

Eligibility Index for Students Applying to University of California Campuses

The eligibility index for University of California admissions includes high school GPA, SAT Reasoning test (or ACT with writing), and SAT Subject test scores. Under this index, the minimum GPA required for UC eligibility is reduced to 3.0, and all students - even those with the highest GPAs - are required to meet minimum test score requirements. Juniors should be signing up NOW for the SAT/ACT tests given in April, May and June. SAT Subject tests should be taken in May or June of the junior year, or sophomore year if taking chemistry, AP World History or Precalculus. For on-line SAT registration, go to www.collegeboard.com.

Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC) Program for the University of California System

Once again, this year the top 4 percent of students in each California high school will be designated UC eligible. Students

deemed eligible through ELC will be guaranteed a spot at one of the UC's nine undergraduate campuses, though not necessarily the campus of their choice. Students must complete remaining eligibility requirements prior to enrollment. The University will identify students in the top 4 percent following their junior year based on GPA earned in 11 units (1 unit is equivalent to a year-long course) of specified academic courses. To ensure that a sufficient number of transcripts are reviewed, schools will identify the top 10 percent of students and forward their transcripts to UC. Transcripts of the top 10 percent will automatically be sent to UC **if the student has on file a parent-signed Permission to Release Information form.**

Seniors will soon be receiving letters of acceptance. (Don't forget to share the good news with your counselor.) Please remember that grades for 2nd semester of the senior year do count! Every year a few Claremont High School students have their offer of admission rescinded due to poor 2nd semester grades.

Beware of senioritis! Attendance is still vital; attend all classes regularly and on time. Recently, many seniors took a "senior ditch day" that resulted in a huge number of absences in the senior class. These "ditch days" jeopardize student safety and impact school funding. **Remember, there are NO school sanctioned senior ditch days!**

Juniors/Seniors should be aware that increasingly, colleges and universities are communicating with prospective students via e-mail. When applying for colleges, or contacting them in your college search process, you should keep - and regularly check - an active e-mail account to enable schools to reach you. Failure to do so will likely result in delays and frustration. Please use discretion and common sense when choosing your e-mail address. Colleges are not impressed by e-mail addresses that are profane or rude.

Juniors who plan to apply to the Cal State University system next year should be aware that some campuses may be able to accept only qualified freshman applicants from their "Primary Service Region". Claremont High School students are in the region of Cal Poly, Pomona. It is advisable that students include Cal Poly as one of their requests for a Cal State school.

Spring break will be here soon. Some families have used this time to combine vacation with **college visits**. If you are planning a trip within the state of California, go to www.californiacolleges.edu to see if there is a campus close to where you will be spending your holiday.

Good attendance is critical to success in the classroom. Students who are frequently tardy to class cause a disruption to the class when they arrive, and the student who is late is likely to have missed important tasks/information that occur at the beginning of class.

Have you registered for **Parent Connect**? If you have access to a computer, you can view data on your student such as progress reports, attendance records, homework assignments, report cards, transcripts, test history and classroom news. Applications are available at Claremont High School, as well as at www.claremonthigh.net.