UC APPLICATION WORKSHOP

Christina Contreras. October 15, 2020

TODAY'S GOAL

Students will gain knowledge and skills to submit a competitive UC application.

AGENDA

○ College Application Overview

○ Orientation to the UC Application

○ Activities & Awards

○ Evaluation

○ Wrap Up

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COLLEGE APPLICATION OVERVIEW

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Need to use full legal name (what your social security card says).
  - Make sure Hoover reflects true name.
- Use dropdowns! Avoid entering information in manually when a dropdown list is available.
- Only 10th & 11th grades are considered in GPA calculation.
  - Classes taken during the summer after 9th , 10th , and 11th grade are included in the GPA.
  - 9th grade still useful to clear A-G requirements.
- Hoover is a SEMESTER system
  - Get a copy of your transcript for easy grade input.
- Fee waiver application built into both the UC and CSU applications.
  - Takes into account household income and # of dependents; adheres to FERPA laws (no student data sharing)
  - Providing this information is optional in the application, but required if seeking financial aid.

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GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- If ideal major is impacted/capped, consider different majors that offer a pathway to preferred *career.*
  - i.e.: if computer science is impacted, consider biology and emphasize your studies around data and technology
  - i.e.: if political science is impacted, consider an international relations or economics degree and emphasize your studies around political analysis

- Undecided is also an impacted major. Recommended to apply undecided if the UNIVERISTY is the deciding factor and not the reputation of the major programs.
  - Applying undecided may get you into the school, but there is no guarantee that you will be able to major in your preferred field
  - Recommended to choose an alternative major if option is available.

- Use a professional email, specific for your college access activities.

- Application audits to verify declared information is accurate.

- You plan to live **on campus**. (FAFSA)

- You want to receive **work study**. (FAFSA)

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QUESTIONS?

ORIENTATION TO THE UC APPLICATION

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THE UC APPLICATION

- Apply here: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply-now.html
  - Applying for "quarter/semester 2021"
  - Select all the schools you intend to apply to
  - UCSD also has six colleges you will need to choose from
  - Holistic review

- Do not need to fill in social if security is a concern, but offering SSN (or ITIN) makes it easier for university to connect application to FAFSA which is necessary for generating a financial aid package

- UC only asks for a final transcript (not 7th semester transcript) from admitted students

- Can update application until **January 15** (ie: test scores, address, NOT courses or grades)

- "Additional Comments" – nothing should be in this section that you've already covered in another part of the application; NOT a space for a third personal statement
  - Opportunity to explain unusual circumstances/ make your case for how you would contribute to the incoming freshman class.
  - "help me understand what was going on at that time"

- **Call UC Application Center for any technical support**

SECTIONS OF THE UC APPLICATION
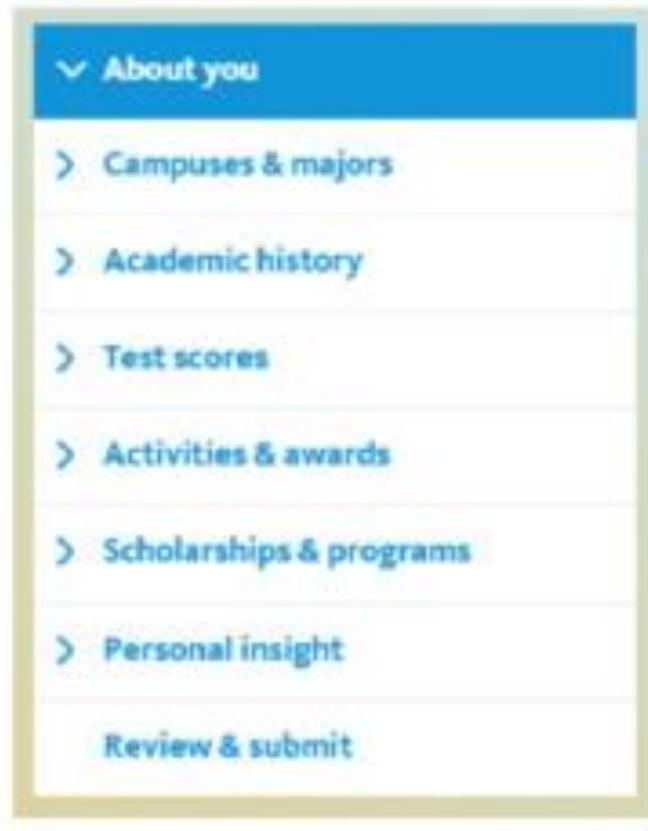
THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW…

About You

- Information about a student's parent(s)/legal guardian(s)' education, income, and family size is used to provide contextual information about the home environment and to determine eligibility for the application fee waiver.

Campuses & majors

- Picking a major – UC campuses not as impacted as CSU campuses
  - If selected major is "capped," select a non-capped alternative major
  - UCSD first year admissions does not select based on major
- If student qualifies for the fee waiver, they can apply to up to 4 campuses for free!
- Even though students complete one application for all UC's checked, UC campuses will not share or collaborate on the decision process. Each campus will make final decisions independently from one another.

Scholarships & programs

- Select all scholarships that apply to them. There are no limits on scholarships that they can request. They should click through all of the categories.
- All UC campuses offer either EOP or a similar program with a different name. If interested in the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), students will need to check the box on this page and provide a brief statement about why they're interested in the program.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW…

Academic history

- 12th grade course grades will default to "IP In Progress" (semester 1) and "PL Planned" (semester 2).
- For courses that are only one semester long, select "NO" for the term for which the course was not offered (e.g. Economics offered fall term, for spring term select "NO").
- Include all original courses/grades and enter repeated courses/grades for courses in which an original grade of D or F was earned and subsequently repeated.
- If any college/university level courses were completed while in high school, even if they are taught on the high school campus, add the college information AFTER the high school information. (dual enrollment)
  - Students who are offered admission to UC will be required to submit an official college transcript for all college courses completed.

Test Scores

- SAT/ACT test scores will not be considered for fall 2021 admission.
- Other tests include: SAT Subject tests. AP scores, TOEFL scores
  - Subject tests are not required but may be considered for specific programs at some campuses as an additional piece of information during the review process, especially STEM majors (esp. Calculus)
  - Submit AP test scores even if didn't pass to show persistence until the end.
  - If took TOEFL to demonstrate language proficiency and did not take a class, can skip inputting course for language proficiency, but will get an error code – can explain in comments section
- Sending scores to 1 UC ensures *all* UCs will get them

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COVID ADJUSTMENTS

- Temporary suspension of letter grade requirement for A-G coursework for all coursework completed in Winter, Spring and Summer 2020; first year applicants can use Pass or Credit grades to meet A-G requirements.

  - This applies to validation, where a D or F grade in a lower-level math or LOTE course is validated after completion of a higher-level course with a "Pass" or a grade of C or better.

  - **NOTE:** Student should always report exactly what will appear on their transcript. If the student received a letter grade in one of these terms they must report that grade.

- Pass grades will NOT be included in the GPA calculation, nor will they receive an extra honors point in the GPA if they are approved honors, AP or IB courses.

  - Although a student will not receive an extra point in the GPA calculation, UC approved honors courses, including AP and IB, are still considered in comprehensive review as taking a challenging curriculum.

- SAT/ACT entrance exam scores will NOT be considered in admission decisions.

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ACTIVITIES & AWARDS

UC INSTRUCTIONS

- Students will have twenty spaces to enter their activities, limited to a 350 word character count. Students will categorize the activities themselves based on the provided options and there is no limit for each category.
  - Categories: Award or honors; Educational preparation program; Extracurricular activity; Other Coursework; Volunteer / Community service; Work experience

- Admissions does not value one activity over another, but they do value commitment, progression and leadership.

- Do not repeat the entries, even if they might fit into more than one category.

- Students should focus on their time in high school.

- Students should also include any activities they have planned for the spring semester of their senior year.

- "After 12th Grade" - this is meant for students who are taking a gap year before attending college.

- For each activity, students need to include their time commitment. Students should give their best estimate or average.

- Students should ocus on your role or responsibility within the activity - not necessarily a description of the activity itself. How did this activity affect them or help them progress?

- Where possible, it's great to understand the context of the student's achievement! (time commitment, scope, impact, competitiveness)

- COVID: If they had an activity planned but it was cancelled, we want to know about it and they should make a note of it in the Additional Comments section of the UC Application, instead of including it in the Activities & Awards section.

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EXAMPLES THAT WORKED

- *"**Helped** with my father's business since he is the **sole employee**. I started helping in the **6th grade**. **Worked moving produce, selling produce and planting seeds after school and on the weekends.** The farm business was **shut down** before 12th grade."* (238 characters)

- *"Senior of the Month award recognizes seniors for all-around achievement. Recognized **for my achievement of straight As throughout high school** in all available honors and AP courses, my contributions as **AB President, Mock Trail Co-Captain, California Scholarship Federation President, and Involvement in many other clubs and activities on campus**."* (344 characters)

- *"As **co-president** in senior year, I **organize** a **tutoring program** with a local elementary school for **at-risk fourth- and fifth-graders**. I **found and trained 25 tutors** this year. This consisted of **interviewing** other students, and **making a week-long training program**."* (263 characters)

EXAMPLES THAT ARE MISSED OPPORTUNITY

- *"I've competed with **the best of the US** and got to the top. Also making the tiny cuts to get to the very top were very rewarding."* (126 characters)

- *"Being a part of the MESA program has been a great experience. MESA students are able to discuss with each other and come up with ideas that will help our project."* (161 characters)

ACTIVITY: CHALLENGE TO 20

With your mentor/mentee, come up with as many entries as you can think of that fall under your category.

AWARDS & HONORS

- Athlete of the week

- Principal's award

- Superstar awards (ie: ASB award, etc.)

- Scholarships

- 4.0 scholars / Honor Roll

- Class awards

- Cardinal Pride

- Academy awards

- Attendance award

- Program awards (ie: reading legacies)

- BAHIA recognitions

- Hoover bucks

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EDUCATIONAL PREP PROGRAMS

- CAC
- Cardinals Interact
- Ocean Discovery
- Reality Changers
- WAHUPA
- Aaron Price
- Upward Bound
- Talent Search
- FACES
- Cardinals Camp/ Link Crew

- Hoover academy
- Dual enrollment classes
- AVID
- Cal SOAP Exam Preparation
- Tutoring
- College & Career Readiness (BAHIA)
- RTC presentation
- PEN publication
- College Access Mentor Program

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EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- SGT Board

- Student advisory board

- Academy advisor board

- Yoga

- Drama

- Photography / Yearbook / Journalism

- Church youth group

- Sports

- ASB

- Band

- Dance

- Academic league

COURSES OTHER THAN A-G

- Dual enrollment courses
  - Ie: Poetry in America
  - Ie: Chicano Studies

- AP classes

- Academy courses

- "life" classes
  - Ie: cooking
  - Ie: mechanics

- ASB, AVID, yearbook

- Outside of school
  - Ie: CPR
- Cal SOAP Exam Preparation

- Tutoring

- College & Career Readiness (BAHIA)

- RTC presentation
- PEN publication
- Swimming classes

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VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Church

- 1-day volunteer events
  - ie: canyon/beach/campus clean ups

- School volunteer
  - ie: Cardinals Camp
  - ie: Link Crew

- Mentoring
- SD Rescue Mission

- Hoover academy

- Hoover Community Connections
- OL Ambassador (gala, site visits, etc.)
- Servant Leadership (BAHIA)
- SES/BAHIA Mentor

- Fundraising (sports, band, gala)
- Child care/ household management
- Animal shelters

- Nursing homes

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WORK EXPERIENCE

- Customer service

- Photography services

- House management

- Care taker

- Industrial cooking

- Restaurant maintenance

- Hoover academy

- Cardinals Camp/ Link Crew

- OL Ambassador (gala, site visits, etc.)

- SES/BAHIA Mentor

- Fundraising (sports, band, gala)

- Hoover Community Connections

ACTIVITY: IT'S YOUR TURN!

With your mentor/mentee, choose one activity or award, and create a description.

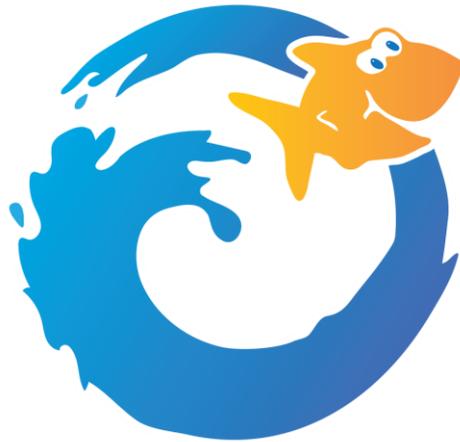# EVALUATION

WRAP UP

- Upcoming deadlines:
  - Personal Statement Consultations, sign ups DUE: FRIDAY
    - Send first draft of one essay
  - FAFSA
  - CSU EOP applications
  - Institution specific scholarships

- Next Workshop: CSU Application
  - Thursday, November 19 @ 5-7

THANK YOU.

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