

Your Future! Plan Ahead, Make High School Count



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for planning and financial aid information

Take Control of Your Future!

Do you want more knowledge, more job opportunities, and a lot more money? College is for you! The world is changing everyday and it is harder to find well paying jobs if you do not have a college degree... so if you want the freedom to choose a good career and earn a high salary, then you should start preparing for college while you are still in middle school.

Be Prepared

Right now is the best time to prepare for college. During the next four years, you need to take the right courses, including Algebra in the 8th grade, to help you get into the college that best suits your needs. The chart below lists the minimum courses that are required for freshman admission to the California State University, the University of California, and many independent colleges and universities. This pattern of courses is the same as recommended for community colleges. Talk to your counselors and teachers and use this chart to plan ahead and track your progress!

high school planning chart This planning chart belongs to:

Requirements (a-g Courses)	Years Required	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
A. History/Social Science U.S. History, U.S. Government, Civics, World History Cultures, and Geography	2 Years. One year U.S. History or 1/2 year U.S. History and 1/2 year of U.S. Civics or American Government. CSU requires one additional year of Social Science. UC requires one additional year of World History, Cultures and Geography. UC requires one year of History/Social Science completed by the end of the 11 th grade.						
B. English	4 Years of college preparatory English composition and literature. UC requires a minimum of two years of English – three preferable – completed by the end of the 11 th grade.						
C. Mathematics Algebra, Geometry, Intermediate Algebra, or Higher Level Mathematics	3 Years. Four years recommended. Algebra in the 8 th grade recommended. UC requires two years of Mathematics to be completed by the end of the 11 th grade.						
D. Laboratory Science	2 Years. CSU requires one year of Biological Science and one year of Physical Science. UC recommends three years with at least two of the following: Biology, Chemistry, Physics. UC requires at least one year of Laboratory Science to be completed by the end of the 11 th grade.						
E. Language Other Than English (Foreign Language)	2 Years. UC recommends three years. American Sign Language is acceptable. UC requires one year to be completed by the end of the 11 th grade.						
F. Visual & Performing Arts Dance, Drama/Theater, Music, Visual Art	1 Year of the same course.						
G. College Preparatory Electives	1 One additional year of academic courses in any of the above a-g areas or a year of another approved alternative elective.						

UC requires at least 11 of the a-g courses to be completed by the end of the 11th grade.

california educational systems at a glance

system	California Community Colleges (CCC)	California State University (CSU)	University of California (UC)	Independent Colleges and Universities
number of campuses	112	23	10	75
college entrance test	None Required	ACT or SAT on most CSU campuses are required for students with grade point averages under 3.00*	ACT with writing or SAT	ACT or SAT (check with college or university of your choice)
degrees offered	Associate degrees and vocational certificates	Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees	Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral, and professional degrees	Associate's, Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral, and professional degrees
in-state student fees/tuition (subject to change)	\$46 per unit (before financial aid)	Average \$6,633 (before financial aid)	Average \$13,200 (before financial aid)	Average \$33,109 (before financial aid)
financial aid	You can afford to go to college! Financial Aid is available from colleges and universities, State and Federal governments, businesses and other organizations. All qualified students will receive a Cal Grant, which is "free" money that covers full student fees and/or living expenses at California Community Colleges, California State University, and University of California. Maximum Cal Grants at independent colleges and universities are \$9,084; the average financial aid package at these institutions is \$29,038.			
*Applicants who are not required to submit test scores are encouraged to take standardized admission tests for advising and for placement in appropriate courses				

california colleges and universities

California Community Colleges (CCC)

- Admit all students who are 18 years old or a high school graduate
- Enroll high school students under special arrangement to earn college or high school credits
- Prepare students to transfer to any college or university for a Bachelor's Degree
- Have low fees and offer financial aid
- Offer a wide variety of opportunities to enhance your future and enrich your life
- For more information, visit the website www.californiacolleges.edu
www.icanaffordcollege.com

California State University (CSU)

- Each campus has its own personality, academic focus, and strengths
- Each campus has its own special geographic features and traditions
- CSU offers quality education in the liberal arts and sciences and specialized training for a variety of career fields
- On-campus housing is available on most campuses
- For more information, visit the website www.californiacolleges.edu

University of California (UC)

- Each campus has its own personality, academic focus, and strengths
- Offers various advanced degrees, including medicine and law
- Has many nationally ranked academic and athletic programs
- On-campus housing is available on all campuses
- For more information, visit the website www.californiacolleges.edu

Independent California Colleges and Universities

- 75 not-for-profit, fully accredited private colleges that offer over 350 different degrees
- Average Financial Aid package is almost \$29,038, and 85% of all students receive some form of financial aid
- Each school is different which offers students the opportunity to choose the type of educational environment that best suits their needs
- For more information, visit the website www.californiacolleges.edu

Specialized Schools and Colleges

- Most students 18 years of age or older are eligible for admission; however, at WASC accredited specialized colleges, it is recommended that students follow the High School Planning Chart on the reverse side
- Courses or programs offered are specialized (i.e., fashion design or automotive technologies) for direct entrance into careers

California Education Round Table Intersegmental Coordinating Committee

1430 N Street, Room 3705, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916/324.8593 Fax: 916/327.9172 Email: certicc@cde.ca.gov Website: www.certicc.org

This brochure is published by the California Education Round Table which is composed of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, leaders of the California Community Colleges, the California State University, the University of California, and the independent colleges and universities, plus the Executive Director of the California Postsecondary Education Commission. It is distributed by the Intersegmental Coordinating Committee of the California Education Round Table.