USC College Advising Corps in partnership with the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation, Presents:

THE COLLEGE PLAYBOOK

- It's A Whole New Ball Game
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HOME RUN
Fall (August-December):
- Start your senior year by researching and finalizing your college list
- 4 year universities- (CSU, UC, Private, and Out of State)
- 2 year colleges- (Community colleges)
- Visit prospective colleges and get a feel for the campus.

September:
A. Check your transcripts to make sure you have all the credits you need to get into the college of your choice.
   a. Make an appointment with your counselors or college advisers and ask them to review it with you.
   b. Use UC Doorways to check A-G for your high school: https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist or check the A-G chart attached to check off classes you have fulfilled
      1. Enter name of high school
      2. Select correct school/location
      3. Click on course list, and begin looking
B. Register for the SAT/ACT: Many seniors retake the SAT/ACT in the fall. The additional course work since your last test could help you boost your performance. Plus, you already know what to expect on test day when you take it for the second time.
   a. Check out to see if SAT Subject Tests are required for specific majors
C. Be sure to have your SAT/ACT scores sent to the colleges you’re applying to.
   a. See attachment page 1, on how to send your SAT/ACT scores
   b. December 15 - Scores should be arranged to be sent to CSU/ UC’s by
D. Write your college application essays.
   a. Have a good time with the essays. Don’t be afraid to demonstrate. Don’t procrastinate (Private, Out of State, UC and CSU)
E. Retake any class that you have a D or F that falls under college (A-G) requirements.
F. Sign up for NCAA Clearing House
   a. This applies to students who are interested in DI, DII or DIII Athletics
October:

A. Cal State Universities (CSU's)
   a. October 1st - Application opens
   b. See attachment 2 for “How to Apply to CSU’s”

B. University of California (UC’s)
   a. October 1st - Application opens
   b. See attachment 3 for “How to Apply to UC’s”

C. FAFSA/CA DREAM ACT applications open OCT 1ST!
   a. See attachment 4 “Who applies for FAFSA or CA Dream Act”
   b. See attachment 5 - “How to apply to FAFSA/DREAM ACT”

* Private University deadlines will be in January or earlier (varies per university). So check on each university's website!

D. Take SAT exam!

November:

A. Nov. 30th - Complete your UC & CSU applications before the deadline.

B. BEFORE you submit your college admissions applications try to have an adviser/counselor review it with you. If this is not possible, make sure you submit before the deadline. Submitting before the deadline is always a plus!

C. Visit the College & Career Center or see a counselor to see about scholarship opportunities. Work on your scholarship applications and submit them according to deadlines.
   a. Make sure to always have a counselor/adviser review any scholarship essay and application before you submit them

D. Check with the financial aid office of schools you are applying to for specific information and costs for tuition, room & board, and any additional financial aid info they require.
   a. Websites such as bigfuture.org can be used to research schools, financial aid, and other school logistics.

DECEMBER

A. If you are applying to a private or some out of state schools you will need to complete the CSS Profile IN ADDITION to the FAFSA or CA Dream Act.
Spring (January-June)

January:

A. Complete and submit your Financial Aid application (PREFERABLY between Jan 1 – Feb 15).
   a. You will need your parents information to do so.
B. Make sure your parents have completed their Income Tax (2018) forms before completing financial aid
   a. If parents have not done taxes or if you have a special circumstance/ situation, please see an adviser or counselor for further support.
C. Contact the admissions office of the colleges to which you have applied to make sure that your info has been received and confirm that no further documentation is required.
   a. See attachment 6, to see the list of admissions contact information.
D. Keep an eye out for financial aid workshops and seminars.

February:

A. If you completed your FAFSA you should receive your Student Aid Report via email (if you provided a valid email) within 4 weeks. Make any corrections if you have incorrect information and submit corrections to the FAFSA processor.
B. Keep completing scholarship applications.
   a. See attachment 7 for a list of scholarships.
D. Start receiving acceptance letters from 4 year universities that you applied to.
E. Check Emails- begin creating your portals to check admissions decisions.
   a. Portals- Most schools will send you individual instructions on how to set up your school accounts.
      i. Mostly all Cal States should send you portal information via email.
         1. CSUDH sends portal information via mail.
         2. CSULB does not give portals, until you are admitted into the university.
      ii. Some UC’s will also send portal information, but some UC’s will not.
   b. Portals will have your admission decisions, to do lists, financial aid award letters, orientation sign-ups, and housing applications.
March – May:

A. You should hear back from colleges by April 15.
   a. Compare acceptance letters, financial aid and scholarship offers.
   b. See attachment 8 to see examples of what financial aid packages look like.

B. When you choose a college, you will have to pay a nonrefundable admissions deposit to hold your place in the entering freshman class (PRICE VARIES PER UNIVERSITY).
   a. Some students who qualify for financial aid will be able to get this deposit waived.

C. In May take the AP Exams.
   a. AP tests can give you college credit.
      i. For example: Passing the AP Spanish Language test with a 3 or better, will give you credit for one general education college course

D. By May 1 DEADLINE you must have decided on a college and notify them of your acceptance. Pay your deposit online or mail a check.

E. Activate Cal Grant portals on Web 4 grants website
   1. (https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/)

F. Pay for Orientation.

G. If you wish to live on campus, submit your Housing Application. Deadlines vary by university

H. Most Community College applications have begun to open.
   - Make sure you know your Social Security number (if you have one).

June:

A. Graduate HIGH SCHOOL!!! =)

B. Send final transcripts to the school you will be attending.
   a. Try to arrange for your transcripts to be sent before you graduate high school.
   Do this through the office at your high school
   b. Contact the college to find out when fees are due and how much they will cost!

- CSU's want your transcripts by JULY 15th (CSU).
- UC'S want your transcripts by JULY 1st (UC's)
Completing these tasks, ensures you have hit a HOME RUN!

- Take SAT or ACT
- Apply for College
- Submit FAFSA or CA Dream Act
- Submit Student Intent to Register
- Check Portals - Clearing To-Do List
- Housing, if you are planning to live on campus
- Pass ALL A-G classes with C or better
- Send Final Transcripts