



Hanford West Career Center News

Senior News (Class of 2024) and underclassmen info too!

Dear HW Seniors,

Welcome to your senior year here at Hanford West. As you gear up, just remember that your senior year is going to go by even faster than last year did. You have a lot of things to think about: Where am I going after High School? University, Community College, Career/Technical Colleges or to the Military? Am I qualified to apply to the schools I want to go to? How am I going to pay for it?

I will be starting off the fall semester by hosting Career Center presentations so that we can talk about all the things you need to get going on. You will be coming in during your Econ/Gov Classes during August/September

Information to be covered:

- ◇ UC and CSU applications—These institutes have a short window of opportunity to submit their applications. [Please be sure to log on to your CaliforniaCollege.edu account to access the UC and CSU applications.](#) This allows you to import your transcript info to your application, whereas you will have to enter each class and grade separately if you do not. It also lets us track your progress so that I can be sure to assist you with completing them. The CSU system opens their applications on October 1, 2023 with a final submission date of **November 30, 2023**. Although the UC System Application portal opens on September 1, 2023 you will not be able to submit your application till November 1, 2023 and deadlines on **November 30, 2023**. Several workshops will be held in the Career Center by the UC and CSU reps to assist you with your applications. The UC System requires 4 essays (UC Personal Insight Questions) in their applications, it is a good idea to go on the UC Pathways website and get the prompts and start working on them now. Feel free to share them with me if you would like help with them.
- ◇ Financial Aid —FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Normally opens their application window on October 1. You will be using tax return info from the 2022 tax return. Workshops will be held during school as well as in the evening so that parents can attend. More info to follow!
- ◇ The Local Scholarship Program has gone ONLINE with the "Going Merry" program. It is much easier to apply for all of the "Local Scholarships" therefore you should have more time to apply for more "Special Application" Scholarships. More info is in this newsletter.
- ◇ Military—If you are thinking about heading off to the military, you will have the opportunity to take or re-take the ASVAB here on campus next semester. The test dates are normally the last Thursday and Fridays of October. Remember, there are many opportunities for you to be able to get your education paid for by the Military: attending one of the US Military Academies, Applying for the ROTC Scholarship (worth over \$200,000.00/per year) or using your GI bill once you serve your tour of duty. You can talk to a recruiter here in the Career Center. Info is available on the Career Center Website.

To keep up with all of this information, be sure to log onto the Career Center Website or, friend the Career Center on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

And...add your phone number to the "StudentSquare" "ParentSquare" texting service that we provide. Get reminders of deadlines, scholarship opportunities and other news alerts from the Career Center.

Parents!

Senior (Class of 2024) Parents,

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me for clarification about anything having to do with your students future. I am here to help your students and YOU (the parent) as They/You plan their future. This time of year can be very confusing and very demanding and it just gets worse as the year goes by.

I hope that you, as parents, have a wonderful year as you ready your kids to fly off into their future. Whether they head off to the University, Community College, Career/Technical Colleges, to the Military, or straight to work, they will always need your help and support.

I am here to help them, and you, with as much as my resources allow. If you would like to video chat with me or come in for a visit, give me a call or email me and we can set that up!

Good Luck Parents of the Class of 2024—Mr. Ruben Amavisca



COS (College of the Sequoias)

Each year COS assigns an ambassador to the Hanford West Campus to assist all students, especially seniors, Creating their CCC Apply account and with applying to COS They will also help students create an Education Plan for their freshman year in college.

Scholarships—COS has a scholarship program available on line. The deadline to apply for their scholarship program is in **November**, so be sure to be aware of that date! You should apply for these scholarships even if COS is your backup school.

You can sign up on CC Website to come in and visit with the COS Rep as soon as we get back to school.



West Hills College

West Hills College sends out Ambassadors to Hanford West on a regular basis. The team will be communicating with ALL seniors in the fall to create their CCCApply accounts to ready them for applying to ALL California Community Colleges.

Scholarships—Applications will be available for the WHC Presidents Scholars program and other WHC scholarship in early Spring. Be sure to check deadlines by visiting www.westhillscollge.com

You can sign up on CC Website to come in and visit with the COS Rep as soon as we get back to school.



Fresno State (CSU System)

Although the CSU Ambassador is coming to us from Fresno State, they are also able to assist you with applications to ANY of the 23 CSU's in the system.

The ambassador will be communicating with students once they have submitted their applications to Fresno State to keep you up to date on things that you may need to submit to continue your positive status and stay on track for admissions.

Scholarships—Each CSU has their own Scholarship Program with their own application process. Check your CSU Portal for more info on applying for scholarships.

You can sign up on CC Website to come in and visit with the COS Rep as soon as we get back to school.

Community College Outreach

Each year we have COS and West Hills College Lemoore, come out to have students complete their applications. Many students refuse to complete these applications because they are "planning" to attend a 4 year college, enlist in the military or go straight to work. All of which are viable alternatives, BUT! There are always reasons why a student may change their plans once they reach the spring semester of their senior year. At this time those students can begin their application process to a community college, but they will not have "Priority" registration and will be registering for classes after "Priority" students register. This often results in the student unable to register for the classes they need because they are full. So...my advice to all seniors is to go ahead and apply, go ahead and get that priority status and register for classes. That way you are not left struggling to get into classes at the last minute. You can always drop your classes if things work out and your original plans go through.

Every year, I have students coming into the CC right before school is out, to START their applications, because plans ended up changing.

Local Scholarship Program

The HJUHSD Local Scholarship program will be continuing to use Going Merry as our Scholarship Data Base and Application Portal.

If you have already started your Going Merry Account, just keep working on it and upload your documents. If you have not created your account, then you need to get going on it. Go to the HW Career Center website's "Local Scholarship Program" Page and click on the Going Merry Icon to access the site.

FYI, You can use the Going Merry Program to send a request to a teacher or community member to write you a letter of recommendation. That recommender can then upload that letter directly to your account or you can ask them to email it or you can pick it up from them at their availability. We will be going over the program in the fall, but why wait to get started. Scholarship deadlines are as early as September 2023 and some may deadline this summer. Don't loose out on \$\$\$!

When creating your account, remember **to NOT use your school email**. Use a professional email account. If you do not have one, then create a professional email account with an appropriate name. You will be able to use that through college and into your profession.

Community service is a big part of winning scholarships. Go out there and volunteer! Children's Storybook Garden and The Soup Kitchen are always looking for volunteers. Keep up with volunteer opportunities on the "Volunteer Opportunities" Page of the HW Career Center Website!

Class of 2024 To do list

Summer/Fall 2023

NCAA Registration

Summer/Fall 2023—Start registration to the NCAA clearing house if you plan to play sports in college.
<http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future>

Scholarship Search

You can begin your scholarship search by:

- Creating your Student Portal on Going Merry! Available on the CC Website.
- Sign up with other Scholarship Search engines and apps!
www.goingmerry.com (There's an app for that)
www.fastweb.com
www.scholarships.com
www.mybigfuture.com

And many other sites available online

Local Scholarship Program

Start the following things in the Summer/fall

- Go out and work some community service hours!
- Ask Teachers and Community Members for letters of Recommendation
- Write the needed Scholarship Essays for Going Merry (Prompts can be found on the CC Website's Student Tools Folder)
- Create a Student Resume – (Templates on CC Website)
- Attend Local Scholarship Program Informational meetings for Parents and students in the Fall—dates to be announced.

Most scholarships require a personal statement. You can find a guide for writing your essay on the Career Center Website.

I, Mr. Amavisca, in the Career Center, would be happy to assist you with writing/editing your essay.

Feel free to send me your essays for editing. Do not wait till the last minute to write these essays. Scholarship deadlines begin as early as September!

ACT # 1 www.actstudent.com

September 9, 2023—Registration Deadline: August 18, 2023

SAT # 1 www.collegeboard.org

August 26, 2023—Registration Deadline: August 15, 2023

Check the Career Center website for updated info on these tests as news becomes available.

Community College Application

Fall 2023 - Log on to CaliforniaColleges.edu to access the CCCApply Site. You will use this site to apply to ANY California Community College. If you are planning to apply to a 4 year College/University or going to the military, you should go ahead and submit an application to either COS or West Hill as a back-up plan.

Remember to sign up for any workshops and rep visits on the HW Career Center Websites "Sign up Sheets" Page.

Go Huskies!

University Applications

CSU Application Window

October 1, 2023 - November 30, 2023

CSU Application Workshop #1 - TBA

Remember to access application using CaliforniaColleges.edu

UC Application Window

November 1—November 30, 2023

Portal Opens September 1, 2023

Sign up for Application Workshops on CC Website

Remember to access application using CaliforniaColleges.edu

COS Scholarships

October 1, 2023 - COS Scholarship Program opens.

One application for many scholarships

Available on the COS Website.

FAFSA (Deadline: March 2nd) www.fafsa.gov

Application window opens October 1, 2023.

Workshops will be held throughout the year beginning in October. Please access the FAFSA/Dream Act Application using the californiacolleges.edu Platform so that we can track your progress.

A law passed by the State of California, requires that all seniors complete and submit a FAFSA/CADAA (Ca Dream Act Application). Students/Parents can "Opt-Out" of this requirement by signing the "Opt-out" form and return it to the HW Career Center. The form is available on the Career Center's "Financial Aid" page of the CC Website.

February/March 2024 - Create College Web Portals

By this time, you should have received e-mails from the schools you applied to. HW does not get notified.

Log on to their websites and create your portal and e-mail accounts.

Be sure to write your "log on" info somewhere you will find it (Phone)

Keep in Contact

If you have any question about any of this Information, do not hesitate to contact me.

Check the HW Career Center Website on a regular basis, All new information will be posted there.

Mr. Amavisca is off during the summer months but will check his email sporadically throughout the summer. Evening appointments can be requested by parents once school is back in session in the Fall.

Use the Appointment flyer on the Home Page of the website to request an appointment.

Other Important Information

NCAA - National Collegiate Athletic Association
Website - www.ncaaclearinghouse.net



Eligibility
Center

If you plan to play sports at a division 1 or 2 College/University you need to sign up with the NCAA Clearing house to become eligible. You will need to send your transcripts once you have completed your junior year. The easiest way to assure your transcripts get to NCAA is to request them online through the Parchment Website listed on the NCAA website.

It is very important that you refer to your portal on the NCAA website as it will let you know the classes that NCAA requires that you complete to be eligible to play sports in college. They are more demanding than the requirements to graduate from high school.

Personal e-mail accounts

As you get ready to move on to things outside of Hanford West, you want to create a "Professional" e-mail account for yourself. Nicknames and funny names aren't always what you want to put out there when applying for scholarships, jobs or college applications.

The e-mail account that is created for you here at Hanford West will be deleted once you have graduated. So, you really don't want to use it as you submit your applications to colleges and universities, jobs that will continue after you graduate or for scholarships. Scholarship donors may want to contact you to send you your money or request additional information and if you use your school email, they will be unable to do so once you graduate.

You also want to make sure your parents have an e-mail account of their own. In the past, students were able to apply for FAFSA using their own e-mail accounts in both the student and parent section. Now, you must include 2 completely different e-mails for both you and your parents. **Do not use your school email here either!**

Sophomores, Juniors and Incoming Freshman.

I realize most of this newsletter addressed our seniors (Class of 2024) but I wanted to be sure to touch basis with all of you. There are some things that you, as underclassmen need to put on your calendar. And remember, just like for our seniors, the Career Center is here for you too.

Parents, please feel free to contact the Career Center if you have questions or concerns about any of the things I cover below. I am here for all HW students and you, their parents.

Fall Activities: (**Note: all activities pending**)

October 12, 2023 - PSAT:

This PSAT is open to all underclassmen (Class of 2025, 26 and 27) but priority is given to the class of 2025.

Only Juniors are offered Fee waivers for the PSAT. All those not eligible for a Fee Waiver will be charged \$18.00 to take the exam. (cost is pending any changes from Collegeboard) Taking the PSAT will give you the opportunity to see where you stand with the SAT and give you insight on what you need to study to improve your score. You will also be able to identify your AP (Advanced Placement) Potential and help you guide yourself through choosing your high school classes. This is also a **scholarship** qualifying test for all JUNIORS.

October 2023 - ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)

- This exam is given to **all Juniors** at Hanford West in an effort to explore careers that might interest them as adults. Once the test has been scored, we will call the students in for a presentation and Career Exploration activity. If a student chooses to go into the Military, the ASVAB is their qualifying test. **Parents:** HW chooses to NOT release these scores to the military. So, your kids will not be getting calls from the recruiters because for their ASVAB scores.

Test Date: October 26 & 27, 2023

Fall/Spring 2022/23 - CaliforniaColleges.edu - This online platform was put into place at the beginning of the 2018 Fall-Semester and we will continue to work with students and parents to become familiar with and utilize the Platform more regularly. CaliforniaColleges.edu is an online tool for all students and parents to: keep track of college eligibility; explore careers; explore colleges and see what each college requires to apply and attend. All students that attended HW in the Fall and Spring of this past year have accounts and can access them online at all times. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the platform and it's uses.

Parents: You too can register for an account and keep track of each of your students on the site. See what careers they are "liking", what colleges they are interested in applying to, etc. Students are required by the Hanford Joint Union High School District to complete 3 career assessments; Interest Profiler, Personality, and Intelligences. Students are brought into the Career Center to complete these and other items each semester during the school day.

For questions, please contact:

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