

LELAND HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2010 SENIOR CALENDAR

MONTHLY

- **Use Resources:** Use the Internet, Choices, PrepHQ and Get In 2 College Programs. These programs are excellent resources for parents and students. Access Choices and Get In 2 College programs at the Career Center Site at lelandhigh.org. You and your parents will need to log in to your PrepHQ account.
- **Investigate scholarships:** The Leland Scholarship Bulletin is posted in the Career Center, English and history classrooms. You can use Choicer Planner, PrepHQ and the Internet to research scholarships and financial aid.

October

- **Leland College Tips:** Obtain the packet of College Tips from the Career Center or from Prep HQ. This packet is packed with helpful information and tips.
- **College Presentations:** Attend college presentations at Leland or in the area. Many colleges visit Leland. Visits are listed in the Career Center Bulletin and Weekly Bulletin and visits are announced. Interested students must obtain a Career Center Pass in advance.
- **College Fairs:** Attend any college fairs or informational sessions held in the area. ESUSD will offer a College Night on 10/9 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Independence High School.
- **Applications:** Obtain college applications as soon as possible (universityofcalifornia.edu/apply and csumentor.com). Independent schools and out of state schools are available online.
- **Get Organized:** Organize everything you will need to complete your college applications: Applications, transcripts, testing scores, resume, activities, honors, awards.....Print the Get In 2 College Mini Manuals: Getting Organized for College and Essay Writing Tips.
- **College Instructions:** Read all information and instructions from the college (including web sites) BEFORE you begin your application. Follow all instructions. **DOUBLE CHECK EVERYTHING!!**
- **Senioritis:** Beware of senioritis! Your senior year grades count in college admissions. Remember that **all college acceptances are conditional!** Every year acceptances are revoked because of senior grades. Some colleges may revoke acceptances because of **any D** in senior year. If there are any changes in senior year (classes, gpa drop, any D.....) after you submit your application, you must **notify all colleges in writing immediately.**
- **Choosing colleges:** Choose schools that you want to apply to by: Reading catalogs, visiting campuses, using the internet, using Leland's programs (Choices, Get In 2 College, Prep HQ), talking to people who have attended those schools, and attending presentations at Leland or in the area. Only choose colleges that are a good match for you and if admitted you would consider attending.
- **Visits:** Visit colleges to help you decide which one is best suited for you. Talk to friends at colleges and make arrangements to visit them on campus.
- **Deadlines:** Write down all deadlines for each school on a calendar or spreadsheet (application, testing, financial aid). Admission, testing and financial aid deadlines are not flexible!

- **Other Requirements:** Research course requirements, fees, and find out if they require letters of rec. (UC's & CSU's **will not** accept letters of rec.). Deadline for packets to each recommender is October 2.
- **SAT/ACT:** Register for the ACT, SAT Reasoning or SAT Subject Tests. Be aware of testing deadlines and requirements, especially SAT Subject Tests (UC's require two in different subject areas - **not Math 1**). Some selective colleges may require three. Some majors require specific Subject Tests. If taking the ACT UC requires the Optional Writing Test. Online registration forms are in the Career Center. Check with colleges you are applying to for deadlines for testing completion. (Fee waivers are available from Mr. Tenorio for the SAT/ACT tests and college applications.) The code for all CSU's is 3594. Always enter the Leland School Code Number: **053091**.
- **Test Scores:** Officially send (from SAT or ACT) all SAT Reasoning, SAT Subjects (if required), and ACT test scores to ALL colleges you are applying. On your SAT report, the last 6 SAT Reasoning Tests and SAT Subject sittings will be included. ACT only includes one testing.
- **CSU/UC:** The **CSU (California State Universities) and UC (University of California)** applications are available online at csumentor.com and universityofcalifornia.edu. CSU filing period is 10/1 to 11/30 and UC filing period 11/1 to 11/30. Refer to Tips document for additional info.
- **Essays:** Work on your college essays for UC and independent schools. It takes more than one attempt to get to the quality of content and style required by admission officers. The essay is a very important part of your application.
- **Don't Procrastinate:** It is very important that you do your best on your applications. Plan ahead.
- **Early Admissions:** November 1 - 15: Most independents using "early decision" or "early action" admissions require applications between these dates. If you applied "early" to any school, we recommend that you complete all of your other applications before you hear about the early decision. You will be notified by mid-December of their decision.
- **Financial Aid Forms for Independents:** If you are applying to independent schools check to see if they require the CSS PROFILE for financial aid. Obtain this form in the Career Center or register at www.collegeboard.com.
- **Athletes:** To play college athletics, you must be certified by the NCAA. Info is available in the Career Center.
- **Proof:** Make sure you have **documented proof** that you submitted all your applications on time.
- **Document and File:** Get a file "bin" and set up a file for each college. Keep and file copies of all applications and financial aid forms. File the proof that you submitted applications on time.

NOVEMBER

- **SAT/ACT & Test Scores:** Refer to Oct. section.
- **UC/CSU:** Complete applications for the UC and CSU systems since the filing period is November 1 - 30. All UC's and some CSU campuses applications must be submitted by November 30. Check web sites for updates.

- **UC's:** All U.C. applications will receive a comprehensive review. Everything on your application will be considered. It is extremely important that you do an excellent job on your personal statement and information on the extracurricular page. Rewrite and revise the personal statement. Rewrite and revise the essay for the UC. Your essay and information on the Extracurricular Page (honors, awards, clubs, sports, employment, talent, and volunteer/ community service) will be considered and everything is very important.
- **Housing:** Be sure you have applied for housing at the public college of your choice. You cannot deal with housing at an independent college until you have been accepted. You may need to sign up for housing when you apply at campuses where housing is limited.
- **Transcripts:** Request transcripts from our high school registrar for independent schools that request 11th grade transcripts. Only send UC's and CSU's transcripts when **they** request transcripts.
- **Double Check Everything:** Double check everything before you submit. Read the instructions in the October section again.
- **Proof, Document and File:** See Oct. section.

DECEMBER

- **SAT/ACT:** Last test date for the ACT, SAT Reasoning and SAT Subjects for most schools.
- **Transcripts:** Officially send (from SAT or ACT) all SAT Reasoning/ ACT test scores and SAT Subject Test if required to ALL colleges you are applying.
- **Independents:** Finish all the details for your independent applications -- essays, letters of recommendations, secondary school report, financial aid, etc.
- **Visits:** Visit college campuses during vacation.

JANUARY

- **Financial Aid:** Obtain your financial aid forms (CSS PROFILE, FAFSA and Cal Grant) in the Career Center. File Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and Cal Grant forms starting 1/1. It is very important that you meet deadlines for all financial aid forms. Student and a parent need to obtain pin numbers in advance at fafsa.ed.gov. Know the deadlines for all colleges. Some independents have a January deadline. Info is available in Career Center in a Financial Aid Packet.
- **Financial Aid Workshop:** Attend financial aid workshop for seniors and parents at Leland on **January 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the ITC.**
- **Cal Grant:** If you wish to be considered for the Cal Grant you must submit the FAFSA and GPA Verification Form by March 2.
- **Independents:** Make sure you submit any additional financial aid forms from independents.
- **Financial Aid Estimate:** Your parents can go to collegeboard.com or act.com to obtain an estimate of their EFC (Expected Family Contribution).
- **Mid-Year Reports:** If MYR's are required by independent colleges, see Mrs. Albers by 1/11 for Mid-Year Packet.

FEBRUARY

- **Decisions:** Evaluate your college choices based on such criteria as location, size, academic program, and other important programs so you can determine your best school.
- **Housing:** See November section.

- **Financial Aid:** Submit your financial aid forms by 3/2.
- **Selective service:** Males who are 18 years old must prove draft registration in order to receive financial aid.

MARCH

- **Financial Aid Deadline:** See February section.
- **AP Exams:** Consider taking AP tests in your strongest courses and sign up.
- **Decisions:** Between March 1 - 31, you should hear back from UC and CSU about your acceptance. Independents schools will begin sending their acceptances around 4/1. Rank your preferences by location, academic program and other important characteristics. It is important to visit or revisit campuses before making your college decision. You want to find the best match for you!
- **SAR:** Make sure your financial Student Aid Report (SAR) reaches the financial aid offices of your potential colleges as soon as possible. Your aid package will be determined using this report.
- **Community Colleges:** Complete application process and follow instructions for placement tests, orientation class, and registration. Info is available in the Career Center.

APRIL

- **The Big Decision:** You must evaluate all your acceptances so you complete the SIR (Student Intent to Register) process. Review your acceptances and evaluate your choices. Visit or revisit college campuses before you make your decision.
- **Financial Aid Awards:** Evaluate any financial aid awards you might receive to see which one best suits your financial need. Talk to the Financial Aid Officer at the different colleges to obtain additional information.
- **Housing:** Research housing opportunities.
- **SIR:** By May 1, notify each college of your decision to **attend or not**. Make sure you follow **all instructions**. **Document that your SIR was completed by deadline and that you have proof of deposit.**

MAY

- **Financial Aid:** Make sure you accept the financial aid award from the college you decide to attend. Find out from the college you choose what else you need to do, if anything, to establish and maintain your eligibility for financial aid.
- **AP'S:** Take Advanced Placement exams if you want college credit for your courses.
- **CSU/UC Additional Tests:** Take additional required tests if you have been notified by CSU or UC to take them.
- **On-Campus Orientation:** Return forms for on-campus orientation programs for the campus you will be attending.
- **Thanks:** Thank those who helped you including your teachers, especially those who wrote recommendations. Let them know your college plans.

JUNE

- **Transcripts:** Request our Registrar to send your final transcript to the college you plan to attend.

Congratulations and enjoy your summer!

