MIDDLE SCHOOL

• Our #1 tip: **start early**!

• Start thinking about your future career and explore different jobs that match your interests.

• Earn good grades and get to know your teachers. Take the most advanced math courses available to you and in which you can be successful.

• Start reading for pleasure to build up your vocabulary!

• Get involved in clubs, sports and other programs that you can continue in high school.

• Plan your high school coursework with a counselor. Keep the **UC “a-g” requirements** in mind—each UC campus requires these classes for college admission!
UC “a-g” REQUIREMENTS

a: History/social science: 2 years
b: English: 4 years
c: Mathematics: 3 years required, 4 years recommended
d: Laboratory science: 2 years required, 3 years recommended
e: Language other than English: 2 years required, 3 years recommended
f: Visual and performing arts: 1 year
g: College-preparatory elective: 1 year
9th GRADE

• Plan ahead for courses that will prepare you for college. Do your best to earn good grades and a good GPA.

• Join clubs, activities and sports and continue them through your high school career!

• Make a list of colleges you might be interested in attending. Add UCSB!

• Create a résumé that documents your accomplishments.

• Keep an activity log—what do you do? How many hours per week and how many weeks per year are you involved?
10th GRADE

• Discuss standardized test options with your counselor and take the PSAT exam, a pre-SAT exam to help you prepare for the SAT with Essay.

• Keep in mind that colleges look at leadership and involvement in your school and community. **Stay involved!**

• Ask your counselor about classes you can take for college credit.

• Think about summer employment to start saving for college.
11th GRADE

• Take the **ACT with Writing** or the **SAT with Essay**. UCSB requires one of these tests in order to apply.

• Continue polishing your résumé and adding new accomplishments.

• Begin visiting colleges and taking campus tours. Be sure to ask your tour guides about university life—they are often current students!

• Research scholarship deadlines and ask teachers for letters of recommendation.

• Research summer options at universities. UCSB hosts multiple summer programs for high school students.

• Attend online webinars hosted by UCSB to prepare for applying to college.

• Take on leadership roles!
12th GRADE

• Review your ACT with Writing or SAT with Essay results. Retest no later than December, if necessary.

• List requirements and deadlines for your top schools and submit your applications on time! The UC application is due by November 30.

• Don’t miss the UCSB Spring Insight Open House in April.

• Review your acceptance letters and make your final decision—you’re college-bound!
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