

TEN STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

- 1. Get to know the College Center.** Schedule an appointments, check email regularly, attend workshops, college rep visits
(palihigh.org - "For Students" - "College Center"; Questions? palicollege@aol.com)
- 2. Activate and use Family Connection** (test prep, college research, surveys);
(<http://connection.naviance.com/pchs>; access codes distributed in history class last year; see us if you are new at Pali or have misplaced/forgotten)
- 3. Understand UC/CSU admissions;** "a through g" requirements, testing requirements, application process and admission standards; "D" and "F" grades (ucop.edu/doorways, universityofcalifornia.edu and csumentor.edu)
- 4. Research admissions standards to develop college list; apply broadly and appropriately!** (Family Connection, campus tours, collegeboard.com, individual college website, college rep visits to Pali)
- 5. Know the financial aid application process and estimate your financial aid eligibility** (www.finaid.org or www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov)

- 6. Register and prepare for SAT/ACT** (free course on Family Connection, Princeton Review course starts 2/9/12) (collegeboard.com, actstudent.org)

- 7. Set up filing system to keep track of paperwork**

- 8. Prepare extracurricular resume** (volunteer, sports, job, clubs, hobbies)

- 9. Plan for summer and for an academically rigorous senior year**

- 10. Brainstorm and draft essays; meet with writing coach this spring**