Welcome back to a new school year. We would also like to welcome the new and returning College Advisor Aides placed at your school sites. Their names, hours and location are noted on pages 4 of this newsletter. Please see the CAA anytime you need assistance during their posted work hours.

We have many activities planned for the coming year. We will be conducting College Options, Study Skills, UC and CSU workshops at the school sites. Letters will be sent to your home informing you of the activities with day and time. Financial aid day and evening workshops will take place in January and February.

Cultural field trips are being planned for the 9th and 10th graders at certain school sites. This year we will be visiting to the tide pools at Leo Carrillo State Park. The Twenty-seventh Annual Career/College Information (CCID) will be held on the CSULB campus on March 17, 2006. All 10th grade participants will be invited to attend. The CCID will include a keynote speaker, workshops on various careers and educational programs.

Field Trips to tour local college campuses for eleventh grade participants are being scheduled for February, March, and April. Please contact your CAA for information on any of the above items.

Visit the EIS/TS Web site at www.csulb.edu/eists. Check the activities page frequently for current and upcoming program activities. Feel free to e-mail us with any question you may have at eists@csulb.edu or call (562) 985-5388.

Events for 2005-2006

Website Resources

Universities and Colleges

- **UC Online Application**
  www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply
- **UC Paper Copy**
  www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/undergrad_adm/apply/download.html
- **UC Personal Statement Tutorial for Students**
  www.ucgateways.org
- **CSU Online Application**
  www.csumentor.edu
- **California Independent Colleges and Universities**
  www.aiccumentor.edu
- **California Community Colleges**
  www.cccco.edu
  www.icanaffordcollege.com
- **General College Search**
  www.collegeview.com
  www.cacollegeguide.com
  www.collegeispossible.org
  www.hbcumentor.org

Careers

- **www.mycoolcareer.com**
- **www.bls.gov/k12**
- **www.careervoyages.gov**
- **Exploring Majors**
  www.assist.org

Testing

- **College Board**
  www.collegeboard.com
- **ACT**
  www.act.org
- **Practice Tests**
  www.4tests.com

Financial Aid

- **California Student Aid Commission**
  www.csac.ca.gov
- **FAFSA**
  www.fafsa.ed.gov
Prospective students should give priority to completing the high school courses required for admission—the “a-g” Subject requirements. You should understand, however, that the 15 college prep courses from the approved “a–g” requirements represent the minimum admission standards. The universities strongly recommend, but do not require, that students complete additional coursework in many of the “a–g” subjects. Below is a comparison chart of the minimum eligibility requirements for freshmen planning to apply to the CSU or UC with exceptions noted. Each high school has a UC-approved course list that is available from your counselor or at www.ucop.edu/pathways.

Your high school GPA will be calculated using only “a–g” approved courses taken after the 9th grade, including the summer between grades 9 and 10, with a “C” or better for both the CSU and UC. Bonus points may be awarded for up to eight grades (or four units) of “C” or better in approved honors courses taken in grades 10 and 11, with a maximum of 2 of these units completed in the 10th grade. Grades earned in ninth grade are not used in the GPA calculation. CSU has no restriction on the number of times a course may be repeated; for UC a course that was not completed with a grade of “C” or better can be repeated only once. Courses where “D” grades are earned must be repeated, EXCEPT in the areas of math, chemistry, and language other than English, where “D” grades can be validated by successful completion of higher level coursework.

Courses in mathematics and languages other than English completed in the seventh and eighth grades with grades of “C” or better may be counted toward the Subject Requirement. Grades are not calculated into the “a–g” GPA.

The ACT or SAT Reasoning Test is required for both systems. CSU may combine the best verbal and math scores from multiple sittings of SAT and may combine best sub-scores from multiple ACT tests to calculate a best composite. UC will only take the best score from a single SAT Reasoning Test sitting. UC also requires two SAT Subject Tests in two different subject areas.

### A–G Subject Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Requirements</th>
<th>Cal State University</th>
<th>University of California</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>a. History/Social Science</strong></td>
<td>2 years of history/social science, including one year of US history or one semester of US History, and one semester of American Government and one year of history or one semester of US History</td>
<td>1 year of history/social science from either the “a” or “g” subject area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>b. English</strong></td>
<td>4 years of English, which can include not more than one year of ESL/ELD courses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>c. Mathematics</strong></td>
<td>3 years of math (algebra I and II, geometry)—4 years recommended</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>d. Laboratory Science</strong></td>
<td>2 years laboratory science including at least two of the three core disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics</td>
<td>Including 1 year of physical science and 1 year of biological science must be completed, one of which must be from the “d” subject area and the other from either “d” or “g” area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>e. Language Other than English</strong></td>
<td>2 years of language other than English (must be the same language)</td>
<td>3 years recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>f. Visual &amp; Performing Arts</strong></td>
<td>1 yearlong course in visual and performing arts (selected from dance, music, theatre/drama, or visual arts)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>g. College Preparatory Elective</strong></td>
<td>1 year elective chosen from any of the areas on the approved a-g course list</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
California State University

There are 23 campuses across the State of California from which to apply each with unique aspects that are important ranging from academic programs to physical settings. The priority application filing period is October 1 to November 30. CSU Chico, Fullerton, Long Beach and Sonoma are impacted for first-time freshmen and must apply during the initial filing period. San Diego State is impacted at all undergraduate class levels and San Luis Obispo continues to be impacted on all majors.

The preferred method of application is to apply on-line through CSUMentor at www.csumentor.edu. Downloadable paper applications will also be available at this site. The application fee is $55 per campus. There are fee waivers available for students who qualify. Fee waivers are automatically approved if you qualify when you apply online and will waive the fee for up to 6 schools. New this year, students may now apply for the Educational Opportunity Program online.

The average cost of attendance at a CSU averages around $10,952 for the year for those commuting from home and $16,431 for those living away from home on or off campus. This includes student and health fees but does not include books and supplies, meals and housing and transportation costs.

Each CSU campus, except Maritime, has an Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) for low-income undergraduate students who are California residents and are disadvantaged because of their economic and educational backgrounds. Students with a history of low income who need academic and financial assistance may apply for the program. EOP accepts students who do not meet regular admission criteria, as well as those who qualify for regular admission. Students interested in applying to EOP must check “yes” to the appropriate questions on the CSU application. You will also be required to submit the forms in the EOP application booklet. If you apply online, you can link to the EOP application if you indicate that you are interested in EOP.

The 9 UC campuses available to first-time freshmen offer a wide range of undergraduate programs. The application filing period for admission into a UC campus for Fall 2006 is November 1–30, 2005. Applications will be available October 1 to begin filling out the application. All applications must be postmarked by November 30 to be considered for admission. One application may be used for any or all of the UC campuses, a $60 processing fee is required for each location.

A personal statement is required to be considered for admission and is an important part of the application. The University uses your statement to learn more about you as an individual—your talents, experiences, achievements and points of view. The personal statement allows you to explain unusual circumstances in your academic career and provide a more complete picture of yourself. This year the prompts have changed and each applicant is required to address each area 1) Academic Preparation, 2) Potential to Contribute, and 3) Open-ended. The personal statement is not solely a sample of writing skills although appropriate grammar, level of usage and spelling are expected; it is not an exhaustive listing of activities, honors, and/or awards (these should be noted on Part V of the Application) but rather a judicious selection of important indicators; and it is not an exaggeration of problems but an acceptance of responsibility for choices and behaviors. Please check with your counselor or EIS/TS College Advisor Aide as they have outlines provided by a few UC schools on what to address for each prompt.

The average University fee are $6,780. Adding books and supplies, room and board and transportation increases this estimated cost to $22,150 per year. Financial aid is available to students who qualify and College INFO will dedicate the Winter issue to this subject.

The Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) provides assistance to students from disadvantaged backgrounds. To apply, check the appropriate items on the application and discuss your reasons for applying to EOP in your personal statement.

Please note on question 50 you are a participant of EIS/Talent Search by coding in 8 and note that we are a pre-college assistance program. The College Advisor Aide (CAA) will be able to assist you with the dates and hours.
The California Community Colleges are a system of two-year public colleges. There are 109 community colleges throughout the state. The colleges serve 2.8 million students each year and represent the largest system of higher education in the world. College programs may consist of one course or a series of courses leading to a technical/vocational certificate, an associate degree, or preparation to transfer to four-year universities and colleges. All California Community Colleges offer courses that meet lower-division requirements (first two years) of a four-year university.

Vocational programs are unique at each California Community College campus. They prepare students for entry-level employment and career advancement in such fields as law enforcement, animal husbandry, crop production, computer science, computer graphics applications, fire science, electronics, automotive engineering, nursing, accounting, dental assisting and broadcasting. Many colleges work closely with business and industry to offer programs tailored to their employment needs.

Students should contact the community college's admission office or go to the college's web page for a complete listing and description of programs.

California residents are charged $26 per unit for community college courses. A typical course is 3 or 4 units, for a cost of $78 to $104. A student who enrolls in 12 units is considered a full-time student - that student would pay $26 x 12 units = $312 per semester. Colleges may also charge for class materials and add fees for things like health services, parking and student government. Other costs associated with your education include books, supplies, transportation to campus and food and housing. The cost of books varies due to number of courses and number of books required for each course. A full-time student should generally plan on spending approximately $420 each semester for books and supplies.
If you are planning to enroll in a four-year institution as a freshman, one or more of the tests described will be required for admission. The three main tests required are ACT or SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject Tests. Most schools want the scores by the December test dates to determine eligibility for admission. Fee waivers are available to those who qualify.

### ACT ASSESSMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
<th>Late Registration (Last day)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 24, 2005</td>
<td>August 19, 2005</td>
<td>September 2, 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 22, 2005</td>
<td>September 16, 2005</td>
<td>September 30, 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 10, 2005</td>
<td>November 4, 2005</td>
<td>November 17, 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8, 2006</td>
<td>March 3, 2006</td>
<td>March 17, 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 10, 2006</td>
<td>May 5, 2006</td>
<td>May 19, 2006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SAT REASONING and SAT SUBJECT TEST

#### SAT Reasoning
- Must take the Reading, Math and Writing sections at each sitting
- Writing score not required for CSU
- Fee $41.50

#### SAT Subject Test
- 14 Subject Tests
- Can take up to three Subject Tests during a given test
- 2 exams in different areas required for UC
- UC will accept the two highest scores
- Fee $42 - $53

*Not all SAT II subject tests are available on the days provided. For more information, please check the College Board Web site at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) or the registration booklet.*

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**Admission Exam Dates**

For more information on exam costs—both regular and late registration—check out the SAT website ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)) and ACT Website ([www.act.org](http://www.act.org)).

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**ACT ASSESSMENT**

- Four multiple choice tests in English, Reading, Science and Math
- No penalty for incorrect answers
- Writing Test
  - Optional
  - Extra Charge
  - Maybe required or admissions and or course placement purpose
- Will be required for UC and some private schools
- Fee $29, Plus Writing $43

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**SAT REASONING and SAT SUBJECT TEST**

* Not all SAT II subject tests are available on the days provided. For more information, please check the College Board Web site at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) or the registration booklet.
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Marvin DaCosta  
Coordinator

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Program Assistant

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