

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER (CCC) NEWSLETTER



2016 National Blue Ribbon School
2017 California Gold Ribbon School



NOVEMBER 30, 2022

Provided by [Mrs. Mertel, WHS College & Career Guidance Specialist](#)

The College & Career Center (CCC) is open daily from 7:30-3:00. Students requesting work permits are welcome during Nutrition & Lunch ONLY.

Every Wednesday is "Wear Your Favorite College Shirt Day" for students & staff. Show off by wearing your favorite school colors! ROLL TIDE ROLL from Mrs. Mertel!

(Ctrl+Click to follow hyperlinks)

IN THIS ISSUE:

- [College Visits – Sign up on Naviance!](#)
- [The Coolidge Scholarship for Juniors](#)
- [AP Exam Registration continues with price increase – Deadline March 1st](#)
- [Upcoming Workshops for Students & Parents](#)
- [Moorpark College 2023 – Special workshops for students applying for Fall 2023](#)
- [Enrichment Opportunities](#)
- [College Application and Planning Information](#)
- [Westlake High School: "Spartan Select" School with Michigan State University](#)
- [Scholarships – Check WHS CCC Scholarships Page](#)
- [Financial Aid Information](#)
- [ACT/SAT Information & Test Preparation Resources](#)
- [Volunteer & Job Opportunities and Career Exploration – Check WHS CCC Jobs Page](#)
- [Work Permits](#)

WHS WORKSHOPS COMING SOON:

- **UCLA Tarjan Center: Transition from High School to College for Students with Developmental Disabilities**
Wednesday, December 7 at 6:00pm for students & parents – VIRTUAL Zoom for Students & Parents
Register at: <https://bit.ly/3VAqkkt>
- **Moorpark College FAFSA Assistance**
Thursday, December 8 at 3:30pm for students & parents – VIRTUAL Zoom in the CCC
Join: <https://vcccd-edu.zoom.us/j/86323484538?pwd=QVI1aDFPRjFIZGh0eTZUNXpxUWtiZz09>
- **Moorpark College Admissions**
Wednesday, January 11 at 7:45am in the Carpenter Theatre
For students planning to attend Fall 2023. Moorpark Outreach will review the application process, steps to receive priority registration, & additional student resources available for success at Moorpark.
- **PSAT Scores are expected to be released to Students December 5/6. What happens next?**
Wednesday, January 18 at 6:30pm – Join Revolution Prep for a VIRTUAL presentation on what the scores mean and what next steps students should consider for college preparation & admissions.
RSVP at www.revolutionprep.com/partners/64072

COLLEGE VISITS IN THE COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

All college visits will be held in the College & Career Center unless otherwise specified. Access Naviance through your Google Learn account in the upper right hand corner Application Grid/Drop-down Menu & select Naviance.

Scheduled College Visits 12/5-12/7

Sign up on Naviance & complete Google Form <https://forms.gle/EaTpeMAYRrvLrFkK6> for hall pass

- **Grand Canyon University** – Monday, December 5 at 10:30 in CCC
- **Northern Arizona University** – Wednesday, December 7 at 10:30 in CCC

[BACK TO TOP](#)

The Coolidge Scholarship for Juniors

[Coolidge Scholarship](#) - now open for current Juniors

The Coolidge Scholarship is a full-ride, four-year, merit scholarship that may be used by recipients for undergraduate study at any accredited college or university in the United States. Any high school junior who plans to enroll in college in the fall of 2024 and is an American citizen or legal permanent resident is eligible to apply (current high school seniors are not eligible to apply). Winners may use the scholarship to pursue any academic major.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

AP EXAM REGISTRATION – still available through March 1st

Students can still register for AP exams; however, the Late Fee is now in effect.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Mertel, rmertel@conejousd.org in the College & Career Center

1. **Students planning to self-study for an exam**, must also JOIN with a self-study code & PAY. Email Mrs. Mertel for the self-study code.
2. **JOIN** using your College Board MyAP username and password. Log into *AP Classroom* to join a course or take an exam. Instructions can be found at College Board AP ([here](#)). <https://bit.ly/JOINAPCLASSESECTION> Students must register with the appropriate Join Code for each exam they wish to take. Mrs. Mertel can supply the correct codes.
2. **PAY** for AP exams by using a credit card only through your Google Chrome browser via the District's *Q Parent Payment Portal*; instructions are found here: <https://bit.ly/CVQPAY> .

2023 AP EXAM FEES

- Standard Fee is now \$145
- Reduced Fee (plus Late Fee) will be applied on all exams for students enrolled in the *Federal Student Lunch Program* (see counselor). - \$45/exam
- Late Registration Fee is now effective:
 - After November 1st for first semester and full-year courses
 - After March 1st for second semester courses

- Cancel Fee is \$50 per exam and is applied as follows:
 - After November 1st for first semester and full-year courses
 - After March 1st for second semester courses
 - Refund Requests: Complete Google Form using Student Learn account: [LINK here](#)

[BACK TO TOP](#)

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

➤ **UCLA Tarjan Center: Transition from High School to College for Students with Developmental Disabilities**

Wednesday, December 7 at 6:00pm for students & parents – VIRTUAL Zoom
 Register at: <https://bit.ly/3VAqkkt>

➤ **FAFSA/CADAA Workshop—Step by Step assistance to complete your FAFSA**

Thursday, December 8 at 3:30pm

Are you a senior & need help applying for financial aid for college? The CCC will be holding **monthly workshops with Financial Aid Counselors** to help you & your parents get your FSA ID and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for U.S. citizens or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) for AB540 students. The meetings with the counselors will be virtual, but you can come to the CCC to participate & get assistance.

What do you need for the webinar?

- Your parents and your **FSA ID** (For FAFSA filers ONLY) or **Dream Act Account** (For CADAA filers)
- Driver's License, if you have one
- Social Security Card, if you have one
- Alien Registration Card, if you have one
- ITIN, if you have one
- List of colleges you are interested in to list on the applications
- Most current bank statements
- Any records of untaxed income
- 2020 tax information (1040's and W2's)
 - This includes your parents' tax information if you are a dependent student.
 - Not sure? Click here: [Am I an independent or dependent student?](#)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://vcccd-edu.zoom.us/j/86323484538?pwd=QVI1aDFPRjFIZGh0eTZUNXpxUWtiZz09>

Meeting ID: 863 2348 4538

Passcode: 529850

Next meeting will be Thursday, January 12 at 3:30pm

➤ **Moorpark College Admissions**

Wednesday, January 11 at 7:45am in the Carpenter Theatre

For students planning to attend Fall 2023. Moorpark Outreach will review the application process, steps to receive priority registration, & additional student resources available for success at Moorpark.

➤ **PSAT Scores are expected to be released to Students December 5/6. What happens next?**

Wednesday, January 18 at 6:30pm – Join Revolution Prep for a VIRTUAL presentation on what the scores mean and what next steps students should consider for college preparation & admissions. During this presentation, you will discover:

- How do you compare the SAT and ACT?
- What about your child's PSAT/NMSQT score is valuable...and what isn't.
- How to secure a scholarship from the PSAT.

RSVP at www.revolutionprep.com/partners/64072

➤ **Landmark College Open House – VIRTUAL**

Friday, January 6, 10am – 2:00pm PST

Landmark College – *the* college for students who learn differently – will host an **Online Open House on Friday, January 6, 2023**. If you have students who could benefit from Landmark College's comprehensive approach to educating neurodiverse students, please encourage them to register and attend!

This afternoon program (10-2 p.m. PST) will include Q&A panel sessions with current students and staff. Families can also chat privately with our counselors about the admissions process, including online options and transferring in the spring for our Bridge Experience.

[Click to Register](#)

If students apply to Landmark College before or during the Open House, **they will be eligible to win prizes such as an iPad**, Shark USB drives, gift baskets, Landmark clothing, and more.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

UPCOMING MOORPARK COLLEGE EVENTS FOR WHS SENIORS 2023

WED, JAN 11
7:45-8:30 AM

INFORMATION SESSION -INTRO TO MOORPARK
IN PERSON IN THE CARPENTER THEATRE

APPLICATION WORKSHOPS in Library
MC COUNSELORS WILL HELP YOU COMPLETE
YOUR APPLICATION STEP-BY STEP

TUESDAY, JAN 24
12:45-1:21 PM

MC COUNSELORS WILL HELP YOU SET UP YOUR
MyVCCCD STUDENT PORTAL & ANSWER ANY
OTHER APPLICATION QUESTIONS

THURS, FEB 16
12:45-1:21 PM

STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE THE ONLINE
ORIENTATION TO GET PRIORITY REGISTRATION

TBD

MOORPARK RAIDER, SET, GO!
MC COUNSELORS WILL HELP YOU COMPLETE YOUR
EDUCATION PLAN SO YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR
PRIORITY REGISTRATION

*STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE APPLICATION,
ONLINE ORIENTATION, & EDUCATION PLAN BEFORE
THEY CAN REGISTER FOR CLASSES DURING
"REGISTRATION ROCKS"

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT MRS. MERTEL
RMERTEL@CONEJOUSSD.ORG

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[BACK TO TOP](#)

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

➤ Hackathon by the Sea 2023 – January 6 & 7

VCOE is proud to announce its annual Hackathon by The Sea on **January 6-7, 2023**. We are excited to offer this **in-person, overnight** event to **high school** students. Technologists from VCOE, Hacker Fund, the Navy, and many of our industry partners will be hosting workshops that will expose your students to the skills and concepts they need to be competitive in emerging job markets related to CTE industry pathways.

As a preview of the hackathon, **here are some outcomes** you can expect for your students:

- Students will learn to work in teams
- Students will complete technology projects in real world technology production settings
- Students will learn hard and soft skills associated with careers in S.T.E.A.M.
- Students will form collegial relationships with their peers, simulating real world situations.
- Students will learn how to develop relationships with industry mentors
- Students will learn to pitch their ideas, projects, and team accomplishments

Please note that we encourage **all** high school students, regardless of their coding experience (or lack of) to participate.

Registration for the hackathon is now LIVE! Students can register on the VCOE website: <https://www.vcoe.org/hackathon>.



The flyer for 'Hackathon By The Sea 2023' features a blue background with a photo of students working on laptops. At the top, logos for the Office of Education, NAVSEA, STEM, HACKERFUND, and NAWC are displayed. The main text reads 'HACKATHON BY THE SEA 2023' in large white letters, followed by 'January 6 & 7' and '5pm January 6 through 2:30pm January 7'. The location is 'VCOE Conference Center - 5100 Adolfo Rd., Camarillo'. Below this, it says 'Workshops and Mentoring from Industry Experts!' and 'Register Today!' with the URL 'https://www.vcoe.org/hackathon'. At the bottom, a list of activities includes: 'BRING A TEAM OR JOIN A TEAM AT THE EVENT', 'WIN FUN PRIZES', 'MAKE NEW FRIENDS', 'MEET INDUSTRY EXPERTS', 'AWESOME WORKSHOPS', 'BUILD YOUR FIRST GAME', 'BUILD A MOBILE APP', and 'LEARN TO CODE'.

➤ **USC Summer Programs – Applications now open**

Summer programs run from June 18 to July 15.

Join us for an academically rigorous, socially packed 4-week summer experience. Whether you are interested in discovering some common and unusual aspects of the brain in everyday life and under abnormal circumstances or developing a character from a short story to put into a college portfolio, USC Summer Programs allows you to take intellectual risks, hone your skills, discover your passions, and kick start your college experience!

Choose from over 20 courses in multiple disciplines — from business and engineering to acting and creative writing, there's a wide range of courses and subjects for you to explore.

➤ **Stevens Institute of Technology PAID virtual summer research program:**

The [School of Business at Stevens Institute of Technology](#) is offering a paid virtual summer research program for high school students. In this six-week program, students will have the opportunity to work alongside a faculty member from the School of Business and assist them with research in their area of study such as management, leadership, or finance. The final assignment will include a PowerPoint presentation detailing their research findings. The program will run from July 1, 2023, through August 12, 2023, and students will receive a \$500 stipend after completing the program. The attached flyer can be uploaded on your school's website.

Eligibility: Applicants must currently be in their junior year of high school (no exceptions).

Deadline: Applications are due by March 1, 2023.

Notification: Applicants will be notified by April 1, 2023.

The application packet will include all the following:

- 1-page essay in which you describe yourself and detail what you hope to gain from this experience
- a copy of your current resume
- a copy of your unofficial high school transcript
- one letter of recommendation from a teacher, a guidance counselor, or a work supervisor. *These letters can also be emailed directly to Lindsay Hartelius at lharteli@stevens.edu.*

➤ **USC Bovard Scholars for Students with financial need – application open now**

We invite all high-achieving high school juniors with financial need to [apply](#).

Do you or someone you know fit these requirements?

- Junior in high school (11th grader) at time of application
- Currently hold a 4.0 GPA or above
- Enrolled in Algebra II, Trigonometry or above
- Demonstrate financial need

If so, you are eligible to [apply](#).

If selected, each Bovard Scholar will have one full year of support through the admissions cycle and spend three weeks on the USC campus, where they will receive:

- Personalized career exploration
- Expert admission and financial aid support
- Comprehensive test preparation
- Leadership development

This year, the summer intensive runs from July 10, 2023, through July 29, 2023.

We offer the program at no cost to students or families. USC will pay for transportation to and from campus for students coming from outside of Southern California.

Applications are due January 13, 2023, at 5:00 pm PST.

- **Oxbridge Academic Programs: Saturday, December 10, 2-4:00pm**
OAP is hosting an information reception for students/parents to learn more about their summer academic programs. Location: Kimpton Hotel Palomar in Beverly Hills



[BACK TO TOP](#)

COLLEGE APPLICATION and PLANNING INFORMATION

- **Common Application**: The essay prompts for Fall 2023 are posted at <https://www.commonapp.org/apply/essay-prompts>

Step-by-Step Common Application Assistance available: AXS Companion

As many of you begin applying to college, we want you to know about a new, free, open online resource! [The AXS Companion](#) will help guide you and answer your questions as you apply to college using [Common App](#). The AXS Companion and Common App can be used side-by-side on a phone, tablet, or laptop!



- **Standout Admissions Network (formerly Coalition Application)**: A different application platform similar to the Common Application with over 150 college/university members. Essay prompt is available online.

- **University of California application:** Application opens August 1. *Submission of completed applications is October 1-November 30.*

UC's do NOT need recommendation letters. SAT/ACT test scores will not be required.

UC's will be reviewing all applicants holistically for Fall 2023 class.

Application fee is \$70/campus. <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/>

Recording of UC Application Workshop 10/25/2022 is [HERE](#)

- **California State University application:** Application opened **October 1st**. *Deadline for submission of completed application is November 30.*

CSU's do NOT need recommendation letters. SAT/ACT test scores will be OPTIONAL and will be used for college level math & English course placement only.

Application fee is \$70/campus. <https://www2.calstate.edu/>

For Campus Events & Open Houses, go to: <https://www.calstate.edu/apply/choosing-a-campus/Pages/campus-events.aspx>

- **ACT/SAT Testing:** Many colleges are still TEST OPTIONAL for Fall 2023. There may be exceptions for athletes or home-schooled students. Make sure to check the colleges on your list to verify their policy for admissions.

Students may select on the Common Application whether they want test scores included or not in their review. If required, colleges/universities will accept either ACT or SAT for admissions. The last date accepted for most college applications is the December test date. Try to allow taking the test 2-3 times, if possible. Colleges will always take the best score & some even Superscore and take the best composite subject scores from different test dates.

Should I submit my scores or not? This is a common question posed by many students & is ultimately a personal decision. In general, if a student “feels good” about their score and did “better than the college's published average”, then submit it.

Special FREE Resources:

- **Northwestern University** YouTube channel recordings available

- [How to Write an Effective College Essay](#)
- [Admission Interviews](#)
- [Anatomy of a Holistic Review](#)

- **Revolution Prep:** [Back to School Toolkit](#)

What's inside?

You'll learn:

- The most common fears and struggles that may occur as students head back to school and start a new grade

- The importance of prioritization, organization, and time-management as students start a new school year
 - Why academic stress is normal, why it's ok, and how you can manage it
 - How AP courses and more rigorous courses can set you apart from other students in the college admissions process
 - And the difference between tutoring and remediation work
- **UC Irvine:** <https://admissions.uci.edu/discover/why-uci/publications.php>
- **Franklin University Switzerland:** [Undergraduate Liberal Arts Majors in Switzerland \(fus.edu\)](http://www.fus.edu)

[BACK TO TOP](#)

WHS: A SPARTAN SELECT SCHOOL AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Consider adding Michigan State University to your college list!

Westlake High School has been designated as a SPARTAN Select school. What does this mean?

This Spartan Select designation is only for selected schools in CA. All Westlake High School students admitted to Michigan State will be eligible to receive a **4-year renewable grant up to \$15,000**.

Students will also receive a one-time study abroad award of \$3,000 to \$5,000, and if eligible, students can receive additional legacy and/or honors college awards. Students will see this new award reflected in their packages within 10 business days. Please note this award may replace some other MSU awards that have already been offered. This is MERIT scholarship awarded regardless of income!!!

The following potential academic awards are available, if eligible:

- a. \$15,000 scholarship to admitted students. (Reducing the \$50,149 cost for tuition, room, and board to \$35,149)
- b. An additional \$1,250 award per year to alumni dependents
- c. One-time study abroad scholarship of \$3,000 to \$5,000.
- d. Additional scholarships for honors students
- e. In-state tuition for military dependents. (Room, board, and tuition approximately \$26,000. NO OTHER above awards apply.)

Michigan State University GUARANTEED Scholarships for accepted WHS students – Min. \$15,000 regardless of income - [MSU Presentation Recording available HERE](#)

[BACK TO TOP](#)

SCHOLARSHIPS

SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS ARE FREE MONEY THAT DO NOT NEED TO BE REPAYED.

CAUTION: YOU SHOULD NEVER PAY TO RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS.

Scholarships usually require applications & some form of essay/personal statement. Some scholarships are based on merit/achievements, and some are based on financial need. **There are many reputable websites that can help you find scholarships (Fast Web, Cappex, Scholarships.com, Sallie Mae, etc.) Your Naviance account includes many local scholarships (Naviance/Colleges/Scholarship & Money).**

It is not too early for seniors to be thinking of scholarship opportunities to help pay for college. Many of the large Foundation scholarships occur from October-December (Coca-Cola, Elks, Ventura County Community Foundation, etc.). Local scholarships generally occur in the spring from January-May (Westlake Fan Club Foundation, Rotary, Westlake Women's Club, etc.).

As you complete your applications for admission, make sure that you research & apply for university-specific scholarships for which you may be eligible (BEFORE you are accepted!). You don't have to be accepted to apply at many schools.

This is NOT a complete listing. Make sure you check Naviance or other scholarship site.

➤ [Edison Scholars](#) (deadline 12/9) for STEM majors

The Edison Scholars Program recognizes students who plan to pursue a college degree in science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM).

➤ [GE-Reagan Scholarship](#) (deadline 1/5/23)

The GE-Reagan Scholarship opened October 17th & offers \$40,000 scholarships for high school seniors nationwide who showcase leadership, drive, integrity, & citizenship.

➤ [Ventura County Community Foundation \(VCCF\)](#)

(FINAL hard deadline 1/20/2023)

The VCCF Foundation offers over 90 scholarships which Seniors may apply with a single application. The Application opens November 15th. <https://vccf.org/scholarships/>

[List of Scholarships available is HERE](#)

Webinars to help you with the application:

Dec 1, 2022 06:00 PM PST – [Open Forum](#)

Dec 5, 2022 05:00 PM PST – [Essay Workshop](#)

Dec 13, 2022 05:30 PM PST – [Using VCCF Scholarship Guidelines](#)

Dec 19, 2022 02:00 PM PST – [Letters of Reference Workshop](#)

Dec 30, 2022 11:00 AM PST – [Open Forum](#)

Jan 5, 2023 03:30 PM PST – [Open Forum](#)

Jan 11, 2023 05:30 PM PST – [Financial Questions & Extra Curriculars](#)

➤ **ACSA Essay Contest (deadline 1/27/2023)**

The Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) is holding their annual High School Senior Essay Contest. The top 3 winners from each of Region 13's seven Charters will receive cash prizes and first place will move on to Region.

The essay prompt for this year is: "How has a teacher, administrator, secretary, custodian or other school staff member made a positive impact on your life whether at school, in the community and/or at home?"

Please consider participating in this essay contest opportunity. See the attached flyer for more information.



The Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) High School Senior Essay Contest is open to all public high school mid-term and graduating seniors.

- Entrants must submit an essay based on the prompt given
- The top 3 winners from each of Region 13's seven Charters will receive cash prizes.
- The essay which wins first place from each Charter will be forwarded to the Region
- The top 3 winning essays at the Region level will also receive cash prizes.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR ESSAY CONTEST

Essay Prompt:

"How has a teacher, administrator, secretary, custodian or other school staff member made a positive impact on your life whether at school, in the community and/or at home?"

There are many important things that stand out in your education. It could be an administrator who really made a difference. It could be a certain program or school event. It could be a combination of these or other factors.

A flyer for the ACSA Essay Contest. It features a central blue circle with 'PRIZES' and 'Each CHARTER Will Award' and lists prizes: 1st Place \$300, 2nd Place \$200, and 3rd Place \$100. To the right is a box with 'ALL ENTRIES MUST FOLLOW THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES: ESSAY MUST BE' and a list of requirements: Typed, Double Spaced; 2 to 4 Pages in Length; Have a Separate Title Page with: Student's Name, School Name, Home Address, Telephone Number. Below this is another box: 'ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY YOUR LOCAL ACSA CHARTER ON OR BEFORE: January 27, 2023. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. MAIL OR SCAN ENTRIES TO: [redacted] maricruz.hernandez@oxnardunion.org'. To the right is another blue circle with 'PRIZES' and 'ACSA REGION 13 Will Award' and lists prizes: 1st Place \$500, 2nd Place \$300, and 3rd Place \$200. At the bottom left is a box: 'FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL CHARTER REPRESENTATIVE AT: [redacted] slepire@conejouid.org]'.

➤ **Conejo Open Space Foundation Scholarship (deadline 2/15/2023)**

\$1000 scholarship for students interested in pursuing an environmental studies-related career

➤ **National Latino Peace Officer's Association of Ventura County (NLPOAVC) (deadline 3/3/2023)**

\$1000 for students demonstrating community service and/or involvement

➤ **Italian Catholic Federation Scholarship (deadline 4/1/2023)**

For students that are Roman Catholic and of Italian Descent

➤ **Sierra Pacific Flyfishers Foundation (deadline 5/15/2023)**

If you are a student seeking enrollment in a two or four year college program in the field of fisheries, natural resources, environmental sciences, forest resources, oceanography or a related field, we are offering an opportunity for a scholarship.

➤ College Board Big Future Opportunity Scholarships

College Board has a national program targeted for juniors to provide scholarship incentives for their completion of six college planning tasks. Upon completion of each task, the student's name will be added to a national drawing for the scholarship.



Qualify for
scholarships today
at **bigfuture.org/earn\$\$**.

➤ RAISE.ME

Many of you have concerns about how to make a college education more affordable. Through a program called RaiseMe, students can guarantee scholarships from 300+ colleges **as early as 9th grade**, making it easier to plan financially for school. RaiseMe has proven to be a great tool to motivate students in high schools throughout the U.S.

As an example:

- Get an A in a course (\$100 - \$1,000)
- Get a B in a course (\$50-\$600)
- Participate in a school club or sport (\$25 - \$250)
- And much more!

Here are a couple of easy ways to support your students in using this unique tool: 1) Ensure that your student creates an account at www.raise.me. 2) Encourage your student to regularly add good grades, community service, extracurricular activities, and other achievements to his or her RaiseMe Portfolio to earn micro-scholarships from colleges. 3) Visit www.raise.me/parents for more information. We hope using RaiseMe will make your student's path to college both more fun and affordable. If you have questions, I encourage you to contact Mrs. Mertel, rmertel@conejousd.org, or send an email to support@raise.me.

Students can download the smart phone app & create an account with RaiseMe at the following Westlake High School link:

<https://www.raise.me/join/westlake-high-ca>

How it works: If a student applies to a member college & is accepted, their financial aid letter will include their micro-scholarship. Colleges may have school-specific requirements for use of the micro-scholarships: Some colleges allow their use for specific-majors only, etc. Students should check with the colleges when they apply, to verify the college-specific criteria.

- **Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)** is an agreement among WICHE's 16 member states and territories, through which 160+ participating public colleges and universities provide steep nonresident tuition savings for Western students. Through WUE, eligible students can choose from hundreds of undergraduate programs outside their home state and pay no more than 150 percent of that institution's resident tuition rate. Since full nonresident college-tuition rates may exceed 300 percent of resident rates, WUE increases affordable higher-education choices for students, and minimizes the adverse impacts of student loan debt. WUE eligibility varies by campus. For more information, go to <https://www.wiche.edu/tuition-savings/wue/>

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

- **FAFSA for 2023-2024 school year is open NOW!**
- **Need help completing your FAFSA or CADAA?** FREE resources:
 - **Westlake has scheduled a series of MONTHLY workshops** with a Moorpark College Financial Aid counselor to help students & their families get an FSA ID and complete their FAFSA or CADAA. Mark the dates on your calendar. All sessions will be VIRTUAL.
<https://vcccd-edu.zoom.us/j/86323484538?pwd=QVl1aDFPRjFIZGh0eTZUNXpxUWtiZz09>
 - Thursday, December 8 from 3:30-4:30pm
 - Thursday, January 12 from 3:30-4:30pm
 - Thursday, February 9 from 3:30-4:30pm
 - **Moorpark College Virtual Assistance**
Financial Aid **Zoom workshops** occur every Tuesday from 4-6PM. We also offer **in person assistance** every day during normal business hours, Monday thru Thursday, 8:30 am-5pm, Fridays 8 am-11:30 am, in the Financial Aid Office at Moorpark College.
 - **Cash for College Workshops**
 - **CSAC Webinars** – virtual assistance with the CA Student Aid Commission

What is CASH for COLLEGE?

At our Cash for College events, our Financial Aid experts will help you apply for **FREE MONEY to use for college.**

You'll need to have some items ready when you attend a workshop.

Check the list for details!



- Your parents and your FSA ID (For FAFSA filers ONLY) or Dream Act Account (For CADAA filers)
- 2021 tax information (1040's and W2's)
 - This includes your parents' tax information if you are a dependent student.
- **Am I an independent or dependent student?**
- 2021 Other (untaxed) income information for Student/Parents
- Social Security Numbers (or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals - DACA number) for Student/Parents, if you have one
- Alien registration number (A#), if you have one
- Driver's license, if you have one
- ITIN, if you have one
- List of colleges you are interested in to list on the applications

- Most current bank statements

➤ **FREE Resources & Tools:**

- [Financial Aid Calculator \(SavingforCollege.com\)](#)

Financial aid eligibility is based on a student's financial need, which is the difference between the college's Cost of Attendance (COA) and the student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

- The COA is based on tuition, fees, room, board, books, supplies, equipment, transportation to/from college and miscellaneous expenses.
- The EFC is based on the student and parent income and assets, family size, number of children in college and other demographic factors.

This *federal* EFC is calculated based on the information reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Most colleges use the federal EFC for awarding their own financial aid funds in addition to government aid. Fewer than 200 colleges use a supplemental form called the CSS PROFILE to calculate an *institutional* EFC. These "PROFILE" colleges still use the federal EFC for awarding federal and state aid.

This calculator lets you estimate your child's EFC before you complete the FAFSA by answering a subset of the questions on the FAFSA. In most cases, a student with a lower EFC or higher COA will qualify for more financial aid. You can use the calculator to evaluate the impact of changes in income and assets on eligibility for need-based financial aid.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

ACT & SAT INFORMATION & TEST PREPARATION

Many schools are extending test-optional policies for the Fall 2023 college applicants. Students should check the admission requirements for the schools to which they apply.

Should I submit my scores or not? This is a common question posed by many students & is ultimately a personal decision. In general, if a student “feels good” about their score and did “better than” the specific college average score, then submit it.

What is an average score? Check the college website to see the average test score for their admitted students.

➤ **ACT Test Dates:** [my.act.org](https://www.act.org)

- Test Dates for 2022-2023: 12/10, 2/4, 4/8, 6/10, 7/15

➤ **SAT Test Dates:** Register & pay at [SAT.org](https://sat.collegeboard.org)

- Test dates for 2022-2023: 12/3, 3/11, 5/6, 6/3

➤ **Test Preparation Resources** ([see CCC website](#))

- **ACT & Kaplan Test Prep:** <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation/act-kaplan.html>

- **FREE Official SAT Test Prep with Khan Academy:** <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>

➤ **Revolution Test Prep \$200 Gift Card for WHS Students**

For November and December, we're offering a \$200 gift card toward private and small group tutoring. If you'd like Westlake High School families to be able to claim their holiday gift card, we've made it easy (as pumpkin pie 🍂).

[Click here to confirm your school's participation](#) and gain access to your complete set of materials, so you can share this opportunity with your families.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

VOLUNTEER & PAID EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES and CAREER EXPLORATION

- **Regency Agoura Hills hiring:** Complete the application with the following QR Code



➤ **Rotary Club of Westlake Village**

Looking for volunteers for Holidays in the Village Celebration on December 4th

Contact Volunteer Coordinators, Michelle Ramsey & Morgan Culbertson at HITVvolunteer@gmail.com

Sign up at: <https://forms.gle/SzMcDpoZfviydmp6>

Assignments include:

- Making & serving Euro-faire food & drinks.
- Help run Kris Kringle's Village.
- Supporting vendor booths.
- Taking tickets for holiday attractions
- Taking photos & videos for social media
- Direct traffic and support crowd safety
- Help with set-up, take-down & decorations
-

➤ **New West Symphony Winterfest Volunteers needed for Dec. 3rd**

The 1st Annual Winterfest event is a fundraiser for the New West Symphony.

Weblink <https://newwestsymphony.org/winterfest/>

We are looking for volunteers to help with the setup and take down of holiday decorations before and/or after the event and help with silent auction items.

Here is a rough timeline for Dec. 3rd: The event time is 4:30-7:30pm. Setup 10am-4pm. Concert 7:30pm-9:30pm Silent Auction item delivery help at 9:30pm. Takedown 10pm.

If interested, please contact Patricia Jones, Director of Special Projects, New West Symphony. (805) 435-2775 Direct

➤ **The Gallery Restaurant is hiring hosts**

Located at 30768 Russell Ranch Rd. The restaurant needs hosts/hostesses & will pay \$16/hr. Please contact Karim Megji at Karimgallerywestlake@gmail.com or call 818-889-1338

➤ **Westlake Financial Services**

Employment opportunity for student **>18 years of age**

The open position we are sharing is for Part-time role. Here are the details:

Position: Customer Service Representative

Department: Servicing

Pay Rate: \$16.04 plus bonus depending on performance

No Experience needed

The role is based on-site in our Agoura Hills office (29851 Agoura Rd., Agoura Hills, CA 91301). Trainings and shadowing will be provided upon hiring and same benefits will be provided just like to any part-time employees that we currently have.



Here is the complete job description: [Part-Time Customer Service Representative | Westlake Financial Opportunities \(ultipro.com\)](#)

Career Exploration Resources

➤ **College Board's Big Future:** Big Future is a FREE resource for students to explore careers & majors.



Discover careers
right for you at
bigfuture.org/mycareer.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

WORK PERMITS

WORK PERMIT PROCEDURE

- 1) Students must have a job before requesting the permit.
- 2) Download the blank work permit request from the CCC/Jobs website.

<https://sites.google.com/a/learn.conejousd.net/whs-college-and-career/job-and-volunteer-opportunities>

- 3) Make sure the application is complete with Business Address/Signature, Parent Home Address/Signature, Social Security Number, etc. The home address MUST be the same address listed in Q or an address change will be required by emailing copies of 2 different utility bills showing the family name & new address.
- 4) Submit the completed permit application to the College & Career Center. You must come back to the CCC the following day to sign & pick up your approved copy for your workplace.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

**100 N. LAKEVIEW CANYON ROAD
WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA 91362**

805-497-6711

MRS. REBECCA MERTEL, COLLEGE & CAREER GUIDANCE SPECIALIST

RMERTEL@CONEJOUSD.ORG

<https://sites.google.com/a/learn.conejousd.net/whs-college-and-career/>

[BACK TO TOP](#)