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# College Admissions Updates

In the wake of the Coronavirus



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Supporting thousands of students in Orange, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Riverside Counties for 20 years!

# This presentation covers:

- What you can do at home during the quarantine.
- Changing Timelines:
  - Seniors/Transfers- Committing to the college you plan to attend in the fall.
  - Juniors/Transfers- Deadlines to apply.
- SAT/ACT/AP/IB Exam Updates.
- Financial Considerations
- College Blueprint Services to help you **now!**

# Get motivated. Turn your experience into a college essay.

- **Read.** Did you know that some essay prompts and college interview questions ask you about an interesting book you have read? Wow them with the book you read during the pandemic!
- **Make a movie** with your friends over Zoom.
- **Journal**
  - Write a daily journal on your experience.
  - This may end up being a college essay!
  - Interview your parents or grandparents about challenging experiences in their lifetime.
- **Creative Writing**
  - Write a short story, article for your school's online paper, book, poem etc.

# Changing Timelines

## Seniors/Transfers- Committing to a College for the Fall

### WHAT WE KNOW:

- Most colleges have kept their original deadlines to commit as May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Some colleges have changed their deadlines to June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU:

- **Seniors/Transfer Students:** For the colleges to which you have been admitted, check the website to see if they have changed the date for commitment. Make sure you don't miss the deadline to commit to your school of choice.
- Make your housing deposit as soon as you have made your decision.

# Changing Timelines

## Juniors/Transfers Deadlines to Apply

### WHAT WE KNOW:

- To date, there have been no changes to when college applications are due.

### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU:

- Continue to prepare your college list
- Write essays this summer
- Make plans for an interesting summer which will give you experience in your interest area or intended major.
- Stay in touch with the colleges which are at the top of your list for any deadline or requirement changes they may make over the upcoming months.
- Check with College Blueprint and follow us on social media

# SAT Exam Updates

## WHAT WE KNOW:

- The College Board has canceled the March and May SAT exams.
- The College Board will be adding more exams soon.
- A few colleges are moving to test optional, but the majority remain test required.

## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU:

- **Juniors:** If you have not yet taken the SAT, you WILL have time before applications are due. Now is the perfect time to start test prep with us if you have not already.
- **Sophomores:** Sign up for Test Prep with us right away. Take our Diagnostic Test at home during this quarantine! We will determine which test is best suited for you.

# ACT Exam Updates

## WHAT WE KNOW:

- The April 4th ACT has been canceled.
- The June 13th and July 18th ACT exam dates are open. We recommend signing up ASAP.
- A few colleges are moving to test optional, but the majority remain test required.

## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU:

- **Juniors:** If you have not yet taken the ACT, you WILL have time before applications are due. Now is the perfect time to start your test prep with us if you have not already. Work with your counselor to adjust your testing timeline.
- **Sophomores:** Sign up for Test Prep with us right away. Take our Diagnostic Test at home. We will determine which test is best suited for you.

# AP Exam Updates

## WHAT WE KNOW:

- AP exams will be taken online, from home.
- Exams have been shortened to 45 minutes.
- Students can choose from two different dates to take the exam.
- Information will be provided by the AP on April 3rd for future exam dates.

## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU:

- College Blueprint tutors are up to date on changes and will help you prepare for your exams.



# IB Exam Updates

## WHAT WE KNOW:

- The May 2020 examinations for Diploma Programme and Career-related Programme students will not be held in any country.
- Students will be awarded a Diploma or a Course Certificate(s), depending on what they were registered for, which reflects their standard of work.
- These will be awarded based on the student's coursework and the established assessment expertise, rigor and quality control already built into the programmes.
- Full detail and FAQs will be sent to schools by March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU:

- Stay connected with the IB coordinators and teachers at your school.
- Continue to complete IB assignments and coursework.
- College Blueprint tutors will help you stay on track with your coursework.

# Financial Impact

## WHAT WE KNOW:

- The markets have been volatile and 529's, income, and other college savings plans may have taken a hit.

## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU:

- **Seniors/Transfer Students:** If your 529 or other college savings accounts have been impacted, contact the financial aid department for the school you have been accepted to and ask for a Special Reconsideration or Appeal Form. Reach out to your personal financial advisor for guidance on paying for college.
- **Juniors:** Consider adding Cal States and UC's to your list as they may be an affordable option for you next year. Begin researching scholarship opportunities.

# College Blueprint services to help you now!

## All services are being provided online by video conferencing.

- [Academic Coaches](#) We help you get and stay organized while adjusting to the online learning format. We also guide students with learning differences through these academic challenges.
- [SAT and ACT Test Prep Tutors](#) Work one-on-one on a customized testing strategy.
- [AP and IB Tutors](#) Help you prepare for exams and assignments by reviewing any AP and IB curriculum for which you need support.
- [Academic Tutors](#) Tutor in core subjects to review concepts and strategies to help you achieve higher grades in subjects in which you are struggling.
- [College Counselors](#) Provide guidance on college preparation and planning as well as up to date information regarding COVID-19 and the affects it may have on colleges.

# Above all else, remember to:

- Take care of yourself.
- Take care of your family.
- Do something kind for someone else.
- Reach out for help when you need it.

**We are checking our phone messages numerous times a day. Please call with any questions or to inquire about how we can help!**

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