



# SENIOR NEWSLETTER

December 2011

LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL  
DENISE HALSTEAD, PRINCIPAL  
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## A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Congratulations! ... For many of you, you have succeeded at taking that first step towards pursuing a higher education. We commend you on all your hard work and dedication but must remind you that it's not over. It is most important now more than ever to pay close attention to all CSU and UC deadlines. Open your email often and submit documents as requested by the DEADLINES. Those of you who are applying to any private colleges/universities must remember to keep track of the important deadlines that you have coming up within the next few months. Many of these colleges will require you to get a letter of recommendation from a teacher and/or counselor. It's important that you give your teachers/coaches/counselors at least two weeks notice.

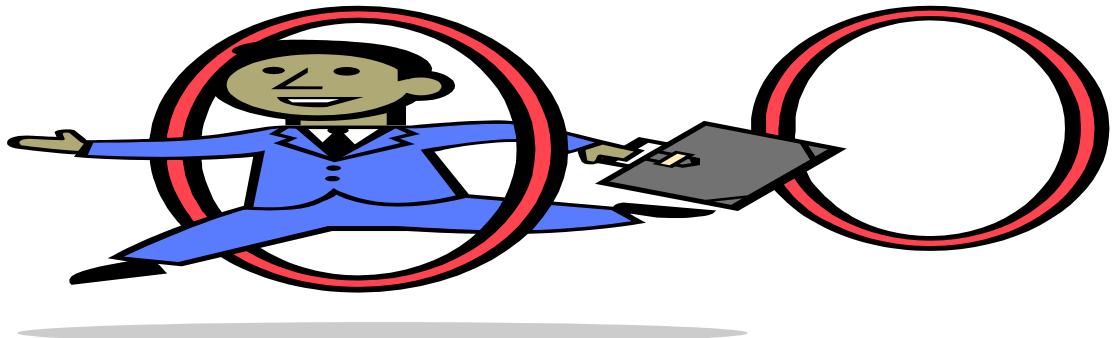
### Financial Aid

Before Beginning Your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) you need to know:

- You cannot submit your application until **January 1, 2012**
- You will need to gather your social security number, and your parents 2011 tax returns
- Go to [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov) and print a FAFSA on the Web Worksheet to familiarize yourself with the process of filling it out

ALL Seniors should apply for financial aid regardless of where they will be attending college after their high school graduation. Even if you do not qualify for free money, you will be put on different college lists for possible scholarships. Counselors will be working with both students and parents to assist them through the financial aid process.

A **Financial Aid Workshop for your parents** is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 1** from **6:30 - 8:00**. The workshop will be offered by representatives from the *University of California Irvine*. They will help parents understand the financial aid process and review the steps necessary in filling out the FAFSA. The workshop will be presented in English, Vietnamese, and Spanish.



LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL

# La Quinta High School Fall 2011

## Do you need \$\$\$ for college?



**Apply for financial aid January 1, 2012 - March 2, 2012.**

The counselors will be hosting Financial Aid Workshops with the students in **January** during the school day. During this time we will be reviewing the financial aid process and introducing the students to the FAFSA website.

Students could qualify for:

\* Federal Aid

- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Academic Competitive Grants
- Federal Stafford Loans
- Federal Plus Loans

\* California Grants

- Cal Grant A (tuition and fees at public or private colleges)
- Cal Grant B (living expenses, transportation, books & supplies)
- Cal Grant C (books & supplies at Community and Technical schools)
- Work Study
- Loans

### **In order to be eligible for any of the financial aid opportunities listed above students must:**

- 1) File a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)  
[www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)
- 2) Release your GPA Verification Form to the counseling office

### **TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED EARLY .....**

- Turn in your GPA Verification Form with parent signature to Mr. Tran ASAP. If you have misplaced the form stop by the guidance office to pick up a new one.
- Apply for a PIN number. The student and one parent will be required to get a pin number in order to electronically sign your FAFSA form. You can do so by accessing [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)
- Gather all the things that you will need to successfully complete the FAFSA form:
  - Social Security Number (including your parents')
  - Driver's License Number (if you have one)
  - 2011 Federal Tax Information or tax return
  - Records of untaxed income, such as Social Security Benefits, Welfare Benefits, and Veterans Benefits

# La Quinta High School Fall 2011

## CSU Fullerton 2012 Deadlines

- 1/23/2012 Test Scores (ACT, SAT or TOEFL) received by CSUF
- 2/17/2012 Application Fee (if submitted by check or money order)
- 3/23/2012 7th Semester High School Transcript
- 5/1/2012 Accepting Admission and Enrollment Deposit.
- 5/5/2012 ELM/EPT last date to take the test(s)
- 5/17/2012 New Student Orientation (NSO) registration



## Private College and Out-of State College Applications FAQ



### Q: How do I apply to private or out-of-state colleges?

A: Many private colleges use the common application ([www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)). Some private and out-of-state schools use their own applications. Please check the college websites to see which type of application they accept.

### Q: What is the deadline to apply?

A: Colleges have various deadlines, please check their websites. Many colleges have deadlines in January, so it's not too late. Please visit La Quinta's homepage to download a list of California private college deadlines and minimum requirements.

### Q: How do I obtain a fee waiver for private or out-of-state schools?

A: If you qualified for a SAT fee waiver then you also qualify for a fee waiver for private and out-of-state schools. You may pick up a CollegeBoard Request for Waiver of College Application Fee from your counselor. You may only use this fee waiver if the college you are applying to accepts it. Some colleges use other types of fee waivers.

### Q: Is there a limit on the number of Fee Waivers for private or out-of-state colleges?

A: No, you may have a fee waiver to each private or out-of-state college you apply to.

### Q: What is our CEEB code?

A: La Quinta's School Code is 053737

### Q: How do I request recommendations and Secondary School Reports from counselors?

A: Ask your counselor first and provide them a resume or "brag" sheet. Then send them a link to complete your forms electronically. Here is a list of counselor emails:

Ms. Grelle – [Sgrelle@ggusd.us](mailto:Sgrelle@ggusd.us)

Ms. Esquivel – [Agallard@ggusd.us](mailto:Agallard@ggusd.us)

Mr. Tran – [Htran@ggusd.us](mailto:Htran@ggusd.us)

Ms. FitzRandolph – [Lfitzran@ggusd.us](mailto:Lfitzran@ggusd.us)

# How to Apply for Scholarships

## WHAT ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS?

Few scholarships will find their way to you. In the majority of cases you must look for them yourself. While many scholarships are available, their requirements vary greatly. Applying for scholarships takes work. Time has to be devoted to researching different kinds of scholarships. Not all scholarships require strong GPA's. Many scholarships require membership in service organizations or involvement in community and extra-curricular activities. The trick is to find a scholarship that fits you.

### *Helpful Scholarship Databases*

*The Internet is an invaluable resource for scholarship information. Scholarship searches can be done with immediate results coming directly to you through email. New websites become available on a weekly basis. Check these out:*

Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund - [maldef.org](http://maldef.org), Merit-based scholarships - [meritaid.com](http://meritaid.com), The College Board - [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org), Sallie Mae College Answer Service Online - [www.salliemae.com](http://www.salliemae.com), California Student Aid - [www.csac.ca.gov](http://www.csac.ca.gov), EdFund - [www.edfund.org](http://www.edfund.org), U.S. Department of Education - [www.ed.gov/students](http://www.ed.gov/students), Mapping Your Future - [www.mapping-your-future.org](http://www.mapping-your-future.org), Yahoo - [http://www.yahoo.com/Education/financial\\_Aid](http://www.yahoo.com/Education/financial_Aid), United States Department of Education – [www.ed.gov/index](http://www.ed.gov/index), U.S. News & World Report – [www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com), Scholarships: [www.scholarshipworkshop.com](http://www.scholarshipworkshop.com), [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com), [www.gocollege.com](http://www.gocollege.com), [www.educatorsconnection.com/register.php](http://www.educatorsconnection.com/register.php), [fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com), [www.scholarshipcoach.com](http://www.scholarshipcoach.com), [www.collegeanswer.com](http://www.collegeanswer.com)

GRANTOR	REQUIREMENTS	DEADLINE
<b>NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1,000 - \$10,000</li> <li>• Must have a business. Babysitting, lawn care, dog walking, tutoring, etc.</li> <li>• Children of current-dues paying NFIB members who meet the requirements</li> <li>• Apply: <a href="http://www.NFIB.com/YEA">www.NFIB.com/YEA</a></li> <li>• Financial need is not a factor</li> </ul>	<b>December 15, 2011</b>
<b>California Association of Collectors, Inc.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1,500 - \$2,500</li> <li>• 1 page application &amp; a 700-1,000 word essay on “The importance of Establishing and Maintaining Good Financial Credit During Your College Years.”</li> <li>• Email essay &amp; application to: <a href="mailto:scholarship@calcollectors.net">scholarship@calcollectors.net</a>.</li> <li>• Details on website at <a href="http://www.cacesf.org">www.cacesf.org</a></li> </ul>	<b>January 16, 2012</b>
<b>Gates Millennium Scholars</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewable need based scholarship</li> <li>• African American, American Indian/Alaska native, Asian Pacific Islander/American or Hispanic American</li> <li>• US Citizen</li> <li>• Cumulative GPA of 3.3</li> <li>• Demonstrated leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular or other activities</li> <li>• Meet the Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria</li> <li>• Apply: <a href="http://www.gmsp.org">www.gmsp.org</a></li> </ul>	<b>January 11, 2012</b>

<b>GRANTOR</b>	<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
<b>Cal State University Long Beach President's Scholars Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valedictorians, National Merit Semifinalists, Finalists</li> <li>• National Achievement Program Semifinalists/Finalists</li> <li>• National Hispanic Recognition scholars</li> <li>• Apply to CSLB via CSUMentor.edu by November 30</li> <li>• Apply: <a href="http://www.csulb.edu/presidents_scholars/student_application">www.csulb.edu/presidents_scholars/student application</a></li> </ul>	<b>January 2, 2012</b>
<b>California Association of Educational Office Professionals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1,000</li> <li>• At least a 2.0 GPA</li> <li>• Must major in field of Business Administration or Education at a college or university</li> <li>• Submit an essay</li> <li>• 3 letters of recommendation</li> <li>• See Ms. Grelle for an application</li> </ul>	<b>January 6, 2012</b>
<b>California State University Fullerton Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four-year scholarship that covers CSU enrollment fees, admission into the University Honors Program, a laptop computer, parking fees and a stipend for books, as well as exposure to community and campus events</li> <li>• Receive acceptance to CSU, Fullerton for Fall 2012</li> <li>• Min weighted GPA 3.75 in all academic sub 10-12</li> <li>• Earn above-average SAT scores in all 3 components of the SAT I or above-average scores on the ACT</li> <li>• Demonstrate significant contributions to school and community service activities during high school</li> <li>• Apply online: <a href="http://www.fullerton.edu/scholars">www.fullerton.edu/scholars</a></li> </ul>	<b>January 27, 2012</b>
<b>Junior League of Orange County</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 2.5 GPA and 3.0 in semester immediately preceding application.</li> <li>• Acceptance to a post-secondary institution</li> <li>• See Ms. Grelle for application</li> </ul>	<b>January 15, 2012</b>
<b>BK Scholarships Burger King</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1,000—\$50,000</li> <li>• Eligibility &amp; how to apply visit: <a href="http://www.haveityourwayfoundation.org/bksp_scholarship_eligibility.html">http://www.haveityourwayfoundation.org/bksp_scholarship_eligibility.html</a></li> </ul>	<b>January 10, 2012</b>
<b>The William S. Davila Scholarship Fund</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students or if your parents work in the food industry such as retail supermarkets, manufacturers of food products, brokers or distributors of food products sold in retail food stores</li> <li>• Must plan to enroll in a four-year university, full time</li> <li>• Apply online at: <a href="http://www.scholarshipamerica.org/davila">www.scholarshipamerica.org/davila</a></li> </ul>	<b>January 20, 2012</b>
<b>Asian Pacific Islander American Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For details or to apply go to: <a href="http://www.apiasf.org">www.apiasf.org</a></li> </ul>	<b>January 13, 2012</b>
<b>Renaissance Scholars Foster Youth Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foster youth attending Cal Poly Pomona</li> <li>• Download application at: <a href="http://www.dsa.csupomona.edu/rs">www.dsa.csupomona.edu/rs</a></li> </ul>	<b>January 10, 2012</b>

GRANTOR	REQUIREMENTS	DEADLINE
<b>KFC Colonel's Scholars</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum GPA of 2.75</li> <li>• Plan to pursue a bachelor degree at s university</li> <li>• Demonstrate financial need</li> <li>• Apply: <a href="http://www.kfcscholars.org">www.kfcscholars.org</a></li> </ul>	<b>February 8, 2012</b>
<b>SJ Brady STOP Hunger Scholarships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5,000</li> <li>• Apply: <a href="http://www.studentscholarships.org/scholarship.php">www.studentscholarships.org/scholarship.php</a></li> </ul>	<b>December 5, 2011</b>
<b>Disneyland Resort Scholarship Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ten scholarships will be awarded for \$5,000 each</li> <li>• Verification 100 hrs community service between Jan. 1, 2010-Dec. 31, 2010 charitable nonprofit organization</li> <li>• Minimum GPA of 3.0</li> <li>• Apply <a href="http://www.disneyland.com/publicaffairs">http://www.disneyland.com/publicaffairs</a> go to Education Programs and then youth Scholarship</li> </ul>	<b>January 31, 2012</b>
<b>NHS Scholarship Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$10,000</li> <li>• Apply: <a href="http://www.studentscholarships.org/scholarships.php">www.studentscholarships.org/scholarships.php</a></li> </ul>	<b>January 20, 2012</b>
<b>Davidson Fellows Scholarships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$50,000</li> <li>• Apply: <a href="http://www.studentscholarships.org/scholarships.php">www.studentscholarships.org/scholarships.php</a></li> </ul>	<b>February 1, 2012</b>
<b>10th Annual National Co-Op Scholarship Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$6,000 &amp; renewable Minimum GPA 3.5</li> <li>• 1 page essay (500-words)</li> <li>• Apply to Drexel University, Johnson &amp; Wales University, Kettering University, Rochester Institute of Technology</li> <li>• University of Cincinnati, University of Toledo, Wentworth Institute of Technology</li> <li>• Apply: <a href="http://www.co-op-edu">www.co-op-edu</a></li> </ul>	<b>February 15, 2012</b>
<b>2012 John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Essay Contest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$500 - \$5,000</li> <li>• Write an original/creative essay 1,000 words or less that demonstrates an understanding of political courage as described by John F. Kennedy in Profiles in Courage. Go to:</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.jfklibrary.org">www.jfklibrary.org</a>, Profile in Courage Essay Contest</li> </ul>	<b>January 7, 2012</b>
<b>Hispanic Scholarship Fund</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1,000 - \$15,000</li> <li>• Min GPA 3.0, US Citizens or Perm. residents</li> <li>• Plan to be enrolled full time in college in Fall</li> <li>• Apply: <a href="http://www.HSF.net">www.HSF.net</a></li> </ul>	<b>December 20, 2011</b>
<b>Garden Grove Lions Host Club 75th annual Student Speakers Contest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to \$20,000 for 1st prize</li> <li>• Write speech: "What Could the America of Yesterday Teach the America of Tomorrow?"</li> <li>• Go to: <a href="http://studentspeaker.md4lions.org/">http://studentspeaker.md4lions.org/</a></li> <li>• Email your speech to: <a href="mailto:tjc_clarke@yahoo.com">tjc_clarke@yahoo.com</a></li> </ul>	<b>January 18, 2012</b>
<b>Animation Career Review Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Win one of three \$1,000 scholarships</li> <li>• Pursue Animation Related Field at accredited college?</li> <li>• Go to <a href="http://www.AnimationCareerReview.com">www.AnimationCareerReview.com</a>. Include reference to scholarship program on scholarship page</li> </ul>	<b>December 20, 2011</b>