

SENIORS: Important Steps for College

Damonte Ranch HS School Code: 290-187

- 1. Take a College Entrance Exam:** If you plan to attend a four-year college or university, you will need to take the **ACT or the SAT**. Most schools accept both tests. *For scholarship consideration, you must take one before the end of 2017.* Sign up online. See test dates in your packet. Use the code above.

UNR uses English and math sub-scores for placement into college level math and English courses. For the class of 2018, the placement scores are: ACT-English: 21; SAT-Critical Reading: 480; ACT-math: 22; SAT-math: 530. Junior colleges and community colleges can use your scores as well to help determine class placement or you can take the Accuplacer for free.

ACT/SAT test prep: We will be offering an SAT test-prep seminar at Damonte Ranch in the Career Center on **Wednesday & Thursday, September 20 & 21, 2017 from 3 to 5:30 p.m.** Cost is \$89. To sign up, stop by the Career Center.

College Athletes: If you plan to play any collegiate sports, you must register with the NCAA clearinghouse process. Potential college athletes should go online to www.eligibilitycenter.org and complete the form for eligibility. NCAA will also want a college entrance exam score sent directly to them from ACT or SAT. **NCAA's code is 9999.**

- 2. Apply to College:** Many four year colleges and universities, including UNR, have early consideration deadlines in the fall. The regular application deadlines are usually February 1st EXCEPT California schools have deadlines as early as November 30th so *check deadlines* for all schools you are considering right away. Make sure that ACT/SAT scores and an official transcript have been sent to the schools you apply to. To research the college you are interested in attending, go to www.collegeboard.com and utilize their college search engine to find basic information about the school or go directly to the school's website.

UNR requirements for admission: UNR (www.unr.edu) requires a minimum 3.0 core GPA for admission (**see UNR's handout in your folder**). The following core courses are required: 4 years of English, 3 years Social Studies, 3 years of Science, and 3 years of Math. A student may be admitted under exception if they don't have the 3.0 core GPA but have an ACT composite score of 22 or an SAT score of 1120 (reading & math combined). Admission application available starting September 15th. **Early action deadline is: Nov. 1st. Regular deadline is: Feb. 1st**

Community college/junior college applications: TMCC (www.tmcc.edu), and most other community colleges have an open admission policy, which means they accept everyone who enrolls. However, if you would like to be considered for scholarships from a community college, you need to make sure to submit the application by the designated deadline (usually February 1st or March 1st).

- 3. Send Transcripts:** All requests for official high school transcripts are now made through www.washoeschools.net. Allow time for processing when requesting transcripts for college admission, NCAA, and/or scholarships.

4. **Not sure where to apply? Attend the College Fair:** The date and time for this year's College Fair is Sunday, Nov. 5, 2017 from Noon until 4pm at the Joe Crowley Student Union on the UNR Campus. Go to www.wacacollegefair.com to register and print out your **admission ticket**. Colleges and Universities from around the country will be participating.
5. **Apply for Scholarships:** You must fill out applications to be considered for scholarships! Scholarship opportunities are available from local, state and national clubs, organizations and businesses, and from colleges and universities. Be sure to get on the senior email list with Ms. Aikin (maikin@washoeschools.net) in the Career Center. Your parents can be included too, they can help watch for scholarships that fit you.
6. **Free scholarship search engines:** www.fastweb.com and www.cappex.com can help you locate even more scholarships. You fill out a profile and provide an e-mail address and when scholarships are located that match your profile, you will receive an e-mail directing you to the scholarship. If you need assistance filling out an application or need a letter of recommendation you can make an appointment with your counselor or stop in to the Career Center. Please allow a week when asking for letters of recommendation, and include a resume.
7. **Apply for Financial aid:** It is important for you to fill out and submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as soon as possible after **October 1st** this year. Tax information for both you and your parent is needed. Once submitted, you will receive a form called the SAR (student aid report). If mistakes are found, corrections need to be made and the form resubmitted. The FAFSA can be completed on line at fafsa.ed.gov. It is important that you list all colleges and universities you are considering. **Even if you or your parent don't think you will qualify for government financial aid, complete this application.** Many schools will use this information to make scholarship and aid decisions.

****Out-of-state tuition:** If you are considering an out-of-state college, go to www.wiche.edu/wue to see if your school participates in the Western Undergraduate Exchange. If so, you may be able to reduce the out of state tuition for many western state colleges.**
8. **Millennium scholarship Info:** No need to apply for this one! If you meet the criteria, you will receive information about how to access the funds in the summer after your senior year. For the most updated information, go to the following website: <http://NevadaTreasurer.com>.
9. **Thinking Military?** If you are interested in joining one of the branches of the military you should contact a recruiter to schedule a time to take the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery). Recruiter information can be found in the Career Center.
10. **Other post-secondary education options:** If you are interested in going to a technical or trade school, or want to learn more about local apprenticeship programs stop by the Career Center.