OCDE AVID UPDATE

AVID WEBSITE   **AVID SCHOLARSHIPS**

AVID Night at Knott's Berry Farm
March 1, 2024 - Save the Date!

It looks like AVID Night at Knott's Berry Farm will be back in March. Please stay tuned for information as we finalize details. Tickets are tentatively $65 each. Remember this is a scholarship fundraiser event.

Senior Scholarships
Due December 8, 2023

The AVID Senior Scholarship Aapplication template and link to the AVID Community Scholarship online system is posted on the OCDE AVID Scholarships page. To ensure more equitable access to scholarship funds, we will continue with the nomination process. Rather than doing a broad-based application invitation, we are asking AVID senior teachers to nominate one applicant for every fifteen AVID students, plus their Senior Standout. Please see the template for further details.

Senior Scholarship Teacher Office Hours
October 23, 2023   4:00-5:00 p.m.

To help support our AVID teachers, we will hold open office hours to help answer questions about the scholarship process, template, and application. We will look to provide office hours to students in the future, but this is the opportunity for teachers to get their questions answered. Join via Zoom at:
https://ocde.zoom.us/j/89822594939

Inspired Teacher Grant Program
Due October 18, 2023 at 5:00 PM

The 2023-24 Inspired Teacher Grants Program presents an opportunity for Orange County public and charter school teachers to seek funding for projects, field trips, tools, materials or ideas that will present an enrichment opportunity for their students and enhance the educational experience of their classroom, department, or school. Awards range from $1,000-$10,000 depending on the type and level of the project. Visit https://www.tfaforms.com/5081862 for details and to begin the application.

HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS & DEADLINES

OCT. 23– SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE HOURS

DEC. 8 – SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DUE

JAN. 7 – SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP TEACHER RECOMMENDATION LETTERS DUE

APR. 15 – SENIOR STANDOUT RECOGNITION & SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION

MIDDLE SCHOOL EVENTS & DEADLINES

FEB. 23 - 8TH GRADE STANDOUT APPLICATION DUE

TBD - 8TH GRADE STANDOUT RECOGNITION

8th Grade Standouts

We will have information on the application, workshop for teachers and the ceremony dates in the November AVID Update. Stay tuned.

Dell Scholars Program - Deadline: December 1, 2023

Each year, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation (MSDF) provides graduating seniors participating in select college readiness programs (including AVID) with the opportunity to apply to be a Dell Scholar. Dell Scholars receive $20,000 in scholarship funds, a computer, textbook credits, and other resources to support them in their postsecondary journey. See the criteria, key dates, and application information at https://www.dellscholars.org/scholarship/
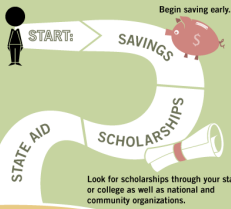
FINANCIAL AID

THE FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

Finding financial aid can seem overwhelming when you're trying to get ready for college or career school. The U.S. Department of Education's office of Federal Student Aid is here to help you get the money you need to pay for your education.

PREPARATION
Scholarships and state aid can help cover the cost of college or career school, but you may find yourself in need of federal assistance.

START: SAVINGS

Begin saving early.

Many states have college funding programs. Ask a guidance counselor or your college financial aid office for more information.

STATE AID SCHOLARSHIPS

Look for scholarships through your state or college as well as national and community organizations.

It's time to apply for financial aid.

FAFSA®
The FAFSA is the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* and is the only way to apply for federal student aid. The schools you list on your application will use FAFSA information to evaluate your financial need and determine how much federal aid you are eligible to receive. Many states and colleges also use information from your FAFSA to provide their own financial aid.

OCT Each October, the FAFSA is available for the next school year. It is best to fill it out as early as you can because some aid is first come, first served.

FAFSA.GOV

When you complete the FAFSA, you'll need to provide personal and tax information. You may be able to automatically retrieve your tax information from the IRS.

Complete the FAFSA online at fafsa.gov. Make sure to fill out and submit the FAFSA each year you are in college.

SAR

After you submit your FAFSA, you'll receive your *Student Aid Report* (SAR). Your SAR summarizes the information in your FAFSA. Review it and make corrections if needed.

Your FAFSA helps your school determine the types of federal student aid you are eligible to receive.

TYPES OF FEDERAL STUDENT AID
As the largest provider of financial aid, the U.S. Department of Education's office of Federal Student Aid provides grants, loans, and work-study funds.

GRANTS — Grants are free money that do not have to be repaid.

LOANS — Student loans are real loans (like a car or home loan) that need to be repaid with interest.

WORK-STUDY — A work-study job gives you the opportunity to earn money to help pay your educational expenses.

AWARD
Your award letter explains the combination of federal grants, loans, and work-study a college is offering you. The offer might also contain state and institutional aid. If you receive award letters from multiple colleges or career schools, you should compare them and decide which school works best for you.

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AWARD LETTER

COLLEGE
Every year, millions of new students attend college or career school for the first time. Your college or career school has a financial aid office to help guide you along the way.

WELCOME STUDENTS

BEYOND EDUCATION

WORKFORCE
When you take the time to plan for your education and let Federal Student Aid help you along the way, you'll be setting the foundation for a bright future and success in the workforce.

REPAYMENT
Once you leave school, you will need to repay your student loans. Contact your loan servicer to discuss your repayment options.

LOAN SERVICER

Better FAFSA Training Toolkit and Webinars

The National College Attainment Network (NCAN) provides monthly webinars as well as a training toolkit and other resources for you to use to learn about and train your staff, parents, and students about the new FAFSA. Visit their website https://www.ncan.org/page/better-FAFSA for all of their resources. Under FAFSA Training Opportunities you can find the webinar dates and the recording of the most recent webinar. Please take time to peruse this website.

FSA ID Changes

Multi-Factor Authentication has been added to the FSA ID this year. Be sure students give all options possible. More information at: https://www.ncan.org/news/615086/FSA-ID-Process-Adds-Multi-Factor-Authentication.htm **Although the FAFSA will not be ready until December, don't wait to create FSA IDs.**

Financial Aid Workshop

The California Student Aid Commission and the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators are hosting the 2023 Annual Statewide Financial Aid Workshops. These free workshops will assist in providing information and updates on state-funded financial aid programs and provide a comprehensive overview of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For information visit: https://www.csac.ca.gov/annual-statewide-financial-aid-workshops

WebGrants

WebGrants is CSAC's web-based grant management platform. Through this portal, institutions can manage their Cal Grant roster, upload GPAs, and run reports. All organizations and institution types should utilize one of the forms below to request WebGrants access.

Do you have Access to Web Grants?

-"I don't upload GPAs so why do I need WebGrants access?"
With WebGrants, you have the ability to see if students have successfully completed an application, successfully matched to their GPA, and if they have been awarded a Cal Grant

-"We already have a counselor with WebGrants access"
There is no limit to the number of users your school can have! More end-users helps ensure better tracking of student success

-"How do I get access to WebGrants?"
Complete the WebGrants Access Request - User form and submit to the system administrator.

Counselor Conference Resources

The 2023 UC Counselor Conference has concluded. You may access all the presentations on their website.

- UC Counselor Conference
- CSU Freshman Application Resources
- CSU Counselor Conference
  (Resources available in mid-October)

OCDE Application Workshop Recordings

CSU Application Workshop
    Recording,
    Slides

UC Application Workshop
    Recording,
    Slides

Free College Fair for Out-of-State Colleges
October 18-19, 2023
(Two Dates - Two Locations)

The College and Career Discovery Fairs will be held on October 18th at the Columbus Tustin Recreation Center and October 19th at the Laguna Hills Community Center. Both fairs are from 9:00-11:30 am with students spending 60-90 minutes at the event.

1. Reserve your spot today: using this LINK
2. Reserve your bus/es with your district transportation department. **Contact COSI College Fairs if you have difficulty securing funding for bus transportation.**

See flyer for details and registration.

OC School Counselor of the Year Awards
Due October 27, 2023

Did you know that any student, parent, colleague, or supervisor can nominate an exemplary school counselor or counseling advocate of their choice for the Orange County TK-12 School Counselor of the Year or Counseling Advocate of the Year Award? See the link for information and nomination forms: counselors and counseling advocates.

Nominate a Counselor for 2022-23 Arthur S. Marmaduke High School Counselor Award
Due October 31, 2023

The award was established in 1985 by the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) to honor the late Arthur Marmaduke, who served as the executive director of CSAC for 25 years, for his dedication and commitment to helping students gain access to postsecondary education through the CSAC's programs. Each year, CSAC selects a deserving high school counselor to receive this prestigious award in recognition of their exemplary work in helping students fulfill their dreams of attending college. The award includes a plaque and a $1,500 check. Submit your nominations here.

OCDE AVID CONTACT INFORMATION

Denise Harshman, Ed.D.
dharshman@ocde.us
O: 714-966-4446 | C: 949-702-6337

Shelby Rommelfanger
srommelfanger@ocde.us
O: 714-966-4423

Joanna Robold
joannarobold@ocde.us
O: 714-966-4157