



Impact of COVID-19 on Juniors and Seniors

AY 2020-21

University of California and California State University campuses have eased admission requirements due to COVID-19. Highlights include:

- Students applying to University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) campuses can submit grades of “credit” or “pass” to satisfy a-g requirements for courses completed during winter, spring, or summer 2020 terms. Grades of “credit” or “pass” will not be included in GPA calculations.
- UC has suspended the standardized test requirement of SAT or ACT for first-time students intending to enroll in fall 2021. CSU has not yet made a decision regarding the SAT or ACT requirement for admission.
- UC and CSU will not rescind admissions offers resulting from students or high schools missing official final transcript deadlines.
- UC and CSU will award Advanced Placement (AP) credit for exam scores of 3, 4, or 5.

Implications for Making Waves Academy include:

Juniors

- The impact of COVID-19 on college access programming available to **juniors** at Making Waves Academy (MWA) is marginal. MWA will still offer guidance in college list building, multiple attempts at the SAT or ACT, and registration for AP and SAT Subject Tests via phone or video conference. We anticipate that approximately 70% of this class will matriculate to four-year colleges and universities, with roughly 25% matriculating to community colleges.
- While UC has suspended the standardized test requirement of SAT or ACT, the fine print reveals a message worth highlighting: “Students applying for fall 2021 are not precluded from taking standardized tests (SAT or ACT) and sending scores if they are able. Doing so can support their statewide UC eligibility.”¹ Each college application cycle shows an abundance of applicants competing for a scarcity of available seats. Our desire is to continue to equip our students with the admissions elements they will need to continue to differentiate themselves from other applicants.

Continued.

¹ “UCs response on admissions to COVID-19.” University of California.
<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/response-covid-19.html>

Seniors

- We anticipate that this year's college-going **seniors** will lean toward attending local institutions, despite a projected increase in the number of out-of-area offers available to this class.
- Additionally, we are considering a proposal to the Board that would temporarily ease graduation requirements to state mandated minimums for seniors who are in danger of not graduating. We are seeking the support of the Curriculum Review Advisory Committee on this proposal, should we decide to pursue this route.