

# Agenda (College 101)

- College Fit
- College Options, Admission & Applications
- Naviance:
  - SuperMatch
  - Recommendation Letters
  - Questionnaire & Resume
- College Essays

# College Fit

(Best indication students will graduate from the college they attend.)

## Social

- Location: access a major city, close to home, etc.
- Campus Size
- Campus Life: quiet, lively, commuter, residential, etc.
- Sports (NCAA or Intramural)
- Dorms/Greek Life/Clubs
- Diversity (race, religion, politics, etc.)
- Affordability

## Academic

- Available majors
- Qtr vs. Semester system
- Research vs Hands-on
- Lecture Hall vs Seminar (GE)
- Access to professors/classes
- Research & Internships (guaranteed vs. competitive)
- Graduate school vs career readiness

# What are your chances of admission?

**Solid** - your academic profile exceeds those of the average accepted student.

**Probable** - your transcript mirrors the profile of previous admitted students.

**Possible** - your chances of rejection are higher than chances of admission.

**Reach** - your academic profile is much lower than average admitted students.

# College Options

University of CA (UC)

Cal State University (CSU)

Out-of-State Public Universities

Private Colleges

# University of CA (UC)

- ❖ Research & analytical thinking skills (liberal arts)
- ❖ Quarter system (except for Cal & Merced)
- ❖ Most campuses & majors are very selective.
- ❖ Admission uses Comprehensive or Holistic Review.
  - 13 Admission factors (next slide).
  - Special majors may require audition/portfolio
  - SAT/ACT scores will NOT be considered

UC spends time evaluating your academic achievements in light of the opportunities available to you and your demonstrated capacity to contribute to the intellectual life at UC. Some factors they may consider are:

1. Academic grade point average in all completed A-G courses, including additional points for completed UC-certified honors courses.
2. Number of, content of and performance in academic courses beyond the minimum A-G.
3. Number of and performance in UC-approved honors, AP, and transferable college courses.
4. Identification by UC as being ranked in the top 9 percent of your high school class at the end of your junior year ( ELC).
5. Quality of your senior-year program (rigor).
6. Quality of your academic performance relative to the educational opportunities available in your high school.
7. Outstanding performance in one or more specific subject areas.
8. Outstanding work in one or more special projects in any academic field of study.
9. Recent, marked improvement in academic performance as demonstrated by academic GPA and the quality of coursework completed or in progress.
10. Special talents, achievements and awards in a particular field, such as visual and performing arts, communication or athletic endeavors; special skills, such as demonstrated written and oral proficiency in other languages; special interests, such as intensive study and exploration of other cultures; experiences that demonstrate unusual promise for leadership, such as significant community service or significant participation in student government; or other significant experiences or achievements that demonstrate the student's promise for contributing to the intellectual vitality of a campus.
11. Completion of special projects undertaken in the context of your high school curriculum or in conjunction with special school events, projects or programs.
12. Academic accomplishments in light of your life experiences and special circumstances, including but not limited to: disabilities, low family income, first generation to attend college, need to work, disadvantaged social or educational environment, difficult personal and family situations or circumstances, refugee status or veteran status.
13. Location of your secondary school and residence.

# UC Application

- One online application for up to 9 campuses
- Last year: \$70 per campus (fee waivers available)
- Apply Nov. 1 - 30th (Opens in August)
- Plan to enter:
  - All A-G courses & grades taken 9th - 11th
  - 12th grade courses (In Progress/Planned)
  - Extracurricular, community service, work experience, etc.
  - Personal Insight Questions (essays)
- UC's do not want transcripts (until July).
- UC will not accept recommendation letters.
- Look for UC Tips sheet in the Fall from Ms Rasor.

# Cal State University (CSU)

- Career focused. Most are semester system.
- Selection depends on campus/major impactation.
- **Impacted** = not enough space for all eligible applicants in all majors (including undeclared)

Impacted campuses over the past 2 yrs:

Cal Poly SLO, Fresno, Fullerton, Long Beach,  
San Diego, San Jose, & Cal State LA

- Non-impacted = space for all who meet A-G eligible applicants (Some majors may be impacted).



# CSU Application & Admission

- ❖ One application for up to 24 campuses  
Apply online Oct - Nov  
Last year: \$70 per campus (fee waivers available)
- ❖ Plan to enter all A-G courses & grades taken 9th - 11th and in progress/planned during 12th.
- ❖ Admission into impacted campuses/majors:
  - types of courses taken in high school & gpa
  - preparedness for intended major
  - SAT/ACT scores will not be considered
- ❖ Do not send transcripts with application.
- ❖ CSU do not accept teacher recommendations.
- ❖ Look for CSU Tip Sheet from Ms Rasor in the fall

# Out-of-State Public Universities

- Tuition is higher but most are more affordable compared to UC/CSU and most are not impacted.
  - Check for in-state tuition breaks: WUE
- Curriculum varies: liberal arts education and/or career-focused
- Check campus websites for:
  - Admission requirements & deadlines (may differ from A-G)
  - How to apply: campus portal (application), Common App or Coalition App
  - Most do NOT require SAT/ACT (best to check)

# Private Colleges

- Thousands of private colleges across US (85 in CA)
- Explore what they offer. For example:
  - academic & personal development approach
  - liberal arts or career-ready education
  - smaller class sizes; conservatories
  - guarantee completion in four years
  - Alumni Networks
  - 3-2 programs (transfer programs)
  - Religiously centered (or affiliated)
  - Culturally (HBCU) or gender focused
- Tuition is **much** higher compared to a UC/CSU

# Admission to Private College

Admission factors most likely include:

- College fit.
- Profile (compared to previously admitted class)
- Academic & Personal Achievements
- Legacy & school ranking (Carlmont does not rank)
- Special majors may require audition/portfolio

Drawn from all sections of the Common App, including:

- Personal Statement (essay),
- Possibly supplemental essay(s),
- Transcripts (initial & mid-year),
- Teacher & Counselor Recommendation Letters

# How to apply to Private Colleges

## The Common App (opens in July)

- Fees (to apply) vary by school (fee waivers available)

Deadline to apply varies. Each school lists options:

- Early Action/Early Decision
- Rolling or Priority
- Regular Decision

Common App also requires:

- 1 or 2 Teacher Recommendation Letters & forms
- Counselor Recommendation Letter & forms
- Teachers/Counselors use Naviance to send materials

Check for Common Appl Tips this fall from Ms. Rasor

## Private Colleges (not on the Common App)

For private colleges not using the Common App, check school websites for application details.

- Do they use their own (portal) application or The Coalition Application?
- If they accept counselor/teachers recommendation letters, check to see what process they use in in order for us to send materials.

Check for Coalition Application Tips this fall from Ms. Rasor

Rusty James says it's  
**Break Time!**



# NAVIANCE

## How Seniors use Naviance for college planning:

- Search for colleges (SuperMatch)
- List "colleges I am applying to"
  - Add all colleges you are applying to on Naviance.
- Complete steps for a Recommendation Letter
- Check status of materials submitted to colleges
- View Scholarship List
- Register for College Rep Visits (possibly virtual)



# Steps for Recommendation Letters

Required if applying to schools via Common App, Coalition, or others requiring recommendation letters.

- Ask teachers (in person or direct email) for a recommendation letter
- Contact your counselor (early fall) for a recommendation letter and to schedule an appointment (interview)
- Create your resume in Naviance.
- Complete Naviance Letter of Recommendation (Common App) Questionnaire (during summer or before counseling appointment)
- Match Common App with your Naviance Account
- Add teachers as recommenders on Naviance (Fall)

# SUPERMATCH

Naviance Home Page → Select "Colleges Home"

The screenshot shows the Naviance Student Home Page. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Colleges, Careers, About Me, and My Planner. The 'Colleges' link is highlighted with a red circle, and its dropdown menu is open, showing options: COLLEGES Home (with a house icon), COLLEGES I'm thinking about (with a heart icon), and COLLEGES I'm applying to (with a graduation cap icon). Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Type a college name'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a dark blue header with the number '22' and a section titled 'My Favorites' which lists 'COLLEGES I'm thinking about' and 'COLLEGES I'm applying to'. The right column has a dark blue header with the number '22' and a section titled 'My Favorites' which lists 'Find Your Fit', 'Research Colleges', 'Apply to College', and 'Scholarships and Money', each with a right-pointing arrow.

Student

Home Colleges Careers About Me My Planner

COLLEGES Home

COLLEGES I'm thinking about

COLLEGES I'm applying to

Find Your Fit >

Research Colleges >

Apply to College >

Scholarships and Money >

es

Type a college name

22

My Favorites

COLLEGES I'm thinking about

COLLEGES I'm applying to

to your Naviance account. With Naviance you can search  
would fit

le, you can create a resume, you can keep track of your

## Find Your Fit



SuperMatch®



College Match



College Events

Show more

## Research Colleges



COLLEGES

I'm Thinking About

College Compare

College Resources

Show more

## Apply to Colleges



COLLEGES

I'm applying to

Letters of Recommendation

Test scores

## Scholarships and Money



SCHOLARSHIPS

I'm Applying To

Scholarship List

National Scholarship Search

## SuperMatch College Search

[About SuperMatch](#) ⓘ

III Choose Fit Criteria

[Location](#)
[Academics](#)
[Admission](#)
[Student Life](#)
[Diversity](#)
[Institution Characteristics](#)
[Cost](#)
[Athletics](#)
[Resources](#)

### Your Fit Criteria

 Saved Searches [Choose one](#) ▼

[Save Search](#)
[Start Over](#)

4 selected criteria

To refine your results, use the arrows to move your criteria into the "Must Have" and "Nice to Have" boxes.

#### Must Have

✕ Location [26] →

✕ Campus Surroundings [1] →

✕ Acceptance Rate [2] →

✕ At least 20% are minority students →

#### Nice to Have

A *Nice to Have* is anything that's important to you, but isn't an absolute must have.

### Your Results

Your results include **31 institutions** that are both an **academic match** ⓘ and also match all the criteria selected above.

Once you have completed your SuperMatch criteria, your list will show 100% matches.

Click on the ❤️ to move a college to your “Colleges I’m Thinking About” page.

|  |                                 | academic match for this institution, enter both your GPA and standardized test scores.   |  |         |     |     |      |     |     |      |     |                                    |   |   |   |  |   |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|---------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|------|-----|------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|
| <div>Drake University</div> <div>Des Moines, IA, Small City</div> <div>4 year, Private nonprofit</div> <div> PIN TO COMPARE</div> <div> FAVORITE</div> | <div>100%</div> <div>Why?</div> | <table><thead><tr><th></th><th>Average</th><th>You</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>GPA</td><td>3.66</td><td>2.8 </td></tr><tr><td>SAT</td><td>1195</td><td>N/A</td></tr><tr><td>ACT</td><td>27</td><td>N/A</td></tr></tbody></table> <div>SuperMatch doesn't have sufficient application history for this institution to determine academic match.</div> |  | Average | You | GPA | 3.66 | 2.8 | SAT | 1195 | N/A | ACT                                | 27  | N/A   | <div>Photos/Videos on Profile</div> <div>Virtual Tour</div> | <div>Tuition &amp; Fees</div> <div>\$38,916</div> <div>Room &amp; Board \$10,158</div> | Customize what you see here—Choose a category above |
|  | Average                         | You  |  |         |     |     |      |     |     |      |     |                                    |   |   |   |  |   |
| GPA  | 3.66                            | 2.8  |  |         |     |     |      |     |     |      |     |                                    |   |   |   |  |   |
| SAT  | 1195                            | N/A  |  |         |     |     |      |     |     |      |     |                                    |   |   |   |  |   |
| ACT  | 27                              | N/A  |  |         |     |     |      |     |     |      |     |                                    |   |   |   |  |   |
| <div>Trinity College of Nursing &amp; Health Sciences</div> <div>Rock Island, IL</div> <div>4 year, Private nonprofit</div> <div> PIN TO COMPARE</div> | <div>100%</div> <div>Why?</div> | <table><thead><tr><th></th><th>Average</th><th>You</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>GPA</td><td>N/A</td><td>2.8 </td></tr><tr><td>SAT</td><td>N/A</td><td>N/A</td></tr></tbody></table>   |  | Average | You | GPA | N/A  | 2.8 | SAT | N/A  | N/A | <div>No Highlights Available</div> | <div>Tuition &amp; Fees</div> <div>\$24,661</div> | Customize what you see here—Choose a category above |   |  |   |
|  | Average                         | You  |  |         |     |     |      |     |     |      |     |                                    |   |   |   |  |   |
| GPA  | N/A                             | 2.8  |  |         |     |     |      |     |     |      |     |                                    |   |   |   |  |   |
| SAT  | N/A                             | N/A  |  |         |     |     |      |     |     |      |     |                                    |   |   |   |  |   |

Select the "+" to manually search and enter colleges you are interested in.

## Quick Links

### MORE SEARCH OPTIONS

SuperMatch®

Advanced college search

College lookup

### MY COLLEGES

Upcoming college events

Colleges match

#### ✓ Confirmation

2 college(s) removed successfully

✕ Close

## Colleges I'm thinking about

🔍 Search for colleges

+ Add Colleges to List

📊 Compare Me


🔄 UPDATE INTEREST

📁 MOVE TO APPLICATION LIST

🗑 REMOVE

✦ = extended profile available

## Colleges I'm thinking about

 Search for colleges


 Add Colleges to List







 Compare Me

 UPDATE INTEREST

 MOVE TO APPLICATION LIST

 REMOVE

 = extended profile available

| College   | Delivery type  | Added By | Expected Difficulty* | Application Deadlines  | Interest   |
|---|---|----------|----------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Drake University |                | Student  | N/A                  | Multiple Deadlines  | N/A  <a href="#">MORE</a>  |

Check this box to move a college "I'm thinking about" to "Colleges I am applying to"

✓ **Confirmation**

1 colleges successfully added

✕ Cancel

**STEP 1**

Add Applications

**STEP 2**

Request Transcripts

Amherst College

**Which application deadline do you prefer?**

Early Decision November 16



**How will you submit your application?**

I'm not sure yet

☐

I've already sent my application







Add Applications

ADD AND REQUEST TRANSCRIPTS

Once a school is added, you will let us know your deadline and how you will submit your application.





| College   | Type | Deadline          |            | Expected Difficulty* | Transcripts | Office materials   | Submission Type  |
|---|------|-------------------|------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|---|
|  American University | RD   | Regular Decision  | January 15 | N/A                  | no request  | Mid-year submitted |                  |
| Boston College  | EDII | Early Decision II | January 1  | N/A                  | no request  | Mid-year submitted |                  |
|  Brandeis University | RD   | Regular Decision  | January 1  | N/A                  | requested   | Mid-year submitted |                  |

Please reach out to your teachers and counselor **BEFORE** changing any application deadlines.

Teachers/counselors will need to confirm (approve) they can meet your new deadline.

# Questionnaire

Select "About Me" and then "My Surveys"

The screenshot shows a student dashboard interface. At the top, a teal header bar contains navigation links: Home, Colleges, Careers, About Me, and My Planner. The 'About Me' link is circled in red. Below the header, the user's name 'Demo Smith!' is displayed. A search bar with the placeholder 'Type a college name' is present. On the right, a user profile section shows 'DEMO SMITH' and 'My Account'. Below this, a list of options includes 'My Stuff', 'My Assessments', and 'My Surveys'. A large red arrow points to 'My Surveys'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a dark blue header 'Back Class of 2021' and text about returning to school and contacting the counseling department. The right column has a dark blue header 'My Favorites' and two items: 'COLLEGES I'm thinking about' with a heart icon, and 'COLLEGES I'm applying to' with a graduation cap icon.

Student

Home Colleges Careers **About Me** My Planner

o Smith!

Colleges ▼

Type a college name

ABOUT ME  
Home

DEMO SMITH  
My Account

My Stuff >

My Assessments >

My Surveys >

Back Class of 2021

ck to school.

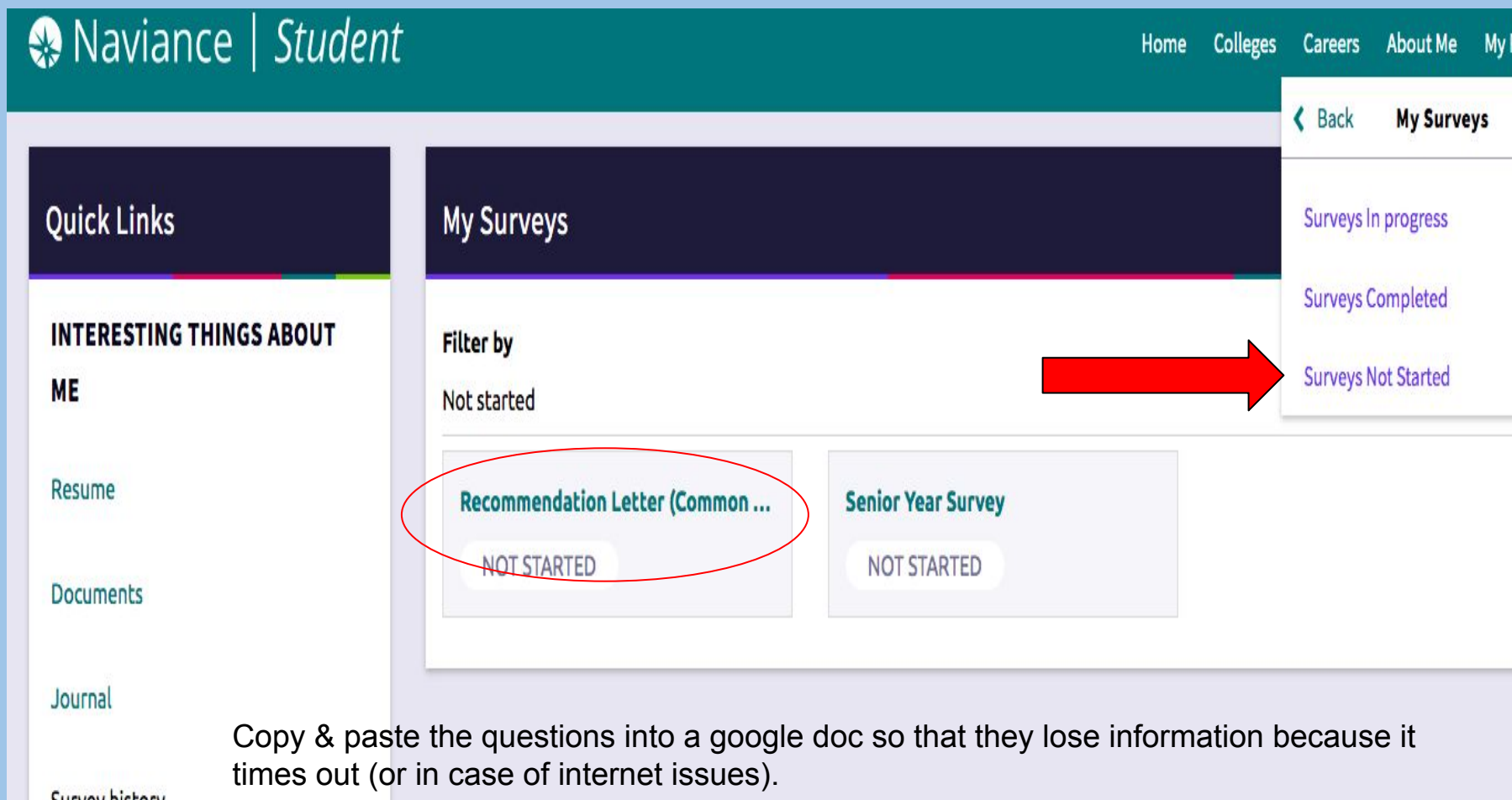
r counseling department and your College and Career Center  
through the college application process. Please read your  
arly. We are here for all your questions and concerns.

My Favorites

COLLEGES  
I'm thinking about

COLLEGES  
I'm applying to

# Select "Surveys Not Started" Then "Recommendation Letter (Common App Questionnaire"

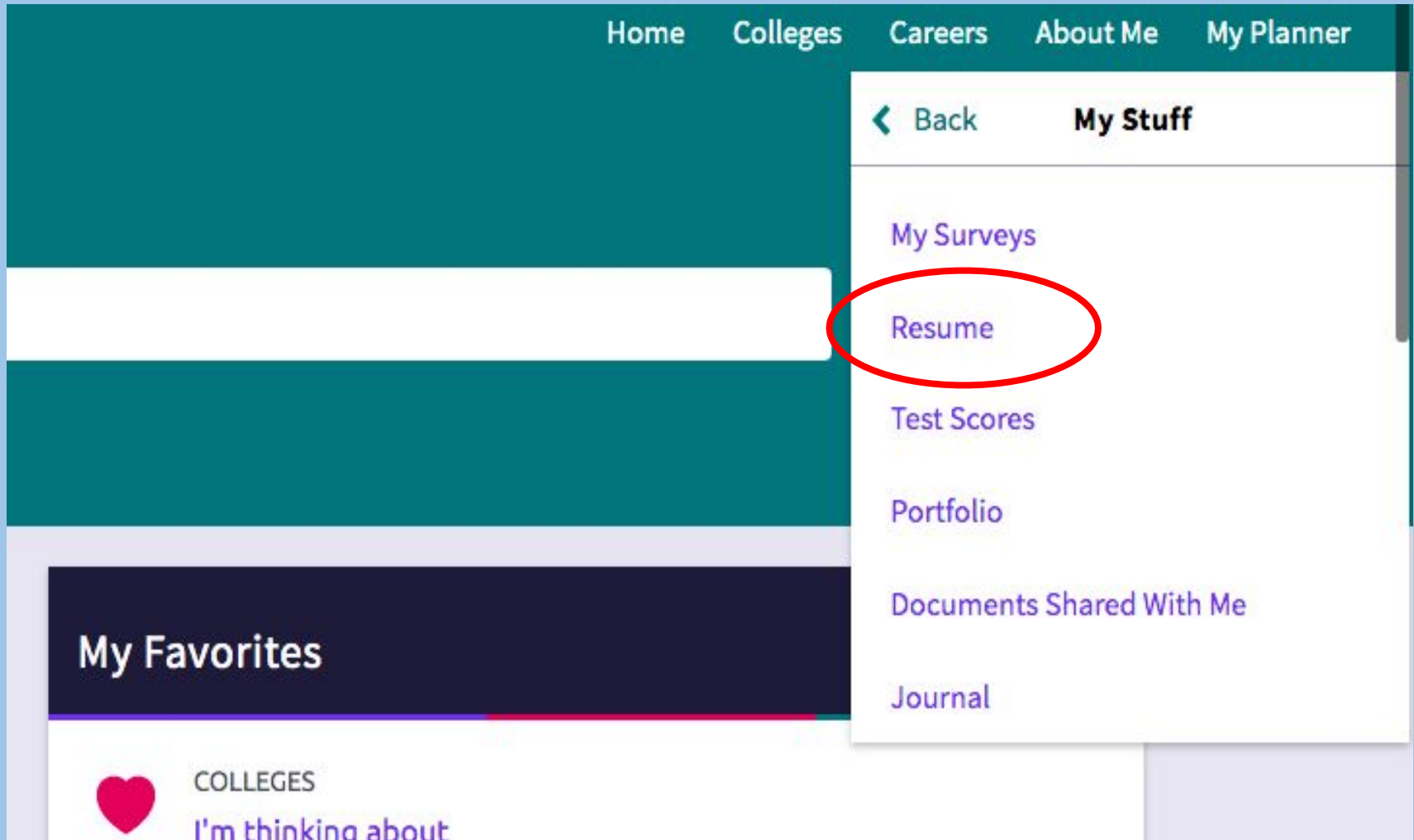


The screenshot shows the Naviance Student interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Colleges, Careers, About Me, and My Surveys. The left sidebar contains Quick Links and a section titled 'INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT ME' with links for Resume, Documents, Journal, and Survey history. The main content area is titled 'My Surveys' and features a 'Filter by' dropdown menu set to 'Not started'. A red arrow points to the 'Surveys Not Started' option in the filter dropdown. Below the filter, two survey cards are displayed: 'Recommendation Letter (Common App Questionnaire)' and 'Senior Year Survey'. The 'Recommendation Letter' card is circled in red and has a 'NOT STARTED' button. The 'Senior Year Survey' card also has a 'NOT STARTED' button.

Copy & paste the questions into a google doc so that they lose information because it times out (or in case of internet issues).

# Naviance Resume

Click on "My Stuff" under the "About Me" tab



Click on  for drop down menu and select a category.

Add/Update Sections

Print/Export Resume

Add new entries to your resume by selecting a type of entry from the menu below. If you're not sure what information to provide, you can select an entry type and read the tips displayed. When printing your resume, you can choose which entries you want to display, so we encourage you to add as much information as possible.



We noticed you haven't created a resume yet. To get started, select the Plus button.

#### High School

Meda De Las Pulgas














, CA 94002-3585

595-0210

chs.org

Counselor



-  Objective
-  Summary
-  Work Experience
-  Education
-  Volunteer Services
-  Extracurricular Activities
-  Awards / Certificates
-  Skills / Academic Achie...
-  Music / Artistic Achieve...
-  Athletic Achievement
-  References
-  Additional Information
-  Leadership

If unsure about category,  
select "extra-curricular."

It is okay to estimate average  
hours to include practices,  
weekends tournaments, etc.

### Description/Comments Tip:

Explain why you joined, then  
share your goal and your role.

*"I find hikes mentally  
rejuvenating. This is why I  
decided to create a Hiking  
Club. As president of the club,  
my goal is to...."*

\* Activity (required)

⚠ Please enter name

\* Start Date: (required)

Month ▼ Year ▼

⚠ Please enter start date

End Date:

Month ▼ Year ▼

☐ To Present

Average Hours per Week

Total Hours

Grades Participated:

☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11  
☐ 12

Description / Comments:

## Matching Naviance & Common App

Required in order for us to send recommendation letters and transcripts to your Common App schools.

Log into Common App to sign FERPA Waiver:

1. Complete the Education section on Common App
2. Add schools, then Click on "My Colleges" tab
3. Click Recommender & FERPA tab for any school on your list
4. Follow instructions; say **\*YES** to WAIVE your rights

You only need to do this once (FERPA Waiver populates to all schools on your Common App).

\*Lets colleges know you do not intend to read letters and reassures they are candid and true.

\*Teachers/counselors may decline to write letters if you do not waive your rights to read the letter.



## Final step to Match Accounts

- Go to "Colleges I'm applying to" on Naviance
- Click on Match Accounts (follow instructions)

The screenshot shows the Naviance Student web interface. At the top is a teal header with the Naviance logo and the word "Student". To the right of the header are navigation links: Home, Colleges, Careers, About Me, and My Planner. Below the header is a dark blue section titled "Colleges I'm applying to" with a search bar on the right labeled "Search for colleges". A prominent pink banner across the middle contains an information icon and the text: "It looks like you are not currently able to apply to Common App schools. Match your Common App account to Naviance Student account to get started." To the right of this banner is a white button labeled "Match Accounts". Below the banner, there are links for "Manage Transcripts" and "Compare Me", followed by a red circular button with a white plus sign. At the bottom, there is a section titled "College that I'm attending:" and a legend indicating that a star icon means "extended profile available". On the right side of the bottom section, there are links for "+ REQUEST TRANSCRIPTS" and a trash can icon labeled "REMOVE".



# UC PIQ

## UC's Personal Insight Questions [\(PIQ\)](#)

- Select 4 (out of 8) prompts to answer.
- Each response is limited to 350 words.
- Select prompts that best reflects your academic and life experiences. All are given equal consideration.
- Don't worry about the word count when you are drafting your responses.
- The PIQ link has great tips to make the essay introspective. It requires you to think critically and analytically.

## Common App essay prompts for 2021-2022.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

# Closing Comments

- Questions
- To contact your counselor:
  - Find email on Carlmont website (Counseling Dept)
  - Canvas
- Ms. Rasor is available until June 10th for follow-up questions.

**Have a great summer!**