# Class of 2020 Summer Assignment

It's the summer before Senior Year. There is a lot coming up between school work, college applications and the exciting distractions of friends and fun in Senior Year. We have created some simple assignments to help make the upcoming school year manageable, and give you something to do this summer.

1) Naviance: Under "Student Links" at www.helixcharter.net
These assignments should all be completed in your Naviance account. <u>Remember your username is your Helix email account.</u>

| <u>Assignment</u> | <u>Where to Complete It</u> | <u>Why Do It</u> |
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| Game Plan | "About Me" tab<br>- "Post Secondary Plans" section | Help clarify your post high school goals |
| High School Resume | "About Me" tab<br>- "My Stuff" section<br>*Be sure to complete ALL of the following sections:*<br>1) Volunteer Service<br>2) Extra Curricular Activities<br>3) Awards/Certificates--Honors and Recognition<br>4) Academic Skills--your academic strengths<br>5) Music/Artistic--your creative talents<br>6) Athletics--physical talents<br>7) References--who would you ask for a letter of recommendation | Will help with:<br>● College applications<br>● Scholarships<br>● Job applications<br>● Letters of recommendations |
| College Interest List | "Colleges" tab<br>- "Colleges I'm Thinking About" section<br>*Be sure to:*<br>1) Check your status for colleges in "Scattergrams"<br>2) Select at least 5 colleges, no maximum<br>  a) Dream big with some "reach schools," but also be realistic and add schools you believe you have a good chance of being admitted as well as 1 - 2 "safety schools".<br>    i) NOTE: SDSU is never a safety school, no matter how smart you are or how good your grades are.<br>    ii) Examples of possible Safety Schools are: CSU Dominguez Hills, CSU Channel Islands, CSU San Bernardino, CSU Stanislaus, CSU East Bay<br>  b) Your list should include at least ONE of each of the following:<br>    i) Community College<br>    ii) CSU<br>    iii) UC<br>    iv) Private University<br>    v) Out of State University | - Gives you a starting point for next school year<br>- Allows you to compare yourself against other Helix students that applied with their results |

2)                    Register for your ACT and/or SAT exams
- Unless you have already taken a test and are satisfied with your current scores.
- Make sure you include the Writing Section in your test registration. It is an additional cost but required by some colleges

| ACT | www.actstudent.org |
|---|---|
| SAT | www.collegeboard.org |
| Subject Exams<br>• If you are interested in a STEM Major and applying to a UC or Private School, taking Subject Exams that you can to well on is strongly recommended<br>    ○ Math Level II<br>    ○ Science Exams | www.collegeboard.org |
| Free Test Prep<br>• SAT Prep<br>    ○ Use Helix Gmail account to set up a Khan account if you do not yet have one<br><br>• ACT Prep<br>    ○ Sign up using your Helix email and use the coupon code: HELIX | • https://www.khanacademy.org/<br><br><br>• Naviance Test Prep |

3) Create an account cheat sheet. Remembering your usernames and passwords can be a nightmare and when you forget them it becomes a pain to get into your accounts. We encourage you to keep a simple document in your Google Docs. Here is a template you can download, make a copy and personalize for yourself. (For access you must be logged into your Helix Gmail Account.)

4) Earn entries for the College Board Opportunity Scholarships. College Board is giving away 3,950 scholarships worth a grand total of $4,550,000.00. You can have a piece of that. All you have to do is prepare.

5) Applying to private schools? You can start the common application now. Do not start the specific school section until August 1st, but you can open an account and work on the common app tab now and roll it over into next year's application. No reason to wait. Now is the time.

6) Plan on applying to any UC campuses? Use this time in the summer to start brainstorming and drafting your responses to the "Personal Insight Questions." Brainstorming and planning is great, but it is not recommended that you complete your responses until you have completed your application.
- The responses should ADD additional information to your application and not just repeat what you have already told them.
- Think of your responses as answers to an interview question. Do not overthink it. Do not write an essay. Do not be flowery. Be sure to answer the question directly with specific examples.