



# LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL

---

---

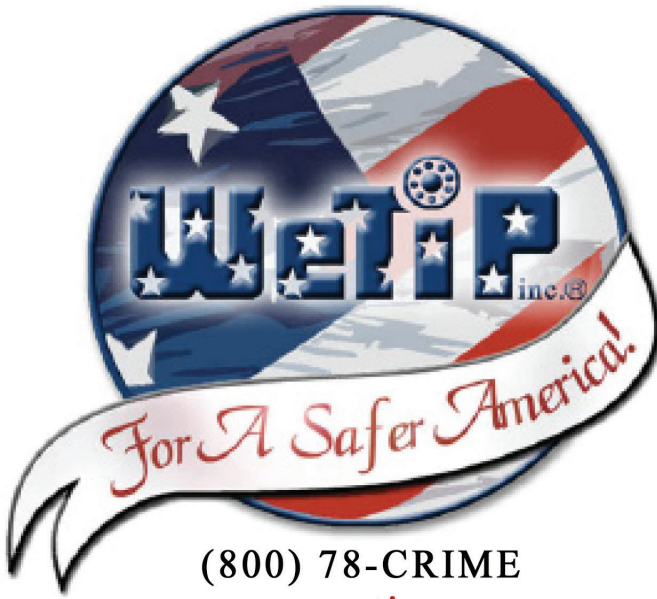
2009-2010



---

---

## BLACKHAWK HANDBOOK



**(800) 78-CRIME**  
**[www.wetip.com](http://www.wetip.com)**

---

---

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome  
Mission Statement  
ESLRS  
Address & Phone Numbers  
School Map  
Daily Bell Schedule

## **General Information**

Student Rules & Regulations  
Attendance Policy  
Discipline  
Library Rules & Guidelines

## **School Athletics**

Athletics

## **Academic Information**

Graduation Requirements  
Home/Hospital  
Requirements: Valedictorian, Salutatorian, & Top 10  
Criteria for Grading  
Text Book Policy

## **Departments**

Academies  
Business  
English  
Foreign Language  
Mathematics  
Physical Education  
Science  
Social Studies  
Visual & Performing Arts  
Regional Occupational Programs (ROP) & Courses

## **Education After High School**

A Few Hints About the College Process  
Choosing the Right College  
Admissions Selectivity of Schools  
Requirements for College Admissions  
California State University System  
University of California A-G Requirements  
California Independent Colleges  
Community Colleges  
Armed Services

---

---

# PRINCIPAL'S GREETING

Welcome to a new year at La Quinta High School. You are fortunate to be attending one of the finest schools in Southern California – a school that offers a path to success for each and every student. We take great pride in the many special, diverse programs that we offer to our students, including International Baccalaureate, Health and Public Service Academies, a Culinary Arts Institute, Jr. ROTC, and an Education Pathway. I also invite you to consider joining one of our athletic teams, or to become involved in the band, color guard, theater, choir, or help create the yearbook or school newspaper. There are many opportunities for you to find an area in which you can excel, and prepare for your future.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the information contained in this handbook and use it as a tool to assist you with organizing your daily activities. I encourage you to become fully involved in Blackhawk life and make the most of your years here; they will pass quickly. If you take advantage of all that is offered to you while at La Quinta High School, you will surely leave us with confidence and pride as you move toward your next challenge in life. Good luck to each of you; your success is important to me.

Mrs. Donna Salazar, Principal

---

---

# MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the La Quinta High School community is to promote an academic, aesthetic, social, and co-curricular environment which develops lifelong learners who are confident, responsible citizens with an appreciation of cultural diversity and creativity.

## **Graduation Goals**

### **Independent Learners**

Use self-evaluation while implementing ideas or plans.

Develop, monitor, improve, and use effective learning strategies and self improvement plans.

Plan for the future by setting priorities and achievable goals.

### **Critical Thinkers**

Apply complex problem-solving processes and critical thinking to real life scenarios.

Analyze, interpret, and evaluate significant concepts within various contexts.

Create images to represent significant concepts.

Transfer learned skills to new situations, synthesize information from

multiple sources and identify complexities and discrepancies in the information and how different perspectives are found in each medium

Construct and judge the validity of a logical argument and give counter examples to disprove a statement.

### **Academic Achievers**

Meet or exceed the Desert Sands Unified School District's standards in English, math, science, social studies, and all other area frameworks and standards.

Be prepared to make a successful transition to further education or their chosen career.

### **Responsible Citizens**

Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures that foster tolerance for individual differences.

Understand how actions, or lack of actions, affect oneself, others, and the community at large.

Demonstrate positive and productive citizenship that is characterized by respectful and ethical behavior.

### **Effective Communicators**

Convey significant messages to others both verbally and in writing.

Receive and interpret the messages of others in an effective manner.

Able to utilize technology, effectively manage information, and expand communication.

---

---

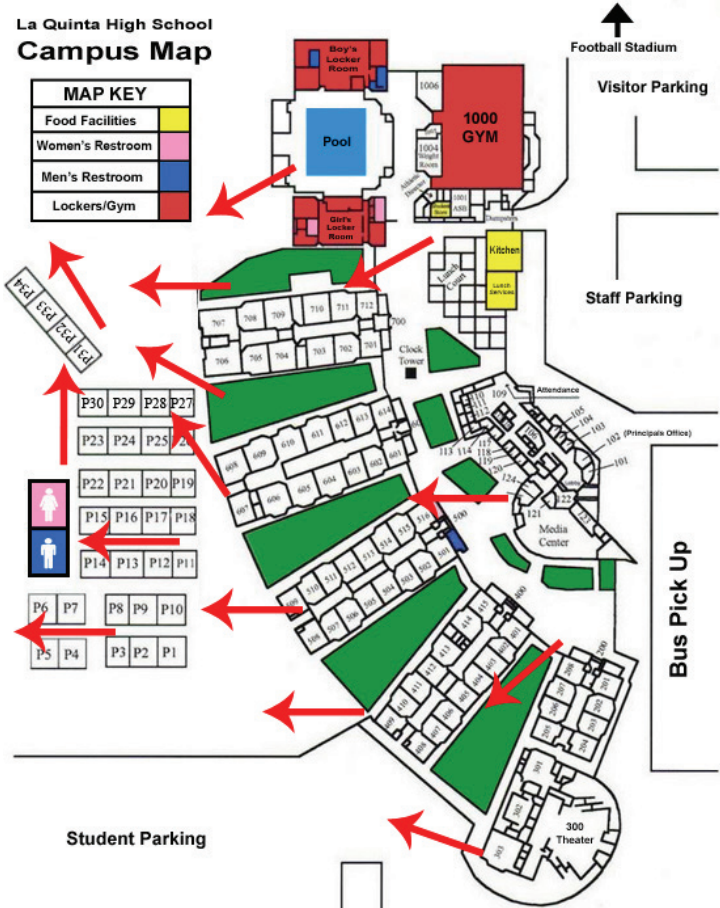
# CONTACT INFORMATION

Main Number	772-4150
Principal Donna Salazar	2102
Asst. Principals	
Bob Hicks	2105
TBD	2117
Larry Bellanich	2220
Brad Fisher	2104
Office Staff	
Reception Desk - Jeannine Blondell	0
Secretary - Claudia Ortiz	2106
Principal's Secretary - Celeste Strege	2103
School Nurse - Susan Koontz	2141
Health Technician - Cindy Peck	2134
Facilities Secretary - Samantha Hirsh	2131
Office Tech - Hope Hernandez	2199
Data Tech - Melanie Morales	2115
Attendance - main line	2150
Attendance Hotline	360-4928
Counseling	2135
Career Tech - Julie VanVacter	1701
Registrar	2116
Discipline- Security	2119
Disc. Sec. - Ana Garza	2119
Probation - Jeff Richardson	2219
Deputy - Kevin Morre	2118
Other	
ASB Accountant - Rosanna Ferraro	2158
IB Coordinator - Diana Cinatl	1224
Cafeteria - Virginia Andrade	2090
Yearbook - Marcy Herrera	1706
Librarian - Jim Duke	2121

# SCHOOL MAP

## La Quinta High School Campus Map

MAP KEY	
Food Facilities	Yellow
Women's Restroom	Pink
Men's Restroom	Blue
Lockers/Gym	Red



---

---

# **BELL SCHEDULE**

---

## **Regular Schedule (Monday - Friday)**

Period 1	7:42-8:44
Period 2	8:50-9:46
Period 3	9:52-10:48
Period 4	10:54-11:50
Lunch	11:50-12:30
Period 5	12:36-1:32
Period 6	1:38-2:34

## **Professional Planning Schedule (Tuesday)**

Planning	7:30-8:18
Period 1	8:18-9:15
Period 2	9:21-10:10
Period 3	10:16-11:05
Period 4	11:11-12:00
Lunch	12:00-12:40
Period 5	12:46-1:35
Period 6	1:41-2:30

## **Block Schedule (Wednesday/Thursday)**

Period 1/2	7:42-9:44
Passing	9:44-9:54
Period 3/4	9:54-11:51
Lunch	11:51-12:31
Period 5/6	12:37-2:34

---

---

# ATTENDANCE POLICY

All students are expected to be in attendance each school day. La Quinta High School will implement and follow the Desert Sands Unified School District adopted attendance policy and procedures as outlined in the district's Parent & Student Handbook. Refer to the district handbook for a complete version. Key components are as follows:

**The following guidelines shall be used to determine if a student's absence is excused or unexcused:**

1. A student's absence may be excused legally for the following reasons (Education Code 48205)
  - Personal illness
  - Quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer
  - Medical, dental, optometry, or chiropractic appointment with a verified Doctor's Note
  - Attendance at a funeral service for a member of the immediate family
    - i. Excused absence in this instance shall be limited to one day if service is conducted in the state of California, or three days if the service is conducted out of state
    - ii. "Immediate family" shall be defined as mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, spouse, sister, brother, son, daughter or any relative living in the immediate household of the student
  - Exclusion for up to five days for failure to present evidence of immunization
  - Jury duty in the manner provided by law
  - Due to illness or medical appointment of a child of whom the student is the custodial parent
2. Upon written request of the parent/guardian, a student's absence may be excused for justifiable personal reasons, including but not limited to (Education Code 48205);
  - Appearance in court
  - Observation of a religious holiday or ceremony
  - Employment interview or conference
  - Attendance at religious retreats not to exceed four

---

---


hours per semester

- College visitations - three days per year

3. When a student has accrued twenty (20) continuous school days of absences without contacting the school to explain the absence, the process for withdrawing this student will begin.

**It is the parent/guardian's duty and responsibility to notify the school of their student's absence. Parents/guardians may verify a student's absence in the following manners:**

1. Written statement from the parent/guardian noting the reason and providing current contact numbers for school verification
2. A documented conversation (by attendance designee) in person or by telephone with the attendance designee

#### **Timeline to excuse student absence**

1. Parents/guardians have ten (10) school days to communicate with the school to excuse a student's absence.

Absences can be excused by the following methods:

- Signed note from Parent/Guardian
- Calling the automated system (760) 360-4928
- Calling the school directly at (760) 772-4150 extension 2133
- Online at [www.dsusd.k12.ca.us/Schools/LQHS/](http://www.dsusd.k12.ca.us/Schools/LQHS/)

2. After ten (10) school days, student absences may not be excused and will be considered truancy.


#### **Truancy**

1. Students shall be classified as truant if absent from school without a valid excuse three full days in one school year or tardy or absent for more than any 30 minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year, or any combination thereof. Such students shall be reported to the Superintendent or designee. (Education Code 48260)

- Upon a student's first or second truancy within the same

---

---



school year, an appropriate district staff member shall make every effort to hold at least one conference with the student and parent/guardian and may discuss resources available for achieving regular school attendance, which may include but not be limited to Program changes, Referral of family to community agency, Referral to school psychologist or student study team, Modified day, Independent study, Special programs, School furlough, Work-experience education, Alternative education, Referral for health checkup or medical examination.

### **Weekend/Saturday Classes**

The Superintendent or designee may provide weekend classes, as needed, including but not limited to makeup classes for unexcused absences occurring during the week. Failure to attend Saturday School will result in additional Saturday School(s) and Community Service hours.

The principal or designee may require truants to attend makeup classes on one day of a weekend in order to make up lost instructional time. (Education Code 37223)

Assignment to Saturday School shall be made by the school principal or designee. The class must be held for the minimum day applicable for the individual student. (Education Code 46112, 46113, 46141, 46142)


Saturday schools are held once per month from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Students are responsible for bringing work to do during the time they are here. If a student is unable to attend the attendance office requires 48 hours notice to re-schedule to another date. Failure to attend Saturday school may result in additional Saturday schools and community service hours.

### **Excessive Absence, Secondary (Grades 9-12)**

Students who are habitual truants, irregular in school attendance, or habitually insubordinate or disorderly during attendance at school may be referred to, and required to attend, a school attendance review board, a truancy mediation program established by the district

---

---



attorney or the probation officer, or a comparable program deemed acceptable by the district's attendance supervisor. (Education Code 48263, 48264.5)

Students who have been identified as having excessive absences will be referred to the attendance designee. The attendance designee may do the following:

1. Determine and verify the reason for the absence
2. Counsel the student and parent/guardian
3. Provide relevant solutions to remove attendance barriers
4. Refer the student to the appropriate party or agencies for services (School Resource Officer, Student Assistance Program, etc...)

#### Grading Policy/Truancy and Unexcused Absence

Attendance to class shall not be factored into a student's final grade. It is expected that students attend all classes.

#### **Closed Campus**

In order to keep students in a supervised, safe and orderly environment, the Governing Board establishes a closed campus at all district schools.

Students shall not leave the school grounds at any time during the school day without written permission of their parents/guardians and school authorities. Students who leave school without authorization shall be classified truant and subject to disciplinary action.

Students will not be allowed to access their cars in the parking lots during the school day. Once students arrive on campus, they may not return to their vehicle in the parking lot until they are leaving campus at the end of the school day.

#### **Out of Class without a Pass**

1st Referral= 1 Hour of OCS, parent notified

2nd Referral= 2 Hours of OCS, Attendance/Behavior


Contract, parent notified

3rd Referral= 1 Day OCS, parent notified

4th Referral= 2 Days OCS, parent notified

---

---

5th Referral and Beyond= May result in Suspension and placement on exclusion list

### **Off Campus Passes**

In order to provide the best education, students need to attend school for the entire day. Please attempt to schedule appointments after school hours or during the ample number of scheduled vacation days. The attendance office will limit the number of off campus passes to those legally excused reasons (see above Ed. Code 48205).

- To allow for the maximum amount of instructional time students will not be released from their classrooms until the parent or guardian arrives on campus to pick them up. Students with a pre-determined dismissal time will be asked to return to their classrooms if their wait time is excessive. Please plan you appointments accordingly.
- Students must pick up their pass before leaving campus and must check back in with the attendance office upon their return to campus. For medical appointments the student must present a Doctor's note when they check back in.

### **Off Campus without Permission/Pass**

1st Infraction=Community Service/Lunch Detention (Hours to be determined)

2nd Infraction=Saturday School, attendance/behavior contract

3rd Infraction=OCS for the remainder of the day, parent notified

4th Infraction=OCS for the remainder of the day and the entire following day, parent notified

5th Infraction=May result in Suspension and placement on exclusion list

---

---



### **Exclusion List**

- Students with more than 18 unexcused period absences, per semester, may be placed on the exclusion list.
- Students with more than 6 unexcused absences in any one class, per semester, may be placed on the exclusion list.
- For further information about the exclusion list please see the discipline section.

### **Athletics**

Students are expected to be in attendance the entire day in order to participate in their athletic competition, please schedule medical appointments accordingly. We understand that family emergencies can happen, in those cases please contact either the Athletic Director or the Attendance Facilitator. If you are home due to illness, or have an unexcused absence/truancy you will not be permitted to participate. Each team will also have their own policy in place, please note team rules and expectations as well.

### **Attendance Incentives**

1. Monthly drawings for students with perfect attendance and/or improved attendance.
2. Random rewards for classrooms with perfect attendance.
3. End of the year drawings for students with perfect attendance all year.

---

---

# TARDY POLICY

---

All students are expected to be on time for school and in their assigned seats before the beginning of class. Students who arrive late for school and have a valid excuse (see list below) must receive an admit slip at the Attendance Office window before continuing to class all other students must report directly to class. Students who are more than 30 minutes late will be counted as absent.

Students who arrive tardy to class will be subject to the following consequences:

Tardies 1-3: Teachers will assign, document and monitor consequences which may include Community Service, Detention, etc...

Tardy 4: Teacher discretion which may include 1 hour of On Campus Suspension with parent notification.

Tardy 5: Teacher discretion which may include 2 hours of On Campus Suspension with parent notification.

Tardy 6: Student may be assigned 1 Day of OCS with parent notification and placed on an attendance/behavior contract.

Tardy 7: Student may be assigned 2 Days of OCS with parent notification.


Tardy 8 and beyond: May result in suspension and possible addition to the exclusion list with parent notification.

Students with 16 or more cumulative class tardies in all periods will be eligible for an Attendance / Tardy Contract.

Repeated tardies will be viewed as a defiant behavior and assigned appropriate consequences as permitted by Education Code which may include suspension.

---

---



Students who arrive late to school may be excused as tardy by the attendance office for the following:

1. Illness (Doctor Note required after 3 days)
2. Doctor/Medical appointment (Must present Doctor's note upon arrival)
3. Verified court, police or legal issue
4. Verified job interview
5. College visit (2 per semester)

Regrettably, traffic congestion, transportation problems, etc. are not valid excuses. Please plan your morning accordingly.

Caution: Students who are assigned after-school community service are required to attend on the appointed date. Students who do not complete the assignment will be considered defiant and will be assigned all day On Campus Suspension the next school day. Should rescheduling of an assignment be necessary, please call the Discipline Office 24 hours in advance at 772-4150 extension 2119.

---

---

# DISCIPLINE

---

The goal of the La Quinta High School discipline policy is to provide a structured climate, which is safe and orderly and enables students to learn at an optimum level. La Quinta High School adopts and implements the Desert Sands Unified School District discipline policy as outlined in the Parent & Student Handbook.


La Quinta High School implements a zero tolerance policy for violence, defiance toward authority, disruption of the school process, vandalism, graffiti, tagging, and gang related activities. All students are expected to comply with school and classroom regulations and contribute to a clean, safe, and positive campus environment.

The sequence of disciplinary consequences follows a progressive discipline model and begins with minimal actions, which can be taken and ends with maximum action, which can be administered. This does not imply that a step by step progression of increasing severity needs be used by the school staff in dealing with the violation. Disciplinary consequences are based on circumstances unique to each individual incident of inappropriate behavior and will be dependent on such factors as:

- Severity of the incident
- The student's discipline record
- The student's attitude which includes a sense of ownership of the behavior and willingness to change

Consequences for inappropriate behavior may receive one or more of the following:

1. Detention – Assigned by teachers or administrators, which may include before or after school, and/or lunch time.
2. Campus Community Service – Assigned by administration as an after school consequence which may include campus clean-up, assisting clerical, and/or facilities set up or take down.


- 
- 
- 
3. On Campus Suspension – Teachers may assign period suspensions not to exceed two hour assignments. Administration may assign full day(s).
  4. Home Suspension – Administration may assign up to five (5) consecutive days for violation of school and district policy
  5. Saturday School – This consequence is reserved for students with truancies and will be structured to provide tutoring and make up opportunities.
  6. Behavior/Attendance Contract – Administration may place a student on contract for excessive disciplinary occurrences.
  7. Exclusion List – Administration may place a student on an exclusion list prohibiting the student from participating in any extra or after school activity for any one of the following: suspension, attendance/behavior contract violation, and library fines.
  8. Referral to Law Enforcement – If it is determined that criminal laws have been violated, students will be referred to the appropriate authorities.
  9. Recommendation for Expulsion – When the Principal determines that a student has committed offense(s), which by Education Code 48900 can be considered for expulsion, the Principal has the authority to recommend to the Board of Education that the student be expelled.

In addition to the detention, suspension and expulsion guidelines listed above, the following guidelines are designed to help students understand basic responsibilities at La Quinta High School. All students are responsible for understanding and following these basic rules:

1. Students must have a pass from the teacher when leaving a classroom.
2. Leaving class without permission is considered both truancy and an act of defiance. This could result in suspension, change of schedule, and/or detention or Saturday School.
3. Once a student has arrived on campus by way of bus,

---

---



walking, or car, he/she may not leave the campus without permission.

4. Loitering within 500 feet of the school is not permitted. Students may not loiter across the street or in the adjoining neighborhood. We value a good relationship with our “neighbors” around the school. Please respect their property.

5. A pass to leave school must be issued by the Attendance Clerk to any student wishing to leave campus.

6. Smoking is not allowed on campus and will result in suspension. State law prohibits students from possessing tobacco. Matches and lighters are also prohibited.

7. Possession/use/selling/distributing any controlled substance or drug paraphernalia is a violation of Education Code 48900 and students will be suspended and/or recommended for expulsion.

8. Gambling on campus is not permitted and may result in suspension.

9. Disruptive and/or defiant behavior on campus will result in immediate consequences.

10. Electronic devices such as radios, walk-mans, Ipods, tape players, cell phones, pagers are not appropriate for school and should not be visible or activated during instruction time. Bicycles, skateboards and rollerblades are not allowed on campus. Items that disrupt the educational process will be taken by school personnel and will require a parent to contact the school.

11. Students are not allowed to have in their possession permanent markers, paint markers, or any item used for tagging purposes. Tagging anywhere on school grounds is strictly forbidden.

12. Board Policy 5132, Dress and Grooming: All students shall be required to dress and groom appropriately for school with attention to and emphasis upon the following:

Neatness            Cleanliness

See enclosed dress code guidelines

---

---

  
  
**Citizenship**

The goal in discipline is for the students to accept responsibility for developing and demonstrating self-control and self-direction while engaging in a productive and positive academic and social environment. The classroom teacher is directly responsible for the conduct of students in the classroom. Such actions as disobedience, violations of reasonable rules, defiance of authority of teachers, insubordination, profanity, vulgarity, fighting or any disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

**Classroom Behavior**

Teachers have the right to expect students to follow classroom regulations. All students are responsible to comply with class regulations and procedures.

**Passing Time Between Periods**

Students are expected to immediately proceed to their next class, take their seat, and prepare for class before the end of each passing period.


**During Class Time**

All students are expected to remain in class during each period. Only authorized passes signed and dated by that period teacher will be accepted. Students out of class with out a valid pass will be assigned to On Campus Suspension for the remainder of that period.

**Sexual Harassment**

Any behavior related to sexual harassment will not be tolerated. Sexual harassment can be defined as any unwanted sexual advance or other visual, verbal and physical conduct of a sexual nature, including but not limited to:

1. Sexual advances which are unwanted, including situations which began as reciprocal attractions, but later ceased to be reciprocal.

- 
- 
- 
2. Reprisals or threats after a negative response to sexual advances.
  3. Visual conducts such as displaying sexually suggestive objects, or pictures, cartoons or posters.
  4. Leering or sexual gestures.
  5. Verbal abuse of a sexual nature, sexually explicit jokes and comments, sexually suggestive letters, notes or invitations.
  6. Physical conduct such as assault, attempted rape or rape, impeding or blocking movement and touching, cornering where one or more persons prevent free movement of another person, which may include offensive touching or remarks.
  7. The victim does not have to be of the opposite gender.

Sexual harassment in the school environment refers to situations in which the acts of sexual harassment are considered by a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently severe or pervasive as:

- a. To have a negative impact upon harassed individuals academic performance
- b. To create a hostile, intimidating or offensive educational environment

---

---

# DRESS CODE

---


La Quinta High School values an environment which fosters academics and learning. All students are expected to be dressed appropriately each school day. The following dress code has been adopted to promote these objectives.

The Academic Dress Code at La Quinta High School is as follows:

1. Clothing and/or accessories depicting sexually suggestive, crude or vulgar images, alcoholic beverages, tobacco or drugs, weapons, ammunition, gang-related names or symbols or racially/socially inflammatory material are not permitted.
2. Apparel in which any undergarments are showing is not permitted (i.e., sagging, clear bra straps, holes in clothing, under-sized clothing, sleep wear, transparent, see-through, or fish-net materials)
3. Dresses, skirts, shorts, or skorts, shorter than mid-thigh (halfway between the waist and the knee or close to finger tip length with arms extended) are not permitted.
4. Long or over size coats/outer wear are not permitted due to safety concerns.
5. Tank tops will be permitted provided there is a high neckline in front with 2" wide straps and no underwear/bra strap is exposed or visible through the fabric. Tank tops with large scoop arm openings are not permitted.
6. Backless, strapless, racer-back or T-back, halter-top and one strap tops or dresses are not permitted. (Spaghetti strap tops with high straight fronts will be permitted provided no cleavage or bra strap is exposed.)
7. Midriff showing will not be permitted! Cutoff, ragged or torn garments are not permitted.
8. Excessively baggy pants and/or shirts are not allowed. Pants must be able to stay up around the waist without the use of a belt. Pants must not drag on the ground. The use of staples, nails, safety pins and/or tacks to secure pants is not permitted.
9. Pants or shorts must be worn at the waist. Sagging pants

---

---



or shorts are not allowed. Pants or shorts must cover all undergarments. Physical Education shorts/swimwear may only be worn in P.E. class.

10. Wallet chains and/or decorative jewelry/accessories that can be considered dangerous such as “spikes” are not permitted. Hairnets, bandanas and “do-rags” are not permitted.

School officials have the responsibility to determine what constitutes a dress code violation, i.e., sweaters draped over the shoulders to hide inappropriate clothing. Violators will be required to call home for a change clothes, use school issued clothing or may be sent home to change clothes. Repeated violations may result in referral to On Campus Suspension or a school suspension.

---

---

# MEDIA CENTER

---

The LQHS Media Center is open:

7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Monday - Friday

Phone Number:

760-772-4150, Ext. 2126

Media Center Rules:

1. Food and drinks are not allowed in the building at any time.
2. You are expected to work on school assignments, study and/or read quietly.
3. Please put all cell phones on silent or vibrate.
4. Please do not move the furniture.

## **Student Use:**

Before School, During Lunch and After School:

Students may use the Media Center before school, at lunch and after the school day without making prior arrangements.

Students are expected to work on school assignments, study or read while in the Media Center. Due to limited seating capacity, it is not a place to gather for social conversations or to hang out with friends.

## **During Class Time:**

Students must have a pass from their teacher to use the Media Center. Students are required to sign in once they arrive in the Media Center. We will try to accommodate as many students as possible, but due to a full schedule of classes which have reserved the use of the Media Center, this is not always possible.


## **Computer Use:**

The Media Center computers are for EDUCATIONAL purposes only.

In accordance with the district's acceptable use of technology form which students and parents sign, we do not allow students to play games, send or receive e-mail or "surf the web" for personal enjoyment. **Student ID cards are required for computer use at all times.** We stop assigning

---

---



computers a few minutes before the first bell rings before school and during lunch so that students are on time to class!

**Printing Prices:**

Because of the cost of paper and printer supplies, there is a nominal charge for printing from our computers. We are unable to offer free printing to students.

**Check-Out Policy for Students:**

Students may check out up to three library books at a time. Check out period is 21 days, with a maximum of one renewal period allowed.

Student ID cards are required to check out books.

Patron is financially responsible for all damage and a timely return of loan material.

Students with overdue books are not allowed additional book checkouts or use of the Media Center textbooks or computers until the overdue books have been returned. Reference materials, periodicals and the Media Center's copies of textbooks are only available for use in the Media Center.

**Inter-Library Loan Policy:**

A photocopy of proper I.D. with photo, must accompany the request for material as well as patron's mailing address, home phone number and home room, if appropriate.

Check out Period for inter-library loan material is 14 days.

Patron is financially responsible for all damage and a timely return of loan material.

There is a \$1 per day fine for overdue inter-library loan materials.

If there are any shipping charges, the patron is responsible.

---

---

# ATHLETICS

---

## **Fall**

Boys' Cross Country - JV/V

Girls' Cross Country - JV/V

Football - F/JV/V

Girls' Golf - JV/V

Girls' Tennis - JV/V

Boys' Water Polo - JV/V

Volleyball - F/JV/V

## **Winter**

Boys' Basketball - F/JV/V

Girls' Basketball - F/JV/V

Boys' Soccer - JV/V

Girls' Soccer - JV/V

Girls' Water Polo - JV/V

Wrestling - F/JV/V

## **Spring**

Baseball - F/JV/V

Boys' Golf - JV/V

Softball - F/JV/V

Boys' Swimming - JV/V

Girls' Swimming - JV/V

Boys' Tennis - JV/V

Boys' Track - JV/V

Girls' Track - JV/V

## **Club Sports**

Cheerleading

To participate in sports you must complete the following:

Athlete's Registration Card (#1)

Physical Exam Card (#2)

Emergency Medical Waiver Card (#3)

School/Sports History Card (10th - 12th grades only)

CIF-SS Athletes Code of Ethics

All athletes are required to show proof of medical insurance or they must purchase Meyers-Stevens Insurance.

---

---

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Each year students take what are called “core” classes. These classes are required for every student who receives a diploma from the Desert Sands Unified School District. To graduate, students need 230 total credits. Students must also pass the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE).

**Social Studies:** 3-1/2 years (35 credits)

- 9<sup>th</sup> gr. – Geography (one semester)
- 10<sup>th</sup> gr. – World Cultures (one year)
- 11<sup>th</sup> gr. – U.S. History (one year)
- 12<sup>th</sup> gr. – Government/Economics (one year)

**English:** 4 years (40 credits)

- English 1-4

**Math:** 2 years (20 credits)

*Class of 2010 and beyond (30 Credits)*

- Algebra I
- one other math

**Science:** 2 years (20 credits)

- one year of life science (biology or anatomy)
- one year of physical science (earth science, geology, chemistry or physics)

**Fine Art or Foreign Language:** 1 year (10 credits)

- one full year of the same visual or performing art or one full year of a foreign language

**Physical Education:** 2 years (20 credits)

**Computer Studies:** 1 semester (5 credits)

**Health:** 1 semester (5 credits)

**Electives:** (75 credits or as many elective credit you need to meet the 230 total credits)

*Class of 2010 and beyond (65 Credits)*

In addition to these requirements students are expected to take three years of math and science.

---

---

# HOME/HOSPITAL

---

## **What is Home and Hospital Instruction?**

Home and Hospital Instruction is designed for those students who are too ill (bedridden) to attend regular school or go into Independent Study. For purposes of computing average daily attendance pursuant to Ed Code; section 42238.5, each clock hour of teaching time devoted to individual instruction shall count as one day of attendance (1 hour = 1 day of instruction). A home and hospital teacher cannot provide instruction when school is not in session.

## **How to Apply for Home and Hospital Instruction:**

The parent/guardian must present a doctor's to the student's counselor. The doctor's note must be on letterhead/prescription pad giving specific dates of the absence and diagnosis. The medical reason must keep the student out for a minimum of 2 weeks. Less than 2 weeks, parent/guardian will contact the Attendance Office for homework assignments. Your student should see the home and hospital teacher a minimum of 1 hour per day/5 hours per week. A "Home and Hospital Daily Attendance Record" will require your signature.

---

---

# TOP 10

---

1. The highest grade point averages obtained in the graduating class at the end of the seventh semester will be utilized.
  - a. The student with the highest GPA will be named Valedictorian.
  - b. The student with the second highest GPA will be named Salutatorian.
  - c. In case of ties, all students with the same GPA will be named to the honor.
  - d. The Top Ten Students are composed of the Valedictorian, Salutatorian and eight (8) students with the next highest GPA.

**ALL** the following requirements must be satisfied for a student to qualify to be honored as Valedictorian, Salutatorian, or Top Ten:

1. Students must meet graduation requirements as prescribed by the Board of Education of the Desert Sands Unified School District.
2. They must attend an accredited high school for four completed years taking the maximum number of classes offered by the school (six periods per semester and three classes during Intercession at school with Intercession programs).
3. A minimum total of 230 credits must be accumulated in four complete school years, except as may be waived for a transfer student.
4. No more than 10 units of Student Aide, Community Service or Work Experience may be credited toward these honors.
5. When repeating a subject to improve a grade, an average of both grades will be used to compete for these honors.
6. To be considered eligible for academic honors at graduation, a student must complete his/her entire Senior year at the school where the diploma is to be awarded.
7. Students who graduate early will not be considered for Top 10.

---

---

# INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

The International Baccalaureate Organization aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the IBO works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

## **The Diploma Program**

The IB Diploma Program, created in 1968, is a demanding pre-university course of study that leads to examinations; it is designed for highly motivated secondary school students aged 16-19.

The IB Diploma is awarded by the IBO to students who successfully meet the assessment criteria for internal and external examinations in six academic subject areas, complete a course of study in the Theory of Knowledge, present an extended essay reflecting the student's independent research and analysis in one of the six subjects studied, and engage in 150 hours of activities that represent creativity, action and service during the junior and senior year.

## **The Certificate Program**

The IBO also awards certificates to those students who do not or can not pursue a full diploma program. IB certificates for higher level exams may be recognized for college credit depending upon the student's exam grade and the policies of individual colleges and university.

---

---

# ACADEMIES



## **Health Academy**

The La Quinta High School Health Career Academy is an unfunded program that follows the California Partnership Academy Model: A Technical course integrated with three Academic courses. The Academy is a three-year program, with senior year students interning at local medical facilities.

## **Public Service Academy**

La Quinta High School, in conjunction with local Business and Community Partners, has developed a Public service Academy for La Quinta High student's grades 10-12. The program will focus on Police, Fire and Court Services training and instruction

## **Culinary Arts Institute**

La Quinta High School has developed a Professional Food Service Program call the Culinary Arts Academy. This Program is designed to prepare students for careers working in the restaurant and food industry. The Academy is composed of the Culinary Arts I-III classes, Culinary Arts IV, an Internship, and several academic courses to improve the student's general knowledge.

---

---

# DEPARTMENTS



## **Business**

Accounting

Computer Studies

Web Page Design

Keyboarding/Word Processing

Yearbook as Computer Studies

## **English**

California High School Exit Exam – English

English I CP

English I Honors

English II CP

English II Honors

English III CP

English IV CP

English Language Development (ELD) 1, 2, 3, 4

IB English A1 HL1

IB English A1 HL2/ Advanced Placement (AP)

Journalism I, II, III, IV

Yearbook

Advanced Yearbook

---

---



## **Foreign Language**

French I CP

French II CP/Honors

French III CP/Honors

French IV CP/Honors

French Language Advanced Placement/IB SL

Italian I CP/Honors

Italian II CP/Honors

Italian III CP/Honors

Italian Lang & Culture AP

Spanish I CP

Spanish II CP/Honors

Spanish III CP/Honors

Spanish IV CP/Honors

Spanish for Spanish Speakers II CP

Spanish Language Advanced Placement (AP)/ Honors

IB Spanish B SL/HL1/HL2

## **Mathematics**

California High School Exit Exam-Math

Algebra I CP

Geometry CP

Geometry Honors

College Algebra/Trigonometry

Advanced Algebra CP

Advanced Algebra Honors

IB Math Studies

Calculus AB Advanced Placement (AP)

Calculus BC Advanced Placement (AP)

Integrated Math I and II

Statistics AP

---

---



## **Physical Education**

Dance I

Dance II

Dance Performance I & II

Personal Fitness - Lifetime Activities

Physical Education- Adaptive

Physical Education I

Physical Education II

Weight Training- Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced

Winter Guard

Color Guard

Athletic Conditioning

## **Science**

Science Lab Assistant

Health

Earth Science

Biology CP

Biology Honors

IB Biology SL

IB Biology HL I & II

Anatomy and Physiology CP

Chemistry CP

Chemistry Honors

IB Chemistry SL and HL I & II

Physics CP

Physics B Advanced Placement (AP)

---

---



## **Social Studies**

Geography CP

Psychology

Twentieth Century World History IB SL

World Cultures CP

World Cultures Honors

United States History CP

United States History Advanced Placement (AP)

American Government CP

Economics CP

IB Economics (SL)

IB History of the Americas HLI & II

## **Visual Arts**

Art I

Art II

Art III-IV

Studio Art Honors

Studio Art Advanced Placement (AP)

Ceramics I

Ceramics II

Ceramics III

Ceramics III/IV/Honors

Digital Art I

Digital Art II

Digital Art III & IV

IB Visual Arts SL and HL I or II

Photography I

Photography II

Photography III/ IV/Honors

---

---



## **Performing Arts**

Theater I

Theater II, III

Theater Honors

Stage Production I, II, III, IV CP

IB Theater SL and HL I & II

Camerata La Quinta

Choir Mixed

Blackhawks on Broadway

Wind Ensemble I, II, III, IV Honors

Marching Band

Concert Band 1-4

Percussion Ensemble

Music Theory CP/ Advanced Placement (AP)

IB Music HL I & II

IB Music SL

Dance Performance I & II

## **Electives**

ROTC 1-4

ASB

CaHSEE Prep

Culinary Arts 1-4

Health Academy

Public Service Academy

---

---



## **Regional Occupational Program (ROP)**

Auto Collision Repair and Refinishing/Auto collision Repair  
and Refinishing

Banking and Financial Services

Certified Computer Specialist

Child Care Occupations

Computer Repair/Computer Lab Repair

Construction Technology/Building Horizons

Cosmetology (very limited)

Dental Assistant

First Responder/EMT

Floral Design

Introduction to Dental Assisting

Medical Assistant

Medical Front Office/ Medical Insurance Coding and Billing

Nurse Assistant

Office Technologies

---

---

# GRADING CRITERIA

---

Teachers (Grades 9-12), will assign letter grades “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, or “F” based upon the relative achievement and individual progress of each student in obtaining the educational objective of the course. Attendance will be a consideration and grades will be assigned as follows:

***“A” = SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT***

**TO EARN AN “A” GRADE, THE STUDENT WILL:**

- ... Exhibit a high degree of accuracy, thoroughness, punctuality, and neatness in work.
- ... Show a marked mastery of study techniques and fundamental skills involved in the subject.
- ... Add constructive contribution to the work of the class.
- ... Show mastery and application of basic facts and principles.
- ... Demonstrate a marked degree of achievement through independent research. Achievement qualifies for a similar grade in another school.
- ... Accomplish tasks with a minimum of help.
- ... Use outside references when needed, and apply her/his findings to the topic.
- ... Consistently pass tests with high scores.

***“B” = STRONG BUT NOT SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT***

**TO EARN A “B” GRADE, THE STUDENT WILL:**

- ... Generally passes tests with above average scores.
- ... Be better than average in attaining mastery of the subject.
- ... Enter class discussions, adding value to them.
- ... Use outside references when required but rarely on her/his own.
- ... Generally be dependable and conduct her/himself in a positive way.
- ... Work at and beyond subject level.
- ... Qualify for a similar grade at another school.
- ... Be less dependent than average student on the teacher in completing work.

---

---

***“C” = SATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE IN CLASS***  
**TO EARN A “C” GRADE, THE STUDENT WILL:**

- ... Demonstrate a satisfactory degree of accuracy and thoroughness.
- ... Add constructive contributions to the work of the class.
- ... Earn a similar grade at another school.
- ... Satisfactorily achieve fundamental skills and study techniques.
- ... Be faithful in an attempt to meet requirements of the subject.
- ... Show a high degree of punctuality and neatness.

***“D” = ACHIEVEMENT JUSTIFIES PASSING GRADE***  
**TO EARN A “D” GRADE, THE STUDENT WILL:**

- ... Usually show a lack of effort and/or lack of ability.
- ... Find subject difficult, fail to prepare work assigned.
- ... Have poor and ineffective study habits.
- ... Require special work constantly.
- ... Have consistently low grades.
- ... Rarely take an interest in discussions.
- ... Be dependent on others and does not meet her/his own abilities.

***“F” = NO CREDIT TOWARD GRADUATION***  
**TO EARN AN “F” GRADE, THE STUDENT WILL:**

- ... Fail to make the effort to meet the requirements of the subject.
- ... Fail to grasp understanding of the subject.
- ... Not achieve due to avoidable absences and tardies.
- ... Consistently show failing grades, poor and ineffective study habits.
- ... Rarely take an interest in and usually detracts rather than adds to the value of class discussions.
- ... Rarely make up work and has no sense of responsibility for outside assignments.

---

---

# TEXT BOOK POLICY

---

Textbooks are the property of the Desert Sands Unified School District and are provided for your use without charge; however, you are responsible for any damages that occur to textbooks while in your possession. You are also responsible for the replacement cost of textbooks if you lose them.

For the 2007-2008 school year, you will receive all English, Math, Social Studies, Science and Foreign Language textbooks from the Library/Media Center.

Your 2007-2008 La Quinta High School ID or ASB card will be required for textbook checkout from the Library/Media Center. **No exceptions, please.**

Textbooks for all other classes will be distributed by your teachers.

All textbooks should be covered with paper, non-adhesive book covers in order to protect them from damage.

You may not write, underline or highlight in any textbooks.

Do not leave any textbook unattended at any time! If someone takes your textbook, you are still responsible for the cost of replacing it.

If you change your schedule during the school year, you must return the textbook for any class that you drop.

Any student who intends to withdraw from La Quinta High School (changing schools or moving away) must return all textbooks in order to be cleared.

At the end of the school year, you must return ALL textbooks. For those textbooks checked out from the Library/Media Center, you will return them to the Library/Media Center. For those textbooks issued by your teachers, you will return them to the teachers who issued the books to you.

Students who do not return textbooks when they change schedules or at the end of the school year are placed on the school's Exclusion List. If you are on this list, you may experience delays in receiving additional textbooks and will lose other school privileges such as library/computer use and dance attendance until you have cleared your obligation.

---

---

# COLLEGE PROCESS

---

**The best predictor of success in college is high school grades.** There is no magic to it ...if you succeed in high school, the chances are excellent that you will do well in college. So if you are serious about earning a college degree, start working on your studies **NOW**.

**The best way to prepare for the SAT/ACT is through consistent work in high school.** Both of these tests rely heavily on vocabulary and math (Algebra I and Geometry). When you find words you are not familiar with, look them up. For the latter, if, like many students you are having difficulty with algebra or geometry, **GET TUTORING** (see your counselor for more information).

**The best time to take to take the SAT/ACT is late spring in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade.** Since more students nationally take the SAT in May, statistically you should rank better if you take it then. Experts suggest you only take the test twice.

**For University of California applicants,** We recommend these test be taken as soon as you complete a course. That is, many students take the SAT Subject Test: Biology test in June of their 10<sup>th</sup> grade year when the material is fresh.

**Do not rule out a school because it seems to cost too much.** Many students have found that when the financial aid package is finally put together, private schools cost no more than public. You apply, then wait to see what they offer.

**Public Universities in California have no preference for the SAT or ACT test.** They will accept either. Private schools vary, although most take either. **The SAT** tests critical reading (33-1/3%), math (33-1/3%), and writing (33-1/3%); **the ACT** tests verbal (25%), reading (25%), science (25%), and math (25%).

---

---

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT COLLEGE

Choosing a college or university is an important and complicated decision. A great many factors contribute to the process, but basically it boils down to matching your personality with that of the college. The key is finding a place where you are both comfortable and motivated to do your best. Remember, there are many schools in this country and several would probably be the right college for you.

Several factors which contribute to the school's personality—its atmosphere and curriculum—are:

**A. Geographic Location**

1. How close is it to snow, surf, or smog? (climate, near recreation areas?)
2. How far is it from home? (How frequently will you want to come home?)
3. Urban, suburban, or rural?

**B. Does it offer the programs you are interested in?**

1. What education is required for your career goal?
2. Is the school well equipped to offer the major you need for your career? (check catalogs to compare schools)

**C. Admissions Selectivity**

1. Are you eligible for admission? (see *Admissions Selectivity* page)
2. What are your chances of being accepted?
3. What academic demands can you expect to find at a specific college?

---

---

**D. How big is the college?**

*Large colleges may offer:*

- more areas of specialized study
- greater freedom to find your own way
- greater range of extracurricular activities and organizations
- larger, more specialized libraries
- more faculty, more famous professors, and more research-oriented faculty
- graduate departments, advanced degrees

*Small colleges may offer:*

- a more personal atmosphere
- small classes, more discussion
- greater chance for individual participation and experience
- more flexible programs, more opportunity to experiment

**E. What does the college cost?**

1. Initially, it is important not to eliminate a college because of cost. Many people in college, even the expensive ones, receive financial aid.
2. Some schools are fully funded, meaning if you can get in, the cost will be taken care of.

---

---

# REQUIREMENTS FOR COLLEGE

## Community Colleges

1. *Requirements*—18 years of age or high school graduate
2. *Applications*—Available at the college admissions office or on-line
3. *Expenses*—Parking, etc. approximately \$30 - \$40 per semester. Books may cost several hundred dollars per year. **Tuition Fees:** \$26.25 per unit per semester on average.
4. *Transcripts*—Request a copy of your high school transcript from the Registrar to be sent to the community college upon graduation.
5. *Entrance Exams*—Placement tests are given in English and math.

## California State University

### **SAT or ACT\* Index (for noncompetitive majors)**

<u>Overall GPA</u>	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>
2.01	300	30
2.5	900	20
3.0	<i>Qualifies with any score</i>	

## University of California

### **SAT or ACT\* Index (for noncompetitive majors)**

<u>Overall GPA</u>	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>
3.01	270	28
3.29	570	12

## Independent Universities

**SAT & ACT usually varies from 2.0 – 3.5+ (contact the college or university for specific information)**

*\* Update yearly . . . check with your counselor for most current information.*

---

---

# CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITIES

Bakersfield  
Channel Islands  
Chico  
Dominguez Hills  
Fresno  
Fullerton  
East Bay  
Humboldt  
Long Beach  
Los Angeles  
Maritime Academy  
Monterey Bay  
Northridge  
Pomona  
Sacramento  
San Bernardino  
San Diego  
San Francisco  
San Jose  
San Luis Obispo  
San Marcos  
Sonoma  
Stanislaus

To be eligible for admission with freshman standing you must meet the requirements listed below:

- A. History/Social Studies: 2 years
- B. English: 4 years
- C. Mathematics: 3 years (to include Algebra I, Geometry & Advanced Algebra) 4 recommended
- D. Laboratory Science: 2 Years (must provide basic knowledge in at least two of the fundamental disciplines of Biology and Chemistry, or Physics) 3 recommended
- E. Foreign Language: 2 years (two years of one foreign language; any foreign language with a written literature will be accepted) 3 recommended
- F. Visual & Performing Arts: 1 year (ceramics, art, art history, drama, dance, dance productions, jazz ensemble, photography, studio art, choir/chamber singers and concert band)
- G. College Preparatory Electives: 2 years (examples: economics, psychology, third year of science or foreign language)

---

---

# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Berkeley  
Davis  
Irvine  
Los Angeles  
Merced  
Riverside  
San Diego  
San Francisco  
Santa Barbara  
Santa Cruz

To be eligible for admission with freshman standing you must meet the requirements listed below:

- A. History/Social Studies: 2 years
- B. English: 4 years
- C. Mathematics: 3 years (to include Algebra I, Geometry & Advanced Algebra)
- D. Laboratory Science: 2 Years (must provide basic knowledge in at least two of the fundamental disciplines of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics)
- E. Foreign Language: 2 years (two years of one foreign language; any foreign language with a written literature will be accepted)
- F. Visual & Performing Arts: 1 year (ceramics, art, art history, drama, dance, dance productions, jazz ensemble, photography, studio art, choir/chamber singers and concert band)
- G. College Preparatory Electives: 2 years (examples: economics, psychology, third year of science or foreign language)

---

---

## CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT

Azusa Pacific  
Biola  
Cal Baptist  
Cal Arts  
Cal Lutherana  
Cal Tech  
Chapman  
Claremont McKenna  
Harvey Mudd  
La Sierra  
Loyola Marymount  
Occidental  
Pepperdine  
Point Loma  
Pomona  
St. Mary's  
Santa Clara  
Scripps  
Southern California College  
Stanford  
St. Thomas Aquinas  
University of La Verne  
University of the Pacific  
University of Redlands  
University of San Diego  
University of San Francisco  
University of Southern California  
Whittier

## CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY

Cerritos (Norwalk)  
Chaffey (Rancho Cucamonga)  
Citrus (Glendora)  
College of the Desert (Palm Desert)  
Southwestern (Chula Vista)  
Cuesta (San Luis Obispo)  
Grossmont (El Cajon)  
Mira Costa (Oceanside)  
Orange Coast (Costa Mesa)  
Pasadena City  
Santa Barbara City  
Crafton Hills (Yucaipa)  
Saddleback (Mission Viejo)  
San Bernardino Valley  
San Diego City  
San Diego Mesa

---

---

# ARMED SERVICES



The ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) is given each year to interested juniors and seniors in November or December. See the LQHS Career Tech for more information.

If you would like to talk to a military recruiter, please stop by the career center. The military websites are as follows:

US Army—[www.goarmy.com](http://www.goarmy.com)

US Air Force—[www.airforce.com](http://www.airforce.com)

U.S. Navy—[www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil)

U.S. Marines—[www.usmc.mil](http://www.usmc.mil)