

Palo Alto Senior High School

April, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Several years ago, the University of California (UC) established a new program, *Eligibility in the Local Context* (ELC). This is an additional admission eligibility program for California students that is based upon their high school performance. Under the Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC) pathway, the top 4 percent of students at each high school can be designated UC-eligible. Of course, the traditional eligibility methods still apply.

With the help of each participating high school, the University of California will identify the top 4 percent of their students based on GPA for UC-approved coursework completed in the 10th and 11th grades. In order to do this, the UC will need to evaluate the academic records of these students. We, however, cannot release academic records without parent/guardian authorization. Only UC personnel and their authorized agents will have access to student records. Student information, including names and addresses, will not be given for any other purpose.

While we have a general idea of the number of student transcripts the UC will request in June for the ELC program, we do not know exactly which students will be evaluated. So, we are sending the authorization form to all junior families so that all students are cleared for consideration. The authorization form should be returned to your child's Teacher Advisor during advisory on May 20th, or to Ann Deggelman in the guidance office. Failure to return this form may result in your child's transcript not being sent, if requested, for consideration.

Students who achieve ELC status will be notified by the UC of their eligibility status at the beginning of their senior year. ELC-identified students must submit an undergraduate application during the filing period and complete remaining course and admission requirements, to be considered fully eligible. These students are then guaranteed a spot at one of the UC's undergraduate campuses, though not necessarily at their first choice campus.

Please remember to return the enclosed permission form, along with the Senior Profile materials, by May 20, 2009. The form will also be available from the Paly website at paly.net/guidance.

Sincerely,

Kim Diorio
Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Guidance