

**JUNIOR-SENIOR
INFORMATION BOOKLET**

CLASS OF 2018



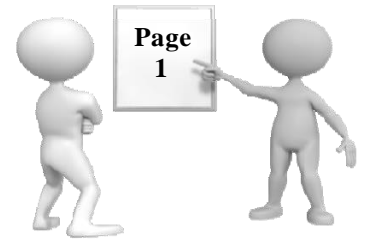
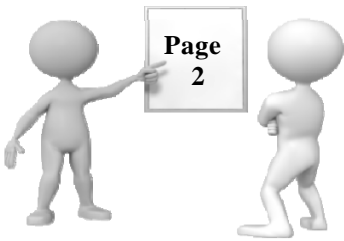


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Graduation Plans

EMS-ISD Distinguished Level of Achievement Plan includes one Endorsement
<p>English Language Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English 1 English 2 English 3 Advanced English <p>Mathematics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2 Advanced Math <p>Social Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Geography World History US History Government Economics <p>Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology IPC, Physics or Chemistry Advanced Science Advanced Science <p>World Languages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 Year 2 <p>Fine Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of course options <p>Physical Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of course options <p>Electives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elective 1 Elective 2 Elective 3 Elective 3 Elective 5 Elective 6

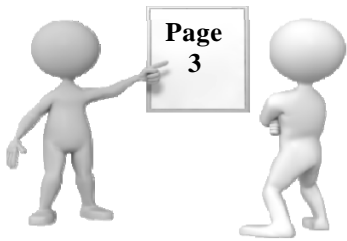
STAAR EOC – English 1, English 2, Algebra 1, US History and Biology

***CTE Endorsements-** A coherent sequence of 4 credits - at least 2 courses in same cluster, including at least one advanced CTE course that is third or higher in sequence.

Endorsement Choices
<p>STEM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science – Algebra 2, Bio, Chemistry, Physics & 2 additional science credits Math – 2 courses above Algebra 2 Engineering* <p>Business and Industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources* Audio/Video Technology* Communication (Journalism or Debate) Finance* Culinary, Hospitality and Tourism* Information Technology* Manufacturing Marketing* Transportation* <p>Public Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education and Training* Health Science* Human Services* Legal & Protective Services* JROTC <p>Arts and Humanities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Studies – 5 credits World Language – 4 credits same language or 2 credits in one language and 2 credits of a different language Same fine arts – 4 credits or 2 credits of one fine arts and 2 credits in another fine arts <p>Multidisciplinary Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4X4 - four English, four Math, four Social Studies, four Science – to include English IV, Chemistry or Physics Advanced Courses – four advanced credits that prepare a student to enter the workforce or secondary education successfully without remediation Four credits in Advanced Placement or Dual Credit selected from English, math, science, social studies, and LOTE

Performances Acknowledgements
<p>Dual Credit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 College credit hours with a grade of 3.0 or higher Associate Degree <p>Bilingualism/Biliteracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete all ELA requirements with a minimum GPA of 80, and one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 credits in the same world language with a minimum GPA of 80 Pass Level 4 or higher world language with a minimum GPA of 80 3 credits in world language with a minimum GPA of 80 AP world language score of 3.0 or higher IB world language score of 4.0 or higher <p>ELL Student Only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate and meet exit criteria for a bilingual or ESL program Score Advance High Level on TELPAS <p>AP/IB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Score 3 or higher on an AP exam Score 4 or higher on an IB exam <p>College Entrance Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSAT score of commended or higher College Benchmark score on two out of four exams on the ACT-PLAN SAT 1250-Reading/Math combined ACT Score of 28 without Writing <p>Business/Industry Certification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a national or international certification for business or industry

Distinguished
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible for top 10% - Automatic Admission Algebra 2 must be one of the student's math credits



Early College High School



Early College High School is a national and state initiative that provides students with the opportunity to gain college credit while still in high school. Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD offers the following programs as a means of gaining college credit:

Advanced Placement Program

Courses offered through the College Board's Advancement Program enable Texas students to pursue college level coursework while still in high school. Based on AP Exam performance, students can gain college admission, earn scholarship awards, earn credit toward a college degree, skip introductory college classes, enter higher-level classes, and/or fulfill general college educational requirements, depending on the college or university. EMS ISD High Schools offer a variety of Advanced Placement Courses.

Dual Credit Courses

A student may enroll in academic and/or technical courses for college credit before they graduate from high school. Students receive both high school and college credit upon successful completion of these courses. Grades earned will be used in calculating grade point averages and class rank. To qualify, a student must:

- obtain permission from the high school.
- enroll at the college/university offering the course(s).
- meet the entrance requirements of the college/ university including the required placement exams

Dual Credit Opportunities with Tarrant County College Offered on High School Campuses include English III & IV, United States History, United States Government, Principles of Economics, Business Information Management II, Practicum in Health Science/Emergency Medical Technician, Fire Fighter I & II and Court Systems and Practices II.

Students may also take dual credit courses on a college campus or through virtual instruction. Prior approval is required. Contact the Counseling Department for more information.

Concurrent Enrollment

Concurrent enrollment refers to a circumstance in which a student is enrolled in two or more educational institutions (High School and a College/University) at the same time, but is receiving direct credit from only one of the institutions. Upon approval from the principal, a student may enroll in a college-level course offered on a college campus for college credit only.

NCAA

Information for College-Bound Athletes

Students who wish to participate in athletics in college must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse.

What Do I Need To Do?

Grade 11

- Register with the eligibility center. <http://eligibilitycenter.org>
- Make sure you are still on course to meet Division I core-course requirements (verify you have the correct number of core courses.)
 - 4 years of English
 - 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)
 - 2 years of natural/physical science (one must be a lab science)
 - 1 year of additional English, math or science
 - 2 years of social studies
 - 4 years of additional core courses (from any area listed above or from foreign language)
- After your junior year, send a copy of your transcript. If you have attended any other high schools, make sure a transcript is sent to the eligibility center from each high school. Transcripts are available through Parchment.
- When taking the ACT or SAT, request test scores to be sent to the eligibility center (the code is "9999"). Test scores on transcripts will not be used.
- Begin your amateurism questionnaire.



Grade 12

- When taking the ACT or SAT, request test scores to be sent to the eligibility center (the code is "9999"). Test scores on transcripts will not be used.
- Complete amateurism questionnaire and sign the final authorization signature online on or after April 1 if you are expecting to enroll in college in the fall semester. (If you are expecting to enroll for spring semester, sign the final authorization signature on or after October 1 of the year prior to enrollment.)
- Send a final transcript with proof of graduation to the eligibility center.

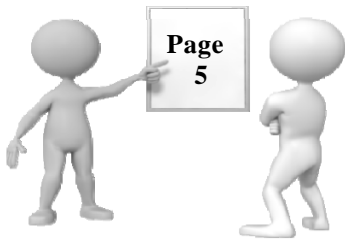
Hot Topics:

- Test score rule: Test scores must be reported to the eligibility center directly from ACT or SAT.
- High school core-course list: Is yours up to date? Verify the classes you are taking and/or scheduled to take appear on your high school's approved core-course list.
- Amateurism questionnaire and final authorization signature: Remember to log back in to your account and finalize your amateurism questionnaire before you enroll in college. If you are beginning school in the fall semester (August), you will need to complete the amateurism questionnaire and sign the final authorization signature on or after April 1 prior to enrollment. If you are beginning school in the spring semester (January), you will need to complete the amateurism questionnaire and sign the final authorization signature on or after October 1 of the year prior to enrollment.



☆ Credit recovery courses taken through Capture do not count toward NCAA eligibility.

SOURCE: NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER ONLINE



Course Credit Options

Credit by Exam for Acceleration

Prior approval to take a credit by exam must be obtained through the counseling office. A student may earn credit for certain courses in which they have had *no prior instruction* by scoring a grade of 80 or above on an examination for acceleration and meeting other eligibility requirements. Testing fees may apply. See your counselor for further information on requirements and procedures. Scores for this course are recorded as Pass/Fail. For more information please see our district Testing and Title webpage at <http://www.emsisd.com/Page/378>.

Credit by Exam for Credit Recovery

Prior approval to take a credit by exam must be obtained through the counseling office. For courses where credit was denied because of grade or excessive absences, a student may earn credit toward graduation by scoring a grade of 70 or above on the exam. A fee is charged for the testing. Scores for this course are recorded as Pass/Fail. See your counselor for further information on requirements and procedures.

Correspondence Courses

Prior approval to enroll in a correspondence course must be obtained through an application available in the counseling center. A student may be enrolled in only one correspondence course at a time unless special circumstances warrant with principal approval. Scores for this course are recorded as Pass/Fail. See your counselor for further information and special requirements for students wishing to graduate using correspondence course work.

Texas Virtual School Network

Students attending Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD have the option to enroll in a course(s) offered through the state virtual school network under Chapter 30A. See your counselor for courses offered, the enrollment process, and associated course fees.

Credit Recovery (CAPTURE)

CAPTURE is offered before school, after school, and as a class during the school day to assist students in successfully completing courses they have taken previously and have not passed. CAPTURE utilizes a self-paced, computer generated curriculum and requires self-discipline and self-motivation. The ability to enroll in CAPTURE is a privilege, not a right, and should be treated as such. Students will receive a Pass/Fail for any credit earned in CAPTURE. **Online courses including those offered through CAPTURE do not fulfill NCAA core course requirements**

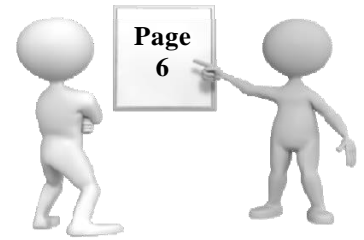
Pass/Fail

Only juniors and seniors are eligible for this option. You must request the form from your counselor and understand the following requirements.

By requesting a course under the Pass/Fail option:

- I understand Pass/Fail request forms are due to the counseling office no later than the fifth day of the first semester of the course.
- Once Pass/Fail has been declared, I understand I will not be able to return to the standard GPA format for that class after the above-mentioned deadline has passed.
- I understand that I must be committed to doing a good job in the class.
- I understand that all Pass/Fail students will be subject to a three-week review to determine if class performance expectations have been met.
- I understand that the school has the right to remove me from the class at any time if I do not do the assigned work and that such removal may result in a loss of credit.
- I understand that if I am removed from a Pass/Fail class for noncompliance of the above items, I forfeit the right to enroll in a course as Pass/Fail in the future.
- I understand that no more than a total of 2 credits may be taken Pass/Fail.
- I understand there may be instances where taking a course as Pass/Fail may not be the best option and have discussed this with my counselor.

NOTE: No course that is required under any of the three graduation plans (Foundation, Foundation with Endorsements, or Distinguished Level of Achievement) is eligible for Pass/Fail.



College Entrance Exams

Why Take These Tests?

Most colleges require applicants to take one or more standardized tests prior to admission. Test scores are part of the student's application and are one factor colleges use to predict success.

Which Tests Should I Take?

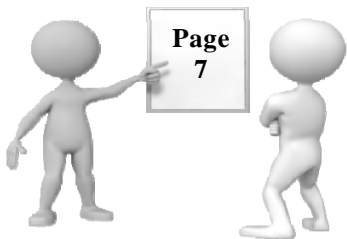
TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI): The State of Texas requires that all undergraduate students entering public colleges and universities in Texas have the skills necessary to perform effectively in college-level coursework. The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is the program that administers testing to measure college-level readiness in reading, mathematics, and writing. You may be exempt from testing based on ACT, SAT, or other test scores. The Office of Admissions will determine which tests if any you need to take.

ACT: The ACT assessment is a general standardized college admissions test. The highest total score on the ACT is 36. The student's score on the ACT is a good predictor of his or her freshman year grade point average. The score does not measure a student's intelligence, nor does it predict whether the student will graduate from college. Students who are not strong in math may want to consider taking this test. Your counselor can help you decide which test is best for you. Students should plan to take this test in the spring of their junior year. Refer to the next few pages and www.act.org for more information about the ACT test.

SAT I: Reasoning Test: The SAT measures mathematical problem-solving, critical reading, and writing skills. Each section is reported on a scale of 200 – 800 points and total scores range from 400-1600. Each assessment reports two test scores: **the Reading & Writing Test score and the Math Test score**. Students should take this test no sooner than the spring of their junior year. The SAT does not measure intelligence, nor does it measure skills like motivation or creativity. Refer to the next few pages and www.collegeboard.com for more information about the SAT test.

SAT II: Subject Tests: Subject tests are one-hour, mostly multiple-choice tests, that measure how much students know about a particular subject and how well they can apply that knowledge. There are 22 different tests in five general areas, English, history, science, mathematics, and foreign languages. Students should check with an admissions officer of their chosen college or university to determine if the SAT II is required.

TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language): Students whose first language is not English may take this test. Admissions officers look carefully at TOEFL scores for these students, understanding that students whose first language is not English may have difficulty with verbal sections of the SAT or ACT.



ACT vs. SAT

How do the Tests Compare?

Both the ACT and the SAT are nationally administered standardized tests that help colleges evaluate candidates. Most colleges and universities accept either test. So as you begin to think about college and creating the best application package possible, your admissions plan should begin with the question, "Which test should I take?" When weighing your options, keep in mind that there are differences in test structure and the type of content assessed. Use the chart below to see which test makes the most of your strengths to help you determine which test might be best for you.

	ACT	SAT
Test Length	3 hours, 35 minutes <i>(including the 30-minute optional Writing Test)</i>	3 hours, 50 minutes
Test Structure	4 Test Sections <i>(5 with the optional Writing Test):</i> English, Math, Reading, Science, Writing (Optional), Experimental Test <i>(sometimes added and clearly labeled)</i>	4 Test Sections: Reading, Writing, Math (No Calculator), Math (Calculator) <i>Essay(Optional)</i>
Reading	Reading Comprehension—4 passages with 10 questions per passage	Reading Comprehension—short and long passages with questions Sentence Completion
Math	Arithmetic, algebra, geometry, algebra II, and trigonometry	Arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and algebra II
Science	Analysis, interpretation, evaluation, basic content, and problem solving	Science not included
Essay	Last thing you do (optional): 30 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not included in composite score • Topic of importance to high school students 	Optional - 50 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factored into overall score • Analyzing a source • Scores divided into three dimensions: Reading, Analysis, and Writing. (Each dimension scored on a 2-8 point scale)
Scoring	Composite score of 1–36, based on average of scores from 4 tests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 scores of 1–36 for each test • Plus optional Writing Test Score of 0–12 	Total score out of 400-1600, based on adding scores from 2 subject areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 scores of 200–800 for each subject • Score of 6-24 for the Essay
No Penalty for Wrong Answers	No penalty for wrong answers.	No penalty for wrong answers

SAT-ACT Score Comparison

Although there is no official conversion chart between the SAT and the ACT, the following gives you a sample conversion chart used by many colleges and universities.

SAT CR+M	ACT Composite Score
1600	36
1540-1590	35
1490-1530	34
1440-1480	33
1400-1430	32
1360-1390	31
1330-1350	30
1290-1320	29
1250-1280	28
1210-1240	27
1170-1200	26
1130-1160	25
1090-1120	24
1050-1080	23
1020-1040	22
980-1010	21
940-970	20
900-930	19
860-890	18
820-850	17
770-810	16
720-760	15
670-710	14
620-660	13
560-610	12
510-550	11





School Codes:	
BHS	446084
CTHS	442594
SHS	446087
WHS	442606

ACT™

Assessment Test Dates

www.act.org

Test Date	Regular Registration Postmark Deadline (regular fee)	Late Registration Postmark Deadline (regular fee plus late fee)
April 8, 2017	March 3	March 4-17
June 10, 2017	May 5	May 6-19

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR FALL TESTING DATES

SAT® Program

Assessment Test Dates

www.collegeboard.com

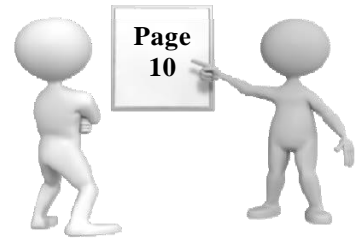
Test Date	Regular Registration Postmark Deadline (regular fee)	Late Registration Postmark Deadline (regular fee plus late fee)
May 6, 2017	April 7	April 18
June 3, 2017	May 9	May 16

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR FALL TESTING DATES

TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI)

You must take a College Readiness test before beginning classes at a Texas public college or university to be sure you have the reading, writing, and math skills needed for college-level work. This test may not be required if you:

- Scored a 23 or higher on the ACT composite and a minimum of 19 on both the English and math tests;
- Earned a minimum score of 530 on the Mathematics test of SAT (no combined score required) and a minimum of 480 on the Evidenced-Based Reading & Writing (no combined score required), or
- Enroll in a certificate program of 42 or fewer semester credit hours at a public community college or technical college.



Choosing a College-Junior Timeline

February-March

- Create a personal file with items such as...
 1. Transcript, list of awards and honors (dates included)
 2. School and community clubs and organizations you have joined, including dates, responsibilities and activities
 3. List of all jobs for the year and/or summer
 4. List of community service/volunteer work, including dates and hours spent
 5. Update your file at the end of each semester.
- Plan college campus visits for spring.
- Register with NCAA Clearinghouse if you are a candidate for college athletics. (see page 5)
- Evaluate transcript.
- Select senior classes with the help of your counselor. You are responsible for selecting courses needed for graduation and/or college entrance.
- Begin college search using college guides and college websites.
- Investigate activities, community service, volunteer work and/or employment for summer.

April

- Take the ACT if registered.
 - Prepare to take the TSI placement test at TCC for dual credit classes next year.
 - Develop a preliminary list of colleges that interest you and visit their website or write to them for information.
 - Begin searching for scholarships.
 - EMS ISD subscribes to www.collegeguidanceconsultants.com (e scholarships).
 - User Name: emsisd
 - Password: emsisd
- Career Cruising also offers scholarship searches.



Choosing a College - Junior Timeline (continued)

May

- Take the SAT if registered.
- Identify teachers, coaches, sponsors and others you can ask for letters of recommendation.
- Visit colleges while still in session or make plans for summer visits. Be sure to call ahead for an appointment.
- If you have not already taken the TSI placement test at TCC for dual credit classes next year do so now.

June

- Take the SAT or ACT if registered.
- Begin to organize all of the college materials you will be receiving in the mail.
- Visit college campuses.

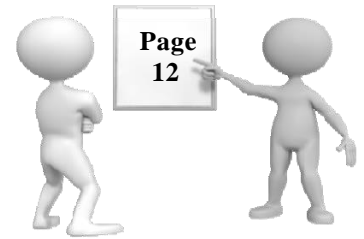
July

- Update your personal file in Career Cruising.
- Prepare a profile of the colleges that most interest you. Email them and ask your specific questions.

Fill out the Apply Texas Application online at www.applytexas.org.

August

- Verify scheduled courses and credits reflect graduation and college entrance requirements.
- Register to retake ACT/SAT if necessary.
- Plan ahead for any fall college trips. Register if required.
- Make plans to attend a college fair or college open house.
- Fill out the Apply Texas application online at www.applytexas.org.



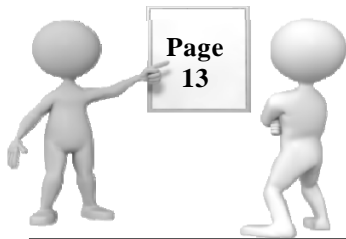
Choosing a College - Senior Timeline

September

- Contact colleges of your choice for admissions information and applications. Up-to-date information and online applications can be found on the college website. Most applications are due between September and January.
- Create a separate file for each college. Get organized! Create a personal calendar of events and deadlines.
- If you haven't filled out the Apply Texas Application online at www.applytexas.org, do so now.
- Listen for announcements regarding visits from college representatives.
- Begin the first drafts of your college application essays where applicable.
- Prepare a resume that includes work history, clubs and organizations, volunteer work and goals to share with those you are asking for recommendations. Letter of Recommendation Packets are available in the counseling office.
- Check your school's website and in the counseling office for scholarships.
- See your counselor and/or college access specialist for questions and help.

October/November

- Visit colleges.
- Attend FAFSA workshop for financial aid.
- Complete federal financial aid forms and submit online or mail them early. Financial aid is given out on a first come, first serve basis. We recommend completing the forms by March 1st. You can apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- Read all materials from schools and scholarships carefully. Pay attention to deadlines; mark them down on your personal calendar.
- Early admission deadlines are usually around November 15th. You have a better chance for acceptance if you apply by the early admission deadline.
- Register to retake ACT/SAT if necessary.
- Continue checking websites for available scholarships.



Choosing a College - Senior Timeline (continued)

December

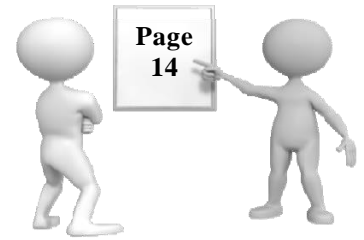
- Complete as many applications as possible before Winter Break. Many schools have a January 15th admissions deadline.
- Check websites for available scholarships.

January/February

- Finish any other college applications.
- Plan ahead for any spring college visits.
- Request a copy of your mid-year transcript from the registrar.
- Register for Advanced Placement tests if applicable.
- Check websites for available scholarships.
- Apply for local scholarships. See your counselor and/or college access specialist.

March/April/May

- Continue to check your status at colleges to which you have applied.
- Review your acceptance and financial aid offers carefully.
- If possible, visit colleges before making your final choice.
- Wait to hear from all colleges before you make your decision.
- Notify the college of your choice, national reply deadline is May 1.
- Submit local scholarship applications by their deadline.
- Notify schools you have decided not to attend.
- Provide documentation to the counseling office of all scholarships you have been offered for recognition at Senior Awards Assembly.



Important Information for Seniors

Regarding Attendance:

State and federal guidelines require that a student must be in attendance 90% of the time in a class in order to receive credit. Students will be notified when credit has been denied due to attendance.

Regarding Schedule Changes:



The adjustment window for student schedules is May 22-26. Only Pre-AP and AP Level changes will be addressed after that date through a committee process. A schedule change may be considered after the 3rd week of the course. This gives you time to adjust to the teacher and assignments thus giving you time to be successful. During that time we want you to attend tutorials and to turn in all of your work.

If you are still struggling in the course, a meeting will be held with your parents, your teacher, your counselor, an administrator, and you. During the meeting, a decision will be made whether it is in your best interest to drop to a lower level or to stay in the class with an improvement plan.

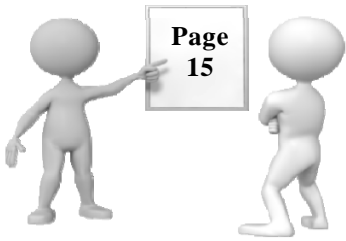
“Not needing a class for graduation” is never an acceptable reason for a schedule change. Most seniors only “need” English IV, government, economics and a fourth math and science to meet graduation requirements.

Regarding Recommendation and Transcript Requests:

When given the option, students should ask those people who know them best to write letters of recommendation. That person may be a teacher, coach, sponsor, counselor or someone in the community.

Students who are requesting a counselor recommendation need to turn in a Letter of Recommendation Packet to their counselor and request an official transcript with instructions for the registrar to give the transcript to his/her counselor. **Counselors need at least 10 school days** to complete and mail a well thought out recommendation.

Official transcripts must be requested online through Parchment (see the registrar for access instructions for Parchment). All transcripts must be sent from institution to institution and may not be given to students.



The Importance of Your Senior Year

Interesting Facts:

1. "Taking it easy" your senior year may seem like a nice break but is likely to do more harm than good. According to recent reports, incomplete high school preparation can contribute to academic problems in college.



2. As many as half of all college students do not have adequate academic preparation and are required to take remedial courses which the student must pay for, but will receive no credit.

3. More than one quarter of the freshmen at 4-year colleges and nearly half of those at 2-year colleges do not even make it to their sophomore year.

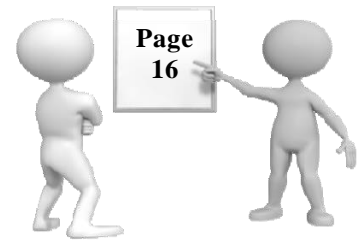
4. Not only does taking the easy way out your senior year jeopardize your chances for success later in college, it may also affect your grades. College admission officers pay close attention to your performance during your senior year.

5. The senior year -- the entire senior year -- is actually of particular interest to colleges. Many college applications require you to list your senior courses, including information about course levels and credits. It will be very obvious to the admission officers if you've decided to "take the year off."

6. Many college acceptance letters include warnings to students such as "Your admission is contingent on your continued successful performance." This means colleges reserve the right to deny you admission should your senior year grades drop.

7. Changing or dropping some of the more rigorous courses listed on the original application can result in a college withdrawing their offer for admission.





Helping You Choose a College

Narrow Choices Using the Internet

These websites provide information on:

- College Searches
- Preparing and Applying for College
- Test Preparation
- Essay Help
- Rankings and Guides for the Best Colleges
- Financial Aid Information
- Links to Campus Home Pages
- Virtual College Fairs

Our Favorites:

www.careercruising.com

www.collegeview.com

www.collegefortexans.com

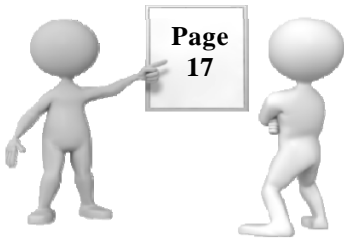
www.petersons.com

<http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com>

www.everychanceeverytexan.org

Things to Consider

- **Think about who you are and what your interests are.** You do not have to go in for heavy-duty analysis, but be honest with yourself. Choose a college that caters to your needs.
- **Do your homework.** Do not base a decision on any one source, especially the materials from a college. Schools spend as much as a half million dollars to produce slick brochures and videos to entice you.
- **Consider geography and size.** Location is something students often forget to think about. A rural setting is very different from an urban one, just as a large college has a different feel from a small one. Have you included the cost of car or plane trips home in your budget?
- **Visit the campus.** Talk to students. Learn about academic programs. Make sure the college offers courses in the area you want to pursue.
- **Dress neatly.** To really get a feel for the school, you need to walk around the quad, sit in on a class, and visit the dorms. Call ahead and make arrangements with the campus visit coordinator. Avoid campus visits during holidays or breaks and finals week; visit when classes are in session.
- **Have someone at the college provide you documentation of your visit on college letterhead.** If your visit is during a school day, this letter will prevent your absence (up to 2 days) from counting against your exemptions.
- **Visit general education type classes while on campus.** Most colleges will be happy to arrange the visit in advance. If they offer the very large lecture classes, ask to sit in on one.

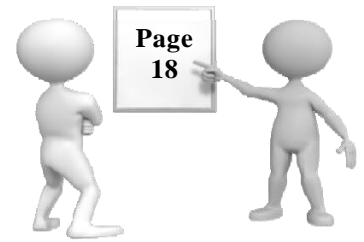


Helping You Choose a College (continued)

Make College Visits Count

Take a look at the list below before planning campus trips to make sure that you allow enough time on each campus to get a sense of what the school and campus life is really like.

- √ Take a campus tour.
- √ Get business cards and names of people you meet for future contacts.
- √ Meet with a financial aid counselor and pick up financial aid forms.
- √ Participate in a group information session at the admissions office.
- √ Sit in on a class of a subject that interests you.
- √ Talk to coaches of sports in which you might participate.
- √ Talk to a student or counselor in the career center.
- √ Read the student newspaper.
- √ Eat in the cafeteria.
- √ Ask students why they chose the college.
- √ Wander around the campus by yourself.
- √ Ask students what they love about the college.
- √ Walk or drive around the community surrounding the campus.



Applying to College

12 Steps to Follow

1. Visit colleges and finalize SAT/ACT testing.
2. Prepare a resume.
3. Register with the NCAA if you plan to participate in college athletics.
4. Actively pursue scholarships.
5. Request recommendation letters and transcripts at least two weeks ahead of time.
6. Obtain and complete college applications.
7. Write essays when required. If an essay says “optional”, write it anyway.
8. Mail your applications or submit them online before the deadline.
9. Follow up with your counselor.
10. Check with the college to confirm they have received your documents.
11. Fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) starting October 1st through March 1st.
12. Review your financial aid packet carefully.

Applying Online

3 Ways to Apply:

Apply Texas Application

<http://www.applytexas.org>

Common Application

<http://www.commonapp.org>

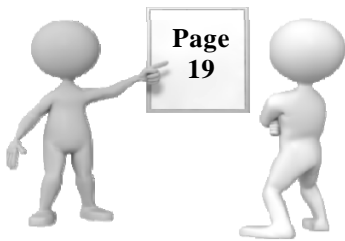
(for specific schools
outside of Texas)

Campus websites

Freshmen Admissions Link

Important Tips:

- Neatness definitely counts.
- Print out a copy of your application before you send it.
- Ask several people to proofread your application before sending it.
- Make sure you include as much information as you can. Details count. For example, if you are an Eagle Scout, don't just list Eagle Scout. Also list all of the community service and leadership activities associated with being an Eagle Scout.



Applying to College (continued)

Resume Tips

- Make it easy to read.
- Always begin with your personal information.
- Use a chronological format beginning with most recent year.
- List school and related activities and leadership positions.
- Request official transcripts if needed with letters.
- Give **teachers** a stamped envelope.
- Check frequently to make sure the recommendation writer has all needed information.
- Remember to send a thank you note to those who write on your behalf.

Checklist for Essays

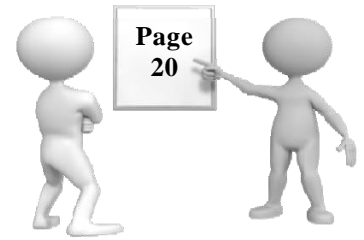
- Be Concise = 500 words or less
- Be Honest = no “gimmicks”
- Be an Individual = set yourself apart from peers
- Be Coherent = make sense and address the topic
- Be Accurate = error free writing

Recommendation Letters ... Step by Step

- Give the recommendation writer at least 2-3 weeks to write recommendation letters and complete their portions of the applications.
- Provide complete information including your full legal name and social security number.
- Make sure your part of the application is complete...signatures and etc...

Application Process...Final Thoughts

- Apply early- many colleges want applications before Thanksgiving.
- Create a file for each college you apply to. Make copies of everything you send to each college and keep these in your files along with any information they send you.
- Make several contacts with the school of your choice. The more you email admissions, advisors, and student affairs, the more interest you show.
- Visiting the school of your choice can also show interest. Dress to impress and have questions ready. Visit more than once if possible.
- Proofread everything you send to the colleges. Paperwork is all the admissions office knows you by at this point.
- If essays or extra opportunities are offered through the application as optional, do them.



You've Applied...Now What?

After months of standardized testing, campus visits and arduous applications it feels a bit odd to sit and do nothing. But your applications are in – what can you do?

- 1) Start by filling out the FAFSA. This first “to-do” can’t be stressed enough. In order to qualify for financial aid at all, this document must be submitted. While you may have had an older brother or sister who went to college and didn’t qualify for aid, this shouldn’t stop you from filling one out. Along with changes to your family’s financial circumstances, eligibility for certain types of aid changes too.
- 2) Keep your grades up. Schools have every right to ask for your final semester grades, and you don’t want your GPA to reflect signs of senioritis. There is a possibility that the admissions office would revoke their offer of admission to you. After all, they only want students who will work hard and take academics seriously; not students who simply coast.
- 3) Follow up with the admissions office on your application. It is NOT a good idea to call your admission officer and ask, “Have you made your decision yet?” Rather, you want to make the call to ensure they have all the pieces they need to make the best assessment of your qualification for admission. Again, don’t ask about the decision – it could actually hurt your chances of getting in.
- 4) Schedule a visit to the college sometime in late March or April. Your final college choice decision is due May 1st, and before that date, you may be agonizing over which school you’re going to choose. A college visit is the perfect way to solidify your choice.
- 5) Visit financial aid offices. If your family is experiencing unusual financial circumstances that aren’t reflected on the FAFSA, this is the time and place to discuss this with a financial aid administrator. They can oftentimes make professional judgments that permit you to receive more financial aid to compensate for your family’s circumstances.
- 6) Finally, breathe easy. While the most time consuming part of the process is over, it only gets more stressful. Once the admission decisions come in, you’ll have some difficult decisions of your own to make. What if you didn’t get into your top choice – what is your plan now? Or what if you were waitlisted – should you stay on the list or consider your second or third college choice? This is the lull in the crazy admissions process. So enjoy it.



Automatic Admission to College

In accordance with Texas Education Code (TEC), §51.803, a student is eligible for automatic admission to a Texas state college or university as an undergraduate student if the applicant earned a grade point average in the **top 10 percent** of the student's high school graduating class, or a minimum of the **top 7 percent** for admission to the University of Texas at Austin, and the applicant:

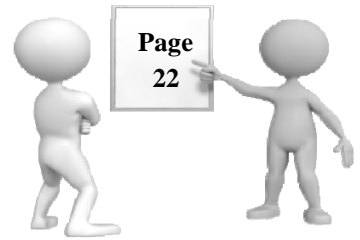
- (1) successfully completed the requirements for the Foundation Plan with Distinguished Level of Achievement (FPDLA) or;
- (2) satisfied ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks on the ACT assessment or earned on the SAT assessment a score of at least 1,500 out of 2,400 or the equivalent.

In accordance with Title 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), §5.5(e), high school rank for students seeking automatic admission to a general academic teaching institution on the basis of class rank is determined and reported as follows.

- (1) Class rank shall be based on the end of the 11th grade, middle of the 12th grade, or at high school graduation, whichever is most recent at the application deadline.
- (2) The top 10 percent of a high school class shall not contain more than 10 percent of the total class size.
- (3) The student's rank shall be reported by the applicant's high school or school district as a specific number out of a specific number total class size.
- (4) Class rank shall be determined by the school or school district from which the student graduated or is expected to graduate.
- (5) The District shall recognize as an honor graduate each student who is ranked in the top ten percent of the class and who has completed Distinguished Level of Achievement Program. For the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, the District shall also calculate class ranking as required by state law. The District's eligibility criteria for local graduation honors shall apply only for local recognitions and shall not restrict class ranking for the purpose of automatic admission under state law. [See EIC(Legal)]

The grading scale for content area courses in 6th-12th grades will be numerically based on the following 100 point scale:		
Grade	Letter Equivalent	Description
90-100	A	Outstanding progress and mastery of TEKS
80-89	B	Above average progress and mastery of TEKS
70-79	C	Average progress and understanding of TEKS
Below 70	F	Below average progress and understanding of TEKS, re-teach is required
	I	Incomplete

An applicant who does not satisfy the course requirements is considered to have satisfied those requirements if the student completed the portion of the FPDLA that was available to the student but was unable to complete the remainder of the coursework solely because courses were unavailable to the student at the appropriate times in the student's high school career as a result of circumstances not within the student's control.

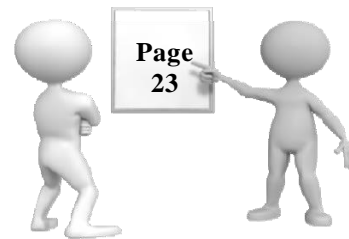


Automatic Admission to College (Continued)

To qualify for automatic admission an applicant must:

- (1) submit an application before the deadline established by the college or university to which the student seeks admission; and
- (2) provide a high school transcript or diploma that indicates whether the student has satisfied or is on schedule to satisfy the requirements of the FPDLA or the portion of the FPDLA that was available to the student.

Colleges and universities are required to admit an applicant for admission as an undergraduate student if the applicant is the child of a public servant who was killed or sustained a fatal injury in the line of duty and meets the minimum requirements, if any, established by the governing board of the college or university for high school or prior college-level grade point average and performance on standardized tests.



Admissions Data for a Few Texas Colleges and Universities

Austin College

Location: Sherman, Texas

Enrollment: 1,255

Type of Institution: Liberal Arts College

Affiliated with the Presbyterian Church

Distinctions: high number of graduates go on to graduate school; emphasis on community service and study abroad

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 54%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 540 / 650
- SAT Math: 540 / 640
- SAT Writing: 500 / 630
- ACT Composite: 22 / 28

Baylor University

Location: Waco, Texas

Enrollment: 16,787

Type of Institution: Private University

Affiliated with the Baptist Church

Distinctions: 145 areas of study and 300 student organizations

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 44%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 560 / 650
- SAT Math: 580 / 670
- SAT Writing: 530 / 640
- ACT Composite: 25 / 30

Rice University

Location: Houston, Texas

Enrollment: 6,719

Type of Institution: Private University

Distinctions: most selective university in Texas; excellent retention and graduation rates; strong research programs

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 16%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 680 / 760
- SAT Math: 710 / 800
- SAT Writing: 680 / 770
- ACT Composite: 32 / 34

Southern Methodist University

Location: Dallas, Texas

Enrollment: 11,643

Type of Institution: Private University

Affiliated with the Methodist Church

Distinctions: strong Cox School of Business and Meadows School of the Arts

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 49%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 600 / 690
- SAT Math: 620 / 720
- SAT Writing: 600 / 690
- ACT Composite: 28 / 32

Stephen F. Austin State University

Location: Nacogdoches, Texas

Enrollment: 12,606

Type of Institution: Public University

Distinctions: health and business fields are extremely popular; has robust programs in art, music, communications, psychology and many other fields

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 62%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 440 / 550
- SAT Math: 450 / 550
- SAT Writing: 420 / 530
- ACT Composite: 19 / 24

Texas A&M University

Location: College Station, Texas

Enrollment: 63,429

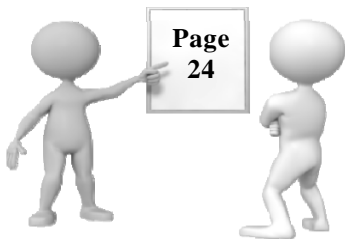
Type of Institution: Public Research University

Distinctions: Senior Military College; strong engineering and agriculture programs

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 66%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 520 / 640
- SAT Math: 550 / 670
- SAT Writing: 490 / 610
- ACT Composite: 25 / 30



Admissions Data (continued)

Texas Christian University

Location: Fort Worth, Texas

Enrollment: 10,323

Type of Institution: Private University

Affiliated with the Christian Church

Distinctions: recent massive investment in new facilities and upgrades; 14 to 1 student/faculty ratio

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 43%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 530 / 630
- SAT Math: 550 / 650
- SAT Writing: 530 / 640
- ACT Composite: 25 / 30

Texas Tech University

Location: Lubbock, Texas

Enrollment: 35,859

Type of Institution: Public Research University

Distinctions: huge 1,839-acre campus; degrees offered in 150 majors

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 63%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 510 / 600
- SAT Math: 510 / 600
- SAT Writing: 470 / 570
- ACT Composite: 23 / 27

University of North Texas

Location: Denton, Texas

Enrollment: 37,175

Type of Institution: Public University

Distinctions: the College of Business is particularly popular among undergraduates; well regarded for its music and arts programs

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 70%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 490 / 600
- SAT Math: 500 / 600
- SAT Writing: 460 / 570
- ACT Composite: 20 / 26

University of Texas, Arlington

Location: Arlington, Texas

Enrollment: 39,740

Type of Institution: Public University

Distinctions: wins high marks for the diversity of its student body; offers 78 bachelor's, 74 master's, and 33 doctoral degree programs through its 12 schools and colleges

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 61%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 420 / 568
- SAT Math: 490 / 610
- SAT Writing: 430 / 550
- ACT Composite: 20 / 26

University of Texas, Austin

Location: Austin, Texas

Enrollment: 50,950

Type of Institution: Public Research University

Distinctions: one of the top public universities in the U.S.; one of the top business schools in the U.S.

Percent of Applicants Admitted: 40%

Test Scores -- 25th / 75th Percentile

- SAT Critical Reading: 570 / 680
- SAT Math: 600 / 710
- SAT Writing: 560 / 680
- ACT Composite: 26 / 31

**DIDN'T FIND YOUR
COLLEGE OR
UNIVERSITY?
SEARCH THE WEB
FOR YOUR
SCHOOL'S PROFILE.**



Admissions Definitions and Criteria

Non-Restrictive Application Plans

Restrictive Application Plans

Regular Decision	Rolling Admission	Early Action (EA)	Early Decision (ED)	Restrictive Early Action (REA)
DEFINITION: Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.	DEFINITION: Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.	DEFINITION: Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.	DEFINITION: Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where if admitted, they definitely will enroll. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.	DEFINITION: Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment they have until May to confirm.
COMMITMENT: NON-BINDING	COMMITMENT: NON-BINDING	COMMITMENT: NON-BINDING	COMMITMENT: BINDING	COMMITMENT: NON-BINDING

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment

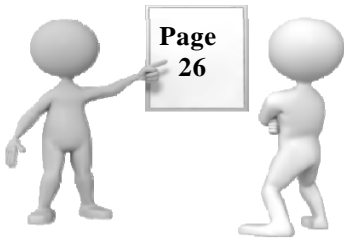
Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.

What Counts in College Admissions

What Admissions Staff found as "considerably important" in a National Survey

Grades in Academic/College Prep Courses.....	(79%)
SAT I/ACT Score.....	(56%)
Grades in All Subjects.....	(60%)
Essay.....	(22%)
Counselor Recommendation.....	(17%)
Class Rank.....	(14%)
Teacher Recommendation.....	(15%)
Work/School Activities.....	(6%)
Community Services.....	(4%)

Source: NACAC



Paying for College

Are you worried about how you are going to pay for college? With the right planning, a college education is within reach for every Texas student. Below are answers to common questions about paying for college.

How much does college actually cost?

The cost of a college education varies, depending on the college you select and whether you live at home, in an apartment, or on campus. In Texas, the average price tag for a college degree (tuition and fees, room and board, books, transportation, and other expenses) ranges from a low of \$5,796 (one year at a public community college) to a high of \$30,938 (one year at a private college or university). Some colleges cost much less than the average; others will be higher.

How will you pay for college?

Many students receive financial aid to help pay for college. Families are expected to contribute to their student's education, even if the contribution is a small one. Most families use a combination of resources to help pay for college. These include:

- * Money they have saved over time
- * A portion of their current income
- * The student's part-time and summer earnings
- * Financial aid, including educational loans
- * Other resources



What is financial aid?

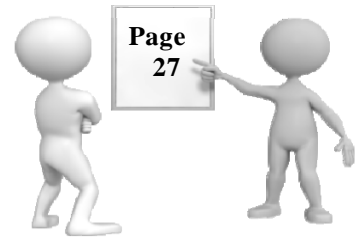
Student financial aid is money used to help pay for college expenses. It is available from many sources and in many forms: grants, scholarships, work-study opportunities, loans, and other programs. Grants and scholarships are "free money", while loans must be paid back. Financial aid can be used to pay for tuition and fees, books and supplies, and the living expenses associated with attending college.

Am I eligible to apply for financial aid?

You might be surprised to find out how much assistance you can receive, regardless of your family's income level. You won't know unless you apply.

To apply for federal financial aid (grants, loans, work-study), here are some of the requirements. You must:

- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non citizen.
- have a valid Social Security number.



Paying for College (continued)

- have a high school diploma or a GED (general equivalency diploma).
- be accepted for admission by the university and enrolled in a degree or certification program.
- not be in default on any Title IV loan (Federal Perkins Loan or Federal Stafford Loan) or owe a refund or repayment on educational funds received at any institution.
- be registered with the Selective Service, if required.
- enroll in and maintain at least a half-time class load at and demonstrate satisfactory academic progress.

Three Principle Types of Student Aid

1. **Grants** - money awarded to the student which does not have to be repaid.
2. **Loans** - money which must be repaid after leaving college.
3. **Part-time work** - jobs which are often related to a student's field of study.

Federal Student Aid

- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Direct Loans
- Federal Family Education Loans (FFEL)
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)
- Federal Work-Study (FWS)
- Federal Perkins Loans

Direct and FFEL Program Loans

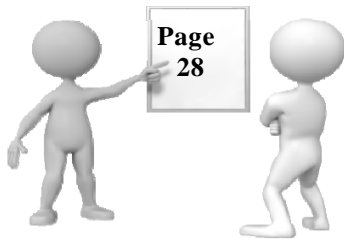
Low interest loans for students and parents are available through the Federal Direct Student Loan (Direct Loan) program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) program. Both the Direct Loan Program and the FFEL Program help students meet education costs. Many of the benefits to students are identical in the two programs. Financial need does not need to be established. Be sure to inquire about:

HOPE – Federal Education Tax Credits Program
Stafford Loans-subsidized and unsubsidized
PLUS Loans

State Financial Aid Programs

Listed below are four of the most common Financial Aid Programs available for Texas Students. For a complete list, please refer to *Financial Aid for Texas Students*, a brochure published by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. This publication may be requested by calling 1-800-242-3062.

- Hinson-Hazelwood College Student Loan (HHCSL)
- Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG)
- Institutional Scholarships of Texas
- Texas Vocational Rehabilitation Commission Assistance



Paying for College ... Free Application for Federal Student Aid

How Financial Need is Determined

The federal Department of Education determines your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) based on information you provide on the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. Parent and student resources are considered the first source of funds to finance an education. Parents income is not included in the EFC for independent students. Financial need is the difference between the cost of education (COE) and the EFC. Each university determines its own COE, which includes average cost of tuition and books, room and board, and personal and travel expenses. Your college or university's financial aid office will review your eligibility for need-based programs up to the amount of your financial need, then review your eligibility for aid programs that are not based on need up to the amount of your COE. Your eligibility for need-based aid is not a guarantee that you will receive that amount.

Some General Hints

Since your financial aid situation can change from year to year, you **MUST** apply for financial aid each year. Always keep copies of forms you submit to the school, government or lender during the financial aid process.

The Process:

1. Apply using FAFSA Online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. You cannot apply before October 1st. You **SHOULD** apply as soon after October 1st as possible.
2. Find out your college's priority dead line for applying for aid.
3. Contact the college financial aid office to make sure it receives all information it needs.

4. You will receive a summary statement referred to as a student aid report or SAR. If necessary make corrections and return to processor OR mail correct SAR to financial aid office of the college you are interested in attending.
5. The college will review your SAR and put together the package of financial aid it can offer. You will be informed via an award letter.
6. If you wish to accept the offer, sign the award letter and return [keep a copy!] If you wish to decline, notify the college immediately so the financial aid can be offered to other applicants.

Contacting the College:

Write to the financial aid officer to inquire whether the college has its own financial aid form that must be completed in addition to the FAFSA. Be sure to ask about general scholarship information.

Useful Web Addresses

FAFSA online:

www.fafsa.ed.gov

General Financial Aid Information:

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/>

www.collegefortexans.com

www.collegefundingco.com

www.studentloan.com

www.fastweb.com



Paying for College ... Military Options

Military Academies

If you are considering a service academy or military college, start planning early. **You should contact the Academy of your choice soon after January 31st of your junior year and send a written request for an application to your State Senator or Representative in April.** Academy appointments are highly competitive and sought after. Military Schools combine a top-notch education with the opportunity to develop valuable leadership skills. Students who choose to attend a military institution become part of a tradition of national service and principle.

The estimated dollar value of a military academy appointment/scholarship is over \$250,000. By attending an academy you have also committed to fulfilling a service requirement in that branch of the military. Your service time begins after graduation and varies among the armed forces branches.

Steps for Applying:

1. Select the military academy you would like to attend. The five military academies include the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy, the United States Air Force Academy, the United States Coast Guard Academy and the United States Merchant Marine Academy (see Resources below).
2. Meet the eligibility requirements. Applicants must be citizens of the United States, at least 17 but younger than 23 by July 1 of the admission year, unmarried and without dependents and not pregnant. Noncitizens may be eligible through a special agreement between the government of their country and the United States.
3. Submit a preliminary application. Each academy makes this application available for download online, or you can request that a copy be mailed to you. You can also fill and submit this form online.
4. Apply for a nomination. Every applicant must obtain an official nomination to qualify for admission to an academy. Those qualified to nominate candidates include the Vice President of the United States, U.S. Representatives and U.S. Senators.
5. Take the college admissions tests. The academies require high scores in the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT).
6. Complete a medical examination. The medical exam is given by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DODMERB).
7. Take the Candidate Fitness Assessment. Due to the rigorous nature of the academy programs, candidates must be in top physical condition.
8. Wait for your status. The academy will make a decision when it has received every part of your application package. Incomplete application files will not receive further consideration after the first Monday in March.

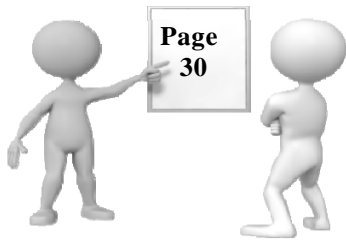


Reserve Officer Training Corps

ROTC scholarships can be a great way to pay for college and include money for tuition, books, and monthly stipends. ROTC programs are available at over 1,000 colleges and universities. A service commitment is required upon graduation.

GI Bill Based on Military Service

The GI Bill provides money for service members who wish to pursue their education and can help pay for tuition and books. Talk to a recruiter for more information.



Paying for College ... Scholarships

Applying for Scholarships

You have probably heard that “millions of scholarship dollars go unclaimed each year.” You have probably also heard stories about outstanding students who couldn’t get scholarships. The fact is, there are thousands of scholarships available. Most scholarships, however, have very specific eligibility criteria (a student must go to XYZ college, have an ACT score of 28+ and be in the top 5% of his/her class, or a student must belong to a particular ethnic group, race, or religion, have leadership ability, a specific major, have overcome a great obstacle, etc.).

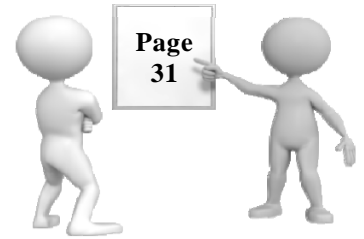
When it comes to academic scholarships, students generally must have an outstanding GPA (3.5 or better), high ACT/SAT scores (ACT 26+ / SAT 1200+ {math and critical reading sections combined}), and excellent recommendations. For most scholarships, applicants are also expected to be involved in extracurricular and/or community activities. To receive an athletic or talent scholarship, a student must *truly* be outstanding.

Even though it is not easy to obtain an academic or talent scholarship, students and parents who are willing to invest the time and energy sometimes find that their efforts pay off handsomely.

EMS ISD subscribes to
www.collegeguidanceconsultants.com e scholarships.
User Name: emsisd
Password: emsisd

When looking for scholarships, keep the following in mind:

1. Start early. Begin looking into scholarship possibilities during your junior year, and locate and complete applications in the fall of your senior year.
2. Finding and applying for scholarships takes time and energy.
3. While groups and organizations offer numerous scholarships, most of the large scholarships are awarded by the individual colleges. Contact the financial aid office of the college(s) you are considering and ask them for information on the scholarships they offer.
4. Private colleges are often more generous when awarding scholarships, thus, making them competitive in price with public colleges. Don’t rule out a private college until you’ve seen their aid package.
5. Apply for local scholarships (Rotary, PTO, Kiwanas, etc.). While these scholarships are generally for smaller amounts (\$100 - \$1,000), they are usually easier to get.
6. ***Be aware of deadlines.*** Scholarship applications become available throughout your senior year, and sometimes they are due only weeks after being publicized.
7. Network. Tell everyone that you are looking for scholarships. Check for scholarship opportunities with your place of employment, your church, and with organizations to which you belong. Also, look for scholarship opportunities in your local newspaper(s).



Paying for College ... Scholarships (continued)

8. The Internet can provide students and parents with a great deal of information on a wide variety of scholarships.
9. Make sure that teachers and counselors are given plenty of time (at least two weeks) to write recommendations and to prepare transcripts. Be aware of deadlines!!
10. Remember that most financial aid is *not* awarded in the form of a scholarship. Pursue *all* financial aid opportunities.
11. You will have a better chance of getting a scholarship at a college where you are in the top 25% of the applicants.
12. Always check to see if financial aid and scholarship awards are renewable.

Protect Yourself from Scams

- ▶ Scholarship searches that charge a fee are very seldom worth the money.
- ▶ If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- ▶ Never invest more than a postage stamp.
- ▶ Legitimate foundations do not charge application fees.
- ▶ Spend the time, not the money. You have access to the same information scholarship search services provide.



When in doubt, seek help from your guidance counselor.

Top Ten Scholarship Application Tips

1. Apply only if you are eligible.
2. Complete the application.
3. Read and follow all instructions.
4. Submit a clean and neat application.
5. Submit a well-composed essay that makes a definite impression.
6. Be aware of and meet all deadlines.
7. Mail application to the proper address with the proper postage affixed.
8. Give your application materials a final review.
9. Seek assistance if you feel you need it.
10. Make sure you're proud of and satisfied with, your application.

Record all scholarships in Career Cruising in "My Plan-Application Tracker".

Notes



**“If you don’t start, you won’t
arrive.”**

B. Dodge