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Denotes Key Websites

# TEXAS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

New graduation plans took effect for the fall of 2013 in Texas. Counselors will work closely with students to determine which plan best fits their academic goals and post-secondary plans.

An overview of all graduation plans is shown on page 3 of this handbook. Detailed information can be found in the course catalog, which can be found on the Plano ISD website.

In addition to meeting coursework requirements, all students must pass End of Course exams in the following areas: English 1, English 2, Algebra 1, Biology and US History.

## EOC Retest Dates for Spring 2018

Tuesday, April 10      English 1 Retest  
 Thursday, April 12    English 2 Retest  
 May 7-9                Biology/Algebra 1/  
                                  US History Retest Window

## EOC Retest Dates for Summer 2018

Monday, June 25      English 1 Retest  
 Wednesday, June 27   English 2 Retest  
 June 25 - 29         Biology/Algebra 1/  
                                  US History Retest Window

More information regarding End of Course exams can be found at [www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us)

GRADE POINTS: Class of 2019					
Numerical Grade	AP/IB	Honors	Regular	Modified	Applied/ Fundamental
97 & above	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	2.5
93 – 96	4.8	4.3	3.8	3.3	2.3
90 – 92	4.6	4.1	3.6	3.1	2.1
87 –89	4.4	3.9	3.4	2.9	1.9
83 – 86	4.2	3.7	3.2	2.7	1.7
80 – 82	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	1.5
77 – 79	3.8	3.3	2.8	2.3	1.3
73 – 76	3.6	3.1	2.6	2.1	1.0
71 – 72	3.4	2.9	2.4	1.9	1.0
70	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0
Below 70	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

## Texas Graduation Requirements

Required Subject Areas	Foundation/Endorsement Plan Students are eligible to apply for general admission to state colleges and universities	English Language Arts 4 <sup>th</sup> year English:	Math 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> year Math:	Science 2 <sup>nd</sup> year Science:	Science 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> year Science
English	4 Credits English 1,2,3, 4 <sup>th</sup> year choice (EOCs: English 1 and English 2)	English 4  Oral Interpretation 3	Math Models (must be taken before Algebra 2)  Algebra 2	IPC (Integrated Physics and Chemistry)  Chemistry	Chemistry  Physics
Math	4 credits Algebra 1, Geometry, 3 <sup>rd</sup> year choice, 4 <sup>th</sup> year choice (EOC: Algebra 1)	Debate 3  AP English Literature and Composition  IB Language Studies AI HL	<b>Algebra 2 is a prerequisite for the following courses:</b>  Pre-calculus		Earth and Space Science  Environmental Systems  AP or IB Biology  AP or IB Chemistry
Science	4 credits: Biology, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year choice 3 <sup>rd</sup> year choice, 4 <sup>th</sup> year choice (EOC Biology)	Professional Communication – if taken after English 3 – a ½ semester course which must be combined with another ½ semester course	Advanced Quantitative Reasoning  AP Statistics		AP Physics 1-2  AP Physics C
Social Studies	4 credits World Geography, World History, US History, US Government/Economics (EOC: US History)	Literary Genres – if taken after English 3  Creative Writing – if taken after English 3	AP Calculus AB  AP Calculus BC  Math Independent Study		IB Physics  AP Environmental Science  IB Environmental Systems
Fine Arts	1.0 credit Art, Music, Theater, Dance, Principles and Elements of Floral Design		IB Mathematics SL  IB Mathematics HL  IB Further Mathematics HL		Anatomy and Physiology Food Science  Forensic Science
Foreign Language	2 credits		AP Computer Science A		Honors Scientific
Health	.5 or 1.0 credit of Principles of Health Science				Research and Design
Physical Education	1.0 credit				Engineering Design and Problem Solving
Communication	.5 credit – AVID 1, Oral Interpretation 1, Debate 1, Professional Communication				Principles of Engineering
Electives/ Endorsement Choices	5 credits				
<b>Total</b>	<b>26 Credits</b>  Distinguished Level of Achievement is the Foundation/Endorsement Plan including Algebra 2. Students are eligible for top 10% automatic admission to state universities.	All prerequisites must be met before taking a course.	All prerequisites must be met before taking a course.	All prerequisites must be met before taking a course.	All prerequisites must be met before taking a course.

Art 1		<b>PHYSICAL ED &amp; HEALTH</b>		<b>UIL SPORTS</b>	
Art 2	451001	<b>½ credit courses</b>		Diving	305104
Art 3	452001	Health Education	30100B	Football 4	304404
Art 4 IB	453001	Individual Sports	30260B	Golf 4	305204
Art Sculpture	456451	Team Sports	30250B	Soccer 4 (B)	304504
Art H/AP 2-D Design (2 hrs) (Application)	452081	<b>1 credit courses</b>		Soccer 4 (G)	303204
Art H/AP 3-D Design (2 hrs) (Application)	456351	Aerobics	302201	Softball Conditioning 4	303304
Art H/AP Drawing (2 hrs) (Application)	456371	Cheerleading 4 (Tryout)	306104	Softball 4	303404
Art Design 1 IH	454051	Dance 1	451871	Swimming 4	305304
Art Design 2 IH	401041	Dance 2	452871	Tennis 4	305404
Art 3 IB SL	452041	Dance 3	453871	Track 4 (B)	304604
Art 4 IB HL	456401	Dance 4	454871	Track 4 (G)	303504
Art History AP	456451	Dance 3 IB SL	453861	Volleyball 4	303604
Art and Media Communications	454071	Dance 4 IB HL	454861	Wrestling 4 (B)	304704
<b>AVID</b>	451501	Drill Team 4 (Tryout)	307104	Wrestling 4 (G)	304704
AVID 4 (by approval only)		Outdoor Education	302401	<b>CAREER EDUCATION AGRICULTURE</b>	
<b>COMPUTER SCIENCE</b>	951901	PE Partners	301241	<b>½ credit courses</b>	
Computer Science 1 (semester 1)				Landscape Design & Management	55155B
Computer Science 2 (semester 2)	40100B	STEP	301571	Prof Standards in Agribusiness (Application)	55195B
Computer Science AP	40200B	Team Sports Officiating (Not a PE credit)	302301	Turf Grass Management	55160B
Computer Science 1 IB SL	401051	Weight Training (Ind/Tm Sports)	952651	<b>1 credit courses</b>	
Computer Science 2 IB HL	401061	<b>SCIENCE</b>	302901	Ag Mechanics & Metal Technologies (Sem)	55250Q
Computer Science 3 H	402061	Anatomy & Physiology	204101	Floral Design	551501
<b>ENGLISH</b>	403531	Biology 1 IB SL	204261	Floral Design II	551601
English 4		Biology 2 AP (2 hrs) (2 credits)	204151	Livestock Production (Sem)	55130Q
English 4 H	104001	Biology 2 IB HL	204161	Veterinary Medical Applications (Application)	552801
English 4 AP Literature	104031	Chemistry 1	205001	Vet. Medical Assistant 2 (Application)	552901
English 4 IB HL	104051	Chemistry 1 IB SL	205361	Welding 1	557601
Creative Writing (½ credit)	104061	Chemistry 2 AP (2 hrs) (2 credits)	205151	Wildlife, Fisheries, & Ecology Mgmt (Sem)	55110Q
Bible Literacy (½ credit)	10310B	Chemistry 2 IB HL	205261	<b>BUSINESS &amp; INFO TECHNOLOGY</b>	
Literary Genres (½ credit)	10370B	Earth and Space Science	207501	<b>½ credit courses</b>	
Theory of Knowledge IB	10350B	Environmental Systems	208201	Global Business	33540B
<b>LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH</b>	952461	Environmental Science AP	208251	Social Media Marketing	55560B
American Sign Language 1		Environmental Science IB	208261	Sports and Entertainment Mkt.	55515B
American Sign Language 2	500101	Honors Scientific Research & Design	208001	Virtual Business	33550B
American Sign Language 3	500201	Physics 1	206001	<b>1 credit courses</b>	
Chinese 3 H	500301	Physics 1 H	206031	Accounting	355001
Chinese 3 IH	503631	Physics 1 IB SL	206061	Business Information Management	352001
Chinese 4 AP	503661	AP Physics 1 (1 <sup>st</sup> semester course)	20615B	Business Law (Sem)	35330Q
Chinese 4 IB SL	504651	AP Physics 2 (2 <sup>nd</sup> semester course)	20625B	Digital Electronics	556351
French 3 H	504661	AP Physics C Elect. & Magnetism (1 <sup>st</sup> sem)	20635B	Digital Media	403051
French 4 AP	503131	AP Physics C Mechanics (2 <sup>nd</sup> semester)	20645B	Audio/Video Technology	403201
French 4 IB SL	504151	Physics 2 IB HL	206161	Principles of Information Technology (Sem)	40340Q
French 5 IB HL	504161	<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>		Video Game Design (Sem)	40360Q
German 3 H	505161	<b>½ credit courses</b>		Web Design	403101
German 4 AP	503231	Economics	25500B	<b>ENGINEERING</b>	
Latin 3 H	504251	Economics AP (Macro)	25505B	Engineering Science	556201
Latin 4 AP	503331	Government	25400B	Aerospace Engineering	556301
Spanish 1	504351	Government AP	25405B	Engineering Design & Development	556501
Spanish 2	501401	Psychology	25700B	<b>FAMILY &amp; CONSUMER SCIENCE</b>	
Spanish 3	502401	Psychology AP	25705B	<b>½ credit courses</b>	
Spanish 3 H	503401	Sociology	25800B	Dollars and Sense	55240B
Spanish 4	503431	Sociology H	25803B	Family & Community Services	552551
Spanish 4 AP	504401	<b>1 credit courses</b>		Fashion Marketing	55270B
Spanish 4 IB SL	504451	American Principles	525425	Lifetime Nutrition & Wellness	55260B
Spanish 5 AP	504461	Economics IB SL	255061	<b>1 credit courses</b>	
Spanish 5 IB HL	505451	Economics IB HL	255161	Child Development (Sem)	55230Q
	505461	European History AP	256051	Fashion Design I	553101
<b>JOURNALISM</b>	505461	World Area Studies IB HL	253161	Food Science (Science Credit)	552251
Journalism		<b>SPEECH</b>		Interior Design I (Sem)	55235Q
Photojournalism (Application)	106001	Intro. to Radio/TV (½ credit)	45250B	Introduction to Culinary Arts (Sem)	55550Q
Newspaper Prod. 1 (Application)	106751	Professional Communications (½ credit)	45350B	<b>2 credit courses</b>	
Newspaper Prod. 2 (Application)	106101	Debate 1	451601	Fashion Design II	553151
Yearbook 1 (Application)	106201	Debate 2	452601	Instructional Practices (Application)	553001
Yearbook 2 (Application)	106401	Debate 3	453601	Practicum in Education & Training (Application)	553051
Yearbook 3 (Application)	106501	Oral Interpretation 1	451701	Culinary Arts (Application)	553201
	106601	Oral Interpretation 2	452701	Practicum in Culinary Arts (Application)	553251
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	106601	Oral Interpretation 3	453701	<b>MEDICAL CAREERS</b>	
Math Models		<b>THEATER</b>		<b>1 credit course</b>	
Algebra 2	153501	Musical Theater	451951	Medical Terminology (Sem)	55410Q
Algebra 2 H	154001	Musical Theater II	452951	Principles of Health Science	554201
Math Independent Studies	154031	Theater Arts 1	451801	Pharmacology (Application)	554301
Advanced Quantitative Reasoning (AQR)	156001	Theater Arts 2	452801	World Health Research	554601
Precalculus	157001	Theater Arts 3	453801	<b>2 credit courses</b>	
Precalculus H	155001	Theater Arts 4	454801	Health Science Theory & Clinical (Application)	554401
Statistics	155031	Tech Theater 1	451901	Practicum in Health Science (Application)	554501
Statistics AP	158001	Tech Theater 2 (Application)	452901	<b>OTHER</b>	
Math Studies IB	158051	Tech Theater 3 (Application)	453901	<b>1 credit courses</b>	
Calculus AP AB	158061	Tech Theater 4 (Application)	454901	Law Enforcement 1	555301
Calculus AP BC	159151	Theater Prod. 1 (2 hrs) (Audition)	455131	Forensic Science (Science Credit)	555401
Calculus IB SL	159251	Theater Prod. 2 (2 hrs) (Audition)	455231	Peer Assist. for Students w/ Dis (Application)	952601
Calculus IB HL	158161	Theater Arts 3 IB SL	453841	<b>2 credit courses</b>	
Multivariable Calculus	159061	Theater Arts 4 IB HL	454841	Auto Tech I: Main. & Light Repair	557201
	159301	<b>UIL SPORTS</b>		Tech II: Auto Service	557251
ROTC 4		Baseball Conditioning 4	304004	<b>CO-OP PROGRAMS - 3 credit courses</b>	
<b>MUSIC</b>	953401	Baseball 4	304104	Career Prep	553801
Band 4	454101	Basketball 4 (B)	304204	Career Prep 2	553851
Choir 4	454201	Basketball 4 (G)	303004		
Orchestra 4	454301	Cross Country 4 (B)	304304		
Music Studies	454301	Cross Country 4 (G)	303104		
Music Theory AP	454451				

# Senior Scheduling Options for Fall 2018

## SENIOR SCHEDULE OPTION 1

- Take 7 classes

**SENIOR SCHEDULE OPTION 2:** A senior who meets the following criteria may be eligible to take only **6 classes**:

- Must be on the Recommended Graduation Plan or Foundation with Endorsement
- Pass all EOC exams
- Completion of **17 credits** by mid-term 11<sup>th</sup> grade
- Must have parental approval

**SENIOR SCHEDULE OPTION 3:** A senior who meets the following criteria may be eligible to take only **5 classes**:

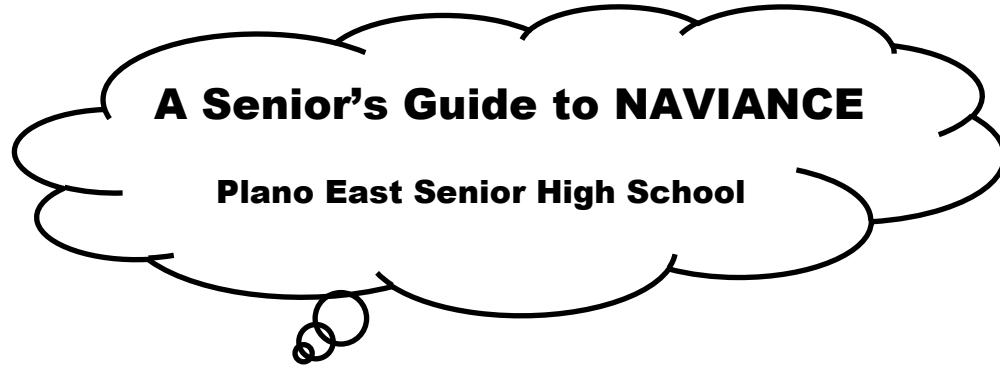
- Must be on the Recommended Graduation Plan or Foundation with Endorsement
- Pass all EOC exams
- Completion of **17.5 credits** by mid-term 11<sup>th</sup> grade
- Must have parental approval
- **AND** must be enrolled in **3 or more AP or IB** courses per semester.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND E-SCHOOL:** If you choose to take a course through e-school or correspondence, be sure to check with your counselor first to ensure that you are taking the correct course in the correct format. Correspondence exams may only be administered by Plano East Counseling staff on the Plano East campus.

## SCHEDULE CHANGE PROCEDURES

All requests for schedule changes for 2018-2019 school year must be made by **June 1, 2018**. **No Elective Changes will be made after this date.**

No schedules will be changed during the first three days of school unless a student is misplaced. Students must attend all classes listed on their schedule, or they will have an unexcused absence for the classes missed.



### To Get Started:

1. Login at: <http://connection.Naviance.com/planoeast>
  - **Account:** Plano East
  - **Username (posted as email):** your planoisd username
  - **Password:** your Plano ID number
2. Go to the **About Me** tab. Under "Official Things", click on **Profile**. Please check your information and **add your email address (or parent email)**. Click on the pencil twice to confirm. This email address will be used to send you updates on colleges visiting Plano East.
3. Go to the **Colleges** tab and click "colleges I'm applying to". If you have started the **Common Application** application, link that information by using your *Common Application* email address to complete that request at the top of the page. This must be done **FIRST** in order to utilize all of the tools Naviance has to offer you.

### Steps to Applying to College:

1. **Go to the College Website** - Go to the website of the college to which you want to apply and read all information for freshman or Perspective Students. Follow their instructions (each school is different) for application noting which application to use ***\*always use Common Application if offered.***
2. **Apply** - Fill out the college application. ***\*Always use the Common Application if it is a possibility as it is the easiest to track online.*** Do all essays required and pay fees.
3. **Transcripts** - Go on **Naviance** and be sure you have added each college to which you are applying, then request your transcripts be sent there (you will likely do this 3 times – when applying, mid-year, and final for the FINAL college of your choosing). Revisit Naviance to view that your transcripts were sent.
4. **Test Scores** - Go to [www.Collegeboard.org](http://www.Collegeboard.org) or [www.ACTstudent.org](http://www.ACTstudent.org) to send test scores to the individual colleges. This is the **ONLY** way they will see your SAT or ACT test scores and they are required for admission.

Feature	Description	How to Access
<b><u>Resume</u></b>	*Record your high school activities, awards, volunteer experiences, etc.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click on the <b>About Me</b> tab.</li> <li>2. Click on the <b>Resume</b> hyperlink under <b>Interesting Things About Me</b> section.</li> </ol>
<b><u>College Searches</u></b>	<p>*Click on various tabs of individual college profiles to learn more about financial aid, majors, degrees, and campus life.</p> <p>*Add colleges you are interested in to your <b>My Colleges</b> list.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click on the <b>Colleges</b> tab at the top of the page.</li> <li>2. Go to any link under <b>College Research</b> if you are seeking ideas about colleges to consider based on your interests, locations, or funding.</li> </ol>
<b><u>Adding Colleges to your List</u></b>	*After using your specific search criteria to explore colleges that may fit your needs, you may have other colleges in mind based on family history, personal preferences, or scholarship opportunities. You can always add these colleges to your list.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Add more colleges to your college list by clicking the link under <b>My Colleges</b> called "Colleges I'm Thinking About".</li> <li>2. Click the "Add colleges to this list" link and search the alphabetical directory of options to add one or several choices.</li> </ol>
<b><u>Transcript Request</u></b>	*After submitting your college application, you must request any transcript through Naviance. This can be done at any point in the year. You can also check the status of those transcripts by utilizing this tool.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Go to the <b>Colleges</b> tab.</li> <li>2. Select the <b>Transcripts</b> link in blue on the left side.</li> <li>3. Choose the appropriate option: Request transcript for my college application (including NCAA), Request transcripts for scholarships or athletics, or View status of all transcripts.</li> <li>4. You can <b>VERIFY</b> the status of your transcript by utilizing the View Status of all Transcripts option.</li> </ol>
<b><u>Letter of Recommendation - teacher</u></b>	<p>*These are required by most highly selective colleges and those using <b>Common Application</b>.</p> <p>*You may request letters online, but every request should be followed up with a personal email/visit to the teacher to see if this is possible and can work in your time frame as well as where you want that teacher's letters to be sent.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Go to the <b>Colleges</b> tab and click the link <b>Colleges I'm Applying To</b>.</li> <li>2. Select <b>Teacher Recommendations</b> and add teachers from whom you would like to request recommendations.</li> <li>3. Follow up with the teacher to inform them of where to send letters and get them any other requested information.</li> <li>4. Don't forget to thank your teacher for the effort after the process is complete.</li> </ol>
<b><u>Letter of Recommendation - counselor</u></b>	<p>*These are required by most highly selective colleges and those using <b>Common Application</b>.</p> <p>*The student must obtain a packet in the counseling office or online, complete, and return to the counselor.</p> <p>*The student should speak to/email with counselor when submitting a packet to be sure the letter is needed and the process is thorough.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Go to the counseling office or online to get the <b>Gold Recommendation Packet</b>. Complete as much information as possible – the more detail, the better.</li> <li>2. Emphasize character and interests.</li> <li>3. Speak to counselor when you return packet to verify needs/schools/necessary steps in application process.</li> <li>4. <b>**Always inform the counselor when you add a school after turning in a packet (one that was not originally listed).</b></li> </ol>
<b><u>Scholarships</u></b>	<p>*Once your personal information is completed in the <b>About Me</b> tab and your college interests are searched, you are ready to look for scholarships.</p> <p>*Local and national scholarship opportunities are posted to give you the maximum options.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click under the <b>Careers</b> tab.</li> <li>2. Look in the <b>Scholarship and Money</b> section at the bottom. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-<b>Scholarship Match</b> will give results the more information you include in <b>About Me</b> and your college preferences</li> <li>- <b>Scholarship List</b> is a list of current and upcoming local scholarships</li> <li>-<b>Scholarship Applications</b> are available for you to complete online</li> <li>-<b>National Scholarship Search</b> gives you opportunities for national scholarships</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

# Student Timeline for College Admissions

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## JUNIOR YEAR

- Begin to research colleges by going to the library or by doing research online.
- **Consider taking the SAT and/or the ACT in the spring to allow you time to review results and retake the exams in the fall of your senior year if necessary.**
- Register for May AP Exams. Information will be given through your AP teachers.
- Take the US History End of Course Exam in May.
- AP Exams will be administered at Plano East during the weeks of May 1-5 and May 8-12.
- Complete the Personality Profile and Career Interest Survey on Naviance if you have not done so and investigate colleges on the Super Match.
- Looking for opportunities to study in the summer? Check Naviance under “Enrichment Opportunities” for the latest information during the spring semester.

## SUMMER 2018

- Visit colleges during the summer. Call ahead for appointments with the financial aid, admissions and academic advisors at the schools that you plan to visit.
- If you go on interviews or visits, send thank you notes.
- Go on-line to view applications and learn what information you will be asked to provide. Focus on the essay portions and decide how you would like to present yourself to the college admissions representatives.
- Decide if you are going to apply under a particular college’s early decision or early action program. See page 9 for more information. Remember to make note of all of your deadlines, including admissions, housing and scholarship applications!
- Be sure to pay the one-time \$5 fee for all transcripts sent during your senior year.

## SENIOR YEAR

### August/September

- Register to take the SAT and/or ACT tests if you have not done so or if you wish to retake the tests in hopes of making a higher score.
- Attend the College Night program in September to visit with college representatives. College nights will be held at Plano West Senior High on September 12 and at Plano Senior High on September 13.
- Double check the deadlines for college admissions/housing and scholarships and begin your applications. There may be separate applications and deadlines for housing and scholarships!
- Get a Letter of Recommendation packet from the counseling office or from our Plano East website **if the college requires a letter from your counselor**. Remember to allow **10 school days** for your counselor to write your letter. If you need a teacher recommendation letter, provide them with a resume.
- Create or update your resume. The Resume builder on Naviance is a great tool to use!

### October

- Most early action and early decision applications are due between October 1 and November 1.
- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be available this month. Complete it online as soon as possible. The CSS Financial Profile will also be available this month if your college required it. Young men who are 18 years or older must prove selective service registration in order to receive federal financial aid.

### November/December

- The last day to submit a Letter of Recommendation Packet to your counselor is **December 1<sup>st</sup>**.
- Watch the Panther Pause for the December deadline to order transcripts through Naviance.
- Take the EOC test if you did not pass all exams previously.

### February/March

- Check Naviance for scholarship information and to access applications.
- Remember that grades through the **third nine weeks** will be used to calculate your final class rank, and you will send your final transcript to the universities at the *conclusion of the spring semester*.

### April/May

- Watch deposit deadlines for colleges. Most colleges have a May 1 deadline for the deposit.
- Complete the Senior Survey in Naviance, which will include any scholarships that you have received.
- Colleges in Texas require that you have had a Bacterial Meningitis vaccine before you enroll. Be sure that you have taken care of this requirement!



## **Eight Steps to Admissions Success**

1. **Consider applying early.** College admissions deadlines are earlier every year! Getting an application in early often gives you an advantage.
2. **Take the toughest courses you can handle.** A student whose curriculum includes a good number of advanced placement and honors courses has an edge over someone with slightly higher grades with a less rigorous curriculum.
3. **Choose your schools well.** The applications most easily dismissed are from those who have not thought at all about why they are a good match for a certain school and, therefore, have trouble making a plausible case in their essays. It is much easier if you do your research and choose the school rather than applying to numerous universities/colleges in the hopes that at least one will accept you. Be sure to ask questions about housing, meal plans and campus life!
4. **Ask for letters from teachers who will be enthusiastic about you.** A lukewarm recommendation can damage an application.
5. **Get to know your counselor.** Make sure you give your counselor plenty of time to write your letter for you. Four weeks lead-time is a good rule of thumb, but ten school days are required.
6. **Craft essays to the question.** Admissions officers can easily spot "one size fits all" essays, so turn in a clean copy that is carefully proofread. Don't rely on your spell check program, which won't tell you that *Duke* appears in the essay you intended for *Princeton*. Be sure that your essay gives the committee an idea of who you are as a person and as a student.
7. **Do an alumni interview, if it is an option.** This will signal that you are serious about the school.
8. **Don't let up on academics your senior year. *Admissions committees do look at first semester grades and have been known to reject students who take it easy.*** Also remember that you will submit a final transcript to your college showing all of your senior year grades.
9. **Keep accurate records of your application materials.** Maintain a separate file for each school.

While most schools look for similar qualities in applicants, there is no sure-fire formula for getting into a particular college. With that in mind, parents and students should study college websites and quiz recent alumni, current students and admissions officials to learn which school would be the best "fit."

### **WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN COLLEGE?**

- **Budget your time and stay organized!**
- **Prepare and study for your classes. Typical study time is 2 – 3 hours for every hour that is spent in class.**
- **Go to class and ask questions!**
- **Connect with your professors and with other students through student organizations and study groups.**

## **College Admissions Options**

**Early Action, Early Notification** – These are very similar. High school students apply in the fall of their senior year and the colleges notify them of acceptance generally by January without requiring them to commit financially. Students have until early May to accept or decline an offer of admission.

**Early Decision** – Early Decision is a **binding** agreement between you and the college, so it's essential that you be certain about wanting to enroll at that college.

By applying under an early decision plan, you are making a commitment to attend that college and surrender the right to wait until May 1 to make a decision. With this application method, a student is saying "if I am accepted, I am going – no exceptions". High school counselors and admission officers take this commitment very seriously. It is important to know that you may apply for early decision to only one college. You may apply for regular admission to other colleges during the fall, but once you are admitted under an Early Decision plan, you must withdraw all applications to other colleges immediately.

### **When is Early Decision the right choice?**

Advice from the experts: Don't opt for Early Decision unless you've spent time on the campus in classes and dorms, and you have a true sense of the academic and social climate of the college. Advocates of Early Decision feel that students who know exactly where they want to go and know that they have the funds to go to the school should take advantage of what Early Decision offers, but again, only if they have meticulously researched their options.

In general the Early Decision applicant pool is more competitive, but fewer in number. More competitive schools are drawing more applicants from their early decision applicants than ever before.

Be sure to investigate what happens if you are denied admission under Early Decision. Questions to ask are:

- Are you automatically placed in the regular decision category if denied early decision acceptance?
- Is the denial final?
- Is it possible to reapply?

### **Be Aware!!!**

**Colleges and universities use the terms "Early Decision", "Early Action" or "Early Application" differently and/or interchangeably – make sure you understand how the college you are applying to uses the term!**

## COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING

### Should I take the ACT or the SAT?

Most colleges will accept either test for admission. However, you should check the admission requirements for each college to be sure. Colleges also vary as to the parts of each exam that they require or which parts that they consider for admission. Please see the chart on the following page for more in depth information.

### When do I need to take the SAT or ACT?

We recommend that juniors consider taking the April, May or June SAT and/or ACT. The preferred method of registration is on-line, however registration booklets for these tests are in the Counseling Office. If registration is completed by mail, watch your POSTMARK deadlines carefully. For a quick and easy registration, you may go to the website, where you can also find information on test dates for the 2018-2019 school year. You will need to **upload a photo** when registering and **present photo id** when you arrive at the testing site.

#### Spring 2018 SAT Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline
March 10, 2018	February 9, 2018
May 5, 2018	April 6, 2018
June 2, 2018	May 3, 2018

#### Spring 2018 ACT Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline
February 10, 2018	January 12, 2018
April 14, 2018	March 9, 2018
June 9, 2018	May 4, 2018

**Note:** There are **two** types of **SAT** exams; the Reasoning and a variety of Subject Tests. **The basic test is the Reasoning test.** Only certain colleges and programs require Subject Tests.

### How do I prepare for the SAT or ACT?

The best preparation for college entrance exams is to do well in your courses in high school and take on as much challenge as you can. There are also many websites and books that can help you prepare. The College Board will soon be offering free online SAT preparation in partnership with the **Khan Academy**. See their website for details.



[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

<https://www.collegeboard.org/delivering-opportunity/sat/redesign>

# SAT vs. ACT

	SAT	ACT
<b>When is it administered?</b>	<b>Seven times</b> per year	<b>Six times</b> per year
<b>How much does it cost?</b>	<b>\$46.00 (no essay)</b> <b>\$60.00 (plus essay)</b>	<b>\$46.00 (no writing)</b> <b>\$62.50 (plus writing)</b>
<b>What is the test structure?</b>	<b>Three section exam:</b> One Evidence based Reading section, one Writing and Language section, one Math section and an optional Writing section.  Total Time: 3hrs Additional 50 minutes for writing	<b>Four section exam:</b> English, Math, Reading, and Science Reasoning. An Experimental section is added to tests on certain dates only, and is clearly experimental.  Total Time: 2hrs 55 min Additional 30mins w/ writing
<b>What is the test content?</b>	<b>Math:</b> Focuses on math that research shows is used most in college and career. <b>Evidence-Based Reading &amp; Writing:</b> Questions are passage based. Students are asked to support answers with evidence from a passage.	<b>Math:</b> up to trigonometry. <b>Science:</b> charts, experiments. <b>Reading:</b> four passages, one each of Prose Fiction, Social Science, Humanities, and Natural Science. <b>English:</b> stresses grammar
<b>Is there a penalty for wrong answers?</b>	No	No
<b>How is the test scored?</b>	200 – 800 per section, added together for a combined score of 1600. The writing section is scored separately on a scale of 2-8.	1-36 for each subject, averaged for a composite score. A 36 is the highest possible composite score.
<b>Are all scores sent to schools?</b>	<b>No.</b> There is a "Score Choice" option. Students can choose which schools will receive their scores AND which scores the schools will see.	<b>No.</b> There is a "Score Choice" option. Students can choose which schools will receive their scores AND which scores the schools will see.
<b>Are there other uses for the exams?</b>	Scholarship purposes Texas Success Initiative	Scholarship purposes Texas Success Initiative
<b>Best time to register?</b>	At least <b>six weeks</b> before the test date	At least <b>six weeks</b> before the test date



[www.Khanacademy.org](http://www.Khanacademy.org)

- Free personalized SAT test prep
- College essay help
- College admissions resources
- Free tutorial help in every subject

Khan Academy is a free education website that offers, “a free, world-class, education for anyone anywhere”. It offers tutorials and short- lectures in the form of You-Tube videos. In addition, College Board has teamed up with Khan Academy to offer FREE personalized SAT test prep for all students.

# COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

## Texas Success Initiative

The purpose of the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is to assess the reading, mathematics, and writing skills that entering freshman-level students should have if they are to perform effectively in Texas public colleges or universities. The test consists of three sections: Reading, Mathematics, and Writing.

### Who should take the TSI?

Any student that is planning to enter a Texas community college or four year public college in Texas is required by law to take the test.

### When should I take the TSI?

It is required that you take the test at the college that you are attending and your scores must be in place before you register for classes. Although it is not used for admission, public colleges in Texas use your results to determine course placement.

### How do I register?

You will be asked to complete a Pre-Assessment activity, which is required before you take the actual TSI. Contact your admissions representative or view the website in the spring for information about where and when you can take the test and how to register. You may be required to take the test on the college campus that you are attending or another affiliate campus.

### Can I be exempt from taking the TSI?

You can be exempt by attaining the following scores on standardized tests:

**ACT:** A composite score of 23 with a minimum of 19 on both the English and mathematics tests.

**OR**

**SAT:** A combined score of 1070 with 500 minimum on both the verbal and mathematics tests.

## Apply Texas

The Texas Common Application for freshman admission can be used to apply to any Texas public university and some private Texas colleges. It can be completed and submitted electronically.

The website provides information about admission requirements, application procedures and major codes. The information outlines the parts you must complete, the application deadline, the application fee and the documents you must submit for each school. You will also find helpful telephone numbers, e-mail and mailing addresses and other information, such as scholarship and financial aid application deadlines, and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) code for the university.



[www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org)

## The Common Application

The Common Application is the recommended form of over 500 colleges and universities for admission to undergraduate programs. Many of these institutions use the form exclusively. All Common Application schools require a counselor recommendation and 2 – 3 teacher recommendations.

The concept is simple: Students create an account and complete one Common Application and submit the form electronically to every Common Application school to which they are applying. It is important to link your Common Application account to your Naviance account before requesting transcripts or recommendations. Teacher and Counselor recommendations must be requested through Naviance.



[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

# TRANSCRIPTS

**All transcripts must be requested through Naviance.**

**This means all!**

**Transcripts for college:**

**APPLY TEXAS**

**COMMON APP**

**SCHOOL SPECIFIC APP**

**ALL APPLICATION TYPES!**

**Transcripts for scholarships**

**Personal Copies of transcripts**

**Transcripts for NCAA**

- This option will be made available to you in the summer before your senior year and counselors will be visiting with you about the specifics of the procedure.
- **You must pay a one-time \$5 fee before your transcript will be uploaded to Naviance.**
- Personal copies of transcripts must be picked-up in person from the registrar's office.
- **Transcripts do not include SAT or ACT scores;** these must be sent directly to the college from the testing organization.

**Please Note:**

Once a student requests a transcript, it will be sent regardless of whether or not the student completes the college application.



**Texas Colleges & Universities**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>WEB ADDRESS</b>
Abilene Christian University	Abilene	325/674-2650	www.acu.edu
Angelo State University	San Angelo	325/942-2073	www.angelo.edu/
Austin College	Sherman	903/813-2000	www.austincollege.edu/
Baylor College of Medicine	Houston	713/789-4951	www.bcm.tmc.edu/
Baylor University	Waco	800/Baylor-U	www.baylor.edu/
Concordia University	Austin	800/865-4282	www.concordia.edu/
Dallas Baptist University	Dallas	214/333-5360	www.dbu.edu/
Dallas Theological Seminary	Dallas	800/992-0998	www.dts.edu/
East Texas Baptist University	Marshall	800/804-ETBU	www.etbu.edu/
Hardin Simmons University	Abilene	800/GO-HSUTX	www.hsutx.edu/
Houston Baptist University	Houston	281/649-3211	www.hbu.edu/
Howard Payne University	Brownwood	800/880-4478	www.hputx.edu/
Lamar University	Beaumont	409/880-7011	www.lamar.edu/
LaTourneau University	Longview	903/233-3400	www.letu.edu/
McMurry University	Abilene	800/460-2392	www.mcm.edu/
Midwestern State University	Wichita Falls	940/397-4000	www.mwsu.edu/
Our Lady of the Lake University	San Antonio	210/434-6711	www.ollusa.edu/
Paul Quinn College	Dallas	214/376-1000	www.pqc.edu/
Rice University	Houston	713/348-0000	www.rice.edu/
Saint Edward's University	Austin	512/448-1050	www.stedwards.edu/
Saint Mary's University	San Antonio	800/FOR-STMU	www.stmarytx.edu/
Sam Houston State University	Huntsville	936/294-1111	www.shsu.edu/
Schreiner College	Kerville	830/896-5411	www.schreiner.edu/
South Texas College of Law	Houston	713/659-8040	www.stcl.edu/
Southern Methodist University	Dallas	214/768-2550	www.smu.edu/
Southwestern Assemblies of God University	Waxahachie	888/YES-SAGU	www.sagu.edu/
Southwestern University	Georgetown	512/863-5788	www.southwestern.edu/
Stephen F. Austin State University	Nacogdoches	936/468-2504	www.sfasu.edu/
Sul Ross State University	Alpine	432/837-8011	www.sulross.edu/
Tarleton State University	Tarleton	254/968-9100	www.tarleton.edu/
Texas A&M	College Station	979/845-3741	www.tamu.edu/
Texas A&M	Commerce	903/886-5081	www.tamu-commerce.edu/
Texas A&M	Corpus Christi	361/825-5700	www.tamucc.edu/
Texas A&M	Galveston	409/740-4400	www.tamug.tamu.edu/
Texas A&M	Prairie View	936/857-2626	www.pvam.edu/
Texas A&M International University	Laredo	956/326-2001	www.tamui.edu/
Texas Christian University	Fort Worth	800/TCU-FROG	www.tcu.edu/
Texas Lutheran University	Seguin	830/372-8020	www.tlu.edu/
Texas Southern University	Houston	713/313-7071	www.tsu.edu/
Texas State University	San Marcos	512/245-22364	www.tsu.edu/
Texas Tech University	Lubbock	806/742-1480	www.ttu.edu/
Texas Wesleyan University	Fort Worth	817/531-4444	www.twesleyan.edu/
Texas Woman's University	Denton	866/809-6130	www.twu.edu/
Trinity University	San Antonio	210/999-7011	www.trinity.edu/
University of Central Texas	Killeen	245/526-7161	www.ctcd.cc.tx.us/
University of Dallas	Irving	972/721-5000	www.udallas.edu/
University of Houston-Clear Lake	Houston	281/283-7600	www.cl.uh.edu/
University of Houston-Downtown	Houston	713/221-8000	www.dt.uh.edu/
University of Houston-Main Campus	Houston	713/743-9595	www.uh.edu/
University of Houston-Victoria	Victoria	877/970/4848	www.vic.uh.edu/
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor	Belton	254/295-8642	www.umhb.edu/
University of North Texas	Denton	940-565-2000	www.unt.edu/
University of St. Thomas	Houston	800/328-6819	www.stthom.edu/
University of Texas	Arlington	817/272-6287	www.uta.edu/
University of Texas	Austin	512/475-7440	www.utexas.edu/
University of Texas	Brownsville	956/544-8200	www.utb.edu/
University of Texas	Edinburg	956/381-2011	www.panam.edu/
University of Texas	Dallas	972/883-2342	www.utdallas.edu/
University of Texas	El Paso	915/747-5000	www.utep.edu/
University of Texas	Odessa	432/552-2000	www.utpb.edu/
University of Texas	San Antonio	210/458-4101	www.utsa.edu/
University of Texas	Tyler	903-566-7000	www.uttyler.edu/
University of the Incarnate Word	San Antonio	800/749-WORD	www.uiw.edu/
Wayland Baptist University	Plainview	806/291-1000	www.wbu.edu/
West Texas A&M University	Canyon	806-651-2020	www.wtam.edu/

## Admission Standards for Selected Texas Public Colleges and Universities

**TOP 10% RULE:** Students ranked in top 10% of their graduating class who meet deadline requirements are granted automatic admission to any Texas Public University, provided that they have completed the Foundation with Endorsement/Distinguished Level of Achievement. The University of Texas at Austin will accept the top 6% for automatic admission.

<i>College and contact information</i>		<i>Class Rank</i>	<i>SAT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Other Information</i>
Angelo State	1-800-946-8627	Top 10%	No minimum	No minimum	
San Angelo	www.angelo.edu	Next 40%	900	17	
		3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	Review	Review	
		4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Review	Review	
Midwestern	1-800-842-1922	Top 10%	No Minimum	No Minimum	
Wichita Falls	www.mwsu.edu	Next 40%	1070	21	
		3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	1140	23	
		4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1180	24	
Prairie View A&M	936-857-2626	Top 25%	No minimum	No minimum	
Prairie View	www.pvamu.edu	GPA 2.75 and up	800	15	
Sam Houston State	936-294-1111	3.5 – 4.0	930	17	
Huntsville	www.shsu.edu	3.0 – 3.49	1010	19	
		2.5 - 2.99	1110	22	
		2.25 – 2.49	1210	25	
Stephen F. Austin	936-468-2504	Top 10%	No minimum	No minimum	
Nacogdoches	www.sfasu.edu	Top 11 – 25%	930	17	
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	1030	20	
		3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	1170	24	
		4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Review	Review	
Tarleton State Univ	1-800-687-8236	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	No Minimum	No Minimum	
Stephenville	www.tarleton.edu	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	880	16	
		3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup>	Review	Review	
Texas A & M	979-845-3741	Top 10%	No Minimum	No Minimum	
College Station	www.tamu.edu	Top 11-25%	1300 (old SAT) 1360 (new SAT)	30	
		2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Review	Review	
Texas A & M	903-886-5081	Top 10%	No Minimum	No Minimum	
Commerce	www.tamu-commerce.edu	Top 11 - 30%	1060	21	
		2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Review	Review	
Texas Southern	713-313-7071	All Students	900	17	
Houston	www.tsu.edu				
Texas State	512-245-2364	Top 10%	No Minimum	No Minimum	
San Marcos	www.txstate.edu	11 – 25%	1000	20	
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	1090	22	
		3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	1250	26	
		4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1330	29	

## Admission Standards for Selected Texas Public Colleges and Universities

*Continued*

<b>College and contact information</b>		<b>Class Rank</b>	<b>SAT</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>Other Information</b>
Texas Tech	806-742-1480	Top 10%	No Minimum	No Minimum	
Lubbock	www.ttu.edu	11 – 25%	1180	24	
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	1260	26	
		3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	1290	27	
		4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Review	Review	
Texas Woman's	866-809-6130	1st Quarter	No minimum	No minimum	
Denton	www.twu.edu	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	1080	21	
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Half	Review	Review	
University of Houston	713-743-1010	Top 10%	No Minimum	No Minimum	
Houston	www.uh.edu	11 – 25%	1080	21	
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	1170	24	
		Next 50%	Review	Review	
University of North Texas	1-800-868-8211	Top 10%	No Minimum	No Minimum	
Denton	www.unt.edu	11 – 25%	1030	20	
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	1130	23	
		3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	1250	26	
		4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Review	Review	
University of Texas	817-272-6287	1st Quarter	No Minimum	No Minimum	
Arlington	www.uta.edu	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	1130	22	
		3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	Review	Review	
		4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Review	Review	
University of Texas	512-475-7440	Top 7%	No Minimum	No Minimum	
Austin	www.utexas.edu	Remainder	Review	Review	
University of Texas	972-883-2342	Top 10%	No Minimum	No Minimum	
Dallas	www.utdallas.edu	11 – 15%	1270	26	
		Next 85%	Review	Review	

### Selected Two-Year Junior and Community Colleges

<b>College and contact information</b>		<b>Class Rank</b>	<b>General Information</b>
Austin Community College Austin	512-223-7000 www.austin.cc.tx.us	Open Admission	High School Diploma
Blinn Junior College Brenham	979-830-4000 www.blinn.edu	Open Admission	High School Diploma
Collin County Community College Plano	972-881-5790 www.ccccd.edu	Open Admission	High School Diploma
Dallas County Community Colleges Dallas County	214-378-1824 www.dcccd.edu	Open Admission	High School Diploma
Tyler Junior College Tyler	1-800-687-5680 x2523 www.tjc.edu	Open Admission	High School Diploma

- SAT Scores based on Critical Reasoning and Math portions only. ACT Scores based on composite score.
- “Review” indicates that the college will look at all parts of your admission file in order to determine eligibility to enroll.
- Many Colleges recalculate your GPA based only on courses that they consider for admission or without weighting Honors, AP or IB courses. Be sure to read each college’s admissions requirements carefully!
- **Remember that you must submit all test scores and other required admission documents even if you are under the assured admission category! You must also meet the college’s deadlines to submit this information!**

### Community College: First Steps to Your Future

Community Colleges offer a number of advantages, including much lower costs than four year universities and a smooth transition to college. They also offer a variety of programs and opportunities that will help you to reach your career goals. Following are some examples:

**CERTIFICATE PROGRAM** – If you are excited about learning a real skill like audio engineering, networking or graphic design, one of the many certificate programs at a Community College would be perfect for you. Depending on the number of courses required to complete the certificate, you may be exempt from the TSI requirement (Texas College Admissions Test). Courses in a certificate program tend to concentrate on hands-on skill development. Upon completion of the certificate, you would have the credentials to get an entry-level position in the industry.

**ASSOCIATE DEGREE (AA)** – An Associate Degree may be earned by taking related course work beyond the basic certificate program. With an Associate Degree, you gain the skills for a job in the field of your study. An Associate Degree typically takes two years to complete if you are a full time student and includes several core classes in addition to the classes in your field of study.

**TRANSFER PROGRAM** – Community College offers open enrollment and can serve as a bridge from high school to the college or university of your choice. Texas has adopted a “Core Curriculum” which includes a number of basic courses that will automatically transfer to a four year public college in Texas. A student may transfer to a four year university at any time. The conditions of the transfer vary with each college, but grade point average is important when transferring! See the “Transfer U” page on the Collin College website for much more information on how to transfer to a four year school from a community college.

**PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS** – Several of the major universities in Texas have a partnership program with the Community College in their area. Austin Community College is a pipeline school for UT-Austin, Blinn College is a link to Texas A&M in College Station, and South Plains is a bridge to Texas Tech in Lubbock. Each partner school has slightly different arrangements specifying the requirements for transferring from the community college to the four year school. Collin College has agreements with the following schools:

Austin College  
Baylor  
Dallas Baptist University  
Southern Methodist University  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Texas Tech University  
Texas Woman's University  
Texas Wesleyan University  
University of Texas at Dallas  
University of North Texas



<http://www.ccccd.edu/>

<http://transferu.ccccd.edu/>

## DUAL CREDIT

Through dual credit, students are able to take a class for both high school credit and college credit at the same time. Plano ISD has a dual enrollment agreement with Collin College. Students must meet the guidelines for admission and enrollment at Collin College in order to be eligible. Students must also pay for books, tuition and fees for each course according to the Collin College fee schedule. Students that are eligible for the free or reduced lunch program will have their tuition waived by Collin College. Dual credit classes meet on the high or senior high school campus. The counselor will have information about which courses are available for each grade level and the transferability of these courses to other colleges.

## Four More Years NOT For You? Check Out These Schools!

### **Auto Technology/Auto Body**

Brookhaven College - DCCCD  
Cedar Valley College - DCCCD  
Eastfield College - DCCCD

### **Aviation/Flight School**

Mountain View College – DCCCD

### **Computer Applications Programmers**

Texas State Technical College/Waco  
Brian Institute of Texas

### **Computer Service Technicians**

Texas State Technical College/Waco  
Eastfield College – DCCCD  
El Centro College – DCCCD  
Richland Junior College – DCCCD

### **Cosmetologists**

Paul Mitchell Cosmetology School  
Aveda Institute  
Cosmetology Career Center  
ITS Beauty College  
Dallas Barber & Stylist College

### **Criminal Justice/Corrections Officer**

Cedar Valley College  
Collin College  
Eastfield College – DCCCD  
El Centro College – DCCCD  
Grayson County College  
McLennan Community College

### **Culinary Arts**

El Centro – DCCCD  
Collin College

### **Dental Assistants/Dental Hygienists**

ATI Health Education Center  
Collin College  
Concorde Career Center  
Navarro College  
Tarrant County Junior College, NE

### **Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT)**

Cedar Valley College  
El Centro College – DCCCD  
Grayson County College  
McLennan Community College

### **Fire Science**

Collin College  
Eastfield College

### **Fashion/Interior Design**

El Centro College – DCCCD  
The Art Institute of Dallas  
Wade College

### **Graphic Design**

Collin College  
Texas State Technical College/Waco

### **Hospitality and Food Service Mgt**

Collin College

### **Medical Assistants**

Eastfield College – DCCCD  
ATI Health Education Center  
Bryan Institute of Texas  
PCI Health Training Center

### **Nurses, Licensed Practical**

El Centro College – DCCCD  
Collin College  
Grayson County College

### **Nurses, Registered**

Brookhaven College – DCCCD  
El Centro College – DCCCD  
Grayson County College  
Navarro College  
Tarrant County Junior College, NE

### **Real Estate Agents/Brokers**

Cedar Valley College  
North Lake College  
Richland Junior College – DCCCD  
Navarro College  
Tarrant County Junior College, NE

### **Surgical Technology**

Collin College  
Eastfield College

### **Veterinary Technology**

Cedar Valley College

### **Wireless Communication Technician**

Richland College

**This list is only a sample of all of the opportunities available. Turn to page 28 to explore much more!**

# PAYING FOR COLLEGE

## TYPES OF FINANCIAL AWARDS

- Need- Based: Based only on financial need
- Merit- Based: Based on accomplishments of the student, as in grade point average, extra-curricular or community service involvement and much more!

## SOURCES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Federal and State Financial Aid
- College or University Scholarships.
- Scholarships from Businesses and Organizations

### Federal and State Financial Aid

## THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

Federal and State Governments use the FAFSA form to determine a family's ability to pay for college. After the form is submitted, a Student Aid Report (SAR) is sent to each college listed on the form. You will also receive a copy of this form, which will tell you the amount of your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Each college will then send you an award letter outlining how much and which types of aid that you will be eligible for at their school. It is recommended that you apply as soon as possible in order to have priority consideration for aid.

### PPY

Per the Federal Government, beginning in 2016, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be available earlier – in **October** rather than January – and will use tax information from two years ago (prior-prior year, or PPY) rather than from the previous year.

The change to PPY has great potential to benefit students, including:

- The ability to file the FAFSA earlier and get information about federal financial aid eligibility faster.
- The ability to use the IRS's Data Retrieval Tool to populate several questions on the FAFSA, making the filing process much easier.

Many experts believe that these changes will increase the number of eligible students who apply for and receive financial aid, and the earlier availability of financial aid information will help students and families make more informed decisions.

Be sure to check the deadline for your college; most deadlines are on or before March 15. Families are recommended to apply online, but a paper application may be downloaded. Eligibility is for one year only; the FAFSA must be submitted every year! The FAFSA website provides excellent information and an estimator of how much aid a family may be eligible to receive.



[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

## **TYPES OF FEDERAL AND STATE FINANCIAL AID**

- Loans
- Grants
- Federal Work Study

The FAFSA determines eligibility for all types of federal and state financial aid. It is not necessary to apply for each grant or loan separately. All Federal and State Financial Aid is solely need-based.

### **Federal Financial Aid Toll Free Number: 1-800-4 Fed Aid**

## **FEDERAL AND STATE LOANS**

There are many types of loans offered, but all require repayment with interest. Some are subsidized by the government, meaning that the interest on the loan is paid until after the student's graduation. Unsubsidized loans may require payment of interest during college. Most loans do not require repayment until after graduation from college. Typically, federal and state loans offer very competitive interest rates. Some types of loans are:

- PERKINS LOANS: The college is the lender.
- HINSON-HAZELWOOD COLLEGE STUDENT LOANS: Loans for legal residents of Texas.
- PLUS LOANS: PLUS loans are for parent borrowers and provide additional funds for educational expenses. They are made by a lender such as a bank, savings and loan association or credit union.
- STAFFORD LOANS: May be subsidized or unsubsidized.

Private loans may also be sought by individual families.

## **FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS**

Grants do not require repayment by parents or students. Some types of federal and state grants include:

- PELL Grant: Based on exceptional family need.
- ACADEMIC COMPETITIVENESS GRANT: Must be eligible for a Pell Grant and obtain a minimum grade point average.
- FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY GRANT (SEOG): Eligibility is based on exceptional need.
- TEACHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOR COLLEGE AND HIGHER EDUCATION (TEACH) GRANT: Provides funds for future teachers. Includes a four year commitment to teach in a high-need field in a low income school.
- TEXAS EQUALIZATION GRANT (TEG): If you are applying to a private college in Texas, you may apply for a T.E.G. by completing the financial aid form and the TEG application form, which can be obtained from the Financial Aid Office of the private college.
- TEACH FOR TEXAS GRANT: Offers assistance to those desiring to teach in identified fields or geographical areas experiencing a critical shortage of teachers. Student must complete the Recommended or Distinguished Achievement program graduation requirements. Financial need is NOT a criteria.



## FEDERAL WORK STUDY PROGRAM

The program provides part-time jobs on campus for students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses.

### College or University Scholarships

- Can be need-based or merit-based and do not require repayment.
- Check the college's website to see if the school has its own financial aid form, which must be completed in addition to the FAFSA. Find out about general scholarship information and applications that the college offers.
- Check with the department that houses your major at the college to ask about the application procedures for departmental scholarships.
- Find out the college's priority application deadline for financial aid applications. You must submit the FAFSA and any other required documents by the deadline in order to be considered for aid.
- Some colleges and universities also require the CSS/Financial Aid Profile, which is available on the College Board website.
- Plano East receives a great deal of information on scholarships offered by individual colleges and universities and their departments. All scholarships are posted on Naviance under the "Colleges" tab. Keep in mind that the applicant pool for local scholarships tends to be much smaller, giving you a greater chance of winning the scholarship.

### Scholarships from Businesses and Organizations

- Can be need-based or merit-based and do not require repayment.
- Scholarship information that the Plano East counseling department receives is updated on a regular basis on Naviance.
- All scholarship applications are available online and the links are provided
- Please read requirements for scholarships carefully to be sure that you meet all requirements.



<http://succeed.Naviance.com/planoeast>

**You are not advised to pay a fee for any financial aid or scholarship information.**

**There is no financial aid or scholarship information that you cannot find on your own or with the help of your counselor.**

# US Military Academies Application Process

## WHERE DO I START?

### Spring, Junior Year

Write your Congressman and 2 Senators

#### U.S. Senators

<b>Ted Cruz</b> B40B Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 202-224-5922 <a href="http://Cruz.senate.gov">Cruz.senate.gov</a>	<b>John Cornyn</b> 517 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 202-224-2934 <a href="http://Cornyn.senate.gov">Cornyn.senate.gov</a>
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#### U.S. Congressman

<b>Sam Johnson - R District 3</b> 1211 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 (202) 224-4201 <a href="http://Samjohnson.house.gov">Samjohnson.house.gov</a>
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Request and fill out the PCQ card for the academy of choice  
 Mid April ACT (register by mid-March)  
 Early May SAT (register by late March)  
 Begin nomination process in June

### Summer Junior/Senior Year

Request Presidential nomination, if eligible  
 Request Vice-Presidential nomination, if eligible

### Fall/Winter Senior Year

Follow-up on Congressional/Senate nomination  
 Meet with Liaison Officer for academy of choice  
 Complete application process with academy of choice

### Summer, Junior/Senior Year

Complete academy process for appointment (medical, physical, etc.)  
 Attend reception/press conference for appointees

<b>US MILITARY ACADEMY (West Point)</b> Major Bo Friesen H - 972-769-0455 O - 469-467-1100	<b>US NAVAL ACADEMY</b> Commander Sandy Ray H - 972-599-2139
<b>US MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY</b> Lt. Commander John Knight H - 972-233-1328 O - 214-340-0265	<b>US AIR FORCE ACADEMY</b> Major Joe Barkate O -214-641-53631

# NCAA Eligibility Center

## General Information for College Bound Athletes

If you are planning to attend college and participate in Division I or Division II athletics, you must be certified as eligible by the NCAA Eligibility Center.

### To get certified:

1. At the beginning of your senior year go online to complete an application.
2. The fee can be waived for students who have already received a waiver of the ACT or SAT fee. See your counselor if you have questions regarding fee waivers.
3. Send ACT or SAT score reports to the Eligibility Center by filling in their code (9999) as one of your four choices when you take the test or by filling out an additional score report form later.
4. Use Naviance to order a transcript from the registrar's office to be sent to the Eligibility Center.

You cannot play any sport at an NCAA college or accept a scholarship to do so, without clearance from the Eligibility Center. Be sure you complete this important information if college sports are part of your future plans.

### Minimum scores for NCAA full eligibility:

Division I	Division II
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 16 core courses</li><li>• Ten (10) core courses completed before the start of seventh semester. Seven (7) of the 10 must be in English, math or natural/physical science.</li><li>• "Locked in" for core-course GPA calculation.</li><li>• Corresponding test score (ACT sum score or SAT combined score and core-course GPA (minimum 2.300) on Sliding Scale) See website for scales.</li><li>• Graduate from high school.</li></ul>	<p>16 Core Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 years of English.</li><li>• 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).</li><li>• 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).</li><li>• 3 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.</li><li>• 2 years of social science.</li><li>• 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).</li></ul>



## Directory of Websites

### NAVIANCE

Access Naviance at <http://connection.Naviance.com/planoeast>  
 You can research and compare careers, colleges and college majors (courses of study) on Naviance. This is also the site that you will use to complete college applications, request letters of recommendation and find summer opportunities and scholarship information.  
 Save this one to your favorites!

### Plano ISD University Ready Website

<http://ur.pisd.edu>

This comprehensive site will walk you through graduation and on to college. This is another great site to save to your favorites!

### APPLICATIONS

#### Texas Common Application

[www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org)

#### Universal Common Application

[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

### TEST PREPARATION

#### SAT

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

#### ACT

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

### COLLEGE SEARCH

[www.collin.edu/gettingstarted/explore/destinationcollege/](http://www.collin.edu/gettingstarted/explore/destinationcollege/)

[www.ycg.org](http://www.ycg.org)

[www.GenTX.org](http://www.GenTX.org)

[www.admissions.com](http://www.admissions.com)

[www.college.gov](http://www.college.gov)

[www.myplan.com](http://www.myplan.com)

[www.adventuresineducation.org](http://www.adventuresineducation.org)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com)

[www.collegeview.com](http://www.collegeview.com)

[www.collegeexpress.com](http://www.collegeexpress.com)

[www.collegefortexans.com](http://www.collegefortexans.com)

[www.nacacnet.org/studentinfo](http://www.nacacnet.org/studentinfo)

[www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)

[www.review.com/](http://www.review.com/)

[www.thecb.state.tx.us](http://www.thecb.state.tx.us)

[www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com) (Click Education)

[www.collegeportraits.org](http://www.collegeportraits.org)

[www.texascollegeandcareer.org](http://www.texascollegeandcareer.org)

### FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

#### FAFSA

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

#### CSS Financial Profile

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)

[www.edpubs.gov](http://www.edpubs.gov)

[www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)

[www.adventuresineducation.org](http://www.adventuresineducation.org)

[www.collegefortexans.com](http://www.collegefortexans.com)

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

[www.nasfaa.org](http://www.nasfaa.org)

[www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)

[www.salliemae.com](http://www.salliemae.com)

[www.students.gov](http://www.students.gov)

[www.mapping-your-future.org](http://www.mapping-your-future.org)

[www.latinocollegedollars.org](http://www.latinocollegedollars.org)

[consumerfinance.gov/paying-for-college](http://consumerfinance.gov/paying-for-college)

### CAREER

[www.part-time-jobs-for-students.net](http://www.part-time-jobs-for-students.net)

[www.myfuture.com](http://www.myfuture.com)

[www.acinet.org](http://www.acinet.org)

[www.achievetexas.org](http://www.achievetexas.org)

[www.careers.org](http://www.careers.org)

[www.careervoyages.gov](http://www.careervoyages.gov)

[www.twc.state.tx.us](http://www.twc.state.tx.us)

[www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com)

### COLLEGE MAJORS

[www.mymajors.com](http://www.mymajors.com)

**Who to contact at Plano East  
469-752-9000**

<b><u>SUB SCHOOLS</u></b>		<b><u>PRINCIPALS</u></b>	<b><u>EXTENSIONS</u></b>
ALPHA	A – Er	Tim Johnston	29022
		Secretary: Abigail Escobedo	29021
BETA	Es -Lo	Faith Newhouse	29123
		Secretary: Sandra Pugh	29114
GAMMA	Lu – Ri	Al Gallo	29111
		Secretary: Margaret Acton	29124
DELTA	Ro – Z	Tyesha Glover	29113
		Secretary: Gloria Morales	29112
<b><u>COUNSELING CENTER</u></b>			
Director of Guidance		Carah Marquez	29147
A – Bl		Rona Amora	29014
Bo – Deg		Crystal Wilson	29017
Deh – Ga		Crystal Levingston	29118
Ge – Jam		Jennifer Spring	29117
Jan – Mab		Michael Kaprelian	29029
Mac – Na		Sherri Newman	29015
Ne – Po		Jenny McConaughy	29016
Pr – Sa		Jinnetter Dixon	29013
Sch – Tra		Craig Loveland	29116
Tre – Z		Courtney Harker	29018
Counseling Secretary		Cathy Dahlquist	29045
Counseling Receptionist		Ana Talbot	29019
Registrar		Donna Garcia	29024

**STAY UP TO DATE ON YOUR STUDENT'S PROGRESS AND ATTENDANCE!**

**How to Log in to the PISD Parent Portal**

1. Go to [parent.mypisd.net](http://parent.mypisd.net)
2. Click on "Create New Registration"
3. Complete information for your student (it is only necessary to create one account- all of your PISD students will automatically be accessible).
4. Click "Submit Request" Look for an automated message in your e-mail with instructions on completing the process.

# FOLLOW US!

REMIND 101 

Plano East Counseling  
Text @peshcou to 81010

TWITTER   
@PESH Counseling