

Senior Class Presentation 2023-2024

Options After High School?

- Military (*Military Recruiters*)
- Work (*Workforce Solutions and Job Corps*)
- Trade School or Specialized School or College (UTI, TSTC, Art Institute in Dallas, Devry, etc.)
- Two Year College
- Four Year University (*main focus of presentation*)

Vocabulary terms:

University- 4 year campus that offer bachelor or higher degrees

College- 2 year campus that offer associates degrees, certifications, or a program within a university (example: college of business)

University Admissions Factors

Primary Factors

- Quality/Rigor of Academic Courses (Diploma Plan)
- Academic Performance/Grades (GPA/Class Rank)
- Test Scores (SAT/ACT)

** Most Texas Universities remain test optional.*

Secondary Factors

- Extracurricular Activities
 - Essay(s)
 - Letters of Recommendation
 - Community involvement and/or work experience
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Types of University Admissions

Automatic/Assured Admissions

- Top ten percent rule- all students in top ten percent of graduating class are guaranteed admission into any state (public) supported university (UT exception at 6%).
 - private universities are exempt from this rule
- Academic admissions- based on class rank, GPA, and SAT or ACT scores (*test optional*)- all public universities have an automatic/assured academic admissions based on these two/three factors only (must check with individual university for information, *(Public University Assured Academic Admission Standards for Fall 2023)*)
 - private universities are not required to have assured academic admission standards
- Receiving acceptance into an university doesn't guarantee acceptance into individual programs or colleges within the university (examples: honors college or business program/college)

Types of University Admissions Continue

Holistic Review Admissions

- If a student does not meet automatic/assured admission requirements, an admissions committee will review your file and consider all information sent (based on number of slots available).

Bridge/Summer Programs

- Bridge Programs are where universities work with a specific college to get a student ready to transition from a two year campus to a four year campus (example: Blinn and A&M)
 - Summer Programs are where a student must attend classes during the summer
 - Once you complete the requirements of the bridge or summer program you will be allowed to register at the university during the fall or spring.
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College Admissions

2 year colleges or specialty schools/colleges

Open Enrollment College Admission

Most two year colleges don't have minimum requirements for admissions, only that you have a high school diploma or GED.

- SAT/ACT not required
- TSI required by most

30 Two Year and Trade Colleges/Schools in Texas

Application Check List

1. Required exams
2. Choosing a college/university and visiting the campus
3. Complete college/university application(s)
 - don't have to wait to take or receive SAT/ACT scores before you apply
4. Apply for financial aid
5. Apply for housing
6. Register for freshman orientation
7. Apply for scholarships

Senior Checklist for Applying to College

Exams

SAT/ACT (*SAT/ACT Information*)

- Most Universities in Texas are test optional. However, test scores can help with the admissions process and are required for many scholarships.

- requirements on these test depend upon class rank and GPA of the student, and the individual university/scholarship
- most universities accept both the SAT and ACT
- if you have not taken one of these test you need to register ASAP

- Register online.

ACT: register at www.actstudent.org or act.org cost \$68 or \$93 (with writing)

SAT: register at www.collegeboard.com or sat.org cost \$60

- Study guides are available online (*received best SAT study guide with PSAT results*).

Vouchers available if you qualify for free/reduced lunch (limited amount/see counselors).

TSI Assessment

- The TSI Assessment is also a required exam for most Texas colleges and all public Texas universities (*College Readiness Requirements for College Bound Seniors*)
 - This test is not used for acceptance purposes but is used for placement. Students will not be allowed to take certain courses without this test.
 - Students can register for these test through the Tarleton Testing Center, Hill College Testing Center, the testing center of a college/university of your choice, or select dates through the GRHS
 - You may be exempt from this test if you meet certain requirements on the SAT or ACT or have completed English or math dual credit (dual credit students that have already passed or met exemptions on this test are not required to test again).

Math Placement Assessment Exam

- Some colleges/universities require a math assessment exam for all students.

ASVAB

- Career aptitude and interest test. (*ASVAB Information*)
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Choose a College

1. Know your options.

- there are approximately 150 non-profit institutions of higher education in Texas
- search the internet (college match tools on the internet), obtain college publications, visit campus, attend campus events
- compare your choices

2. Know what is important to you.

- location, size, cost, campus life, safety
 - public/private
 - two year/four year
 - educational programs and majors
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Visit College/University Campus

Before Campus Visit:

- Complete college day form and turn it into the office 24 hours before college visit (*College Day*)
- Call or go online to schedule your college/university visit.
- Many schools also have Saturday College/University Preview Days (highly recommended)

During Campus Visit :

- Verify admission requirements.
- Determine actual college costs and ask about financial aid.
- Take a campus tour, investigate academic programs, find out about housing.

After Campus Visit :

- Return verification of trip to the office before 1st period (letter from college/university on letter head)
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Complete College/University Application(s)

Four year public universities in Texas

- All applications online, see college/university for application(s).
- Commonapp.org and applytexas.org (most common applications).

Two year colleges, private colleges/universities, and out of state colleges/universities

- All applications online, see college/university for application(s).

How many institutions should I apply?

- Personal decision; however, application fees can add up quickly, we recommend applying to 3-5.

When Should I Apply?

Target application deadline: 4 year universities-December 1, 2 year colleges- March 15

See college/university website for deadline dates.

Additional Information Required or Recommended to Complete College/University Application(s)

- You need to send the following after you submit your college application:
 - high school transcript: *required, unless self report will replace transcript (Request Form for Senior Counselor)*
 - test scores (SAT, ACT, AP, TSI)
 - college transcript: *for those that took dual credit, you will need to request a transcript from ASU and/or Hill College (ASU and Hill College Transcript)*
 - letters of recommendation (3): *optional for most universities (Request for Recommendation Letters)*
 - resume: *optional for most universities (How to Make a Resume and Student Information Sheet)*

No decision will be made until application, SAT/ACT scores (if required), and high school transcript (if required) is received.

• The counseling office will keep a file on each student. It is your responsibility to include or request any items that you would like the school to send for you and tell us when you want us to send the information.

See College Room Information

Apply for Financial Aid

HB 3 makes completing financial aid a graduation requirement.

- Students (and parents) must complete one of the following: FAFSA, TASFA, **TEA Financial Aid Application Opt-Out Form**

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid): www.fafsa.ed.gov

- US Citizen
- Permanent US resident with Alien Registration Card
- Conditional permanent US resident with visa type I-551C
- Eligible noncitizen with an Arrival/Departure Record; I-94

TASFA (Texas Application for State Financial Aid): www.collegeforalltexans.com

- If none of the above apply to you but you are classified as a Texas resident

TEA Financial Aid Application Opt-Out Form

- Discuss this option with your counselor.
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Financial Aid Information

- 2024 Free Application for Federal Student Aid will be available after December 1, 2023
 - Before you apply:
 1. Make sure you have your 2022 tax information
 2. Review FAFSA on the Web Worksheet
 - Used as “pre-application” worksheet
 - Questions follow order of FAFSA on the Web
 3. Create a FSA ID
 - Electronically sign
 - Student and one parent need FSA ID
 - Studentaid.gov
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Financial Aid Information

Need Based Aid (based on parent and student income)

- Grants (FAFSA- Pell Grant and TASFA)

- Subsidized Loans (FAFSA-Stafford Loan)

- College Work Study Programs (FAFSA and college/university)

- Scholarships (need)

Non-need Based Aid (based on parent and student income)

- Scholarships (merit)

- Unsubsidized or Alternative Loans (FAFSA-Stafford Loan, personal loan)

- Parent Plus Loans (FAFSA, personal loan)

- Military (ROTC, National Guards, GI program)

Federal Stafford Loans

- Subsidized- must have need
- Unsubsidized- need not a factor; slightly higher interest rate
- 6 month grace period; 10 year repayment term
- Low interest rate
- Annual Loan Limits

Federal Plus (Parent) Loan

- Borrowers are parents of dependent undergraduate students
 - Repayment can begin as early as 60 days after disbursement
 - Higher interest rate than student loans.
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FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

- www.collegeforalltexans.com
 - studentaid.gov
 - tea.texas.gov
 - Financial Aid/Scholarship Department of any college or university
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Register for Freshman Orientation

- Register for the first session that will fit into your schedule.
- You will meet with an academic advisor and register for classes.
- Take the following with you to orientation (*will receive a packet at the end of the year with most of this information*):
 - copy of ASU, UT, and Hill College transcripts
 - copy of TSI scores
 - copy of SAT/ACT scores
 - driver's license
 - proof of meningitis vaccine
 - proof of any scholarships that will be sent directly to the college/university
- If the college/university doesn't have an orientation, schedule a meeting with an academic counselor before registering for classes.

Apply for Housing

- Rules for campus living is different for each college/university, but many universities require freshman to live on campus if they are not commuting.
 - Most colleges/universities have a separate housing application to complete.
 - There is normally a deposit or application fee that is required to complete your housing application.
 - If you know who you want to request as a college roommate, make sure that you both complete the housing application at approximately the same time.
 - The faster you apply for housing the better your options.
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Apply for Scholarships?

Private sources

- Local organizations/clubs (GR is a very generous community that offers many scholarships)
- Parents employer
- National/State/Organizational/Business (internet best source to find these)
- High School (college room, classrooms, high school website)

Institutional sources

- College scholarship application (on college application or separate form)
- Academic departments
- Financial Aid Office (scholarships not part of application process)

Helpful Websites

- [Counselor's Corner](#)- located on high school website, all of the following links can be found here
- www.ApplyTexas.org– common application site for most Texas colleges
- www.commonapp.org- common application site for Texas and out of state colleges
- www.collegeboard.org– SAT registration and scores, college match tools, AP scores, college planning tools
- www.collegefortexans.com – information about colleges in Texas, college cost, college planning, college match tools, etc.
- www.act.org– ACT registration and scores
- www.studentaid.gov- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- www.fastweb.com- scholarship site
- www.mymajors.com- majors and college match tool
- GenTX.org- College and career events and information
- CompareCollegeTX.com- Information about Texas public universities and community colleges
- www.txccrsc.org- information video series about all you need to know to be college ready

Important Events

Senior Parents' Night

- September 11th 6:00-7:00pm in the High School Cafeteria

Senior Appointments

- September 12th –19th, during school hours
- Please bring your folder, anything college related you are working on, and any questions that you have about the admission process, financial aid, and scholarships (*see “Appointment Letter” and “Appointment Summary”*)

Tarleton State University and University of North Texas Group Campus Visit

- Tarleton- September 27th
- UNT- October 25th

College Fair Night

- October 17th ; 6:00-7:30 pm
 - High school cafeteria
 - Register at www.gotocollegefairs.com (not required)
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Thank You

If you have any questions, concerns, or need assistance with the college/university application process (after initial appointment), you are welcome to make additional appointments with your high school counselor throughout the year.

Please join Senior Reminders by texting @grhs2024s (students) or @grhs2024p (parents) to 81010 or add to your reminders app.
