

College Visits

- ✓ Seniors may take 2 college visits their senior year that will not count against absences.
- ✓ Request a College Visit Form from Mrs. Bailey in the office before you leave for your visit.
- ✓ The college you visit must sign the form and it must be returned to Mrs. Bailey in order for your absence to be excused.

Transcript Request

- ✓ When: after you have submitted your application (college or scholarship).
- ✓ Scholarships: most do not need an official copy, so you can request 1 for yourself and then make copies.
- ✓ Requests for transcripts need to be made to Mrs. Bailey. *Be sure to give advance notice for official copies.

What counts for college admissions and scholarships?

1. GPA and rank:
 - ✓ If you rank in the top 50% of your class then some colleges don't require minimum test scores but you do have to submit scores.
 - ✓ Ranking in the top 10% = automatic admission to state universities; except University of Texas – UT is expecting to automatically admit the top 8% (will vary).
2. ACT/SAT scores:
 - ✓ Most schools base ACT/SAT scores requirements on your rank. For example, Tarleton – top 50% rank then provide scores but no minimum. Top **51-61%** rank must make SAT=950, or ACT=20.
 - ✓ NISD pays for your first administration of the ACT- **October 22 at Graham HS**
 - ✓ Students on free or reduced lunch can receive a fee waiver to take their ACT again. Ask Mrs. King if you qualify.
 - ✓ Scores need to be sent directly to your college/university from ACT or College Board (SAT) in order to meet college requirements.
3. Graduation Program:
 - ✓ Texas A&M recommends graduating on the Distinguished program if students are not in the top 10%.
 - ✓ Graduating on the Minimum program has higher score requirements.
 - ✓ Competitive schools want to see a rigorous senior year.
4. Essays: Required essays must be well written. Be ready to work hard to get into a competitive college.

Scholarships

- ✓ More \$ can only help!
- ✓ Scholarships take time and effort.
- ✓ Beware of scams! Don't pay for scholarship or financial aid services.
- ✓ Go to the website of the university you plan on attending and fill out a "General Scholarship Application". *Most are due by December!
 - ✓ Other scholarships sites: www.collegeforalltexas.com; www.tuitionfundingsources.com; www.collegeanswer.com; www.schoolsoup.com; www.fastweb.com; www.tarleton.edu/scholarships/outsidresources.html (Do NOT need to be attending Tarleton to apply for these!)

College Testing Requirements

All Texas schools:

Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

- a. Pass a state approved test in reading, writing and math **or** meet exemption criteria.

Four year schools (acceptable scores vary by college):

ACT plus Writing

Register at www.actstudent.org.

ACT plus writing: \$56.50

Fee waivers available for students on free or reduced lunch program.

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
October 22 (GHS)	September 16	September 17–30
December 10	November 4	November 5-18
February 11 (GHS)	January 13	January 14-20
April 8	March 3	March 4-17
June 10	May 5	May 6-19

SAT

Register at www.collegeboard.com.

Cost: \$57

Fee waivers available for students on free or reduced lunch program.

SAT Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
		Online
Oct 1	Sep 1	Sep 20
Nov 5	Oct 7	Oct 25
Dec 3	Nov 3	Nov 22
Jan 21	Dec 21	Jan 10
Mar 11	Feb 10	Feb 28
May 6	Apr 7	Apr 25
Jun 3	May 9	May 24