

# College Application Process

## Parent Information Session



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# College Application Process



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# What is Required in the Application Process?

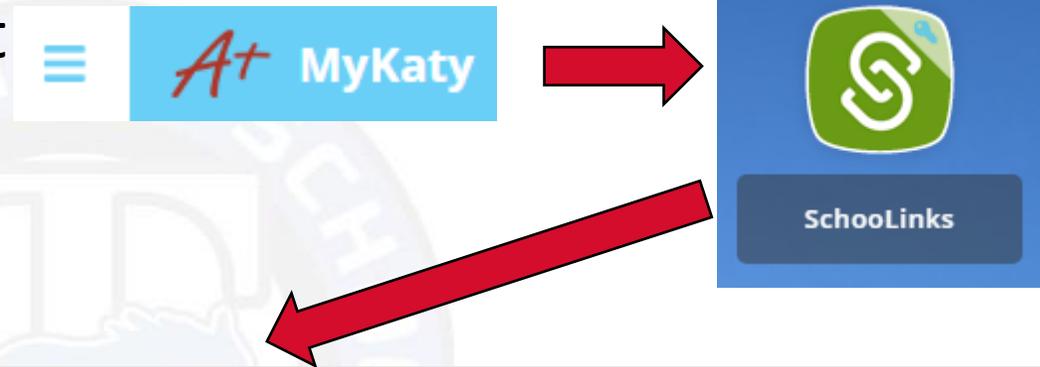
- Submitted Application
  - Submit at least 30 days BEFORE the university scholarship deadline!
- Application Fees or Send in Fee Waiver
  - Apply Texas application fee paid through college admissions portal
  - Common App application fee paid in Common App
  - Fee waivers sent through SchoolLinks
- Transcript
  - Sent via SchoolLinks (for both Apply Texas & Common App)
- Test Scores (ACT/SAT)--- Over 2000 colleges have a test optional admission policy for the Class of 2025 due to COVID-19
  - UT Austin is NOT test optional
  - When deciding to apply with or without test scores, a good rule is if your scores are below the college's average, apply without scores. If your scores are at or above the college's average, apply with scores.
- Application Essays\*
- Teacher Letters of Recommendation\*
- Resume & other “recommended” or “optional documents”\*

# When Should I Do What for College Admissions?

- Have your Application List ready by July 1 (if not ready, start NOW)
- Complete all ACT/SAT testing by October of senior year
- Essays/ Resume- July 1 (if not ready, start NOW)
- Submit Application- July 1<sup>st</sup> or August 1<sup>st</sup> depending on application opening date
- Transcripts- Transcripts are automatically added when the admissions application is submitted then linked to SchoolLinks.
  - Apply Texas- At this time you will need to add your completed Apply Texas applications in SchoolLinks, soon Apply Texas and SchoolLinks will be linked together but the sync has not been turned on yet. Make sure when you add the college in SchoolLinks, it is marked completed, we will NOT send transcripts if the college is in the "In Progress" column. There is a 5-7 business day processing period for Apply Texas transcript sends.
  - Common App- Must link your CA and SchoolLinks account together. Once you submit your application the college will automatically move to the "Completed" column in SchoolLinks. Counselors send transcripts for CA applications. There is a 3 week processing period for counselor documents (including transcripts) for all CA applications.
    - The three week processing period starts one of two ways.
    - Student submits application then requests to see counselor- three weeks process period starts after the student meets with the counselor.
    - Student meets with counselor then submits the application- three week processing period starts when student submits the application.
    - Counselors are busy right now with their first of year scheduling responsibilities and will not start working on Common App application requests until closer to the end of August.
- Request Teacher LOR- Speak to teacher at least three (3) weeks in advance; Must have already submitted application and added college in completed column in SchoolLinks
- FAFSA/ TASFA- December of senior year [Graduation Requirement]

# SchoolLinks: Logging In

- Log into your **ClassLinks** account
  - Click on the SchoolLinks icon



A screenshot of the SchoolLinks dashboard. On the left is a green sidebar with icons for HOME, SCHOOL, ACTIVITIES, COLLEGES, and CAREERS. The main content area has a top navigation bar with 'Dashboard' and 'What's happening on SchoolLinks' (with a hand icon), and tabs for 'To Do List' and 'My Team'. Below the navigation, there are several cards: a 'Schedule a meeting with your school staff in the "My Team" tab' card with a right arrow; a 'Check out this Scholarship! Kaylee Anne Sawyer Scholarship Deadline: March 1, 2022' card; and an 'Oregon Office of Student Access and Completion' card with a dollar sign icon. The 'To Do List' section shows '1 Overdue To Do (30+ Days)' and '0 Due within the Next Four Weeks!' with a message 'No To Dos due within the next four weeks!'. At the bottom, it says 'No More To Dos Coming Up This Year!'.

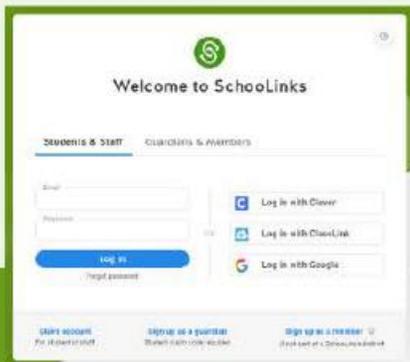


Scan for Q&A

# How to Access Your Parent Account in SchoolLinks

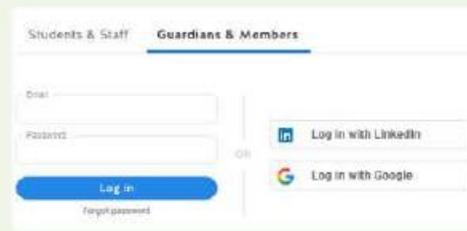
1

Parents will go to <https://app.schoollinks.com/login/k12> and select "Guardians & Members".



2

Enter the email associated with your Skyward account and click "forgot password".



3

This will initiate your password to be reset and you will receive an email. Follow the link in the email and reset your password.

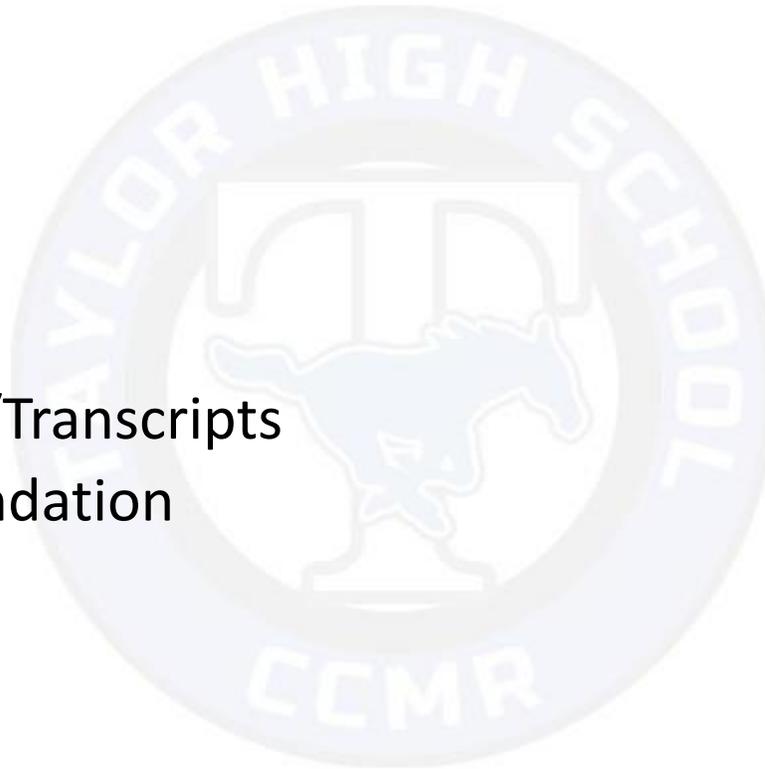


Purpose of SchoolLinks:

- Self Assessments
- Interest Inventories
- Career Research
- College Research
- College Applications
- Transcript Request
- Letters of Recommendation
- Student Resumes
- Financial Aid Tracker
- Scholarship Information
- Volunteer Opportunities
- CCMR Event Information

# SchoolLinks

- Purpose
  - College Research
  - Career Research
  - Interest Inventories
  - College Applications/Transcripts
  - Letters of Recommendation



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# Automatic Admissions in Texas

- Students in top 10% of class are automatically accepted to all four-year public universities in Texas (UT Austin top 6%).
- Just because a student is automatically accepted to a college does not mean the student is automatically accepted to the program of study.
- All colleges in Texas expect for 5 have more than one automatic admissions policy (2 of 3 if in top quarter with average to above average ACT/SAT have very good chance for admissions).
- See 2024-2025 Texas Universities Automatic Admit Policies on the CCMR Newsletter and in Canvas.
- Most private university do not do automatic admissions.

**Fall 2025 Automatic Admission Policies**  
**(For students applying for Fall 2025 US Freshman Admissions)**

| CLASS RANK                           | Test Optional | Top 6%  | Top 7-10% | 1st Q (Top 11-25%)                                     |     | 2nd Q (Top 26-50%)   |     | 3rd Q (Top 51-75%)   |     | 4th Q (Top 76-100%)   |                                       | Additional Comments  |                    |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---|-----------|--|-----|----------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
|                                      |               | SAT/ACT   | SAT/ACT   | SAT  | ACT | SAT                  | ACT | SAT                  | ACT | SAT                   | ACT                                   |  |                    |
| Angelo State University              | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | 920 / 17 TO: ≥ 2.5   |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indv Rw               |                                       | Test scores recommended for scholarship purposes. Verified 07/31/2024  |                    |
| Concordia University Texas           | Yes           | GPA of 2.5 (4.0 scale)  |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Verified 07/23/2024  |                    |
| Houston Christian University         | Yes           | 1070/21   |           |  |     |                      |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw              |                                       | TO: Recommended to submit supplement dox; All ranks w/ 1270 SAT/ 26 ACT Auto Admit- Verified 08/13/2024              |                    |
| Huston-Tillotson University          | Yes           | Distinguished Admit ≥3.5 or 1080 or 22; Automatic Admit ≥2.5 w/ Test Score (no min required); Regular Admit 2.3-2.49 GPA & 900/16     |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       |  | Verified 7/22/2024 |
| Lamar University                     | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | No Min               |     | 1080                 | 21  | 1080                  | 21                                    | DC students w/ 18 college credits & a 2.0 GPA are auto admit. Must send in college transcript- Verified 07/17/2024   |                    |
| Lubbock Christian University         | Yes           | 3.0 GPA (4.0 scale)   |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Test scores recommended students below a 3.0 GPA- Verified 08/08/2024  |                    |
| Midwestern State University          | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | 1070                 | 21  | 1140                 | 23  | 1180                  | 24                                    | TO: 3.0-4.0 Auto; 2.75-2.99 Uncon Admit [must have 2 advanced courses]; 2.5-2.74 Cond Admit- Verified 7/17/2024      |                    |
| Prairie View A&M University          | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | Must meet one: Top 50% or 2.8 GPA or 1060/21           |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Test Scores Required for Scholarships- Verified 7/24/2024  |                    |
| Sam Houston State University         | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | 3.5-4.0 GPA 930/17                                     |     | 3.0-3.49 GPA 1010/19 |     | 2.5-2.99 GPA 1110/22 |     | 2.25-2.49 GPA 1210/25 |                                       | TO: 3.5-4.0 Auto Admit; 3.49 & Below Review Only & Personal Statement Required- Verified 07/17/2024                  |                    |
| Stephen F. Austin State University   | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | 1030                 | 20  | 1170                 | 24  | Indv Rw               |                                       | TO: Top 25% Uncond, 26-100% Indvl Rev, Test scores required for some scholarships- Verified 07/17/2024               |                    |
| Sul Ross State University            | Yes           | GPA of 2.0 (4.0 Scale)  |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Test scores required for some scholarships- Verified 07/17/2024  |                    |
| Tarleton State University            | Top 75%       | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | No Min               |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Denied/Cond Admit Pos |                                       | 4th Q: Possible Sum Bridge w/ ACT/SAT, Test scores not required but encouraged for scholarships- Verified 07/18/2024 |                    |
| Texas A&M- College Station           | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | Indvl Rw   |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw              |                                       | Verified 08/08/2024  |                    |
| Texas A&M- Commerce                  | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min (Top 30%)                                       |     | 1060                 | 21  | 1060                 | 21  | 1060                  | 21                                    | Test scores encouraged for students not in Top 30%- Verified 07/22/2024  |                    |
| Texas A&M- Corpus Christi            | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | No Min               |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw              |                                       | Test scores strongly encouraged.- Verified 07/18/2024  |                    |
| Texas A&M- Galveston                 | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | Indvl Rw   |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw              |                                       | Test scores required for some scholarships- Verified 7/22/2024   |                    |
| Texas A&M- International             | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | No Min (Top 40%)     |     | 980                  | 19  | 980                   | 19                                    | Provisional Admissions (for fall) 920/17- Verified 07/18/2024  |                    |
| Texas A&M- Kingsville                | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | Must meet one: Top 25% or 2.7 GPA or 1000/19           |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Verified 07/22/2024  |                    |
| Texas A&M- San Antonio               | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | Must meet one: Top 25% or 3.0 GPA or 1100/22           |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Additional Auto Admissions Info available on website- based on core course grades- Verified 07/23/2024               |                    |
| Texas A&M- Texarkana                 | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | Must meet one: Top 30% or 2.75 GPA or 1060/21          |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Test score required for highest level merit scholarships- Verified 07/29/2024  |                    |
| Texas Southern University            | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | 2.5 GPA or 900/17                                      |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Verified 07/29/2024  |                    |
| Texas State University               | Top 75%       | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | 1090                 | 22  | 1250                 | 26  | 1330                  | 29                                    | If applying TO, only Top 35% will be reviewed for merit scholarships- Verified 08/06/2024                            |                    |
| Texas Tech University                | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | 1180   | 24  | 1240                 | 26  | 1280                 | 27  | Indvl Rw              |                                       | TO: Highly recommended to submit "optional supplemental documents"- Verified 07/29/2024                              |                    |
| Texas Woman's University             | Top 50%       | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | No Min               |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw              |                                       | Test scores recommended for honors & scholarship awards; Minimum GPA 2.0- Verified 08/06/2024                        |                    |
| University of Houston- Main Campus   | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | 1080 / 21 TO: ≥ 3.40                                   |     | 1170 / 24 TO: ≥ 3.45 |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw              |                                       | TO requires additional supp dox; Must self-report grades in MyUH portal- Verified 7/28/2024                          |                    |
| University of Houston- Clear Lake    | Top 50%       | No Min  | No Min    | Must meet one: Top 50% or 3.0 GPA or 2.5 GPA & 1000/20 |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Verified 7/28/2024   |                    |
| University of Houston- Downtown      | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | 2.5 GPA or 930/18    |     | 930                  | 18  | 930                   | 18                                    | Test scores encouraged for merit scholarships; Minimum GPA 2.5 - Verified 08/07/2024                                 |                    |
| University of Houston- Victoria      | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | Must meet one: Top 50% or 2.5 GPA or 980/19            |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Admit w/ Req: 2.0-2.49 GPA or 940/18 must follow a success plan & meet w/ counselor each week.- Verified 7/28/2024   |                    |
| University of North Texas            | GPA Based     | No Min  | No Min    | 1030   | 20  | 1130                 | 23  | 1250                 | 26  | Indvl Rw              |                                       | Assured admissions 3.0 Unweighted GPA; Test Scores strongly encouraged; Minimum GPA 2.5- Verified 07/29/2024         |                    |
| UT- Arlington                        | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | 1130                 | 23  | 1250                 | 26  | Indvl Rw              |                                       | 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Quarter Auto Admit: 3.25 GPA; Submit test scores for merit scholarship 1280/27- Verified 7/28/2024   |                    |
| UT- Austin                           | No            | No Min  | Indvl Rw  | Indvl Rw   |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw              |                                       | Test scores required for admissions; Top 6% Auto Admit- Verified 07/29/2024  |                    |
| UT- Dallas                           | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | Indvl Rw   |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw              |                                       | Indvl Rw for all majors; Strongly recommend to submit all supplemental dox & test scores- Verified 08/06/2024        |                    |
| UT- El Paso                          | No            | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | 920                  | 19  | 970                  | 20  | 1010                  | 21                                    | Can be reviewed/admitted based on college level TSIA2 scores-Verified 08/07/2024                                     |                    |
| UT- Permian Basin                    | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw              |                                       | Auto Admit 3.0+ GPA; Test scores used for placement & scholarship awards- Verified 08/08/2024                        |                    |
| UT- Rio Grande Valley                | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | Indvl Rw   |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw             |     | Indvl Rw              |                                       | Verified 07/29/2024  |                    |
| UT- San Antonio                      | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | 1170                 | 24  | Indvl Rw*            |     | Indvl Rw*             |                                       | Rcommended Scores for Indvl Rev: 2nd Q: 980/19, 3rd Q: 1080/21, 4th Q: 1170/24- Verified 07/28/2024                  |                    |
| UT- Tyler                            | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | No Min   |     | 2.75 GPA             |     |                      |     |                       | Minimum GPA 2.75- Verified 07/29/2024 |  |                    |
| West Texas A&M                       | Yes           | No Min  | No Min    | Must meet 1: Top 30%, 3.0 GPA, 1060/21                 |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Test scores strongly recommended for scholarship consideration; Minimum GPA 2.0- Verified 07/29/2024                 |                    |
| <b>NON TX Schools</b>                |               |   |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       |  |                    |
| Arizona State University             | Yes           | Must meet one: Top 25%, 3.0 GPA; ACT 24; SAT: 1180  |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Verified- 07/17/2024   |                    |
| Kansas State University              | Yes           | 3.25 GPA or 1060 SAT/ 21 ACT and if applicable a min 2.0 College GPA  |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Test Optional for admissions; Some scholarships require ACT/SAT scores. Verified- 7/17/2024                          |                    |
| Mississippi State University         | Yes           | 2.0 GPA (based on College Prep Curriculum [CPC])  |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | TO for admissions, test scores required for some automatic merit scholarships- Verified 07/17/2024                   |                    |
| Oklahoma State University            | Yes           | 3.0 GPA and Top 33.3% or 3.0 GPA and 1060 SAT/ 21 ACT or 1160 SAT/ 24 ACT   |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Test scores required for most scholarships, students are encouraged to submit test scores- Verified 08/06/2024       |                    |
| University of Kansas                 | Yes           | 3.25 GPA or 1060/21 and a 2.0 GPA for Coll of Lib Art and School of Social Welfare- <i>Other programs have different requirements</i> |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | Merit scholarships based on GPA- Verified 7/17/2024  |                    |
| University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) | Yes           | 3.2 GPA (based on CPC); Less than 3.2 GPA test scores HIGHLY recommended  |           |  |     |                      |     |                      |     |                       |                                       | TS "very important" for merit scholarships; Admission based on availability, Apply Early- Verified 07/29/2024        |                    |

Indvl Rw= Individual Review; Auto admissions is for general admissions to the university, not for specific programs. Information is for Class of 2024 and is subject to change without notice. For Texas public colleges students will be require to submit ACT/SAT/TSIA2 score to verify college level readiness.

# Class Rank/ GPA/ Test Scores

- If not auto admit SUBMIT BEFORE October 15th!!!
- Generally speaking the lower the class rank/ GPA the higher the test scores needed.
- All public universities are required to automatically accept the Top 10% of the graduating class (UT Austin Top 6%)
- Most public universities have more than one auto-admit policy.
- Texas 2024-2025 Texas Universities Automatic Admit Policies can be found on the CCMR Newsletter and in Canvas
  - i.e. SHSU has four auto-admit policies
  - Auto-admissions is based on class rank, GPA, and/or test scores
  - Some colleges have higher ACT or SAT requirements for certain majors. This information is not listed on auto admit spreadsheet

# Holistic Review Process

- Students not accepted based who do not meet automatic admissions OR the college does not have automatic admissions will have their entire application reviewed by the university. (Usually done by the admissions officers from our region)
- This is where the student's essay, resume, grades, activities, and letters of recommendation really come into play!
- For the HIGHLY selective colleges it is recommend that students who fall into the holistic review process request an interview with the Admissions Officer and the Director of Admissions.
- **Recommend/Optional= Required**

# How to Know What College/ University is Right for You

- Students should research the programs they are interested in not the University!
- If the program is the right program for the student then it will be the right university for the student.
- Many universities in Texas have top ranked programs. Research ALL opportunities.
- Smaller state schools, private universities, and out-of-state schools give A LOT of scholarships!
- How to make you list:
  - 3 Safe Schools, 3 Target Schools, 2 Dream Schools

# First Create Your College Application List

| Safe Schools  | Target Schools  | Dream Schools  |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meet the college's automatic admission police</li></ul> | <p>With/in college's range</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Average GPA</li><li>• Average Class Rank</li><li>• Average ACT/SAT Score</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• College with &lt; 20% admissions rate</li><li>• Outside of college's range</li></ul> |
| 1.  | 1.  | 1.   |
| 2.  | 2.  | 2.   |
| 3.  | 3.  |  |

# Best Way to Learn About a College

- Want to know if a school is right for you?
- VISIT THE COLLEGE, TOUR THE CAMPUS, TALK TO CURRENT STUDENTS.
- **The best way to learn if a college is right for you is to visit the college campus.**
- Attend College Visit in Library (or designated location). Registration required in SchoolLinks.
- Attend College Fairs; both KISD and THS will host college fairs in September & October. (also THS fair in the spring)



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# KISD College Visit Attendance Policy

- A student shall be excused for up to two (2) days during the student's junior year and up to two (2) days during the student's senior year to visit an accredited institution of higher education. Pre-approval is required from the building principal. The student may request the pre-approval form from the attendance office. Student must be passing all classes in order to use a College Visit Day.



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# College Application Websites



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# College Application Websites

- ApplyTexas.org **(START HERE!)**
  - All Texas Public & Most Texas Private Universities
  - UT Austin says they “want” Common App- they do STILL accept AT for Fall 2025
  - Transcript processing time is a lot faster with AT! 5-7 business days.
- Commonapp.org
  - Nearly 900 colleges (48 states, Canada, China, & Europe)
  - If you are only applying to a few Texas colleges then use CA. Just know that there is a 3 week process period for all counselor documents for the CA. You MUST meet with your counselor for CA applications and turn in a Brag Sheet. Brag Sheet is in Canvas and in SchoolLinks documents.
- University Websites
- Coalitionforcollegeaccess.org (*only use if app not in another location*)
  - 170 Public & Private Universities

# Early Action vs. Early Decision

- Typically both EA & ED have a higher admissions rate than Regular Decision
- Texas public universities do not have EA or ED
- Early Action means that you really like this school and it is one of your top choices.
- Early Decision means “D” for “Done”
  - Legally binding agreement. Meaning you and your family **MUST** be okay with the money part of the school because it is **HIGHLY** unlikely that if you are accepted ED you will get out of it! Only able to submit one ED application.

# College Admissions Testing



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# Test Optional Admission Policy

- Due to COVID-19 over 2000 universities have implemented a test optional admissions policy
- Most colleges require you to decide during the application process if you will be submitting test optional or if you will be submitting test scores.
- Some colleges will allow you to change your mind after you submit your application, some will not
- [Colleges Pledge Test Optional Means Test Optional](#)
- **ALWAYS READ ALL ADMISSION/APPLICATION REQUIREMENT DIRECTLY FROM THE UNIVERSITY WEBSITE- NOT from Apply Texas or Common App, from the admissions website!**



# Types of College Admissions/Placement Testing

- ACT ([actstudent.org](http://actstudent.org))- Admissions Testing
- SAT ([sat.org](http://sat.org))- Admissions Testing
- Colleges do not care which test, they only which test you do better on! Take both ACT and SAT!!
- TSIA2 ([accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/prepare-for-accuplacer](http://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/prepare-for-accuplacer))- Placement Testing
  - All Texas public universities require a student to be TSIA2 ready in order to enroll in college level courses- *THS test dates TBA*

# ACT vs. SAT

- Colleges DO NOT care which test you take- ONLY which one you did better on!
- Students should take BOTH tests, compare scores then do extra prep for ONLY the test with the better score, retest in ONLY that one. NOT BOTH.
- ACT & SAT are different types of tests. Students are usually better at one test than they are the other.
- The student should focus on his/her strengths. Not the “name” of the test.



# ACT

- Curriculum based test. Cost about \$69.00
  - There is a writing section that students can take for an additional fee.
- If on free or reduced lunch student can request up to four (4) fee waivers (in high school).
- Students who use a fee waiver have access to two (2) FREE online prep programs. Over \$159 dollar value!
- Additional free practice resources available on the ACT website
- Register @ [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)



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# SAT

- Predicts what a student “can” learn. Cost about \$68.00
  - There is not a writing section on the SAT
- If on free or reduced lunch student can request one (1) fee waiver (in high school) to be used for two (2) exam registrations.
- FREE practice resources for the Digital SAT.
  - Khan Academy's Official Digital SAT Prep for *skill practice*
  - College Board's Bluebook app for *full-length practice tests*
- Register @ [www.sat.org](http://www.sat.org)



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# How to request an ACT/SAT Exam Registration Fee Waiver

- MUST be marked eligible for the federal free or reduced lunch program in eSchool
- Request the fee waiver by scanning the QR code or clicking the link in Canvas before the request deadline. There are specific request deadlines posted on the request form.
- There is a 5-7 business day processing period for the fee waiver request.
- Fee waiver codes are sent via email to the student's email address.

# How to request an ACT/SAT Exam Registration Fee Waiver

**REQUEST**  
**ACT<sup>®</sup> SAT**  
**FEE WAIVER**



THS Juniors & Seniors  
5-7 Business Day  
Processing Period

SCAN TO REQUEST

**FEE WAIVER CODES SENT VIA EMAIL**

The background of the graphic shows a blurred image of students in a classroom setting.

# Sending Test Scores to Colleges

- For BOTH exams: You can send your test scores for FREE if you select four colleges when you register for the exam (or within nine (9) days of taking the exam). If using a SAT fee waiver have an unlimited amount of score sends.
- If you do not select the schools up front to send your scores to it will cost you \$14.00 for SAT or \$19.00 per testing date per report.
  - It is important to mark what colleges you want to send the scores to when you register so that it is FREE to send the scores. All these fees add up!
- Remember, colleges do not review your application until all required documents are submitted.
- During the application review process the university will ONLY look at your HIGHEST scores, so ALWAYS send your scores for FREE. Also, some schools super score, a school cannot super score your scores if they do not have ALL scores.
- If you wait to send the scores, it will take a minimum of two (3) weeks for the university to receive your scores. If you send scores for FREE, the day you get your scores is the day colleges get your scores.

# TSIA2

- State of Texas College Readiness Benchmark
- All college students must be TSIA2 ready to take college credit bearing courses.
- Two sections, ELAR+Writing and Math
- TSIA2 will offered for FREE here at THS during the 2024-2025 SY. Pre-Registration will be required.
- TSIA2 must be completed before the student can register for college level classes but not required during the admissions process.
- Students can be exempt from the TSIA2 based on their ACT or SAT scores

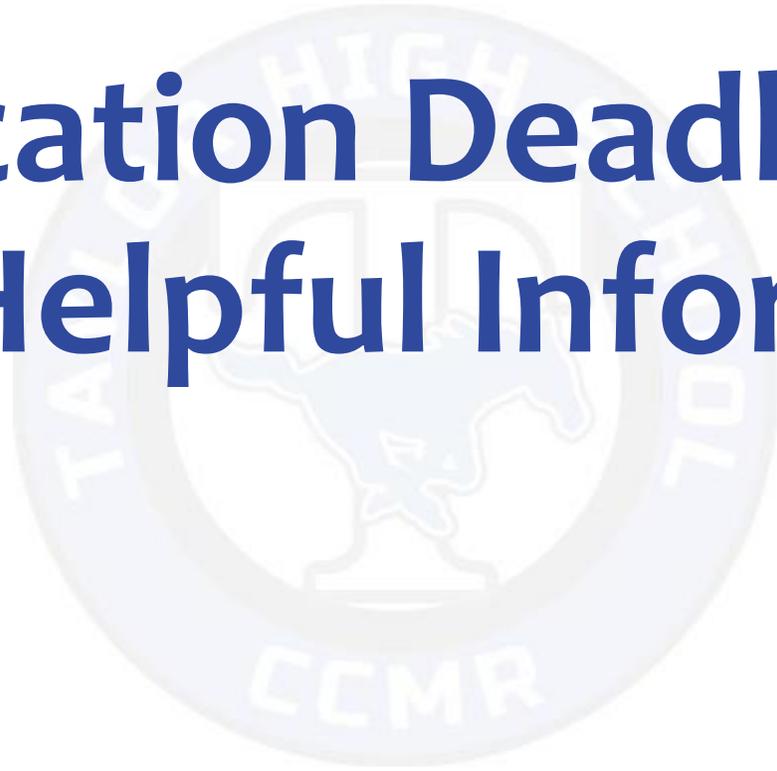
# TSIA2 Exemptions

- ACT Exemption Standards
  - After Feb 2023
    - English & Reading Combined Score: 40
    - Math: 22
- SAT Exemption Standards
  - Evidence Based Reading & Writing: 480 (minimum)
  - Math: 530 (minimum)
  - NO COMBINATION SCORE
- Completed English 1301 for English exemption
- Completed Math 1314 (College Algebra) for math exemption
  - Not currently offered at Taylor HS



Scan for Q&A

# Application Deadlines & Other Helpful Information



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# Application Deadlines

- The deadline listed on the application is NOT the deadline to hit the submit button. It is the last day to have ALL REQUIRED pieces of the application submitted to the university.
  - Application
    - Submit at least 30 days BEFORE the university scholarship deadline!
  - Fees/ Fee waiver
    - Pay through college website or CA.
    - Fee waivers sent through SchoolLinks
  - Essays
  - Transcript
  - Test Scores
  - LORs

# Recommended = Required

- If you are not automatically accepted to a university then if in the application it says something is “recommended” or “optional” it really means required! If you are not auto admit, the university does not have auto-admit, or the university has a low admissions rate, you **MUST** go above and beyond in the application process.
- **Especially important if you are applying Test Optional**



Scan for Q&A

# Most Universities Track Interest

- Showing demonstrated interest can be that one thing that helps put your application over the edge! Every time you visit the college campus be sure to fill out a card.
- Every time the college visits THS be sure to fill out one of the cards
- Make sure you talk to the rep and get to know him/her. Often the reps that visit THS are the reps that take the first look at your applications.
- If you register for the THS College Visit (held in Library or other THS campus location) you are expected to attend.
- Fall visits are mainly for juniors and seniors.
- Spring college visits are mainly for juniors.

# Private University Application Process

- Holistic Review (no automatic admits)
- Need Blind in review process
- Recommend requesting an interview (if applicable)
- Must show in essay and through application that you are competitive and have what it takes for these schools.
- Give academic and/or need based scholarships
  - Use an institutional index to determine need (allows for parents to make more than federal government provides)
- Must complete FAFSA and CSS Profile (via the College Board)

# Paying for College

- FAFSA.gov
  - Federal Financial Aid
  - Opens by December 1 [grad requirement]
  - Available to US Citizens
  - Need Based
- TAFSA
  - Texas Financial Aid
  - Opens October 1 [grad requirement]
  - Available to non-US citizens
  - Need Based
- CSS Profile
  - Mainly for private schools
  - Managed by the College Board
  - Has a fee for submitting application (fee waiver available)
  - Colleges give more money through the Profile
- University Scholarships
  - Application either in Apply Texas or through the university's website
  - Merit based
  - Merit & need based
- Third Party Scholarships
  - SchoolLinks!!!!
  - CocaCola
  - Gates Foundation
  - George Foundation
  - List in SchoolLinks
  - E-scholarships
  - Many more sites.

# Teacher Letters of Recommendation



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# Steps to Requesting Teacher Letters of Recommendation

- Step 1: Research the letter of recommendation requirements for each college or university you are applying to.
- Step 2: Speak with the teacher IN PERSON no less than *three weeks* before the deadline NEEDED regarding the letter of recommendation. Provide the teacher with a copy of your resume & brag sheet.
- Step 3: Follow up with the teacher via email regarding the request. Be sure to thank the teacher!
- Step 4: Submit your admissions application for the university. Make sure the college is in the “Completed” column in SchoolLinks- College Applications.
- Step 5: All teacher letter of recommendation requests should be formally requested through SchoolLinks. This is the last step in the LOR request process. DO NOT enter an LOR request in SchoolLinks if you have not spoken with the teacher in person first. View the instructional video on teacher letters of recommendation to learn how to complete the request process in SchoolLinks.

# When To Start Working on Essay

- NOW!
- Write in a Word document then copy and paste into application
  - This way you can save the essay!
- Students can email their essay to Mrs. Nilsen's for review
- Have your essay viewed by a professional FOR FREE!
  - [www.getschooled.com](http://www.getschooled.com)

TAYLOR HIGH SCHOOL

# C College Fair

SEPTEMBER 16

**DURING ALL LUNCHES**

**STUDENT  
FOCUSED**

10:30A - 1:42P



Your chance to speak to  
the representatives from  
26+ participated colleges

For more information  
**CONTACT MRS. NILSEN**  
**SHELBYVNILSEN@KATYISD.ORG**



KATY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# COLLEGE & CAREER NIGHT

 **DATE:**  
**OCTOBER 9TH**  
 6:00-8:00 PM

 **LOCATION:**  
**MERRELL CENTER\***  
 6301 S. STADIUM LANE

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER BEFORE THE FAIR TO GET YOUR STUDENT BARCODE PASS TO EASILY CONNECT WITH COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES!  
 SORT BY HOUSTON II - KATY ISD COLLEGE AND CAREER FAIR



\*Clear Bag Policy is in effect at this event to learn more visit: [bit.ly/3LLvuHl](http://bit.ly/3LLvuHl)

# District College Fair



KATY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# NOCHE DE COLEGIO Y PROFESIÓN

 **FECHA:**  
**9 DE OCTUBRE**  
 6:00-8:00 PM

 **LUGAR:**  
**MERRELL CENTER\***  
 6301 S. STADIUM LANE

¡ESCANEE EL CÓDIGO QR PARA REGISTRARSE ANTES DE LA FERIA Y OBTENER SU PASE DE CÓDIGO DE BARRAS PARA ESTUDIANTES PARA CONECTARSE FÁCILMENTE CON COLEGIOS Y UNIVERSIDADES!  
 BUSCA HOUSTON II - KATYISD COLEGIO Y PROFESIÓN



\*Póliza de bolsa transparente está vigente en este evento, para más información visite: [bit.ly/3LLvuHl](http://bit.ly/3LLvuHl)

# College and Career Connection Webinars

# KATY

**Date: Wednesdays**

**Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm**

## Webinar Topics

**Wednesday, August 14, 2024**

*Common Application and Apply Texas*

**Wednesday, August 21, 2024**

*College Essay Writing Tips*

**Wednesday, August 28, 2024**

*Financial Aid*

**Wednesday, September 11, 2024**

*Scholarship Search*

**Wednesday, September 18, 2024**

*Alphabet Soup of College Readiness Tests*

**Wednesday, September 25, 2024**

*CCMR: What does this mean?*

**Wednesday, November 6, 2024**

*Topic: Benefits of Dual Credit*



[REGISTER HERE](#)



# CCMR PARENT INFO NIGHT

ACT  
SAT  
TSIA 2

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Sept<br>19th<br>6:30 PM | COLLEGE<br>ADMISSIONS &<br>PLACEMENT TESTING |
|                         | Taylor HS<br>Main Commons                    |



WHEN TO TEST? HOW ARE THE TESTS STRUCTURED?

What do the tests cover?

Target Audience: Sophomore, Junior, & Senior

Parents and Students



## TAYLOR HS

# FINANCIAL AID INFO SESSION

### PRESENTATION INCLUDES:

- ✓ FAFSA
- ✓ TASFA
- ✓ CSS Profile
- ✓ University & 3rd Party Scholarships

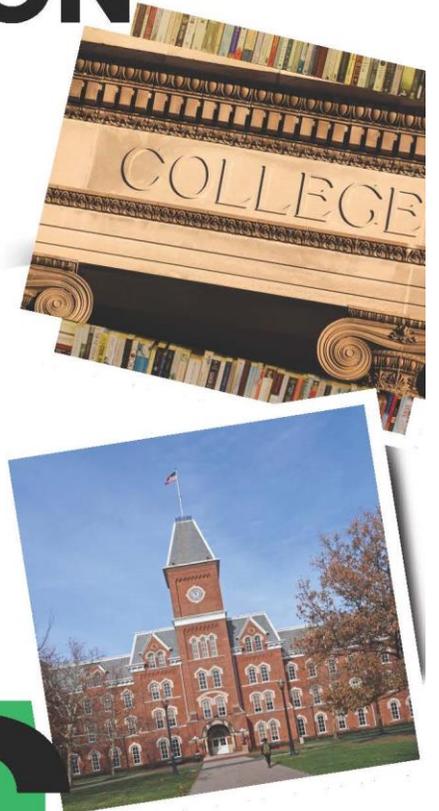
**NOVEMBER 14 | 6:30 PM**

**TAYLOR HS - MAIN COMMONS**

### CONTACT US:

281.237.3147

shelbynilsen@katyisd.org



# Helpful Websites

- Canvas- Counselor's Page
- SchoolLinks (log into MyKaty)



## Helpful CCMR Websites

Recommended websites to help guide students and families through the college, career, and military readiness process.

**Financial Aid**  
FAFSA (federal student aid): [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)  
TASFA (Texas state aid): <http://www.collegeforalltexas.com/index.cfm?objectid-A3119543-CBF8-C202-F1B0EEFD5F4B9805>  
CSS Profile (institutional aid at highly selective universities): <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org>

**College Research**  
SchoolLinks: Log in through ClassLink  
Big Future: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>  
College Data: <https://www.collegedata.com>  
College Scorecard: <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov>

**College Application Websites**  
Texas Two- & Four-Year College Applications: Apply Texas- [www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org)

**Out of State Public & Private Colleges:**  
Common Application- [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)  
Coalition Application- <https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org>  
HBCU Common Application- <https://commonblackcollegeapp.com>



## Helpful CCMR Websites

Recommended websites to help guide students and families through the college, career, and military readiness process.

**College Admissions & Placement Exams**  
SAT (admissions): [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) & <http://sat.collegeboard.org/practice>  
ACT (admissions): [www.myact.org](http://www.myact.org) and <http://www.actstudent.org/testprep/>  
TSIA2 (placement): <https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/prep-for-accuplacer/tsia-texas-success-initiative-assessment>

**Career Exploration**

- Big Future: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/majors-careers>
- Videos: <http://www.careeronestop.org/Videos/CareerandClusterVideos/career-and-cluster-videos.aspx>
- Career One Stop: <https://www.careeronestop.org>
- O\*Net: <https://www.onetonline.org>
- Texas Labor Market Research: <https://lmci.state.tx.us/explore/TSI/SC/K12.asp>

**Military Enlistment**

- Recruitment Information: <https://www.military.com/join-armed-forces>
- Required Testing: <https://www.officialasvab.com>

# Contact Information

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- 281.237.3147
  
- Social Media
  - Instagram: @Taylorhs\_ccmr
  - Facebook: @Taylorhs-ccmr

