

STUDENT TIMELINE FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION

FROM THE BEGINNING OF FRESHMAN YEAR

- ☐ Get to know your high school counselor.
- ☐ Participate in school and community activities and organizations.
- ☐ Look for opportunities for leadership and community service.
- ☐ Start a student profile of activities and honors. Save it in a safe place to be updated annually.
- ☐ Take challenging courses (Pre-AP and AP) for college preparation.
- ☐ Study hard and keep grades high to earn the best possible class rank.

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- ☐ Take PSAT in October (a practice SAT)
- ☐ Explore careers and college majors with parents and mentors.
- ☐ Explore college choices on the internet and visit campuses.
- ☐ Become familiar with the materials and additional assistance available in the counselor's office.
- ☐ Prepare for SAT/ACT and college by taking the most rigorous courses you can handle.
- ☐ Continue school activity involvement and volunteer work. Update student profile.

JUNIOR YEAR

FALL

- ☐ Take PSAT in October
- ☐ Attend College Night at Tyler Junior College in November.
- ☐ Visit with College Admission Representatives when they are on campus.

SPRING

- ☐ Take SAT I or ACT in spring semester (fee waivers are available for students with need).
- ☐ Take SAT II (Subject Tests) in late spring or June if you are considering a school that requires them (Rice, UT Austin, SMU, and other out-of-state schools).
- ☐ Narrow college choices to a short list.
- ☐ Continue to challenge yourself with Pre-AP and AP courses.
- ☐ Continue school activity involvement. Update student profile.
- ☐ Visit college campuses—take a tour.
- ☐ If planning to play college athletics, register with [NCAA Clearinghouse](#) at the end of your junior year.

SENIOR YEAR

FALL

- ☐ Check admissions, housing and scholarship deadlines for schools still on your list. (Many deadlines fall as early as November)
- ☐ Get organized. Mark your calendar with deadline alerts. Make files for each school and scholarship. Keep copies of all applications.
- ☐ Attend College Night at Tyler Junior College in November.
- ☐ Visit with College Admission Representatives when they are on campus.
- ☐ Take SAT or ACT again if necessary (to try for higher score) and SAT II if needed.
- ☐ Make sure SAT/ACT scores have been forwarded to colleges in which you have interest.
- ☐ Use the Internet for scholarship searches, plus college websites for campus scholarships.
- ☐ Prepare to do taxes early. (FASFA, the financial aid form, requires figures from parent and student completed tax returns.)
- ☐ Update and fine-tune your student profile. Do not forget to include community service, volunteering, summer enrichment, study/travel, and part-time work.

SPRING

- ☐ Complete and mail FAFSA (federal financial aid form) as early as possible in February.
- ☐ Attend Financial Aid Nights at area colleges and/or Troup High School.
- ☐ Read your Counselor's Corner for scholarships and deadlines.
- ☐ Take THEA if you are attending a Texas public college or university. (Check with your counselor to see if TAKS, ACT, or SAT scores exempt you from this test.)
- ☐ Wait for decisions from institutions. Make final decision and notify college of your choice.

Additional Information:

TEXAS COMMON APPLICATION

Register online—www.applytexas.org.

TRANSCRIPTS

Seniors may request transcripts from the registrar's office. The first three are free and any after that require a fee. Please allow 48 hours to process transcripts.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Seniors interested in scholarship information are encouraged to meet with their counselor. The best sources of information are college websites and the Internet. A scholarship search is found online in the Counselor's Corner of the Whitehouse HS website, and information is included in the senior newsletter. Check with each college to which you are applying to make sure you get their scholarship forms and meet their deadlines.

DEADLINE MEANS DEADLINE!

College and scholarship applications will have **deadlines that must be observed**. Students needing information or recommendations from counselors, teachers, or others must allow at least two weeks before the due date of any recommendation. Short notices do not allow enough time to prepare the best recommendation.