



FBISD
INSPIRE • EQUIP • IMAGINE

Rising Senior Night

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024

FBISD Rising Senior Night 2024

Tonight's presentation is designed to inform 11th graders and their parents about the College Application process and how to prepare in advance of Senior Year.

Tonight's Topics

The Four Quarters of Senior Year

Summer Programs

College Admission Exams

College Application Process

SchoolLinks and College Application Tasks

Non-Ranking/Test Optional from College Admissions perspective

Scholarships

Resources

Four Quarters of Senior Year



12th GRADE COLLEGE APPLICATION TIMELINE



Quarter 1 March 2024 – August 2024

- Make College List (Reach, Match, and Safety Schools)
- College Tests (register, study, & take test) SAT/ACT
- Request SAT/ACT Fee Waivers (must be on Free or Reduced Lunch)
- College Essays (use Apply TX Prompts)
- Personal Statement
- Prepare Resume (show community service organizations and hours, high school organizations, leadership roles, jobs, etc.)
- Applications (Common App, Apply Texas, University website. Usually open between July 1-August 1)
- Transcript Request (some students will start requesting as early as July; however official Senior year transcripts are usually ready in September)
- Tour colleges you are considering
- FBISD COLLEGE BOOT CAMP!
- Request Teacher Letters of Recommendation (August)
- Welcome email from CCR – instructions for Fall college application processes

Quarter 2 September 2024 – October 2024

- School Profile Posted (September)
- Continue Applications (Common App, Apply Texas, University website)
- Verify/update email address in SchoolLinks (end of September)
- FAFSA/TASFA Night (Application opens October 1st)
- District College Fair (October)
- Request Transcripts
- Request Counselor Letters of Recommendation (3 weeks before application due date)
- Send SAT/ACT scores (All colleges applied to and NAIA or NCAA)

Quarter 3 November 2024 – February 2025

- Scholarships
- Many Universities have November/December application deadlines
- Housing applications open for some Universities
- ASVAB Test (November/January/February)
- Mid-Year Transcript posted
- Upload FAFSA/TASFA or OPT-Out Proof in SchoolLinks

Quarter 4 March 2025 – May 2025

- Housing
- TSI Testing at your campus
- Scholarship Submission (April 30)
- Graduation Survey in SchoolLinks (April 30)
- New Student Orientations at Universities
- Meningitis Shot (required for college/university in Texas)
- Financial Aid Award Letter – Upload to SchoolLinks
- Request Final Transcript to be sent to attending university (will be sent mid-June)
- Graduation!

Four Quarters of Senior Year

Quarter 1

March 2024 – August 2024

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- College Essays (use Apply TX Prompts)
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Making a College List

Choosing where to apply to college via a few steps in SchoolLinks:

Click "Activities" on left hand menu

1. Select **My Goals** in SchoolLinks
 - a. By completing the Onboarding in August, you set your **Career Goal** and your **Major/Training Goal**.
2. Click the **Choose Path** button under **Future Path** to select your **Post-secondary Goal**
3. Select the option that you will pursue after graduating high school

Next, Click "Activities" on left hand menu

1. Select **Learning**
2. Click **Post Secondary Planning** and **College Search**
3. View the short video and answer the short survey for **My Postsecondary Options**
How to Search for Colleges
Reach Out to a College
4. Click **Campus Lifestyle** Link and complete **Campus Lifestyle** survey
5. Navigate back to your **To-Do list** to ensure you completed all parts of the **Post Secondary Planning** and **College Search** activity

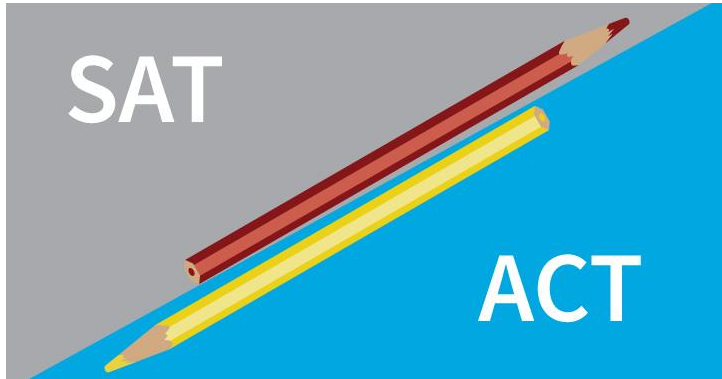
Summer Programs to Enrich College Apps

Summer is the time to Shine

- Apply for & Attend Summer Programs focused on your Future Career to:
 - GET A CLUE
 - GET AHEAD



College Admissions Exams



Do I need to take the SAT or ACT?

- Many colleges are test optional; however, keep in mind
 - College websites are during summer. Check before submitting app to ensure most up-to-date information.
 - If you apply test optional, it will not negatively affect the admissions process. If you do submit scores, it can help your application.
 - Test scores are also considered for merit-based scholarships.

Should I take the SAT or ACT?

- The best way to determine this is to take both an SAT and an ACT practice test and see which one you do better on and are more comfortable with.

Study for both exams for FREE!

Common College Applications

Apply Texas

www.applytexas.org

- All Texas Public & Most Texas Private Universities

The Common Application

www.commonapp.org

- More than 1000 colleges (48 states, Canada, China, & Europe)
- Only 12 Texas Universities

Coalition Application

www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org

- 150+ Public & Private Universities

Common Black College Application

www.commonblackcollegeapp.com

- Apply to any number of the 65 HBCU's listed on the website for only \$20.00

**Some colleges
also have
applications
on their
websites.**

**The best time to work on
your College Essays is over
the Summer break!**

SchooLinks - College Application Submission Tracker

SchooLinks is an online platform that provides tools and resources for students to explore colleges, careers, and scholarships.

As a senior, you will use this page to notify Counselors and Teachers about where you are applying, what may be needed, like recommendations, and request transcripts and fee waivers.

Application Process

- Submit Application
- Gain Access to College's application portal to follow the progress of application and to ensure all 'outside' parts have arrived
- Add College to SchoolLinks Submission Tracker (requests transcript)
- Ensure Application fee is paid, or Application Fee Waiver is sent to college
- Send Test Scores, if applicable
- Request Teacher/Counselor recommendations, as required
- Apply for Financial Aid






**Know HOW you are applying
and what these mean –
Early Action, Early Decision*,
Priority, Regular**

SchooLinks & College App Tasks


SchooLinks view of College App Page (Submission Tracker):

1 Incomplete

Edit an application below to **request recommendations** or **update checklist**.

 **The University of Texas at San Antonio**  




Regular Decision | Jun 1




 0/2




6 Completed & pending




Select a completed application below to **update results** or **track documents**.




6 Awaiting




 **University of Houston**  

 **Texas State University**  

 **Texas Tech University**  




 **Texas Woman's University**  




 **Southern University and A & M College**  




 **Houston Christian University**  


6 Accepted




Be sure to upload **award letters** and add an **enrollment decision**.




 **Houston Community College**  




 **Prairie View A & M University**  

 **Sam Houston State University**  

 **Enrolling**

 **Tarleton State University**  

 **University of Houston-Victoria**  

 **University of Oklahoma-Norman Campus**  

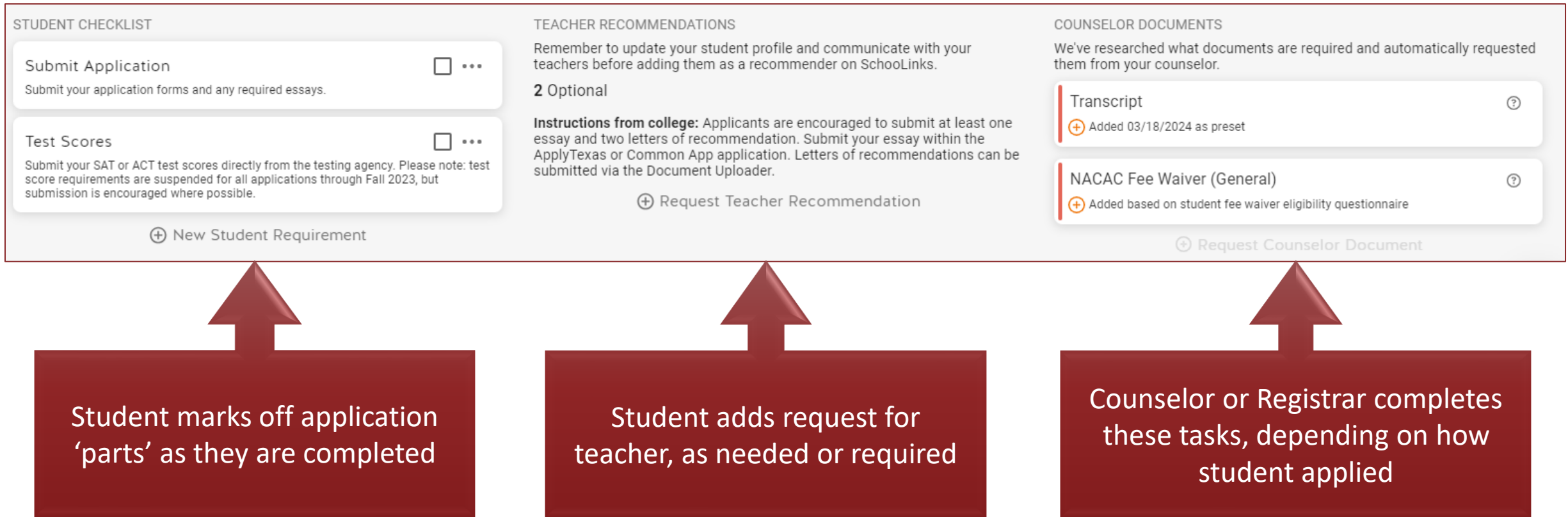
[Upload award letter →](#)

College Apps must be added to SchooLinks in order to request transcripts, Teacher Recommendations, and application fee waivers, and so counselors and teachers can complete required Common App documentation.

Adding a college application to SchooLinks list automatically adds Transcript Request!

SchoolLinks & College App Tasks

SchoolLinks view of College App Page – One college expanded:



SchoolLinks & College App Tasks

- Activities that will help you understand the Submission Tracker in SchoolLinks
 - Activities, Learning Hub
 - Post Secondary Planning and College Search (helps build your final list before applications open)
 - The College Application Process (helps to learn the pieces that make up the entire application)



Post Secondary Planning and College Search



The College Application Process

Scholarships

Why Pursue Scholarships?

- Scholarships can significantly reduce the financial burden of college tuition.
- They reward academic achievements, extracurricular involvement, and unique talents.
- Accessing scholarships opens doors to educational opportunities that may otherwise seem out of reach.

Types of Scholarships

- Academic Scholarships: Based on GPA, standardized test scores, and academic achievements.
- Merit-Based Scholarships: Awarded for outstanding performance in specific areas such as sports, arts, or community service.
- Need-Based Scholarships: Aimed at students with demonstrated financial need.
- Specialized Scholarships: Targeted towards specific demographics, majors, or career paths.

Key Tips for Scholarship Success

- **Start Early:** Begin researching and applying for scholarships as soon as possible.
- **Stay Organized:** Keep track of deadlines, requirements, and application materials.
- **Highlight Your Strengths:** Showcase your academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and community involvement.
- **Personalize Applications:** Tailor your applications to each scholarship opportunity to demonstrate your fit and commitment.
- **Seek Guidance:** Don't hesitate to seek advice from teachers, counselors, and mentors throughout the process.



Scholarship Application Dos and Don'ts

- Do thoroughly read and follow all instructions.
- Do proofread your essays and applications for errors.
- Do meet all deadlines.



- Don't underestimate the importance of recommendation letters.
- Don't fabricate information or exaggerate achievements.

Notable Texas Scholarships for Junior Students

Scholarship Resources

- **Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program (TASSP)**: This scholarship is awarded to high school juniors who plan to enlist in the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, Texas State Guard, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Merchant Marine, or who plan to become commissioned officers in any branch of the armed services of the United States.
- **Texas High School Aerospace Scholars (HAS)**: HAS is an interactive, online learning experience for high school juniors. Students who successfully complete the program and attend a residential summer experience at NASA's Johnson Space Center may earn a \$1,000 scholarship.
- **Terry Foundation Scholarship**: The Terry Foundation offers scholarships to high school juniors who demonstrate leadership, character, and well-roundedness. Recipients receive a full ride scholarship covering tuition, fees, books, and housing.
- **Dell Scholars Program**: The Dell Scholars Program is open to high school juniors who demonstrate grit, potential, and ambition. Selected students receive financial assistance, a laptop, and ongoing support to help them succeed in college.
- **Coca-Cola Scholars Program**: The Coca-Cola Scholars Program awards scholarships to high school juniors who demonstrate leadership, service, and academic excellence. Recipients receive a \$20,000 scholarship to support their college education.
- **The POSSE Foundation**: The Posse Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in New York City. The foundation identifies, recruits, and trains student leaders from diverse backgrounds to attend top colleges and universities in the United States. The POSSE Scholarship provides full-tuition scholarships to selected students who demonstrate exceptional leadership potential and academic achievement. Recipients are chosen through a rigorous selection process that includes nominations, interviews, and group assessments.



Notable Texas Scholarships for Junior Students, cont.



- **The Linda Lorelle Scholarship Foundation:** is a scholarship program established to support deserving students in pursuing their higher education goals. Founded by Linda Lorelle, a renowned journalist and community leader, the scholarship aims to provide financial assistance to students from underserved communities in the Greater Houston area. Recipients of the Linda Lorelle Scholarship typically demonstrate academic achievement, leadership potential, and a commitment to community service. The scholarship covers various expenses related to college education, including tuition, fees, books, and other educational costs.
- **Quest Bridge National College Match Program:** is for eligible high school juniors can apply to be considered for admission and a full four-year scholarship to one of QuestBridge's partner colleges and universities. These partner institutions include some of the most selective and prestigious colleges and universities in the United States.
- **Horatio Scholarship Program:** The Horatio Alger Scholarship is a prestigious scholarship program for junior students in the United States named after Horatio Alger Jr., a 19th-century American author known for his stories about overcoming adversity through hard work, perseverance, and determination. The Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, Inc. offers scholarships to support students who have demonstrated resilience in overcoming significant challenges in their lives.

Finding Scholarships in SchoolLinks

Scholarships available on SchoolLinks can vary and may include opportunities from various sources such as colleges, universities, private organizations, foundations, and community groups. These scholarships may cover a range of criteria including academic achievement, leadership, community service, ethnicity, field of study, and financial need.

How can you find them?

[Personalized Scholarship Matching in SchoolLinks](#)



Exploring scholarships can unlock doors to exciting educational possibilities! We're thrilled to provide access to incredible online scholarship databases. Scan the Resource QR code at the end of this presentation to explore these opportunities

Resources



**SCAN FOR RESOURCES
MENTIONED TONIGHT**

College, Career, & Military Readiness Team

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Understanding Test Optional + Individual Review

How Test-Optional & Non-Ranked Students are evaluated

Presented by Kriston Burroughs, M.A.

Director of Student Recruitment & Campus Visit Experiences



What is Test Optional?

An admissions philosophy that gives a student the option to choose whether they would like to be reviewed with Test Scores (SAT/ACT) or without them.

Test Optional does **NOT** disadvantage students who opt to apply without a test score

Some schools may be test-optional for admission but not for scholarships (review their requirements beforehand), while others may be fully test-optional.

What is Individual Review



An individualized, holistic review process for evaluating applicants



Places focus on criteria to help admissions team get a sense of student's academic potential and contribution to the university community.



Components of Individual review include:

Application for Admission

- Essay(s)
- Resume

Recalculated GPA (some colleges use Core Courses Only)

Class Rank (if applicable)

WANNA JOIN CLASS OF 2028?

REQUIRED FOR ALL FIRST-YEAR APPLICANTS*

RESUME – Within ApplyTexas or Common App

- Hours per week & weeks per year are of key importance
-

ESSAY - 1,000 WORDS OR LESS

- Apply Texas Topic A

OR

- Common App Topics 1, 2, 3 or 4 (Choose One)
-

**We do not allow for essay or resume submission AFTER the application has been submitted.*

WANNA JOIN CLASS OF 2028?

WITH TEST SCORE

ADMISSION TYPE	CLASS RANK	SAT	or ACT
Assured Admission	Top 10%	No Minimum	No Minimum
Assured Admission	11 – 25%	1080	21
Assured Admission	26 – 50%	1170	24
Individual Review	51% and Lower/No Rank*		

**Rank should be displayed in a #/# format (e.g. 12/1927). Rank statements that list quartiles (eg. top 20 percent, top 30 percent, etc.) will not be used in our evaluation for admission. Rank statements should be submitted to admissions@uh.edu*

WANNA JOIN CLASS OF 2028?

Apply Texas Topic A

Tell us your story. What unique opportunities or challenges have you experienced throughout your high school career that have shaped who you are today?

Common App Prompt 1

Some students have a background, identity, interest or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.

Common App Prompt 2

The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?

Common App Prompt 3

Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?

Common App Prompt 4

Discuss an accomplishment, event or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.

WANNA JOIN CLASS OF 2028?

WITHOUT TEST SCORE

CLASS RANK	CALCULATED UNWEIGHTED GPA	ADMISSION TYPE
Top 10%	No Minimum	Assured Admission
11 – 25%	3.40 or higher	Assured Admission
	Lower than 3.40	Individual Review
26 – 50%	3.45 or higher	Assured Admission
	Lower than 3.45	Individual Review
51% and Lower/No Rank*		Individual Review

**Rank should be displayed in a #/# format (e.g. 12/1927). Rank statements that list quartiles (eg. top 20 percent, top 30 percent, etc.) will not be used in our evaluation for admission. Rank statements should be submitted to admissions@uh.edu*

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Colleges with Additional First-Year Requirements

Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture*

Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts**

C.T. Bauer College of Business***

College of Natural Science and Mathematics***

Andy & Barbara Gessner College of Nursing***

Cullen College of Engineering***
Technology Division ***



bit.ly/UH-FR-Requirements

UH.edu/majors

* = Portfolio Submission Required by February 1

** = Separate Application & Audition(s) Required

*** = Pre-Calculus, Biology, Chemistry or Physics Required

Final Thoughts

- Test Optional Admissions Practices give you the ability to have some control over your application
- Universities will base our evaluation only upon what you share with us (be as detailed as possible).
- Each institution can be different, so be sure to check the individual school requirements for each university you apply to!



Office of Admissions
Office of the Provost

CONTACT US



713-743-1010, opt. 4



uh.edu/go-uh



admissions@uh.edu



bit.ly/UH-TellUsMore

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College & Post-Secondary Readiness

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