



Please sit in the middle section.

Please put your phones and
headphones away but take out your
laptops. Log in and go to
1Link/Clever.



Post-Grad Planning

The steps you need to take, when you need to take them

Mrs. Jakubik, College and Career Readiness Advisor



What do you want to do?

- College?
- Military?
- Trade school?
- Workforce?
- Still thinking about it?



There is a place for everyone!



All Roads Lead to SchooLinks (or vice versa)

- SchooLinks is the FBISD software platform that supports students as they navigate their college and career planning process
- Students access SchooLinks through Clever (1Link)
 - Parents can also access SchooLinks with a claim code from their student
- First time users:
 - Log in and click on Colleges/College Applications (colleges, trade schools)
 - Set up your application page/click get started
 - Enter your personal information
 - Toggle on to share your rank letter
 - Enter your fee waiver eligibility
 - Complete the FERPA waiver





Testing Requirements

- Does your college, university, military branch or trade school require a standardized test?
 - It could be any of these: SAT, ACT, ASVAB, TSI
- Sign up to take your exams in plenty of time to meet your deadlines
 - The SAT and ACT are offered about once a month
 - The ASVAB will be given here in November
 - The TSI will be given here in April
- Which one should you take?
 - Plan to take two SAT or two ACT tests



Complete your applications

- Plan to apply to three to five colleges
 - Two safety schools
 - Two target schools
 - One reach school
- Determine where you want to apply – do your research!
 - SchoolLinks has a lot of great info
- Complete your applications
 - ApplyTexas, Common App, university websites
- Application sites have different essay requirements
 - Essay questions available on the CCR website
- Don't wait – some schools have rolling admissions!

Using Common App



- Common App can be used for most schools in and outside of Texas
- If you use Common App, you will have to link your CA account to your SchoolLinks account
 - Create a Common App account
 - Add at least one college to your Common App account
 - Sign the FERPA authorization form in Common App
 - Log in to your SchoolLinks account
 - Go to Colleges/Colleges I'm Applying To
 - Complete the link to Common App on the left hand side of the screen
- You cannot request a transcript or letter of recommendation until you link your Common App account





Using ApplyTexas

- ApplyTexas can be used for all schools in Texas except for Rice
- If you use ApplyTexas you will need to manually update your College Applications area of SchoolLinks
 - Go to Colleges/College Applications
 - Click on the blue Add Application button in the top right
 - Search for your college and select the application status
 - Select the application type (ApplyTexas) and deadline
- Follow the ApplyTexas steps if you have applied on your school's website
- You cannot request a transcript or letter of recommendation until you do this step





SchoolLinks Next Steps

- Once your college is added, you will be able to see what is on your checklist for this school. Some are your responsibility, and some are ours

STUDENT CHECKLIST

Submit Application

☐ ...

Submit your application forms and any required essays.

Test Scores

☐ ...

Submit required test scores to this school through ACT or College Board.

FAFSA Submission

☐ ...

Complete your FAFSA and set up this school to receive your application on the School Selection Page.

⊕ New Student Requirement

COUNSELOR DOCUMENTS

We've researched what documents are required and automatically requested them from your counselor.

Transcript

☐ ?

⊕ Added 08/01/2023 as preset

NACAC Fee Waiver (General)

☐ ?

⊕ Added based on student fee waiver eligibility questionnaire

⊕ Request Counselor Document



Requesting Transcripts

- Unofficial transcripts can be found in your Skyward Portfolio or in SchoolLinks under School/Record Requests
- Official transcripts are automatically requested in SchoolLinks when you add a college application
- Need a transcript for a scholarship or a coach? Go to School/Record Request and select “Send official transcript” at the top
- Need a dual credit or OnRamps transcript? Request directly from HCC or UT for each school you’re applying to

FBISD Policy: A student/parent cannot request an *official* transcript to be handed to them. They may only receive *unofficial* ones.



Letters of Recommendation

- In SchoolLinks, when you add a college to your application list, it will show you if you need one and how many are allowed
- Be courteous and talk to your teacher or counselor before you make the online request

TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Remember to update your student profile and communicate with your teachers before adding them as a recommender on SchoolLinks.

2 Optional

Instructions from college: You may submit up to two optional letters of recommendation with your admission application. These letters may be from teachers, mentors, or people who know you well, either within or outside of your high school. The letter should be able to give additional context or information to support your admission that is not already provided in your application or other submitted documents (résumé, transcripts).

⊕ Request Teacher Recommendation

Make sure you read and understand the instructions from your college. Give your recommenders 2-3 weeks before your deadline!



What Else Can SchooLinks Do?

Update your Notifications!

Click on the Gear (upper right) and select Account Settings, then select Notifications. Add your personal email address to receive emails sooner. You can also add your phone # to receive SMS text messages

Need a Resume?

- Click on your name to jump to your profile page
- Complete sections: About Me, My Story, Experience, Bragging Rights, and Academics
 - Include jobs, clubs, activities, certifications, etc.
- To create the resume, top right corner, click the resume icon
- Enter your Phone #, address, email address
- Click Download Resume. It will be in Word format and editable.



So How Do I Pay For All of This?

- There are many ways to earn scholarships or grants:
 - Grades/test scores
 - Essays
 - Volunteer activities
 - Need
- There are several listed in SchooLinks
 - Go to Finances/Scholarship Matching
- Follow RPHS CCR on social
- Don't wait! The earlier you apply the better
- The FAFSA will open on December 1
 - More information to come
- Subscribe to or check out these websites:
 - Scholarship America
 - My Scholly
 - College for All Texans
 - Fast Web
 - College Guidance Consultants
 - Bold.org
 - Scholarships360
 - Raise.me
 - Unigo.com



Federal Application for Federal Student Aid

- Also known as FAFSA
- Enables students to apply for
 - Loans
 - Grants
 - Scholarships
 - Work-study programs
- Opens on December 1
- District Financial Aid Night Wednesday, September 25
- All seniors are required to complete the FAFSA, TASFA or opt-out form and provide proof to Mrs. J in SchoolLinks by January 10
- Visit studentaid.gov now and create your account. You will need your social security number before you can create your FSA ID





Free and Reduced Lunch: More Than Meals!

- If you qualify for Free and Reduced lunch your SAT and ACT fees, along with many college admissions fees, could be waived
 - If you're taking four admissions tests at about \$50 each, that's \$200
 - Admissions fees are between \$0 and \$95, so applying at 10 colleges could cost nearly \$1000
- How do you apply for a fee waiver?
 - Review the qualifications on the CCR website
 - Complete the form on the site






Items for Later: Plans, Scholarships, FAFSA

- All seniors will report the following items before graduation
- College/military/trade school/workforce acceptances
 - **DUE:** May 9
- Scholarships/grants received (if any) – we will list them in the graduation program.
 - The class of 2024 earned \$26 million: let's beat 'em!
 - **DUE:** April 25
- FAFSA/TASFA/opt-out status
 - **DUE:** January 10
- More info and instructions to come!



Your Homework

- Create your Common App or ApplyTexas account and submit your applications
- Sign up for your SAT/ACT tests if you still need one
- Create your FSA ID on the FAFSA website 
- Enter your personal email and cell in SchoolLinks for direct notifications
- Ask teachers and counselors early if you need a letter of rec
- Check all deadlines and set reminders in your phone
- Sign up for free/reduced lunch if you qualify
- Research scholarships and grants and know what you're eligible for





Do you still have questions?

- That's OK!
- How do you get them answered?
 - Review Mrs. J's website
 - Come visit Mrs. J in the CCR Center (K145)
 - Email Mrs. J
 - Follow RPHS CCR on Instagram and Twitter



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Scan here for the website!