

Testing Requirements

- Does your college, university, military branch, or trade school require a standardized test?
 - SAT, ACT, ASVAB, or TSI
- Sign up to take your exams in plenty of time to meet your deadlines.
 - SAT and ACT—offered approximately once a month each
 - ASVAB
 - TSI— See CCRA, Mr. Byrd
- Which one should you take?
 - Determine which one is a better fit for you.
 - Plan to take at least two SAT or ACT tests



Complete Your Applications

- Plan to apply to several colleges
 - Two safety schools
 - Two target schools
 - One reach school
- Determine where you want to apply
 - Use the College Search tools on SchoolLinks
- Complete your applications
 - ApplyTexas, Common App, or college/university website
 - Application sites have different essay requirements
- Don't wait – some schools have rolling admissions!



Using Common App

- All schools inside and outside of Texas and some Texas private schools, including Rice University





Using ApplyTexas

- For all Texas public two-year and four-year colleges/universities

*Do NOT request your transcript in ApplyTexas. It must be done in SchoolLinks.

What Role Does SchoolLinks Play?

- FBISD software platform that supports students as they navigate their college and career planning process
- Access is through Clever (1Link)
- Parents can also access SL with a claim code from their student
- Your Dashboard will show you tasks you need to complete!



SchooLinks: Adding Colleges

*** Do this AFTER you have submitted your college applications.**

- Log into SchooLinks through Clever
- Click on Colleges and select College Applications
- Set up your Application Page, click Get Started
 - Enter your personal information, click Next
 - Toggle on to share your Rank
 - Enter your Fee Waiver eligibility (if this applies to you), click Next
 - Complete the FERPA Waiver—Click YES
- Add college to your list, and mark it as submitted. This generates a transcript request.

SchoolLinks: Next Steps

- Once your college is added, you will be able to see what is on your checklist for this school. Mark completed items.

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: Skyward Portfolio or in SchoolLinks School/Records Request
- Official: Automatically requested in SchoolLinks when you add a college application
- Transcripts for a Scholarship or Coach? Go to School/Record Request under School tab and select “Send official transcript” at the top
- Dual Credit, OnRamps, etc. Transcripts?: Request directly on those schools’ websites
- What is an SRAR? Self-Reported Academic Record
- IF you are using ApplyTexas, Do NOT request your transcript there. It must be requested through SchoolLinks.

Letters of Recommendation: Teachers

- In SchoolLinks, when you add a college to your application list, it will show you if you need a letter and how many are allowed.
- You can also request letters from people outside of AHS through this section.

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

Email your teacher regarding your request and attach a resume or brag sheet.
Give them 2-3 weeks minimum to complete and submit the letters.

Letters of Recommendation: Counselors

Common App	ApplyTexas
• Goes through SchoolLinks • SL will inform you if a school requires a counselor letter	• Does NOT go through SchoolLinks • If a school requires a letter, you must request one from the counselor
Email your counselor your request and attach a resume or brag sheet. Give your counselor 2-3 weeks minimum to complete and submit these documents.	

What Else Can SchooLinks Do?

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.



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.

So, How Do I Pay for All of This?



- In SchooLinks

- Select

- Finances → Scholarship Matching

- Check out the “Here’s What’s Happening Feed”

- 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

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

Federal Application for Federal Student Aid

- Enables students to apply for:
 - Loans
 - Grants
 - Work-study programs

