



Austin Independent School District

Committed to Preparing All Students to Graduate College, Career and Life Ready!

SENIOR CHECKLIST for College Readiness

CLASS of 2021

Test Dates	Registration Deadlines	Test Type
Sept. 12th, 13th, or 19th	August 14, 2020	ACT
September 26, 2020	August 26, 2020	SAT
October 3, 2020	September 4, 2020	SAT & Subject Tests
Oct. 10th, 17th, 24th or 25th	September 17, 2020	ACT
November 7, 2020	October 7, 2020	SAT & Subject Tests
December 5, 2020	November 5, 2020	SAT & Subject Tests
December 12, 2020	November 6, 2020	ACT
February 6, 2021	January 8, 2021	ACT
March 13, 2021	February 12, 2021	SAT
April 17, 2021	March 12, 2021	ACT
May 8, 2021	April 8, 2021	SAT & Subject Tests

- ❑ **College Entrance exams. Take college entrance exams** in spring of junior year and early senior year
SAT www.collegeboard.org *Test Fee: SAT Reasoning Test (with Writing) - \$68
ACT www.act.org *Test Fee: ACT assessment plus Writing - \$70

*Need help paying for the SAT and/or ACT?

Contact the College Advisor/College Center at your school, you may qualify for a FEE WAIVER.

- ❑ Ensure you are enrolled in the most **rigorous courses** possible. Investigate about **dual credit and advanced course options** with your counselor.
- ❑ **SAT and ACT Prep is important.** See your counselor or visit the College & Career Center for SAT Prep classes in the area. Practice SAT and ACT questions on-line at www.number2.com. Other free websites that offer SAT/ACT Prep online are www.sat.collegeboard.org, ACT www.actstudent.org, or <https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/sats>. Sign up for the SAT question of the day at www.collegeboard.org.
- ❑ Get to know your counselor and college advisor well as they will be a great resource during the college application process. Make an appointment to go over your transcript and your college plans. **Visit the College & Career Center often** to connect with college representatives and get help in the college process.
- ❑ **Research colleges and universities.** Try to visit colleges and have a solid list of your top four choices by the start of your senior year. Good websites for college searches are: www.collegeforalltexas.com, <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>, www.student.naviance.com
- ❑ **Apply to colleges early before the deadlines:** for most colleges in Texas apply through applytexas.org, private and/or out of state colleges through www.commonapp.org

Some Application Deadlines: Oct 15 – Early Action Deadline for a number of competitive schools/majors
Nov 1, or Dec 1, Jan 2 – Priority deadlines for many TX colleges/universities
(Visit each college website, as it is all dependent on what program you are seeking, etc.)

- ❑ **Continue working on Community Service Projects throughout your senior year to boost your resume.** Get involved in school and join a club or activity. Polish up and update your resume.
- ❑ Get close to your teachers. You will need them for **Letters of Recommendation**. Ask them ahead of time for a recommendation. Provide them with a resume and even a Brag Sheet to write your letter.
- ❑ **Visit possible colleges** and ask lots of questions. **Seniors may use two school days for college visits provided they submit a College Visit form and verification** of attendance (ask your college advisor about the process). Also attend FALL College Fairs. This year most of the Fall college fairs will be Virtual (i.e., TACRAO in mid September).
- ❑ **Show Me The Money!!** Yes, there is money to pay for college, but you must **apply for scholarships** by completing applications, essays and submitting all requested paperwork by the DEADLINES. You also need to complete the **FAFSA** (FAFSA for 2021-2022, your first college year goes live **Oct. 1st**)

***Change** that went into effect a few years ago-**NEW state aid priority deadline: Jan 15th!** Make sure to submit your FAFSA by Winter break to access the highest amount of financial aid.

Many Scholarship opportunities are posted in Naviance (www.student.naviance.com) Apply!



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ACADEMIC RESOURCES

SAT CUSTOMIZED TEST PREP: www.khanacademy.org

ACT PERSONALIZED PRACTICE: www.academy.act.org

TSI TEST PREP through ACCUPLACER & Download the APP as well: <https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/student/practice>
and through the ACC Website: <http://sites.austincc.edu/tsiprep/>

COLLEGE RESOURCES

EXPLORE AND COMPARE COLLEGE OPTIONS: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>

NAVIANCE COLLEGE MATCH: www.student.naviance.com

COMPARE COLLEGES: <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>

GET FINANCIAL AID GUIDANCE: <https://StudentAid.gov>

COMPLETE the FAFSA (the FREE Application for Federal Student Aid): <https://fafsa.ed.gov>

CAREER RESOURCES

WHERE TO LEARN ABOUT CAREERS? <https://roadtripnation.com>

EXPLORE CAREERS: Naviance Student App (www.student.naviance.com)

OTHER CAREER EXPLORATION TOOLS: <http://launchmycareertx.org>

*Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) - <https://lmci.state.tx.us/explore/TSC/k12.asp>

CAREERS IN THE MILITARY: <https://www.careersinthemilitary.com/>

ASVAB Test: Contact a Recruiter <http://www.todaysmilitary.com/>

COLLEGE FAIRS/SCHOLARSHIP FAIRS

TACRAO COLLEGE FAIR	Mid September 2020	*This year it will be virtual, specifics TBA
AISD SCHOLARSHIP FAIR	December 2020	Virtually, specifics TBA
CAREER AND JOB FAIR	Late January 2021	Virtually, specifics TBA
NACAC Austin National College Fair	Late March 2021	TBA