



Cedar Creek High School Counseling Department
COUNTDOWN TO GRADUATION – SENIOR CHECKLIST

COLLEGE RESEARCH & COLLEGE VISITS

Research colleges and universities during your Junior year and the summer before your Senior year. 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 and financial aid:

[College Score Card](#) [Best Colleges in America](#) [Big Future - College Board](#)
[College For All Texans](#) [Find Online Colleges](#) [My Red Kite](#) [Going Merry](#)

Juniors and Seniors are allowed 2 visits each year. To get absences excused, students must turn in a form letter from the institution or the CCHS College Visit form, which can be obtained from the attendance office, to Mrs. Lum in the attendance office.

TESTING: ACT/SAT/TSIA

Take a college entrance exam: ***ACT (American College Testing)** and/or ***SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test)**

<u>ACT testing dates</u> Register on-line @ http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html		
<u>Test Date</u>		<u>Registration deadline</u>
September 10, 2022 October 22, 2022 December 10, 2022 February 11, 2023 April 15, 2023 June 10, 2023 July 15, 2023		August 5, 2022 September 16, 2022 November 4, 2022 January 6, 2023 March 10, 2023 May 5, 2023 June 16, 2023
<u>SAT testing dates</u> Register on-line @ www.collegeboard.org . Register for the SAT Reasoning test. Subject tests are only required by specific colleges/universities & certain majors		
<u>Test Date</u>		<u>Registration deadline</u>
August 27, 2022 October 1, 2022 November 5, 2022 December 3, 2022 March 11, 2023 May 5, 2023 June 3, 2023		July 29, 2022 September 2, 2022 October 7, 2022 November 3, 2022 February 10, 2023 April 7, 2023 May 4, 2023

SAT and ACT Prep

Test prep is important. See your counselor or visit the College & Career Center for SAT/ACT Prep classes in the area. Practice SAT and ACT questions online at:

[Number 2](#)
[College Board](#)
[ACT](#)
[Khan Academy](#)

GRADES & CLASS RANK

You can check grades on Skyward family access at: <https://www.bisdtx.org/Page/1339>

If you are in the Top 10 Percent of your class at the end of the 6th semester, you qualify for automatic admittance to any Texas public university or college (except for UT Austin, which will be top 6 percent for this and next years).

For Automatic Admission to UT Austin and TX A&M, 6th semester rank (end of Junior year) is used for such purpose.

Final rank is determined by board policy. Please see the Bastrop ISD Course Selection Guide.

APPLY TO COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

APPLY TEXAS APPLICATION (for state schools): [Apply Texas](#)

Application opens August 1.

Accepted by most 4-year and 2-year universities/colleges in Texas

COALITION FOR COLLEGE ACCESS APPLICATION: [Coalition for College Access](#)

You will need to create an account. You begin uploading your information beginning 9th grade year.

Used by most private and public institutions.

COMMON APPLICATION: [Common App](#)

Application opens August 1

Accepted by most private universities nationwide

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE APPLICATION: [ACC](#)

Application opens August 1

Application is free.

***FEE WAIVERS**

If you receive free or reduced lunch, you qualify for a fee waiver for the SAT, ACT, and college applications. Stop by the College & Career Center to obtain one.

TSIA (Texas Success Initiative): [Texas Success Initiative](#)

If you are an incoming college student in Texas (includes Dual Credit courses at the high school), you are **required** to take the **Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA)** unless you are already exempt - to determine your readiness for college-level work. To determine if you are exempt, in need of the TSI assessment, or for more information, stop by the College & Career Center.

- TSIA test dates for this year will be held on:
 - November 1st
 - December 10th
 - February 10th
 - March 25th

You will need to complete the TSIA pre-assessment prior to testing. Sign up for testing on the CCHS Website or scan below.



RÉSUMÉ AND COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Work on community service projects in the summer to boost your résumé. Get involved in school. Join a club or activity and become a leader.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Always request your letter at least 2 weeks in advance. Pick up and fill out a template to give to your recommender. Templates are available in the College & Career Center.

FINANCIAL AID: Apply for grants, scholarships, and loans

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid): [Federal Student Aid](#)

Application opens October 1.

Prior-prior tax year (PPY): Students are allowed to report tax information from a prior-prior tax year, allowing tax information from two years ago. This allows students and their families to fill out the FAFSA form earlier in hopes to have their financial aid packages before making college decisions.

TAFSA (Texas Application for State Financial Aid): [College for all Texans](#)

Financial aid application for students who are non-citizens and classified as Texas residents. If you are a foreign student or non-citizen, you may be eligible to be classified as a Texas resident for tuition purposes.

SCHOLARSHIPS

There are many national scholarships offered to students. Criteria for them vary.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Visit the College & Career Center for local scholarships offered by our community. Over \$6,500,000 was awarded last year.

NCAA: [NCAA Eligibility Center](#)

If you are considering participating in college athletics, you must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse.

Complete the form and pay the fee by credit card, unless you qualify for a *fee waiver.

Be sure to request a transcript to be sent to them the following 4 times: when you register, at the end of your Junior year (6th semester), after the first semester of your Senior year, and a final transcript.

For more information and how to get started, go to the following site: [NCAA CHECKLIST](#)

COLLEGE FAIRS

Attend Leaving the Eagles Nest on Wednesday, August 24th and meet with local college recruiters

Fall: B.E.S.T. College Night on October 26th at Bastrop High School