

PARENT GUIDE TO

11th GRADE Spring Semester

LOOKING AHEAD COLLEGE & CAREER

JUNIOR TO-DO (Spring Semester)

- ☐ Check your 5th semester cumulative GPA.
- ☐ Review your PSAT/NMSQT score report. Use the College Board website to interpret and understand your score.
- ☐ Plan to take the SAT, SAT Subject Tests, TSI or ACT exams if necessary. Visit the College and Career Center to register.
- ☐ Visit the web sites of the 3-5 colleges that interest you most. Plan college visits.
- ☐ Register and study for the SAT and/or ACT exams.
- ☐ Register for AP tests as appropriate.
- ☐ Plan a college visit during Spring Break.
- ☐ Begin investigating outside funding resources such as financial aid and scholarships.
- ☐ Check credits to make sure you are on schedule for graduation.
- ☐ Plan a program of study for your senior year with your counselor. Learn about opportunities to earn college or advanced placement credit (College Board Advanced Placement Testing).
- ☐ Choose courses that satisfy high school graduation and future college plans.

- ☐ Register for college entrance tests (SAT, ACT, SAT Subject Tests).
- ☐ Take both the SAT and ACT tests to determine which style of test is best for you. It is critical to take a college admissions test before your senior year for University applications.
- ☐ Take SAT Subject test or TSI if needed for college applications.
- ☐ Take any registered AP exams
- ☐ Consider scheduling college visits for summer months.
- ☐ Earn your CCMR indicator or sign up to complete the Texas College Bridge during 12 grade year.

JUNIOR TO-DO (Summer)

- ☐ Check your 6th semester cumulative GPA.
- ☐ Obtain a summer job that might be related to your career interests.
- ☐ Save money, if possible, to help pay for college costs.
- ☐ Visit colleges you will apply to in the Fall of senior year
- ☐ Keep a record of the advantages and disadvantages of each college.
- ☐ Create a list of persons who you will ask to write a letter of recommendation for you.
- ☐ Identify if the colleges you will apply to in the Fall require an essay. Get started writing.
- ☐ Update your Résumé

News and Resources All Year Long



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QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD'S COUNSELOR



- How do I assist my student in building a college list?
- What is the importance of SAT scores? Can high SAT scores help my student earn free money for college?
- How do I know which essays my student needs to write for college?
- How do I match my student's interests with potential careers and higher education?
- How can I help my student find summer enrichment and volunteer programs?

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD ADVOCATE FOR THEIR OWN SUCCESS

- Help your student build skills in math, reading, and writing by using the Free Khan Academy Official SAT® Practice at least two hours per week.
- Encourage your student to build career skills by working a part-time job or internship.
- Review your student's unofficial transcript to ensure that all requirements for graduation will be met and that your student has received credit for all courses passed.

DIGITAL TOOLS FOR SUCCESS FOR HOME & SCHOOL



ClassLink

The below tools are accessible through DISD's [ClassLink Portal](#). Click the ClassLink Icon to the left and login with Student ID and Password.



(Free Resource)



BEYOND ACADEMICS SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

Tips for making it through

- Teens still need on average 8-9 hours of sleep a night. Set a bedtime, and stick to it.
- Choose your arguments. Ask yourself, "Is it worth the argument?" Learn to compromise on small "asks," such as dyeing their hair blue or wearing something different, and be firm when it comes to more serious issues, such as possible alcohol and drug use or significant changes in grades.
- Don't take it personally. The transition to adulthood is a process, and at the end of the day it's not about you.

News and Resources All Year Long



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