

Seniors 2016-2017



Remind

- To receive messages via text
 - Text **@8afk to 81010**
- To receive messages via email
 - Send email to rmd.at/8afk
 - To unsubscribe, reply with ‘unsubscribe’ in the subject line



What is your plan after high school?

- Two-year college to earn Associate's Degree
- Four-year university to earn Bachelor's Degree
- Technical College
- Certificate / Training Program
- Military
- Employment



Indecisive? Consider these...

- **Interests & abilities**
 - What do you want to study?
- **Career goal**
 - Where do you want to work?
 - What kind of job?
- **Proximity to home**
 - Local? Texas? USA?
- **Cost**
 - How much money will I have to spend to get the proper training?



Resources to help

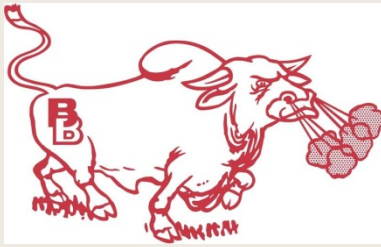
- www.mynextmove.org
 - Profile your interests
- www.mymajors.com
 - Quiz to determine possible college majors
- www.careerpath.com
 - Career quiz
- www.careeronestop.org
- www.texascaresonline.com
- <http://jobtitled.com>
- www.texashotjobs.org
 - Information on jobs in healthcare industry
- www.careerinfonet.org/skills
- www.mindtools.com
- www.careers.govt.nz/plan-your-career/not-sure-what-to-do/



College Visits

- Walking on a college campus will help you determine whether the size, location, and personality are right for you.
- ***Call ahead of time and schedule an admissions visit and tour.**
- Will want to visit financial aid, specific department offices, housing, and maybe even sit in on a class in session.
- Try to stay away from holidays (spring break, Thanksgiving) and testing days (midterms, final exams).





Bellville High School College Visit Policy

- Two absences allowed if proper procedure followed
 - Fall- before December 11th
 - Spring- before May 13th
- Form in attendance office – Mrs. Blezinger
- Must be signed and turned in prior to visit
 - Parent/Guardian
 - Student
 - Principal
- Student must present documentation upon return to high school
 - Letterhead of college
 - Signed by college official
 - Stamped with date of visit



EMPLOYMENT

- Complete job applications
- Contact individuals that personally know you and can be references or provide recommendations to potential employer
- Write a resume
- **Helpful Websites:**
 - www.jobs.aol.com/hub/resumes
 - www.careeronestop.org/ResumeGuide.aspx



Fast Fact

- Higher education attainment in young adults, ages 25-34, is associated with higher median earnings.
- Source – U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (2014)
- Reported Average Earnings for Young Adults in Year 2014
 - Bachelor's Degree = \$49,900
 - Associate's Degree = \$37,000
 - High School Diploma = \$30,000
 - No HS Diploma or equivalent = \$25,000



MILITARY



- Contact recruiter for specific branch of military
- Must take ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)



Certificate / Training Programs

- Non-credit courses
- Provide training needs for individuals, businesses, and industry
- Contact agency for application
- Testing done at end of class to attain certificate
- Variety in class offerings
 - Days or evenings
 - Weekdays or weekends



TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE

- Designed to determine if student ready for college-level course work
- May be placed in developmental class to improve skills for success in college courses
- No more ACCUPLACER
- New Test beginning in September 2013
 - TSI Assessment
 - Three core areas: Reading, Math, Writing
- Required for any incoming college student in Texas
- Mandatory Pre-Assessment Activity



TSI REGISTRATION

- Complete online pre-assessment activity
 - www.blinn.edu/counseling/tsia/html
- Contact Blinn/Brenham to register for a test day selection
 - (979) 830-4196
- Pay for TSI Assessment
 - Go to Enrollment Services
 - \$45
 - Photo ID required to purchase
- Bring to test
 - Purchased Admission Ticket
 - Receipt
 - Photo ID
 - **No** food, drink, cell phones, calculators, backpacks, large purses, hats, caps



TSI EXEMPTIONS

- SAT
 - Math = 500, Critical Reading = 500, Combined Score = 1070
- ACT
 - Math = 19, English = 19, Composite = 23



COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING

- Standardized tests
- Timed
- Measure academic abilities
- Determine readiness for college-level work
- Used to predict future success in college courses
- Registration takes place online
 - Students required to provide gender information and a photo of themselves upon registering
 - Photo is included on admission ticket, test center roster, and score report sent to school
 - No changes allowed day of test
 - Students must provide high school code
 - **Bellville High School Code 440575**



SAT

- www.sat.collegeboard.org
- Cost - \$45.00, SAT with Essay \$57.00
- Three subjects
 - Reading
 - 65 minutes, 52 questions
 - Writing and Language
 - 35 minutes, 44 questions
 - Math
 - No calculator 25 minutes, 20 questions
 - Calculator 55 minutes, 38 questions
 - Essay
 - 50 minutes **Optional**



SAT

- **Scoring**

- Total Score

- Scaled score ranges from 400 to 1600 combining Reading and Writing score and the Math score.

- Two Section scores (200 to 800 scale)

- Reading and Writing (not including essay)
 - Math

- Three Test Scores (10 to 40 scale)

- Reading
 - Writing and Language (not including Essay)
 - Math

- Two cross-test scores (10 to 40 scale)

- Analysis in Science
 - Analysis in History/Social Studies

- Seven Sub-scores (1 to 15 scale)

- Expression of Ideas, Standard English Conventions, Heart of Algebra, Passport to Advanced Math, Problem Solving and Data Analysis, Words in Context, Command of Evidence

- Optional Essay Scores (2 to 8 scale)

- Reading, Analysis and Writing

- **Penalties** - No penalties for guessing



SAT

Test Date

- October 1, 2016
- November 5, 2016
- December 3, 2016
- January 21, 2017
- March 11, 2017
- May 6, 2017
- June 3, 2017

Deadline

- September 1, 2016
- October 7, 2016
- November 3, 2016
- December 21, 2016
- February 10, 2017
- April 7, 2017
- May 9, 2017



ACT

- www.actstudent.org
- Cost - \$42.50
 - With Writing added - \$58.50
- Four subjects
 - English
 - 45 minutes
 - Math
 - 60 minutes
 - Reading
 - 35 minutes
 - Science
 - 35 minutes
 - Writing (*OPTIONAL*)
 - 30 minutes



ACT

- Scoring

- Each subject score ranges 1-36
- Composite or Total score – Average of the four sections together
- Optional Essay – scores from 1-12

- Penalties

- No penalties for wrong answers
- Since incorrect answers do not count against student, always attempt to make an educated guess
- Always select an answer



ACT

Test Date

- October 22, 2016
- December 10, 2016
- February 11, 2017
- April 8, 2017
- June 10, 2017

Deadline

- September 16, 2016
- November 4, 2016
- January 13, 2017
- March 3, 2017
- May 5, 2017



WEBSITES FOR TESTING PREPARATION

- www.collegeboard.org
- www.actstudent.org
- www.march2success.com
- www.majortests.com
- www.sparknotes.com/testprep/newsat



Begin the Application Process

- Research the college website to determine the appropriate application
- Complete transcript request to send to college
 - Counseling office – **Mrs. Matus**
- Get a calendar to keep track of important dates
 - Scholarships
 - Application
 - Housing
- Create a folder to collect all application documents
 - Keep a copy of everything (letters, emails, etc.)
- Clean up your online image
 - Consider a new email containing your name
 - Pictures/comments posted, along with your email address, give a picture of who you are to admissions offices and scholarship committees





Apply Texas Application

- www.applytexas.org
 - 9 pages (Be patient. Takes time to complete)
- Create an account
 - Username
 - Password
- Select “Research Your Options”
- Then, “Begin Your Search”
- Select a specific college or university from the scroll-down menu
- Click on “Get University Info”
- Specifically check out scholarship information, essays required, application fee, and **DEADLINES!!**



Fall 2017 Deadlines

- **University of Texas**
 - Application, 12-1-16
- **Texas A&M**
 - Application, 12-1-16
- **Sam Houston State**
 - Application, 8-1-17
- **Baylor**
 - Application, 2-1-17
- **Tarleton State**
 - Application, 8-1-17
- **Texas State**
 - Application, 5-1-17
- **Texas Tech**
 - Application, 8-1-17
- **Blinn College**
 - Application, 8-20-17
- **Prairie View A&M**
 - Application, 7-1-17



Essays

- If it says “Optional” - consider it **“Required”**
- Essay writing allows the individuality of a student to shine through
- Students should write from the heart
- Check grammar





BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

pages 1, 2

- Choice of major
- Social security #
- Date of birth and place of birth
- Full, legal name
- US Citizen info
- Address – permanent and physical
- Phone #
- E-mail address



EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

page 3

- Will be entering as a freshman for 2017-2018
- High School Code
 - 440575
- Expected graduation date
 - 5-26-17
- Previous college attended
 - Dual Credit – indicate Blinn information



EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

page 4

- Senior Courses
 - Use exact titles
 - Be sure to indicate whether Dual Credit or AP



TEST SCORES

page 5

- ACT
- SAT
- Scores generally have to be sent directly from the testing company to the university



Submitting the Application

- Once completed
 - Review and save all pages *before* proceeding
 - Can resend later to a different college
 - Check that required items and appropriate essays are completed
 - Read certification statement
 - Pay application fee
 - If student qualifies for Free/Reduced Lunch, may ask for waiver of application fee
 - Click “Submit My Application”



Special Notes ...

- Write down username and password
- Avoid the “back” button
- Applications saved, but not submitted are subject to deletion 90 days after the last save date
- Print copy for your records
- Once submitted, cannot make changes
 - Must contact university admissions office directly
- Should receive confirmation email from ApplyTexas within two hours of submission



COLLEGE APPLICATIONS REVIEWED FROM TWO PERSPECTIVES

- Quantitative

- Rank
- GPA/Grades
- SAT/ACT scores
- Strength of courses taken in high school

- Qualitative

- Organizational involvement
- Leadership roles
- Extracurricular activities
- Community service
- Awards, Honors
- Essays



- College admissions staff make **NO assumptions**
- Must **SEE** it in writing
- **UT-Austin** recommends an expanded online resume to attach to the application



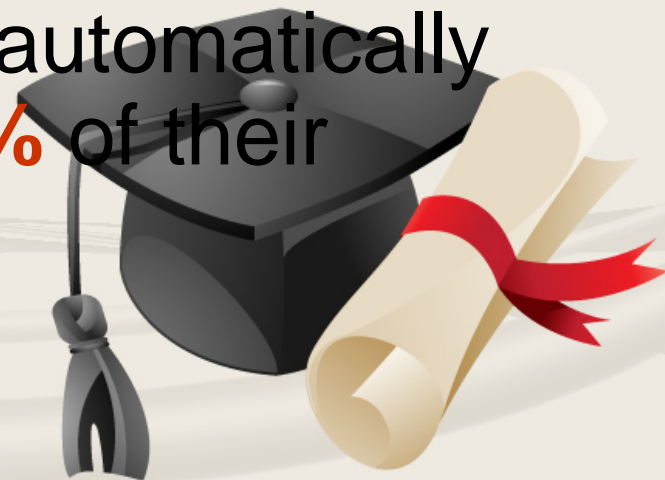
TOP TEN PERCENT RULE

- Texas students in the top ten percent of their graduating class are guaranteed automatic admission to all state-funded universities provided they complete one of the following criteria:
 - Complete the Recommended or DAP
 - Satisfy ACT College Readiness benchmarks or earn at least a 1020 on the SAT
- **Applies only to general admission



EXEMPTION TO THE TOP TEN PERCENT RULE

- Senate Bill 175 changed the Top Ten Percent Rule as it applies to the University of Texas only.
- Each fall, UT-Austin must notify secondary schools of its intentions for the upcoming school year.
- Fall of 2017, UT-Austin will automatically admit students in the **top 7%** of their graduating class.



Bacterial Meningitis

- Texas Senate Bill 1107, effective January 1, 2012, requires all **new**, transfer, & returning students to provide proof of bacterial meningitis vaccination.
- Most colleges and universities warn students that they cannot attend classes on campus without this documentation.



- Final Steps
 - Log in as a prospective student on the college website
 - Checklist of items required
 - Notification of admittance online
 - Upon your final decision, college must receive **confirmation of enrollment for Fall 2017 – BY THE DEADLINE!!**
 - In past years, UT-Austin turned away accepted students in the fall who failed to confirm their plans to attend.



FINANCIAL AID

- Funds used to assist with college expenses for eligible students
- Variety of sources
 - Federal
 - State
 - Institutional
 - Private
- Types
 - Free – Not paid back
 - Scholarships, grants, waivers, exemptions
 - “Self-help”
 - Loans, work-study programs
- Any combination



FAFSA Completion Resources

www.fafsa.gov

FINANCIAL AID TOOLKIT: <http://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/>

Completing the FAFSA available at:

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2015-16-completing-fafsa.pdf>

Do You Need Money for College?

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2015-16-doyou-need-money.pdf>

College Goal Sunday: www.collegegoalsundayusa.org



FAFSA

- Produced by the U.S. Department of Education
- Collects family's personal and financial information used to calculate student's EFC
- Available in English and Spanish
- Available in three formats:
 - On-line
 - PDF (Download from www.fafsa.gov)
 - Paper



FAFSA ON THE WEB



The screenshot shows the FAFSA website homepage. At the top, it features the 'Federal Student Aid' logo with the text 'An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION' and 'PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND®'. To the right is the 'FAFSA® Free Application for Federal Student Aid' logo. Below this is a navigation bar with icons for Home, About Us, FSA ID, StudentAid.gov, and Help, along with a search box and language options for English and Español. A large blue banner reads 'Get help paying for college' and 'Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)'. Below the banner is a row of five photos of diverse students. At the bottom, there are two columns: 'New to the FAFSA?' with a 'Start A New FAFSA' button, and 'Returning User?' with a list of options (Make a correction, Add a school, View your Student Aid Report (SAR), and more...) and a 'Login' button.

Website: www.fafsa.gov

• 2016-17 FAFSA on the Web available on October 1, 2016

• FAFSA on the Web Worksheet:

• Used as optional “pre-application” checklist



FAFSA ON THE WEB

Good reasons to file electronically:

- Built-in edits to help prevent costly errors
- Simplification: Skip-logic allows student and/or parent to skip unnecessary questions
- Immediate submission of original application and any necessary corrections
- More detailed instructions than space allows on the paper FAFSA
- Help & Live Chat Assistance Options
- Ability to check application status on-line
- Simplified application process in subsequent years



PIN REPLACED BY FSA ID

Students and parents can no longer use PIN

- May 10, 2015 – FSA ID replaced the PIN for student and parent log-ins and signatures
- FSA ID consists of username and password – which increases the security level for the user
- FSA ID needed to log into fafsa.gov, the National Student Loan Data System(NSLDS) at nslds.ed.gov, StudentLoans.gov, StudentAid.gov and Agreement to Serve(ATS) at teach-ats.ed.gov
- Create FSA ID at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>
- Students & parents that have current PIN will be able to enter it and link it to their FSA ID to assist with verification of FSA ID



IRS Data Retrieval Tool

- Students completing a 2016-17 FOTW will be able to utilize IRS Data Retrieval Tool in October, 2016
- Data available in English and Spanish



Frequent FAFSA Errors

- Parent and Student Social Security Numbers
- Divorced/remarried/unmarried but living together parental information-which belongs on the form
- Income earned by parents/stepparents
- Untaxed income
- U.S. income taxes paid
- Household size
- Number of household members in college
- Real estate and investment net worth
- Not signing the FAFSA



Making Corrections

- Corrections to FAFSA data may be made by:
- Using FAFSA on the Web (www.fafsa.gov) if student has a FSA ID
- Updating and mailing paper SAR
- Submitting documentation to school's financial aid office
- Corrections required if “estimated income” used for initial filing
- Consistent messaging sent to use IRS Data Retrieval Tool if data is not transferred during initial submission



Which tax return to use?

- Senior Class of 2016-2017 uses 2015 tax return and FAFSA opens 10/1/16
- Senior Class of 2017-2018 uses 2016 tax return and FAFSA opens 10/1/17



Additional FAFSA Resources

- <http://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/>
- Contains documents, videos, power point slides, social media items that can provide FAFSA completion support as well as informational pieces for students/parents.
- Can sort for types of materials, desired audience, calendar timing



Cost of Attendance (COA)

- Direct costs
 - Costs paid to the college
- Indirect costs
 - Personal and other expenses not paid to the college
- COA varies widely from college to college



Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

- An index used to calculate eligibility for aid
- Stays the same regardless of college
- Two components
 - Parent contribution
 - Student contribution

Calculated using FAFSA data and a formula specified by law



Financial Need

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Cost of Attendance (COA)} \\ - & \text{ Expected Family Contribution (EFC)} \\ = & \text{ **Financial Need** } \end{aligned}$$



Categories of Aid

- Need-based aid
 - Grants
 - Scholarships
 - Work-Study
- Non need-based aid
 - Federal Loans
 - Private Loans



Types of Aid

- Grants
 - Do not need to be repaid
- Scholarships
 - Do not need to be repaid; based on academic achievement, athletic ability, skills, etc.
- Loans
 - Self-help aid that must be paid back
- Work-Study
 - Self help aid that allows students to earn money to help pay for college expenses



Sources of Aid

- Federal government
- States
- Colleges
- Additional sources



Federal Pell Grant

The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low income undergraduate students.

- **Grant amounts depend on the student's:**

- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

- Enrollment status (full or part-time)

- Attendance status (full academic year or less)

- Pell Grant maximum award per academic year:
\$5,775 (2015-2016)

* Maximum award may be subject to change pending legislative budgetary adjustments



TEACH Grant

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant Program (TEACH) provides assistance to students who intend to teach in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves students from low-income families.

Grant recipients must be:

- Enrolled in an institution that participates in the TEACH Grant Program
- Enrolled in coursework geared towards a career in the field of teaching
- Able to demonstrate certain academic achievements



TEACH Grant (Cont'd)

The Teach Grant:

Is not based on financial needs

Available to both undergraduate and graduate students

Provides the following maximum award \$4,000 (2015-2016)

TEACH Grant recipients must sign an 'Agreement to Serve' which states that the student will:

Teach at least four years in a public or private elementary or secondary school Teach full-time in a high-need field

Teach in a school that serves students from low-income families

If the teaching obligation is not completed, the TEACH Grant **must be repaid** as a Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan

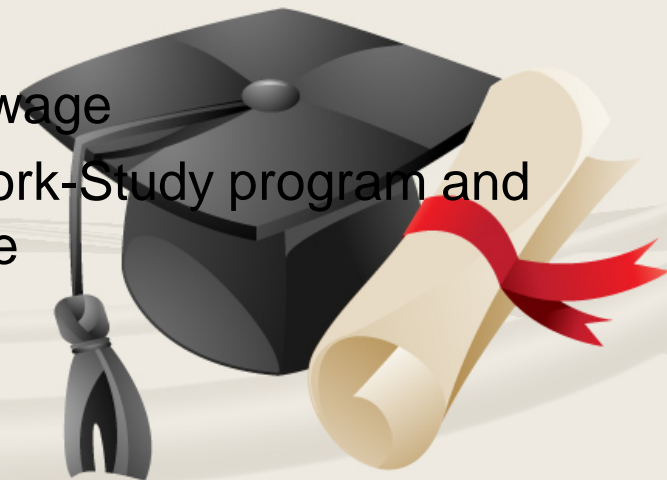


Federal Financial Aid Programs

Work-Study

Provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses

- Eligible employers (On-campus or off-campus employment)
 - Schools
 - Federal, state or local public agency
 - Private nonprofit organization
 - Community service activities
- Students are paid at least federal minimum wage
- Not all colleges participate in the Federal Work-Study program and funding depends on availability at the college



Direct Stafford Loans

Subsidized Loans

- Government PAYS the borrowers accrued interest while you are attending college and other eligible periods
- **Based on Financial Need**
- Fixed Rate
- Undergraduate students
- Amount: **\$3,500-\$8,000**

Unsubsidized Loans

- The borrower is responsible for the interest for the life of the loan
- **NOT Based on Financial Need**
- Fixed Rate
- Undergraduate and graduate students qualify
- Amount: **\$5,500 \$20,500**



Searching for Scholarships

Federal Sources

- U.S. Department of Education – Students.gov
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Armed Forces



State and Institutional Sources

- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board: College For All Texans

[College for All Texans](#)

- College of Choice
Scholarships & Financial Aid

[Scholarships](#)



Typical On-line Scholarship Search

- <http://studentaid.gov/types/grants-scholarships/findingscholarships>
- Collegeboard.org
- CappexScholarships
- Bellvilleisd.org
- Never pay for scholarship searches
- Always use free searches!
- Other resources available



Typical On-line Scholarship Search

- Pay close attention to application deadlines
- Guidelines on when and how to apply
- Department of Labor scholarship search engine:

<http://www.careerinfonet.org/scholarshipsearch/ScholarshipCategory.asp?searchtype=category&nodeid=22>



Private Sources

- Foundations
- Community organizations and civic groups
- Religious or ethnicity-based organizations
- Organizations related to student's field
- Local businesses and employers

*Make sure to give scholarship checks to financial aid office.



WEBSITES ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR COLLEGE

- www.collegeforalltexans.com
 - Comparison shopping
- www.everychanceeverytexan.org
 - Career choices and help with college expenses
- www.aie.org
 - College planning and scholarship search
- www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - Worksheets help with gathering information
- www.studentaid.ed.gov
 - Financial assistance with college
- www.fastweb.com
 - Scholarship search
- www.scholarshiphunter.com
 - Scholarship search
- www.cappex.com
 - Scholarship search
- www.scholarships.com
 - Scholarship search
- www.finaid.org
 - Financial planning for college



Don't Get Senioritis!

- Final transcripts are not sent until after graduation
- Colleges can rescind offers of admissions
- Don't slack off!



