SESSION OVERVIEW

• College Admissions Process
• College Affordability
• Naviance Student Portal
COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

“How can I assist my student through the college process?”
BUILDING A COLLEGE LIST: “REACH” “TARGET” “SAFETY”

- **Reach School** - A college or university where a student’s academic profile is below the institution’s admission requirements. Although they do not meet the requirements, their academic profile is not too far outside the average admit range.
  - Example: A student’s Dream School they would love to attend in the fall but do not meet admissions requirements

- **Target School** – A college or university where a student’s academic profile meets 1 or 2 admission requirement, but not all of them. There is a possibility of gaining admission.
  - Example: Applicant may meet the testing requirement, but their GPA is below the admission requirement.
SAFETY SCHOOL = ASSURED ADMISSIONS

• **Safety School** - A college or university where a student met all the admission requirements. Potentially gain automatic acceptance to the institution based off their academic profile.
  – Example: you have met SAT/ ACT requirements, GPA, and quartile.

• Having a list of Safety Schools will guarantee
  – Automatic entrance to the college or University (Students will receive an acceptance letter).
  – A safety school will give students the option to select the college or university they would like to attend.
## WHAT IS “ASSURED ADMISSIONS” IN TEXAS?

**Assured admission** is based on the required combination of the high school class rank and college entrance test scores as indicated below. The State of Texas guarantees automatic admissions to all state-funded universities in the state.

### Automatic Admission Requirements 2018-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>1st Quarter</th>
<th>2nd Quarter</th>
<th>3rd Quarter</th>
<th>4th Quarter</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas</td>
<td>No Min</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas-Dallas</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Texas A&amp;M University</td>
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<td>1380/30</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University- Galveston</td>
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<td>Review</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Tech University</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>1180/24</td>
<td>1260/28</td>
<td>1290/27</td>
<td>Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Houston</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>1080/21</td>
<td>1170/24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Texas</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>1050/20</td>
<td>1130/23</td>
<td>1250/26</td>
<td>Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas-Tyler</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>1020/20</td>
<td>1060/21</td>
<td>1100/22</td>
<td>1150/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas State University</td>
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<td>1000/20</td>
<td>1090/22</td>
<td>1150/26</td>
<td>1250/29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamar University</td>
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<td>930/18</td>
<td>1010/20</td>
<td>1080/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen F. Austin State University</td>
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<td>930/17</td>
<td>1030/20</td>
<td>1170/24</td>
<td>Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angelo State University</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>900/17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University-Kingsville</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>830/15</td>
<td>910/17</td>
<td>1030/20</td>
<td>1140/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Southern University</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>GPA 2.5 and</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>900/17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie View A&amp;M University</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>800/15</td>
<td>GPA &gt; 2.75</td>
<td>800/15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas-San Antonio</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>1170/24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Texas-Arlington</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>1130/22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University-Corpus Christi</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>1080/21</td>
<td>1170/23</td>
<td>1270/27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Woman’s University</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>1080/21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwestern State University</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>1070/21</td>
<td>1140/23</td>
<td>1180/24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University-Commerce</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>1060/21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No min for top 50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M International University</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>980/19</td>
<td>980/19</td>
<td>980/19</td>
<td>No min for top 40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Texas A&amp;M University</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>940/18</td>
<td>1060/21</td>
<td>1150/23</td>
<td>Min GPA of 2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas-El Paso</td>
<td>No Minimum</td>
<td>800/12</td>
<td>830/13</td>
<td>900/16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Students with assured admissions must “file complete” with each college to receive a formal acceptance.*
ASSURED ADMISSION VS. HOLISTIC REVIEW

**Assured Admission**
Guaranteed admission based on class rank and/or test score (i.e., top 10%)

- Students who are “file complete” and are guaranteed admission, will receive an acceptance letter from any Texas public institution.

**Holistic Review**
Admission based on the review of all application items

- GPA/Rank
  - Academic Rigor
- SAT or ACT score
- Resume
  - Extracurricular activities
  - Leadership experiences
  - Talents Awards
- Essays
- Letter(s) of recommendation
- Interview(s) (more selective institutions)
WHAT ARE TEST OPTIONAL SCHOOLS

- A test-optional admissions policy means some applicants can choose not to submit SAT or ACT scores. The rules vary per college. Some colleges may require applicants to provide supplemental information in place of test.

Benefits

- Admissions flexibility for students who do not test well (i.e., students with strong GPA and low test scores)
- Focus on other portions of the application (i.e., extracurricular activities, experiences, personal statement)
# Most Commonly Used Application Platforms

## The Common Application
- **Explore** – Research on 750 colleges and universities from across the world.
  - 13 Texas Public and Private institutions are affiliated with The CommonApp.
- **Apply** - Complete and submit an application to your choice institution.
- **Repeat** - Apply to more institutions using ONE application.
- The Common Application include 2 main components:
  - The Common Application Profile.
  - Supplemental College Application *(requirements varies by college)*.

## ApplyTexas Application
- **Explore** - Search 2-year and 4-year institutions in Texas.
  - All Public Texas institutions
  - 21 Private Texas institutions
- **Apply** - Complete and submit an application to your choice institution.
- **Repeat** - Apply to more institutions using the same application.
- Apply for scholarships and submit college application essays.*
# College Admission Review Process

**Students:**

Which college admission process best suits you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Restrictive Application Plans</th>
<th>Restrictive Application Plans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regular Decision</strong></td>
<td><strong>Early Decision (ED)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEFINITION:</strong> Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>COMMITMENT:</strong> NON-BINDING</td>
<td><strong>DEFINITION:</strong> Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted, they definitely will enroll. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>COMMITMENT:</strong> BINDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rolling Admission</strong></td>
<td><strong>Restrictive Early Action (REA)</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>DEFINITION:</strong> Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution’s regular response date.&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>COMMITMENT:</strong> NON-BINDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Early Action (EA)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEFINITION:</strong> Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>COMMITMENT:</strong> NON-BINDING</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.

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*(NACAC, 2016)*
WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE “FILE COMPLETE”

- **Complete Admission File** - An applicant is considered “file complete” once the application and ALL required documents are submitted. Files must be received on or before the institution’s admissions deadline.

- **Required documents (if applicable)**
  - Essay
  - Application fee/Fee waiver
  - Official high school transcript
  - Official test scores (SAT/ACT/ SAT Subject Test)
  - Permanent Resident Card or I-551*
  - Senate Bill 1528 Affidavit*
  - Letter of Recommendation
COLLEGE APPLICATION FEES WAIVERS
NACAC College Application Fee Waiver

- There is not a maximum number of NACAC Fee waivers a student can use, but NACAC recommend limiting the use to no more than **FOUR** waivers.

College Board College Application Fee Waiver

- If you registered **and** took the SAT test using an SAT fee waiver, then you are **automatically** eligible to receive **FOUR** college application fee waivers.

- College application fee waivers forms are available once you receive your SAT scores. The fee waiver forms will be located on your online CollegeBoard accounts.
If you want to use a fee waiver for your ApplyTX Application, select “Request for fee waiver” on the proper screen.

**IMPORTANT**

- Most schools require specific documentation. Check the institution’s website for specific instructions.
- Some institutions do not offer fee waivers. Please follow up with the institution for further information.
If you want to use a fee waiver for your Common Application, select “Yes” on the proper screen.

- Indicate what qualifies you for a fee waiver (i.e. SAT/ACT fee waiver, free or reduced lunch, etc.) and type your name.
- You fee waiver is **NOT** approved until your **counselor approves it in Naviance**. This is your responsibility to make sure this is complete.
STANDARDIZED TESTING

SAT

College Admissions Process

- No point penalty for wrong answers
- 2 Sections
  - Evidence Based Reading and Writing
  - Math
  - Optional Essay (Strongly recommended)
- Score: Min 200, Max 800 - per section
- Length: 3 hours and 50 minutes
- **Send your own scores**
- Costs $54.50
  - Waivers available for students on free/reduced lunch

*Students on free/reduced lunch can send an unlimited amount of score reports.*

ACT

College Admissions Process

- No point penalty for wrong answers
- 4 Sections
  - English
  - Math
  - Reading
  - Science
  - Writing optional (Strongly Recommended)
- Score: Scale of 1-36
- Length: 3 hours and 50 minutes
- **Send your own scores**
- Costs $56.50 w/writing
  - Waivers available if on free/reduced lunch

TSI

Placement Test

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment is to determine if a student is ready for college-level work in the areas of **reading, writing, and math**. Success in these areas can help the student complete their college degree or certificate program.
COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY

DON’T LET THE PRICE TAG SCARE YOU!
KEY COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY TERMS

• **Financial Aid** – refers to money awarded to students to help pay for college.

• **Scholarship** – money awarded to students based on academic or other achievements to help pay for education expenses. Scholarships generally do not have to be repaid.
  – **Need-based scholarships** are awarded based on a student’s family income. Grades and test scores have no bearing on this.
  – **Academic (Merit) scholarships** are based on a variety of components, such as your performance and involvement in high school.

• **Subsidized Loan** – a loan based on financial need for which the federal government generally pays the interest that accrues while the borrowers is in an in-school, grace, or deferment status.

• **Unsubsidized Loan** – a loan for which the borrower is fully responsible for paying the interest regardless of the loan status. Interest on unsubsidized loans accrues from the date of disbursement and continues throughout the life of the loan.

• **Verification** – the process your school uses to confirm that the data reported on your FAFSA form is accurate. Your school has the authority to contact you for documentation that support income and other information that you reported.

• **Work-study** – a refer student aid program that provides part-time employment while you are enroll in school to help pay for educational expenses.

*See handout for additional terms.*
What makes up the sticker price of a college?
WHAT DOES COLLEGE COST?

Tuition & Fees: The amount a student pays for college classes and any extra fees.

Books & Supplies: Textbooks needed for each class and any additional supplies or required materials.

Room & Board: The cost for living on campus and eating meals on campus.

Personal & Transportation: Any additional expenses such as laundry, cell phone service, going out money, and flights home throughout the year.

= Cost of Attendance
COST OF ATTENDANCE

DIRECT COSTS

▪ Tuition and Fees
▪ Room and Board

+ 

INDIRECT COSTS

▪ Books and Supplies
▪ Travel Expenses
▪ Miscellaneous or Personal Expenses

Direct Costs + Indirect Costs = Cost of Attendance

Direct Costs, on average, are the primary items included in the student bill.
TYPE OF FINANCIAL AID

- **SCHOLARSHIPS**
  - Need-based or academic (merit) – based
  - Do not have to pay back *(FREE)*

- **GRANTS**
  - Need-based or academic (merit) – based
  - Do not have to pay back *(FREE)*

- **WORK-STUDY**
  - Students work on campus and get paid

- **LOANS**
  - Must pay back
  - With/without interest
STEPS TO HAVING A SUCCESSFUL FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

1. Gather Information
2. Determine Dependency Status
3. Create FSA ID
4. Apply for Financial Aid
5. Review Student Aid Report
6. Verification Steps & Updates
TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS

**FAFSA**
- US Citizen
- Permanent Resident
- Refugee or Asylum
- Visa (please check website for eligible Visa requirements)

**TASFA**
- TX Resident (3+ years)
- HS Grad/GED
- Temporary Residents (DACA/Work Permit)
- Undocumented Students

OR

**CSS PROFILE**
- Non-federal financial aid over 400 colleges/universities.
- All students can complete the application
- Not required by all institutions*
- $25 Initial application fee, $16 for Additional Reports*
  - For eligible students, the CSS Profile waiver will cover **ALL** applications and reporting fees.
- Collegeboard Account Required

*Not required by all institutions*
FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

FAFSA = Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- Application opens October 1st
- Parent(s)/Student’s social security number
- Permanent resident card (If applicable)
- Parent(s)/Student’s date of birth
- 2017 Parent(s)/Student’s tax information*
- Selective Service is MANDATORY for male students completing the FAFSA
CREATE FSA ID

The FSA ID is a username and password that must be used to log in to your FAFSA account.
Student requirements

- Paper Application - collegeforalltexans.com
- Application available October 1ST
- Student’s date of birth
- Student’s 2017 Tax Information (if applicable)
- IRS Non-Filer Letter (if applicable)
- SB 1528 Affidavit
- Student university ID # for each college
- Selective Service Registration Card (male students)

A copy of application and supplemental documents should be sent to EACH college applied to.

Parent Requirements

- Parent date of birth
- Marriage Date (if applicable)
- 2017 Income Tax Return & Tax Transcript
- IRS Non-Filer Letter (if applicable)

Parent information is required unless student is classified as independent.
CSS PROFILE

Non-federal financial aid over 400 colleges/universities.

All students can complete the application
Not required by all institutions*

$25 Initial application fee, $16 for Additional Reports*

For eligible students, the CSS Profile waiver will cover ALL applications and reporting fees.

Collegeboard Account Required
SUBMITTED, NOW WHAT?

- Verify that financial aid application has been processed successfully
- Review Student Aid Report (SAR) for EFC or mistakes
- Follow-up with each college to verify that all required documents have been submitted
- Apply for independent scholarships
- Wait for financial aid award letter
WHAT IS VERIFICATION?

Verification is the process financial aid offices at colleges and universities use to verify that a student's FAFSA information is accurate.

50% - 70% of students are Verified* within HISD.

If you are selected for verification, then you will see an asterisk (*) next to your EFC.

Follow these steps if selected for verification*...

▪ Get a tax transcript asap at the IRS Tax Office or IRS.gov
▪ Keep your financial information together and respond to any verification requests from colleges/universities in a timely manner
▪ Update FAFSA, using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) to decrease the chances of being selected for verification!

NO FOLLOW UP = NO FINANCIAL AID
ORDERING TAX TRANSCRIPT

- Tax transcripts may be required for some schools
- College will email you to let you know if you need to send a tax transcript
- Request one ASAP
- IRS website: www.irs.gov

IRS Tax Transcript
The IRS will MAIL this to your home. If the college needs it, bring it to the CCC and we will mail it.
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR DREAMERS/UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

• Undocumented students cannot legally receive federal student financial aid of any form, including loans, grants and scholarships. However, scholarships are available to help undocumented students pursue their dreams of going to college.

• It may take some research but there are scholarships ranging from academic to need based scholarships.

• Make sure to reach out to your College Counselor and College & Career Readiness Advisor so they can provide resources and steps to college access and affordability!
NAVIANCE STUDENT PORTAL

SUBMITTING A TRANSCRIPT REQUEST
Step 1: Once you log on to your Naviance page, you will see three boxes: ‘Seniors’, ‘My Favorites’, and ‘Important To-Dos and Tasks’. Under ‘My Favorites’, click ‘Colleges: I’m applying to’, the second option.
A college application must be available in order for a student to request an official high school transcript.

- **Adding an application to college list:** To add a college application, click the + to add a college application.

- **Adding a transcript request:** To add a college application for an existing application, click the REQUEST TRANSCRIPTS to complete the transcript request form.
1. Select the college you are applying to from the dropdown box.
2. Select the application type.
3. Indicate if you are applying via The CommonApplication or Direct to the institution.
   • Select ‘Direct to the institution’ if you are apply using ApplyTX
4. Click ‘Add Application’ or ‘Add and Request Transcript’.
2. Select if you would like you UNOFFICIAL test included.
   • Reminder: Official test scores MUST be sent from CollegeBoard or ACT.
3. All college applications will be displayed below. Select where the transcripts will be sent to.
MANAGING TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS

You can check the status of any transcript request in **Manage Transcripts**.
THANK YOU