

College Prep Timeline

Grade 9

- Goals and objectives that were chosen in the eighth grade need to be re-evaluated.
- Careful consideration should be given to reviewing the four-year graduation plan.
- Review college catalogs and publications which give college profiles.
- Use Khan Academy to prepare for the PSAT 8/9
- Take the PSAT 8/9 October 19. It is a powerful predictor of success on the SAT. Review results in December/January and keep working in Khan Academy.
- Attend the MISD College and Career Night November 2.
- Begin keeping in your portfolio: report cards, test scores, honors, school activities, community activities, and work experience.
- You may also want to keep samples of your major school projects, papers, etc.
- Know NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) requirements if you want to play sports in college.
- Take courses that are challenging and work to your full potential.
- Advocate for yourself: attend tutorials and do not let yourself fall behind in your classes.

Grade 10

- Review the four-year graduation plan
- Take courses that are challenging and continue working to your full potential.
- Prepare for the PSAT by using Khan Academy regularly.
- Take the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) which is offered only once per year on October 19 as practice for the PSAT/NMSQT that juniors take for scholarship consideration.
- Analyze the PSAT results and establish personal goals in January and keep working in Khan Academy.
- Continue to review college publications. Begin to visit colleges in the summer, especially if you are interested in a highly selective college.
- Study to make your grades representative of your abilities.
- Continue adding to your portfolio.

Grade 11

- Review the graduation plan and narrow college choices.
- Confer with parent(s) and the counselor to decide on courses for the senior year and to discuss post-graduation plans.
- Take challenging courses.
- Prepare for the PSAT using Khan Academy.
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT offered only once per year on October 19.
- Attend the MISD College and Career Night on November 2 and talk to the college personnel.
- Review PSAT results in December/January and keep working in Khan Academy.
- Apply for any scholarships that your parents' employers may provide and any scholarships that are available to junior competition.
- Take the SAT and/or ACT in the late spring.
- Send early decision applications in June and July.
- Visit colleges in the summer. Send for college information and applications.
- Make grades representative of your ability.
- Continue adding to your portfolio.

Grade 12

- Finalize college choices and send letters/applications to the colleges of your choice.
- Check with the counseling center on your campus, the Internet and the catalog from the college(s) of your choice to apply for any scholarships for which you may qualify.
- Confer with your counselor in early fall.
- Apply for a FAFSA Pin and send the Financial Aid applications (**FAFSA**) in October.
- Attend the MISD College and Career Night in the fall with your parent(s) and plan to attend the Financial Aid Seminar.
- Take the SAT and/or ACT and necessary achievement tests in October or November.
- Send regular decision applications in the fall semester (preferably by December 1).
- Send in housing applications in early fall, especially to colleges that are highly competitive for dorm space.
- Analyze SAT and ACT test results in December.
- Continue adding to your portfolio.
- **Common Application:** Texas offers a common application for all public universities. This application may be obtained from the counseling center on your high school campus or online at www.applytexas.org.