# JUST FOR JUNIORS Preparing for Senior Year and Post High School Options



Class of 2024

# Agenda

- → Graduation Requirements
- → College Admissions
- College Application Process
- → College Entrance Exams
- → Timelines
- → Naviance/LOR/Essays
- → Finding A Good Fit for College



## **AHS Counselors**



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#### **Non-Discrimination Policy**

The Argyle Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in any of its career and technical education programs, services, or activities, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

For inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies under Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504, contact Dr. Deana Steeber, Assistant Superintendent, via email at deana.steeber@argyleisd.com or by phone at 940-464-7241. Dr. Steeber can also be reached at Argyle ISD's central offices, 800 Eagle Drive in Argyle, TX.

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## **Graduation Requirements**

English (4 credits)	Math (4 credits)	Science (4 credits)	Social Studies (4 credits)
English I	Algebra I	Biology	World Geography
English II	Geometry	Chemistry/Physics*	World History
English III	Algebra II	Advanced Science	U.S. History
English IV	4th Math	Advanced Science	Government (0.5)
			Economics (0.5)

<sup>\*</sup>Colleges STILL recommend Chemistry and Physics

## **Graduation Requirements**

World Languages (2 credits)	Fine Arts (1 credit)	PE (1 credit)	Electives (6 credits)
2 credits in the same World Language	Band Choir Art Theater	PE Outdoor Education Sports PE Substitution	4 credits must be in endorsement area*
Ex: Spanish I and Spanish II		(Band/Cheer/Drill Team)	

• During your junior conference, you will review your Endorsement and Endorsement classes.

# Testing - STAAR EOC's

STAAR Testing (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness)

The STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) assessments include:

- O English I
- O English II
- O Algebra I
- O Biology
- O US History



#### Step #1:

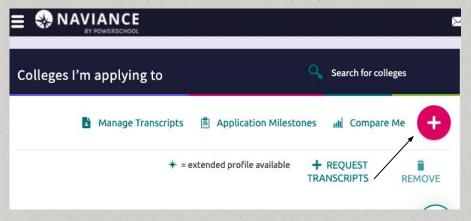
Completely fill out the application. (ApplyTexas, Comm App, Coalition or school specific application) including all essays and/or short answers.

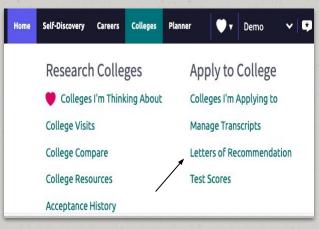
- ApplyTexas: <u>www.applytexas.org</u> Texas public and many Texas private schools
- Common App: <u>www.commonapp.org</u> Both in state and Out of state schools; Private schools
- Coalition: <u>www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org</u> Both in state and Out of state schools; Private schools
- College/University specific application

College/university website will list out what application they accept.

#### Step #2:

Request through Naviance your high school transcript to colleges that you are applying. Letters of recommendation are also requested through Naviance





### **Naviance**

- Naviance login information will be updated during junior conference.
- Request official transcripts to be sent to colleges via Naviance
  - Watch here <u>Requesting Transcripts in Naviance</u>
- Request a teacher to write you a letter of recommendation via Naviance. However, please speak directly to the teacher or email them first.
  - Watch here <u>Requesting Letters of Recommendation</u>



- Letters of Recommendation are required by some schools; teacher recommendation, counselor recommendations or both. Only send what the school requests.
- Give the recommender at least **two weeks** before the due date
- Get a Letter of Recommendation form from your
- counselor. And provide a resume.





Very good

Good

Nerage

#### **Step 3#:**

Send your SAT or ACT score to colleges (if applicable). Check with the college/university to see if the school is still "test optional". If you test, request your scores directly from the testing site.

#### **SAT Scores**

View your SAT scores and score report from your College Board account.

Sign In to Student Score Reports

#### **ACT Test Scores**

Viewing, sending, and understanding your scores.

Sign In/View Scores

#### **College Entrance Exams - SAT/ACT**

- Both are typically accepted by colleges and universities.
- We recommend that you take both tests and then focus on your preferred test.
- We recommend that you take it for the first time in the spring of your junior year.
- Take the test more than once. Some school SuperScore.
- Colleges and universities are "test optional"
- Free online test preps:
  - > SAT: Khan Academy <a href="https://www.khanacademy.org/SAT">https://www.khanacademy.org/SAT</a>
  - > ACT: <a href="http://academy.act.org">http://academy.act.org</a>

## **SAT and ACT Testing Dates**

ACT Test Date:	Registration Deadline:	Late Registration Deadline:
April 15, 2023	March 10, 2023	March 24, 2023
June 10, 2023	May 5, 2023	May 19, 2023
July 15, 2023	June 16, 2023	June 23, 2023
Below are Anticipated Dates		
September 9, 2023	August 4, 2023	August 18, 2023
October 21, 2023	September 15, 2023	September 29, 2023
December 9, 2023	November 3, 2023	November 17, 2023

SAT Test Date:	Registration Deadline:	Late Registration Deadline:
March 11, 2023	February 10, 2023	February 28, 2023
May 6, 2023	April 7, 2023	April 25, 2023
June 3, 2023	May 4, 2023	May 23, 2023
Below are Anticipated Dates		
August 26, 2023	July 28, 2023	August 15, 2023
October 7, 2023	September 8, 2023	September 26, 2023
November 4, 2023	October 6, 2023	October 24, 2023
December 2, 2023	November 3, 2023	November 21, 2023

#### Step #4:

Create a FAFSA ID and complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

\*\*Now a Graduation Requirement! Student must show a completed FAFSA application or complete an Opt-Out form.

#### FAFSA opens up: October 1, 2023

Argyle High School will have a Financial Aid presentation prior to this date to help students and parents understand and complete FAFSA application.



#### **Financial Aid**

#### **Financial Aid Resources**

GRANTS

Need based money without repayment

Merit or performance based money without repayment

**SCHOLARSHIPS** 

**WORK STUDY** 

**FEDERAL LOANS** 

Need based campus job, earnings get paid directly to student as wages

Fixed low interest rate money that has to be repaid

#### Step#5

- Apply for scholarships.
  - Institutional Scholarships: Straight from colleges/universities. Based on need or merit (academics or special programs like athletics, fine arts, etc).
     Scholarship applications can be a separate application from the admissions application.
  - Independent Scholarships: Straight from organizations. Can be based on needs, merit, or specific to the organization. Check with work, church, community organizations, etc.

Check the counseling website for additional scholarship information.

#### **Step #6:**

Pay attention to all deadlines - both application and scholarship. Apply Early -- BEAT not MEET your deadlines!

Priority Deadline November 1st

Regular Deadline December 1st





#### **College Admission**

#### Types of Admits:

- Automatic Admit
  - State universities in Texas if you are in the top 10%
  - Exception to this rule is UT Austin: Top 6%
- Academic Admit
  - Based on test scores; class ranking
- Holistic Admit
  - Looks at both academic criteria and non-academic criteria
    - Essays, extracurricular activities, volunteer hours, letters of recommendation, work experience, etc.
- \*\* Beware of the effect of social media on your college application



## **TSIA2** Testing

TSIA2 Assessment is part of the Texas Success Initiative program designed to help colleges and universities determine if you are



ready for college-level course work in areas of reading, writing, and math.

\*\*First Time Dual Credit Students will need to take the TSIA2

\*Waivers/Exemptions: There are exemptions based on a student's PSAT, SAT or ACT scores.

## **Dual Credit - TWU**

11th grader will either get a waiver, exemption or must test through TWU's Testing Center.

Dual Credit Meeting will be held on February 9th @ 6pm in AHS Auditorium.

# NCAA Eligibility (Future College Athletes)

If it your hope/plan to play Division I or Division II sports in college you must register with the Eligibility Center during the

spring of your junior year.

NCAA Eligibility Center

NAIA Eligibility Center

NJCAA Eligibility Center



#### What Should I Be Doing Now?

- ★ Finishing out your junior year strong
- ★ Start building your resume/create college file
- ★ Preparing for SAT/ACT
- ★ Research schools/research requirements
- ★ Visit schools (in person or virtually)
- ★ Junior Conference with Counselor
  - Review credits and transcript
  - Select senior coursework
  - Senior Timeline

## **Senior Year**

- Retake SAT/ACT if needed (summer or fall of senior year)
- Continue to work on college applications, essays and resume
- Request letters of recommendation if needed
- Request transcripts through Naviance
- Complete the FAFSA opens up October 1st, 2023
- Know your deadlines try to have applications done a month before so that all other documents arrive on deadline date
- Keep up your senior grades colleges looks at mid year and final transcripts
- Be on the lookout for scholarship opportunities
- Decision Day May 1st, 2024

# **Next Steps**

#### For 11th graders:

Counselors presenting information to students through U.S. History classes on February 13th

- ★ Junior Conferences to follow
  - Individual meetings to go over credits, transcript, senior courses, etc.
  - Date and time of the meeting will be given to both student and parent one week prior to meeting.
- ★ Reference materials and handouts will be provided to students during presentations in US History classes.

## **Post High School Options**

- Two Year Community College
- Four Year College or University
- Trade or Technical Schools
  - o <u>www.tstc.edu</u>
  - o www.uti.edu
- Workforce
- Military Enlistment
  - o <u>www.military.com</u>
  - U.S. Military Academies
  - ROTC Programs at College



## **Choosing A College**

What factors are most important

to you in a college?

Programs? Cost? Location? Size? Admissions?

Not sure which college is the best fit for you?

Big Future - College Board Super Match - Naviance College Navigator

Research Colleges and Visit Colleges!



## **Finding The Best Fit**

- Know Yourself. Know your strengths and weaknesses.
- Be realistic about your future goals.
- Use resources given to you:
  - Strength and Interest Inventories in Naviance
  - College Visits Virtual Visits
  - College Websites/College Reps
  - > Family
  - > Friend
  - Teachers
  - Counselors
- Compare your options. Build a list of 5-8 colleges you are interested in and create a spreadsheet with important information.

\*\* You get two college visit days junior and senior year. College Day visit forms are part of the packet.

