



Senior Year Checklist

RSS Counseling & College/Career Staff

Senior Counselors



Laura Hernandez
12th Grade



Eutondra Lamark
Academy Students

College & Career Department



Nallely Peña
College & Career Counselor



Christin Wolf
College & Career Clerk



Alyssa Hernandez
Dual Credit Advisor



Amanda Lavender
Shared College Coordinator

How to Request an Appointment with your Counselor



Lee College Shared College Coordinator



Amanda Lavender
Shared College Coordinator

email: alavender@lee.edu

cell: 346-710-1740 (text or call)

SCAN HERE
TO MAKE AN
APPOINTMENT



I CAN HELP WITH...

- College application assistance
- Financial aid process
 - FSA ID/Submit application
- Student/parent meetings
- Career Assessments
- Researching different colleges and universities that best fit your career path

Save these Dates!

- Senior Pictures
 - October 3rd and 4th: English 4 classes
- Fish Fry Fundraiser: Tickets go on sale starting October 21st, \$13/plate
 - Fish Fry will be on November 15th
- Cap and Gown Senior Meeting: October 28th, 4th period
 - November 7th and 8th – Orders will be taken during all lunches in the cafeteria
- District College & Career Night: October 23rd from 6–7:30 PM – GCMHS
- Senior Panoramic Picture: October 29th during 2nd period (8:35am)
- Senior Prom : April 11th @the Hyatt in Baytown – Ticket sales TBD
- Senior Graduation: May 21st @ Stallworth Stadium
- Senior Shirts and Sweaters Fundraiser (Scan the QR code)

SCAN HERE FOR
C/O 2025 SENIOR
FUNDRAISER



Grading Periods

- 1st 9 weeks grading period--August 12--October 11
- 2nd 9 weeks grading period--October 21--December 20
 - Semester Exams--December 16th-20th (Cannot Exempt Any Finals)
- 3rd 9 weeks grading period--January 8--March 7
- 4th 9 weeks grading period--March 17--May 22
 - Final exams--May 19th-22nd

Graduation Requirements

Curriculum Area	Foundation with Endorsement Plan	Distinguished Level of Achievement
English	4 credits English I English II English III An Advanced English	4 credits English I English II English III An Advanced English
Mathematics	4 credits Algebra I Geometry 2 Advanced Math Courses	4 credits Algebra I Geometry Algebra II Advanced Math Course
Science	4 credits Biology IPC or an Advanced Science Course 2 Advanced Science Courses	4 credits Biology IPC or an Advanced Science Course IPC or an Advanced Science Course An Advanced Science Course
Social Studies <small>*Colleges/Universities may require 4 Social Studies credits</small>	3 credits World Geography or World History US History US Government (1/2 credit) Economics (1/2 credit)	3 credits* World Geography or World History US History US Government (1/2 credit) Economics (1/2 credit)
Other Languages	2 credits (same language)	2 credits (same language)
Physical Education	1 credit	1 credit
Fine Arts	1 credit	1 credit
Elective(s)/Endorsement Courses	See Endorsement Options to determine the number of credits needed.	
State Exams	STAAR EOCs-5 required	STAAR EOCs-5 required
TOTAL CREDITS	26 Credits including an Endorsement	26 Credits including an Endorsement

What is College & Career Readiness?

- CCMR
 - College, Career, and Military Readiness
- How to demonstrate readiness: (meet at least ONE of the following)
 - College Readiness:
 - Meet TSIA, SAT or ACT criteria
 - Earn dual course credits (9 hours of elective credits or 3 hours of English or math credit)
 - Meet criteria on an AP exam
 - Earn an associates degree
 - Qualify for an OnRamps course credit
 - Career Readiness:
 - Earn an industry based certification (IBC)
 - Graduate with a completed IEP and workforce readiness
 - Graduate with an advanced degree plan and receive special education services or earn a level I or II certification
 - Military Readiness:
 - Enlist in the United States Armed Forces (student must provide the documentation to the CCMR counselor)

SAT & ACT vs. TSIA2

**GCCISD provides
FREE ACT/SAT/TSIA2
test-prep for students
via a tile in their
myGC portal called
“Shmoop”**

ACT & SAT

- Accepted nationally
- Typically used to determine college admissions
 - Some colleges may be test-optional
- Students who were enrolled at RSS their junior year took the SAT exam in March 2024
 - If students want to take/retake, they must log into their College Board account and sign up for a Saturday exam at a national testing center
- Although colleges may be test-optional for admissions, they may require an ACT or SAT score for scholarship consideration
- College readiness benchmarks:
 - ACT: English 19 – Math: 19 – Composite: 23
 - SAT: English: 480 – Math: 530

TSIA2

- Accepted at Texas colleges/universities
- NOT used as college admissions criteria
- Used for placement in college courses once a student has already been admitted to a college or university
- College readiness benchmark:
 - ELAR: 945+ on multiple choice & 5+ on essay
 - OR less than 945 on multiple choice & 5+ on diagnostic exam & 5+ on essay
 - Math: 950
 - OR less than 950+ & 6 on diagnostic exam

Students who qualify for free/reduced lunch are eligible to receive fee waivers to take or retake the SAT & ACT exams.

Military Interest & ASVAB Testing

Students who are interested in meeting with a military recruiter may stop by the CCMR lab or request to see Mrs. Peña or Mrs. Wolf.

**SCAN HERE TO SIGN
UP FOR THE ASVAB**



ASVAB Career Interest Inventory
On-Campus Exam Dates:

October 30th, 2024
January 29th, 2025

Senior Year College-Readiness Timeline

August & September:

- Begin working on ApplyTexas Applications
 - through English 4 classroom guidance lessons
- Request Letters of Recommendation
- Student athletes register with NCAA if they plan to play sports in college

**UNSURE OF WHERE
TO APPLY OR WHAT
CAREER PATHWAY
TO TAKE?
TRY XELLO!
(TILE ON MYGC ACCOUNT)**

September–December:

- OPTIONAL: Retake SAT/ACT
- Work on and submit college/university scholarship applications
 - Some university scholarships will have an early Nov./Dec. deadline
- Submit any college/university applications that have fall deadlines
 - SOME COLLEGES HAVE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1ST APPLICATION DEADLINES!

December:

- Complete FAFSA/TASFA
 - 25–26 FAFSA application available December 1st

January–March:

- Local Scholarships – Completely online application process
 - Applications open in late January, submissions due before spring break in March

Colleges Offering Free Tuition Based on Income 2025-26

Students must be TEXAS residents,
admitted, and have submitted
FAFSA/TASFA to the college in order to
qualify for these free tuition offers.

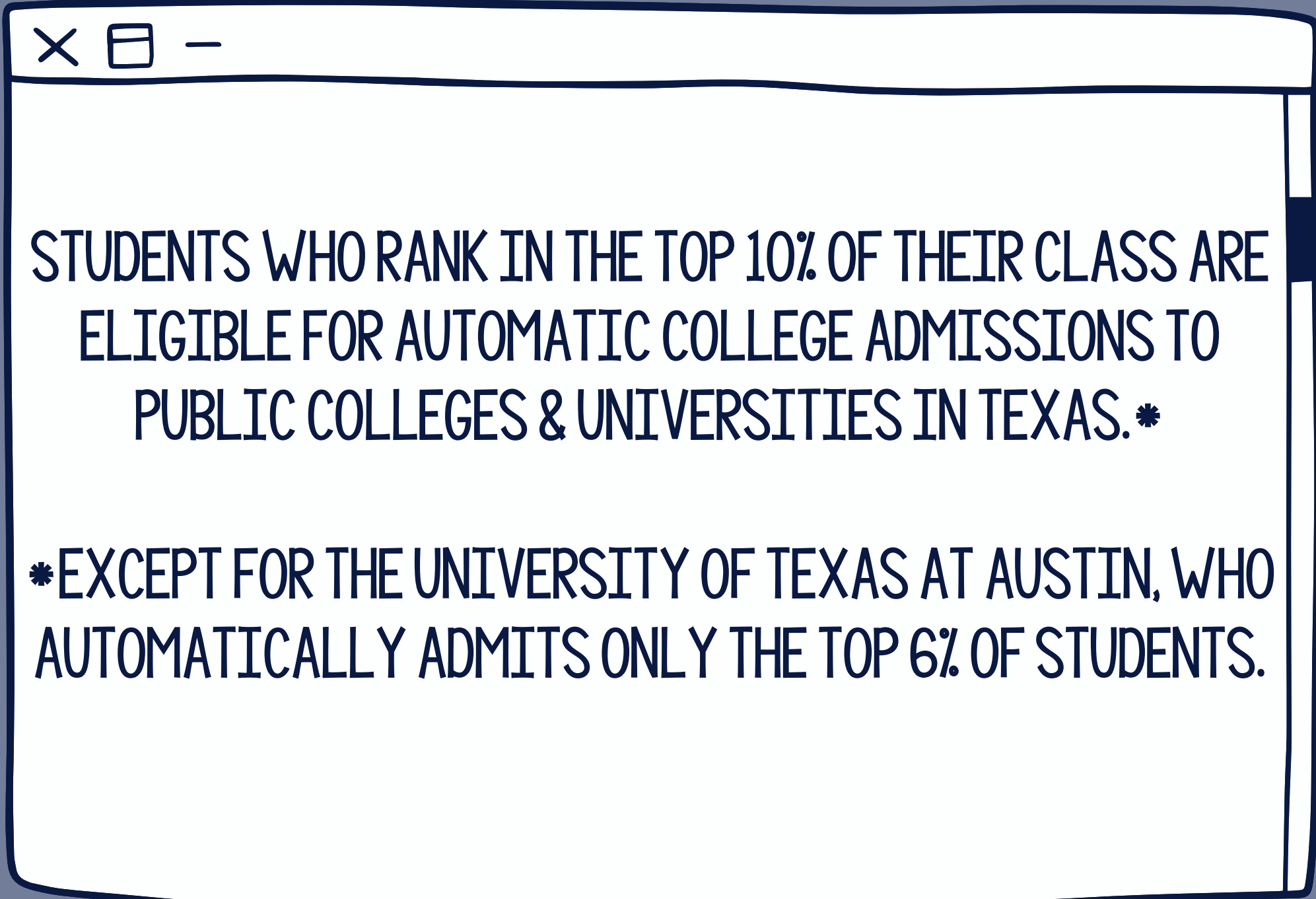
**POSTED IN GOOGLE
CLASSROOM AND
SHARED THROUGH
PARENTSQUARE!**

**SCAN HERE TO VIEW
THE LIST OF COLLEGES**



Keep in mind that "free tuition" does
NOT mean that you get a full ride.
Other fees such as housing costs will be
applied to your semester bills.
However, free tuition does take away
the majority of the cost from your bill.

Top 10% Information

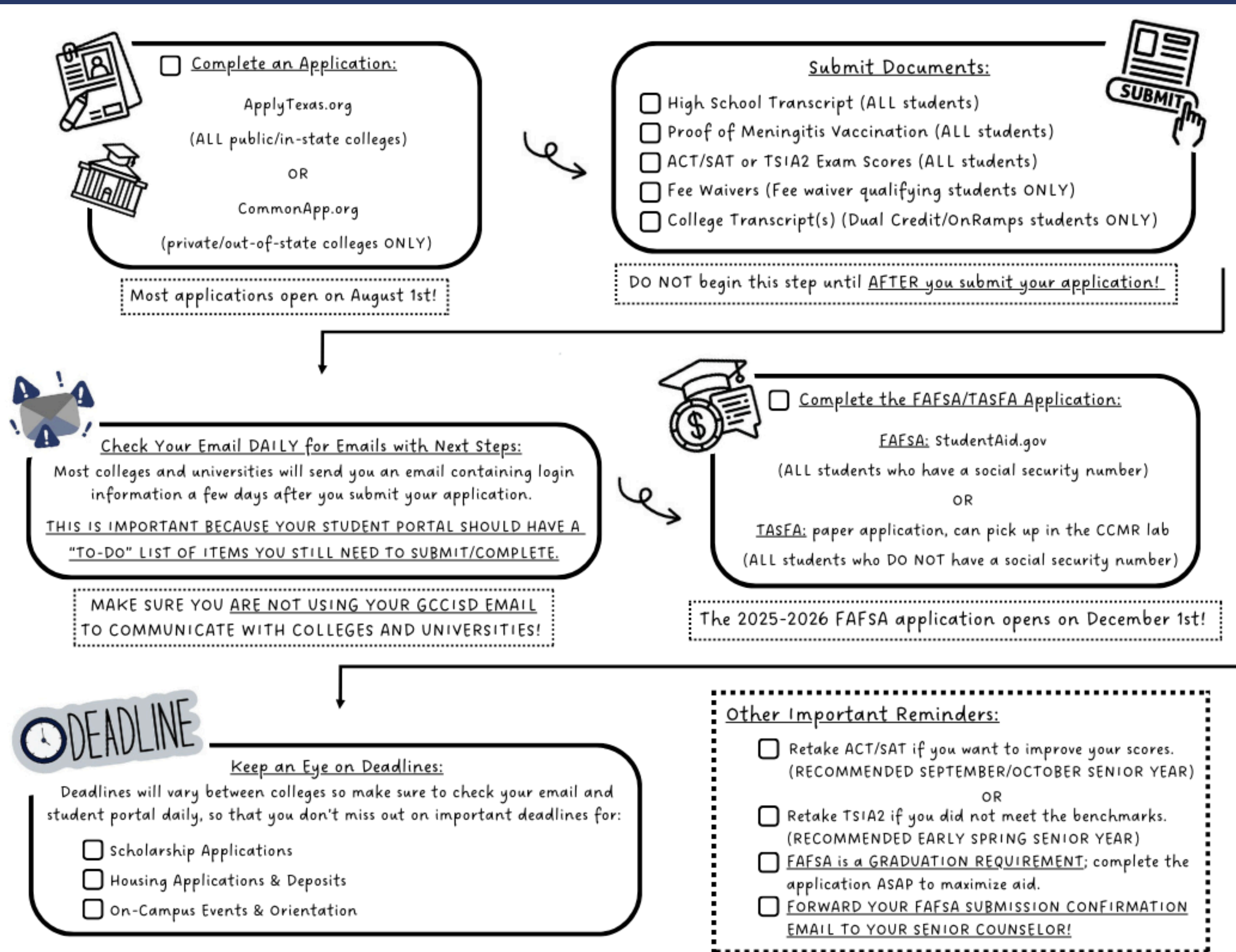


STUDENTS WHO RANK IN THE TOP 10% OF THEIR CLASS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR AUTOMATIC COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TO PUBLIC COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES IN TEXAS.*

*EXCEPT FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, WHO AUTOMATICALLY ADMITS ONLY THE TOP 6% OF STUDENTS.

College Application Checklist

1. Apply via ApplyTexas.org or CommonApp.org
2. Submit your documents (HS transcript, test scores, etc.)
3. Check your email DAILY
4. Complete the FAFSA/TASFA application when it opens (Dec. 1)
5. Keep an eye on deadlines for scholarship and housing applications, on campus events, orientations, etc.



Important Websites & Resources

Important Websites:

ACT/SAT Exam Registration/Scores:

- ★ ACT: ACT.org
- ★ SAT: CollegeBoard.org

AP Exam Scores:

- ★ CollegeBoard.org

College Applications:

- ★ ApplyTexas.org (ALL public/in-state colleges)
- ★ CommonApp.org (private/out-of-state colleges ONLY)

FAFSA Application:

- ★ StudentAid.gov

High School Transcripts:

- ★ gccisdtx.scriborder.com

Lamar Institute of Technology Transcripts:

- ★ email: transcripts@LIT.edu

Lee College Transcripts:

- ★ Lee.edu/transcripts

NCAA Clearinghouse Registration: Playing Sports in College:

- ★ web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/

OnRamps Transcripts:

- ★ OneStop.UTexas.edu/transcripts

TSIA2 Scores:

- ★ studentportal.accuplacer.org/#/studentisr

Other Resources:

Fee Waivers for College Applications:

- ★ See Mrs. Wolf in the CCMR lab to request fee waivers.

Lee College Educational Opportunity Center: FAFSA Expert Help

- ★ Lee.edu/EOC

Meningitis Vaccination Requirement Information:

- ★ dshs.texas.gov/immunization-unit/texas-school-child-care-facility-immunization/texas-minimum-state-vaccine-2

Military Interest:

- ★ USA.gov/US-Military

Resume Building Help:

- ★ Go to the Xello tile in your MyGC portal.

Workforce Development Resources:

- ★ Lee.edu/Workforce

Sterling College & Career Department Contacts:

Mrs. Pena – College & Career Counselor

Email: Nallely.Pena@gccisd.net

Office Location: CCMR lab/Ranger Center

Mrs. Wolf – College & Career Clerk

Email: Christin.Wolf@gccisd.net

Office Location: CCMR Lab (room 101)

Mrs. Lavender – Shared College Coordinator

Email: alavender@lee.edu

Office Location: Ranger Center – on RSS campus on Mondays ONLY

How to Apply to Colleges & Universities

APPLY  TEXAS

APPLYTEXAS.ORG

Used primarily for public two and four year colleges and universities located in the state of Texas.

common
app 

COMMONAPP.ORG

Used primarily for out of state colleges and some private Texas universities.

Students who qualify for free/reduced lunch are eligible to receive college application fee waivers from Mrs. Wolf in the CCMR lab.

Requesting Transcripts

WHAT IS A TRANSCRIPT?

YOUR HIGH SCHOOL
ACADEMIC RECORD.

WHO DO I NEED TO SEND IT TO?

COLLEGES &
UNIVERSITIES YOU
ARE INTERESTED IN
ATTENDING.

WHEN DO I SEND IT?

AFTER YOU HAVE
ALREADY SUBMITTED
AN APPLICATION TO
THE INSTITUTION.

REQUEST YOUR
TRANSCRIPT



YOUR TRANSCRIPT IS ALWAYS FREE IF YOU'RE A
CURRENT STUDENT!

[HTTPS://GCCISDTX.SCRIBORDER.COM/](https://gccisdtx.scriborder.com/)

Senior Year Scholarship Timeline



SEPTEMBER 2024

9/5	Cameron Impact Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$50,000	
9/15	The Gates Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$160,000	
9/15	Catching the Dream Program
AWARD AMOUNT \$5,000	
9/30	Heartfelt Dreams Nursing Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$5,000	

OCTOBER 2024

10/1	ConnectHER Film Festival
AWARD AMOUNT \$5,000	
10/2	Dr Pepper Tuition Giveaway
AWARD AMOUNT \$100,000	
10/23	Annual Sphinx Competition
AWARD AMOUNT \$50,000	
10/31	VFW Voice of Democracy
AWARD AMOUNT \$35,000	

NOVEMBER 2024

11/2	Prudential Emerging Visionaries
AWARD AMOUNT \$15,000	
11/7	Regeneron Science Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$250,000	
11/11	Haz La U (Make the U) Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$10,000	
11/16	Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$55,000	

DECEMBER 2024

12/1	Dell Scholars Program
AWARD AMOUNT \$20,000	
12/1	Hagan Scholarship Foundation
AWARD AMOUNT \$60,000	
12/15	Burger King McLamore Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$60,000	
12/13	Cards Against Humanity Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$160,000	

Senior Year Scholarship Timeline

SPRING
2025

JANUARY 2025	
1/3	Taco Bell Live Más Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$25,000	
1/4	GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$40,000	
1/10	JFK Profile in Courage
AWARD AMOUNT \$10,000	
1/31	TheDream.US Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$80,000	

FEBRUARY 2025	
2/7	Gucci Changemakers Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$20,000	
2/13	McDonald's HACER Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$100,000	
2/14	Davidson Fellows Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$50,000	
2/14	HBCU Week x NFL Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$10,000	

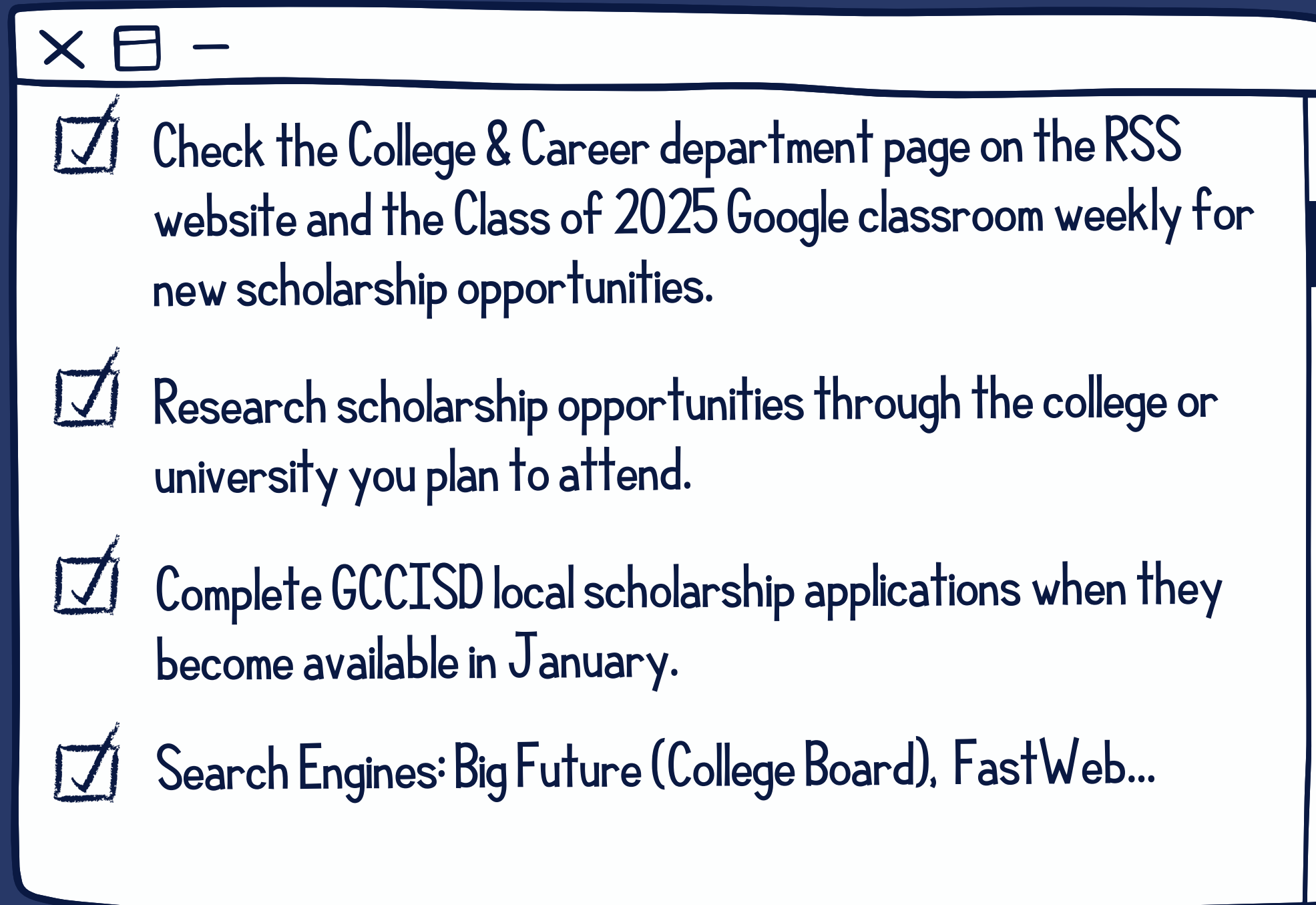
MARCH 2025	
3/13	Blacks at Microsoft Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$20,000	
3/21	Doodle for Google Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$55,000	
3/15	911 Promise Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$15,000	
3/17	Women in Cyber Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$10,000	

APRIL 2025	
4/1	Herbert Lehman Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$12,000	
4/11	Girl Up STEM Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$10,000	
4/14	Latino Actuaries Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$7,500	
4/15	Gloria Barron Prize
AWARD AMOUNT \$10,000	

MAY 2025	
5/1	Print & Graphics Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$20,000	
5/15	Milton Fisher Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$20,000	
5/17	Exceptional Youth Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$10,000	
5/31	Jurgemeyer Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$10,000	

JUNE 2025	
6/1	Cure Cancer Support Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$5,000	
6/5	Stuck at Prom Scholarship Contest
AWARD AMOUNT \$15,000	
6/10	Hadden Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$20,000	
6/25	Breakthrough Junior Scholarship
AWARD AMOUNT \$250,000	

Where To Find Scholarship Information

- 
- ☒ Check the College & Career department page on the RSS website and the Class of 2025 Google classroom weekly for new scholarship opportunities.
 - ☒ Research scholarship opportunities through the college or university you plan to attend.
 - ☒ Complete GCCISD local scholarship applications when they become available in January.
 - ☒ Search Engines: Big Future (College Board), FastWeb...

"Dos & Don'ts" of Requesting Letters of Recommendation

DO

- ☒ Write legibly on your brag sheet.
- ☒ Provide as much detailed information as you can on your brag sheet.
- ☒ Make extra copies of your brag sheet and keep them somewhere safe.
- ☒ Give your teachers, counselors, coaches, supervisors, etc. plenty of time (2-3 weeks MINIMUM) to prepare your letter.

DON'T

- ☒ Give someone a brag sheet that's hard to read.
- ☒ Give someone a brag sheet that's incomplete
- ☒ Make only one copy of your brag sheet.
- ☒ Ask someone for a letter with less than two weeks notice.

FAFSA & TASFA

TASFA

- ☒ You are a Texas resident but not a U.S. citizen.
- ☒ You do not have a social security number.
- ☒ Paper application available in the CCMR lab.

Texas Application for State Financial Aid

OPT-OUT

- ☒ OPTION 1: Student is over the age of 18 and signs the Financial Aid Application Opt-Out Form on their own behalf.
- ☒ OPTION 2: Student is under the age of 18 and parent and student both sign the Financial Aid Application Opt-Out Form.

**SUBMITTING A
FINANCIAL AID
APPLICATION OR AN
OPT-OUT FORM IS A
GRADUATION
REQUIREMENT!**

FAFSA

- ☒ You are a U.S. citizen and have a social security number.
- ☒ Parents' citizenship status DOES NOT affect students' eligibility for federal financial aid.
- ☒ Online application available December 1st.

**Free Application for
Federal Student Aid**

**Only for students who DO NOT
plan to attend college/university!**

FAFSA Classroom Guidance

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
F	A	L	L	B	R	E
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Monday, October 28th

- Rhea - Govt/Eco

Monday, November 4th

- Mathews - Govt/Eco
- Fanning - Govt/Eco
- Lee College - GOVT 2305

Advanced Academic Options for Seniors

AP COURSES

- Weighted GPA points
- Grade does not affect students' college transcript
- College credit awarded based on score from AP exams taken in May
- No cost to students
 - GCCISD pays for students' AP exams

DUAL CREDIT COURSES

- Weighted GPA points
- Grades are recorded on both the high school and college transcripts
- Cost savings for college
- Student pays \$50 per school year
 - District pays the rest of students' tuition and buys their books

YOUR FUTURE STARTS NOW



**BELIEVE IN
YOURSELF**



**ATTENDANCE
MATTERS**



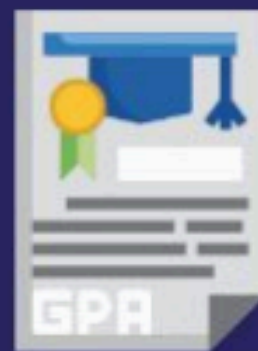
GET INVOLVED



**GET
ORGANIZED**



**TAKE CARE OF
YOURSELF**



**GRADES
COUNT**

Information was sent to your HS
students via Parent Square
8/9/24 @4:00PM

*******Board Policy Update****

Your future starts NOW High School students.

Important update!

For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the district shall calculate class rank in accordance with this policy and administrative regulations by using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the **third nine-week grading period** of the senior year.

Questions? Email us!

SENIOR COUNSELOR

LAURA.HERNANDEZ@GCCISD.NET

ACADEMY COUNSELOR

EUTONDRA.LAMARK@GCCISD.NET

CCMR COUNSELOR

NALLELY.PENA@GCCISD.NET

CCMR CLERK

CHRISTIN.WOLF@GCCISD.NET

SHARED COLLEGE COORDINATOR

ALAVENDER@LEE.EDU

DUAL CREDIT ADVISOR

ALHERNANDEZ@LEE.EDU