

Checklist for College Bound Students

9th Grade

	Keep grades up because your Grade Point Average (GPA) starts NOW! GPA determines class rank!
	Join clubs and organizations (to gain leadership experience)
	Take career interest inventories and self assessments: Self Assessment www.texascaresonline.com My Career & Majors Quiz www.cappex.com/colleges/majors Career Interest www.choices360.com Find My Future http://texasgenuine.org Career Interest Assessment http://www.careeroutlook.us/ Several to choose from http://www.aea10.k12.ia.us/curr/stw/Career-Interest-Inv.html Find your Purpose https://purposechallenge.org/toolkit/
	Volunteer (to earn community service hours)
	Create a portfolio for college, scholarship and even employment applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Service documented hours • Résumé & Awards (education, employment & club involvement) • Essay (save all copies) YOUR story in YOUR words <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Introduction ○ Life Purpose....future goals ○ Family Background ○ Obstacle/Challenge (that you have or are overcoming) ○ Community Service & Leadership Experiences ○ Conclusion (why you need/deserve this scholarship) • Recommendation Letters (try to get 2 each year) • Transcript w/ GPA, Class Rank & Test Scores • Tracking Scholarships Spreadsheet
	Apply for scholarships (yes there are a few available for high school freshmen) Check out my scholarship list at www.killeenisd.org/schools/high/CATE/Guidance.html

10th Grade

	Get to know your counselor (good resource for letter of recommendation)
	Keep your grades up (GPA) because it determines your class rank which is what colleges look at.
	Consider taking rigorous courses (AP, DC, TBI...)
	Join clubs and organizations &/or get a job (to gain leadership experience)
	Explore various careers www.texashotjobs.org (health careers) www.choices360.com www.myfuture.com www.scholarshipsoup.com www.texascaresonline.com http://www.bls.gov/ooh/
	Volunteer (to earn community service hours)
	Update your portfolio for college, scholarship and employment applications (see 9 th Grade for details)
	Apply for scholarships (yes there are a few available for high school sophomores) Check out my scholarship list at www.killeenisd.org/schools/high/CATE/Guidance.html

11th Grade

	Stay in contact with your counselor (good resource for letter of recommendation)
	Keep your grades up (GPA) because it determines your class rank which is what colleges look at.
	Run for club officer &/or obtain a job (to gain leadership experience)
	<p>Research colleges who offer the program you want</p> <p> www.collegegreenlight.com www.choices360.com www.txcrews.org www.collegenet.com www.chegg.com www.collegeview.com www.collegexpress.com www.mycollegeoptions.org www.petersons.com www.review.com http://collegecost.ed.gov http://collegecost.ed.gov/catc/Default.aspx https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/ http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/ http://collegecost.ed.gov/netpricecenter.aspx </p>
	Volunteer (to earn community service hours)
	<p>Take tests (ASVAB, PSAT/SAT & ACT)</p> <p> http://official-asvab.com/ www.collegeboard.com www.actstudent.org </p>
	Update your portfolio for college, scholarship and employment applications (see 9 th Grade for details)
	Attend college fairs/visits
	<p>Apply for scholarships (yes there are a some available for high school juniors)</p> <p>Check out my scholarship list at www.killeenisd.org/schools/high/CATE/Guidance.html</p>

12th Grade

	Stay in regular contact with your counselor (good resource for letter of recommendation)
	<p>Complete the FAFSA for financial aid (Opens Oct 1 and it's first-come first-serve)</p> <p>Create FSA ID first at https://fsaid.ed.gov FAFSA application www.fafsa.ed.gov TASFA is for undocumented students who are Texas residents www.collegeforalltexas.com</p>
	Keep your grades up (GPA) because it determines your class rank which is what colleges look at.
	Run for club officer &/or obtain a job (to gain leadership experience)
	Apply to CTC (might need as a backup) and at least 3 other colleges
	Volunteer (to earn community service hours)
	Take tests (SAT & ACT are for 4 yr colleges. TSI is for 2 yr colleges)
	Update your portfolio for college, scholarship and employment applications (see 9 th Grade for details)
	Attend college fairs/visits
	<p>Apply for scholarships (most of the local scholarship deadlines are from January through May)</p> <p>Check out my scholarship list at www.killeenisd.org/schools/high/CATE/Guidance.html</p>
	Accept your chosen college & submit all requested documentation
	Attend orientation