

	<h1 style="text-align: center;">College Preparation Checklist</h1>	Yes	No
8th	<p>Determine what careers you might be interested in and what the educational requirements will be. Visit www.bridges.com for more career information. This is what you will be asked by the high school counselors when they meet with you and your parents in the Spring. This career path will help make sure you are taking classes to help prepare you for that career.</p>		
9th	<p>Take PSAT (Preliminary SAT) in October (valuable results); signups are through the counseling center. For more info visit the counseling center or go to http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html.</p> <p>Look for college admissions requirements of colleges you might like & make a list of pros and cons for these colleges/universities. For a list of important college characteristics to consider when selecting a college visit http://www.actstudent.org/college/factors.html.</p> <p>Take virtual tours of colleges. For more info visit http://www.campustours.com/.</p>		
10th	<p>Take PSAT in October (valuable results); this is the last practice year; signups are through the counseling center</p> <p>At the end of your sophomore year in May, if you have enough credits to be a junior, you can take college classes at TVCC. Be sure to check with counselors about THEA test requirements/exemptions and about dual credit/college form required for admission to TVCC. For information about the THEA college readiness test visit http://www.thea.nesinc.com/.</p> <p>Continue virtual tours of colleges or visit in the summer. Be aware that summer staffing & students at colleges are very limited, but this may help you get a head start on finding the college that's just right for you.</p> <p>Analyze your admission strengths & begin assembling your portfolio. For more info see http://www.pbs.org/tenstepstocollege/strength.pdf.</p> <p>Consider which college criteria may best suit you and your needs by visiting http://www.actstudent.org/college/factors.html</p> <p>Explore college/higher ed options with Bridges.com; especially helpful are the college comparisons available with Bridges Choices Planner. Also use a college comparison worksheet available at www.actstudent.org/pdf/planning/comparison.pdf to help you better compare choices.</p>		

11th	<p>Take PSAT in October - this is the year the test is used as the National Merit Qualifying test for the NMSC scholarship programs. For more info about the National Merit Scholarship Program go to http://www.nationalmerit.org/nmsp.php. For a list of corporate sponsors and their requirements (many are for children of the company's employees) go to the PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide http://www.nationalmerit.org/06%20Student%20Guide-NMSC%20section.pdf.</p>		
	<p>Take SAT at least in the spring of the junior year. Signup brochures & additional info is in the counseling center or at http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/reg.html.</p>		
	<p>Take the ACT at least in the spring of the junior year. Signup brochures & additional info is in the counseling center or at http://www.actstudent.org/regist/index.html.</p>		
	<p>Work on essays for college and scholarships. For additional information visit http://www.yesican.gov/secondary/getting/letrec.html or http://www.pbs.org/tenstepstocollege/write.pdf or http://www.myessay.com/.</p>		
	<p>Use TOPCAT for free online test preparation for the SAT & ACT tests. Visit http://testprep.collegefortexans.com/.</p>		
	<p>Check on college financing by (1) checking the scholarship financing requirements and deadlines of any colleges you might like to attend; (2) checking the community scholarships under counseling on the Mabank ISD website; (3) checking with family members for scholarship opportunities for relatives through their companies; by using free website searches such as www.fastweb.com & www.scholarships.com; (4) by searching scholarships available for Texans at http://www.window.state.tx.us/scholars/aid; (5) visiting the federal student aid website at www.fasfa.ed.gov.</p>		
	<p>Check on housing application deadlines for any colleges you might like to attend. Early fall deadlines during your senior year are common at many campuses where there are limited housing opportunities.</p>		
	<p>Create a calendar for deadlines to make sure you keep up with the many dates you will need.</p>		
12th	<p>Take SAT in the fall of the senior year at the latest. Signup brochures & additional info is in the counseling center or at http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/reg.html.</p>		
	<p>Take the ACT in the fall of the senior year at the latest. Signup brochures & additional info is in the counseling center or at http://www.actstudent.org/regist/index.html.</p>		
	<p>Think about possible college majors. For additional info visit http://www.apsu.edu/careers/majors/index.htm or http://www.utexas.edu/student/careercenter/careers/ or http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/career/Students/ChoosingAMajor/whatcanIdowith.htm for examples.</p>		
	<p>Remember seniors have one college day visit in the fall and one in the spring. See your assistant principal to arrange permission and your counselor to help you prepare for the visits. Possible questions to ask on the visit can be found at http://www.actstudent.org/college/visit.html.</p>		