Make It Happen: www.GenTX.org/Make-It-Happen

Senior Checklist

☐ Start your college applications.
Get started early on your applications, especially if you are applying early decision.

Helpful websites:
ApplyTexas (applytexas.org)
The Common Application (commonapp.org)
College Admissions (aie.org)

☐ Pay attention to deadlines.
Be sure to submit college applications by the required deadline, and keep copies of all your application materials.

Helpful websites:
Filling Out the Application (aie.org)

☐ Check your application status.
Make sure to check the status of your application after you submit it to ensure the college received all of your materials on time, and find out if they require anything else from you.

Helpful websites:
After You Apply (applytexas.org)

☐ Take the SAT or ACT.
Take the SAT or ACT in the fall/early winter. Don’t forget to ask for your scores to be sent to the colleges to which you are applying. Find out if there are any additional tests you need to take by checking the colleges’ websites.

Helpful websites:
SAT (sat.collegeboard.org)
ACT (actstudent.org)
Tests You’ll Need (collegeforalltexans.com)
GenTX Rock Your Future (gentx.org/rockyourfuture)

☐ Take the THEA or Accuplacer.
Find out whether you need to sign up for one of these tests to satisfy the Texas Success Initiative, and register if necessary.

Helpful websites:
TSI Exemptions (thecb.state.tx.us)
THEA (thea.nesinc.com)
ACCUPLACER (collegeboard.com/student/testing/accuplacer)

☐ Make sure you’re prepared.
To make sure you are prepared for college-level coursework, some colleges may require you to take remedial courses or participate in a summer bridge program. Determine whether you need to take any summer courses, and sign up for them if necessary.

☐ Submit final grades.
Be sure to submit your second-semester grades to colleges if necessary/applicable.

☐ Mail your official transcript.
Talk to your registrar or counselor about the best way to send official transcripts to your colleges.

☐ Check your email regularly.
It is important to read every email and letter that a college sends you.

☐ Make a decision.
Submit your deposit and notify colleges of your decision. Once you decide where you will enroll, follow the college’s instructions on submitting your deposit and any other necessary forms. Notify other colleges of your decision.

To learn more and join the Generation TX Movement, please visit www.GenTX.org

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Apply for aid.
Fill out scholarships and applications for financial aid. For each college on your list, make sure you complete all applications for scholarships and financial aid.

Helpful websites:
GenTX Way to Pay (gentx.org/financialaid)

Start the FAFSA process.
Begin filling out your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at fafsa.gov.

Helpful websites:
FAFSA (fafsa.gov)
GenTX Way to Pay (gentx.org/financialaid)

Submit your FAFSA.
Complete and submit the FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1 (ideally, after your parents’ tax information has been imported by the IRS). The sooner you submit the FAFSA, the better your chances are for getting a good financial aid package.

Helpful websites:
GenTX Way to Pay (gentx.org/financialaid)

Apply for scholarships and grants.
Fill out as many scholarship applications as possible, and submit them by their required deadlines.

Helpful websites:
Find Scholarships (finaid.org/scholarships)
Fastweb (fastweb.com)
Cappex (cappex.com)
Scholarships.com (scholarships.com)

Compare financial aid letters.
Review and compare financial aid award letters with your counselor or college adviser.

Talk to your financial aid office.
Talk with a financial aid counselor at your school to learn how you can use your college savings and scholarships to reduce your college loan amounts.

Helpful websites:
Understand Borrowing Money for College (aic.org)
GenTX Way to Pay (gentx.org/financialaid)

GenTX Way to Pay
Financial Aid Guide
This helpful guide provides a wealth of information for students and parents beginning the financial aid process. From an explanation of the challenges surrounding FAFSA to an in-depth look at the many types of financial aid, this is a great reference you can download and print in English or Spanish as you find your way to pay for college.

Download this guide at gentx.org/financialaid

Notes: