



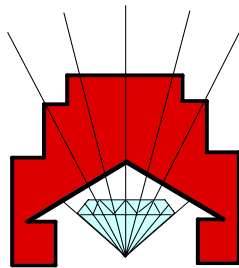
LA JOYA ISD  
BUILDING A LEGACY  
*of* EXCELLENCE

# Junior/Senior Handbook 2009 - 2010



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Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Human Resources

La Joya ISD  
201 East Expressway 83  
La Joya, TX 78560

Dear Student:

Congratulations! You will soon be making decisions about post-graduation opportunities, completing applications, and attending to college admissions procedures, details and deadlines. You will be doing all this while making your senior year the best ever. Your counselors are here to help you in the process of selecting the right “fit” for your next adventure after high school. There’s a lot to consider and the fall semester of your senior year is the best time to narrow your search.

Your counseling staff has prepared this booklet to assist you as you make plans to continue your education. Please take time to study it carefully and remember to keep your parents involved in the decision making process.

Visit the counseling department as often as needed, and get to know your counselor. Seek advice from your parents, teachers, and especially your counselors – we are here to help you! Please keep in mind that deadlines are important when applying for college, scholarships, and financial aid.

Remember, your senior year is a springboard to your future, so make the most of it! The grades you make, the activities in which you’re involved, and your foresight in planning ahead will help you get to the institution of your choice.

La Joya ISD administrators and teachers wish you the best of luck in your future educational and personal goals.

Best wishes,  
La Joya ISD Counseling Staff

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**La Joya High School Staff -- (956) 580-5100**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Melinda Flores	Interim Principal
Bertha Davidson	Dean of Instruction
Yvonne Ayala	Testing Coordinator
Benito Saenz	Assistant Principal
Maria Belem Leal	Assistant Principal
Rebecca Sepulveda	Assistant Principal
Jose Tabares	Assistant Principal
Santos Palomo	College Readiness Assistant Principal
Eduardo Alaniz	Assistant Principal
Lori Loya-Alvarez	Academic Counselor, Head Counselor
Lupita Villarreal	Academic Counselor
Aurora Villarreal	Academic Counselor
Melissa Santos	Academic Counselor
Deborah Zamora	Academic Counselor
Elizabeth Tagle	GEAR-UP Counselor
Sylvia Reyna	Special Educations Counselor
Claudia Gonzalez	Social Worker
	Migrant Strategist

**Palmview High School Staff -- (956) 519-5779**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Mary Ann Contreras	Principal
Danielo Gonzalez	Dean of Instruction
Juana Perez	Testing Coordinator
Domingo Villarreal	Assistant Principal
Hector Madrigal	Assistant Principal
Martin Perez	Assistant Principal
Jorge Guzman	Assistant Principal
Marisa Lopez	College Readiness Assistant Principal
Juan Martinez	Academic Counselor, Head Counselor
Silvia Sanchez	Academic Counselor
Jesse Vasquez	Academic Counselor
Norma Gutierrez	Academic Counselor
Jose Regalado	Academic Counselor
Adriana Hernandez	Academic Counselor
Brenda Gloria	GEAR-UP Counselor
Juan Rodriguez	Special Educations Counselor
Priscilla Webber	Social Worker

**Juarez-Lincoln High School Staff -- (956) 580-5900**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Xavier Ramirez	Interim Principal
Maria M. Solis	Dean of Instruction
Juan Carlos Flores	Testing Coordinator
Glenn Varlack	Assistant Principal
Carla Treviño	Assistant Principal
Imelda Jaramillo	Assistant Principal
Yolanda Cuellar	College Readiness Assistant Principal
Silvia Elizondo	Academic Counselor, Head Counselor
Abdias Gomez	Academic Counselor
Lynette Guerra	Academic Counselor
Juan Garcia	Academic Counselor
Joel Ledezma	Academic Counselor
San Juanita Pena	GEAR-UP Counselor
Rosalinda Garcia	Special Educations Counselor
Erica Salinas	Social Worker

**La Joya High School Accelerated Center Staff  
956-580-6120**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Antonio Cano	Principal
Isabel Rios	Academic Counselor
Ina Flores	Social Worker

**Palmview High School Accelerated Center Staff  
956-519-5746**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Norma Garcia	Principal
Janie Gracia	Academic Counselor
Nancy Alaniz	Social Worker

**Juarez-Lincoln High School Accelerated Center Staff  
956-580-5404**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Mario Troncoso	Principal
Roel Guajardo	Academic Counselor
Sonia Hernandez	Social Worker

**College & Career Center Staff  
956-519-4031**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Ronnie Cabrera	Director
Arcelia Alvarez	Academic Counselor

**HOPE Academy Staff  
956-580-5962**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Lindolfo Zamora	Principal
Gilbert Casanova	Assistant Principal
Isaias Vidal	Academic Counselor
Myrta Cardona	Social Worker

**District Guidance and Counseling / SDFSC Staff  
956-519-4036**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Myriam Tellez	Guidance and Counseling Coordinator
Maria T. Martinez	Guidance and Counseling Secretary
Graciela Gonzalez	Safe & Drug Free Schools and Communities Counselor
Denyse Alaniz	Student Assistant Program Strategist
Adriana Villarreal	Student Assistant Program Interventionist

## COLLEGE – WHERE DO I START?

Step ONE	Visit your GO CENTER. Begin your search by using the internet.
Step TWO	Determine what type of education you will seek. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate (usually 6-18 months)</li> <li>• Associate’s Degree (2 years)</li> <li>• Bachelor’s Degree (4 years)</li> </ul>
Step THREE	Narrow your choices to 3-4 colleges
Step FOUR	Take either your ACT/SAT I (and SAT II and THEA, if necessary) and have scores sent to those colleges
Step FIVE	Begin filling out applications – online. Computers and assistance available at your GO CENTER
Step SIX	Request official transcript from your registrar’s office and send to colleges/universities
Step SEVEN	Apply for college scholarships (if there are separate applications)
Step EIGHT	Ask your teachers and/or counselors for letters of recommendation, if necessary
Step NINE	Apply for housing if you will be leaving home for college

## **Student Profile**

For Use With

College Applications/Scholarships/Letters of Recommendations

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Background Information: Are you the oldest? Youngest? First to attend college? Married?**

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**List all Clubs and Organizations: Student Government/Class representative / club / Organization member**

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**List all Academic Achievements/Awards/Honor Roll**

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**List all Summer Programs/Leadership Conf. /Advance Studies/Retreats/etc.**

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**List the adjectives that best describe your abilities, talents, or personal qualities.**

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**Describe any circumstances, situation or important aspect of your experiences that might set you apart from others.**

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**La Joya ISD GRADUATING STUDENT CHECKLIST  
2009 - 2010**

	<b>Things to do</b>	<b>Target Date</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>	<b>Notes</b>
1	Conference with the guidance counselor to review graduation plan and review credits.	August		
2	Register for ACT/SAT/THEA	September		
3	Complete/Update Resume	October		
4	Apply to college online @ <a href="http://www.applytexas.org">www.applytexas.org</a> or visit University website of choice	October		
5	Participate in "Journey to College Success" program sponsored by UTPA & STC	October		
6	Complete & mail necessary documents for college admission (check deadlines for university of choice)	December		
7	Obtain recommendation letters for scholarship or college applications (check deadlines for university of choice)	December		
8	Apply for scholarships (check deadlines)	Ongoing		
9	Apply for Personal Identification Number (PIN) @ <a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.pin">www.fafsa.ed.pin</a>	December		
10	Apply for Financial Aid (FAFSA) @ <a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a>	February		
11	Notify guidance counselor of scholarships awarded	April		
12	Accept or Decline award letters	April/May		

## TIPS for Writing Your College Essay

1.	Answer the Question – You can follow the next steps, but if you miss the question, you might not be admitted to the college of your choice.
2.	Be Original
3.	Be Yourself – Admissions officers want to learn about you and your writing ability. Write about something meaningful and describe your feelings, not necessarily your actions.
4.	Don't "Thesaurize" your Composition – For some reason, students continue to think big words make good essays. Big words are fine, but only if they are used in the appropriate contexts with complex styles.
5.	Use Imagery and Clear, Vivid Prose.
6.	<p>Spend the most time on your Introduction – Expect admissions officers to spend 1 - 2 minutes reading your essay. You must use your introduction to grab their interest from the beginning.</p> <p>a. Don't summarize in your introduction</p> <p>b. Create mystery or intrigue in your introduction.</p>
7.	Body Paragraphs must relate to Introduction – Your introduction can be original, but cannot be silly. The paragraphs that follow must relate to your introduction.
8.	Use Transition
9.	Conclusions are Crucial – The conclusion is your last chance to persuade the reader or impress upon them your qualifications.
10.	Do Something else – Spend some time away from your draft to decide if you still consider your topic and approach worthwhile.
11.	Give Your Draft to others – Ask adults to edit / read your essay.
12.	Revise, Revise, Revise – You only are allowed so many words; use them wisely.

## La Joya ISD Graduation Requirements

Freshman Entering 2006-2007 (Current Seniors)

House Bill (3) Effective September 1, 2009

COURSE	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (24 credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (24 credits)
<b>English</b>	4	4
<b>Mathematics</b>	3 (must include Algebra I, II, and Geometry)	3 (must include Algebra I, II, and Geometry)
<b>Science*</b>	3	3
<b>Social Studies</b>	3.5 (Must include World Geography (1) credit, World History (1) Credit, U.S. History (1) credit, and U.S. Gov't. (0.5) credit)	3.5 (Must include World Geography (1) credit, World History (1) Credit, U.S. History (1) credit, and U.S. Gov't. (0.5) credit)
<b>Economics with Emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits</b>	.5	.5
<b>Language other than English (in the same language)</b>	2	3
<b>Physical Education**</b>	1	1.5
<b>Health Education</b>	Not Required, but recommended to take. May count as an elective	.5
<b>Technology Applications</b>	Not Required, but recommended to take. May count as an elective	1
<b>Fine Arts</b>	1	1
<b>Speech</b>	.5	.5
<b>Electives</b>	5.5 (from SBOE approved courses)	2.5 (from SBOE approved courses)
<b>TOTAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</b>	24	24 (to include 4 advanced measures)

Note: College Board advanced placement courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas

\*Three Credits – One credit must be selected from: Biology or AP Biology. The remaining two credits must be selected from: Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC): Chemistry, AP Chemistry: Physics, Principles of Technology I, AP Physics. Students are encouraged to take Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

\*\*Physical Education – Substitutions must be based on physical activity involved in drill team, marching band, and cheerleading during the fall semester: Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC): athletics: Dance 1-4: and education work-based training courses.

## La Joya ISD Graduation Requirements

Freshman Entering 2007 and Thereafter  
House Bill (3) Effective September 1, 2009

<b>COURSE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 credits)</b>	<b>DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 credits)</b>
<b>English</b>	4	4
<b>Mathematics</b>	4 (must include Algebra I, II, and Geometry)	4 (must include Algebra I, II, and Geometry)
<b>Science*</b>	4	4
<b>Social Studies</b>	3.5 (must include World Geography (1) credit, World History (1) Credit, U.S. History (1) credit, and U.S. Govt. (0.5) credit)	3.5 (must include World Geography (1) credit, World History (1) Credit, U.S. History (1) credit, and U.S. Govt. (0.5) credit)
<b>Economics with Emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits</b>	.5	.5
<b>Language other than English (in the same language)</b>	2	3
<b>Physical Education**</b>	1	1.5
<b>Health Education</b>	Not Required, but recommended to take. May count as an elective	.5
<b>Technology Applications</b>	Not Required, but recommended to take. May count as an elective	1
<b>Fine Arts</b>	1	1
<b>Speech</b>	.5	.5
<b>Electives</b>	5.5 (from SBOE approved courses)	2.5 (from SBOE approved courses)
<b>TOTAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</b>	26	26 (to include 4 advanced measures)

Note: College Board advanced placement courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas

\*Four Credits – The requirements are Biology, Chemistry, Physics, plus an additional lab-based course.

\*\*Physical Education – Substitutions must be based on physical activity involved in drill team, marching band, and cheerleading during the fall semester: Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC): athletics: Dance 1-4: and education work-based training courses.

## Distinguished Achievement Program

<p style="text-align: center;">Purpose of the Distinguished Achievement Program</p>	<p>The Distinguished Achievement Program recognizes students who demonstrate levels of performance equivalent to college students or work done by professionals in the arts, sciences, business, industry, or in community service.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Requirements of the Distinguished Achievement Program</p>	<p>Students must complete the requirements found in 19. TAC 74.13 and receive any combination of four of the following advanced measures (examples: two AP examinations, one college course, one research project; four AP examinations).</p> <p>Advanced Measures Include:</p> <p><b>ORIGINAL RESEARCH PROJECT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Judged by a panel of professionals in the field that is the focus of the project or</li><li>• Conducted under the direction of mentor(s) and reported to an appropriate audience.</li></ul> <p><b>TEST DATA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A score of three or above on the The College Board Advanced Placement examination</li><li>• A score of four or above on an International Baccalaureate Examination.</li><li>• A score on the PSAT that qualifies a student for recognition as a Commended Scholar or higher by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The PSAT score may count as only one advanced measure regardless of the number of honors received by the student.</li></ul> <p><b>COLLEGE COURSES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A grade of 3.0 (B or higher on courses that count for college credit, including tech prep programs)</li></ul>

## TEXAS SCHOLARS

Freshman Entering 2006-2007  
(Current seniors)

A Texas Scholar must:

- Earn all the credits required by the Recommended High School Program or Distinguished Achievement Program (refer to graduation plans).

**NOTE: Upon earning credit and meeting all requirements, the student will receive the Texas Scholar Medallion. These requirements are subject to change.**

## TEXAS SCHOLARS

Freshman Entering 2007 and thereafter  
(All juniors, sophomores, & freshman)

A Texas Scholar must:

- Earn all the credits required by the Recommended High School Program or the Distinguished Achievement Program which includes 26 credits and four years of Math, Science, English, and Social Studies.
- Successfully complete two full years of high school courses that are eligible for college credit.
  - Eligible college credit courses include:
    - Advanced Placement (AP) courses
    - Concurrent Enrollment / Dual Credit Courses
    - Applicable CTE courses that lead to a post-secondary certification.

**NOTE: Upon earning credit and meeting all requirements, the student will receive the Texas Scholar Medallion.**

## TECH PREP SCHOLARS PROGRAM

What must I do to be a Tech Prep Texas Scholar?

To be a Tech Prep Texas Scholar, a student must do all four of these things:

1. Take courses required by the Recommended High School Program or the Distinguished Achievement Program.
2. Have at least a four-year plan of study – and preferably a six or eight-year plan of study that includes, in high school, two or more career and technology courses for 3 or more credits.
3. Take at least one “college-level Tech Prep course” as part of the student’s high school graduation plan. A “college-level Tech Prep course” is:
  - a. A career and technology course taken in high school
  - b. Either an articulated course (local articulation or statewide articulation-ATC) or a dual/concurrent-enrollment course
  - c. A course for which the school district and one of our local colleges (South Texas College, Texas State Technical College Harlingen, Texas Southmost College, or Coastal Bend College) have agreed that a student can receive college credit as part of a Tech Prep graduation plan.
4. Complete a declaration of intent to be a *Tech Prep Texas Scholar*.

Seniors who graduate as Tech Prep Texas Scholars are eligible for the following rewards:

**Graduation Honors:** Tech Prep Texas Scholars will receive a special Tech Prep Honor Cord and a special gold-sealed Tech Prep Texas Scholar certificate.

**Scholarship Competition:** *Tech Prep Texas Scholars are eligible to compete for one of the Dr. Lauro F. Cavazos Tech Prep Scholarships... **thousands of dollars for college!!***

**Distinguished Achievement Program:** College-level Tech Prep courses can satisfy “measures” for the Distinguished Achievement Program.

## REQUIRED TESTS

### ACT

- The ACT is a national college admissions examination that consists of subject area tests in English, Math, Reading, and Science. It is an achievement test that measures what a student has learned in school.
- ACT results are accepted by all 4-year colleges and universities in the U.S.
- It is administered six times per year.
- Cost: \$32.00 (no writing) or \$47.00 (with writing portion) – Check with your counselor for FEE WAIVERS...
- The test is timed and It includes 215 multiple-choice questions and takes approximately 3 hours and 30 minutes to complete, including a short break (or just over 4 hours if you are also taking the writing portion)
- There is NO penalty for wrong answers
- Students can choose which schools will receive their scores AND which schools the schools will receive.
- **Should be taken at least 1 time during the Spring Semester of the JUNIOR YEAR**
- **Should be taken at least 1 time during the Fall Semester of the SENIOR YEAR**
- If you need more information: [www.ACT.org](http://www.ACT.org)
- Visit the ACT web site for test preparation tips or visit with your school counselor.
- **Check admissions requirements for the college or university of your choice.**

### SAT

- The SAT test is a national admissions test for college and universities.
- The SAT assesses the critical thinking skills students need for academic success in college – skills that students learned in high school.
- Should be taken at least 1 time during the Spring of the student's JUNIOR YEAR
- Should be taken at least 1 time during the Fall of the student's SENIOR YEAR
- It is a timed test, and each section of the SAT is scored on a scale of 200-800, with two writing sub scores for multiple-choice questions and the essay.
- Is there a penalty for wrong answers? YES (Questions that cannot be answered should be left blank.)
- It is administered seven times per year
- Cost is \$45.00 – Check with your counselor for FEE WAIVERS.
- If you need more information: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- Visit web site for test preparation tips or visit your school counselor.
- **Check admissions requirements for the college or university of your choice.**

## REQUIRED TESTS

### THEA

- Students entering a TEXAS public college or university may need to take the THEA test before enrolling in any college level coursework. For information about whether you are exempt from testing, consult with the TEXAS college or university you plan to attend or your high school counselor.
- The test is to assess the reading, mathematics, and writing skills that entering freshman-level students should have if they are to perform effectively in undergraduate certificate or degree programs in TEXAS public colleges or universities.
- The THEA test is offered in the following formats:
  - o The THEA paper-and-pencil test is offered five times a year at center across TEXAS.
  - o The THEA Quick Test is the same as the THEA paper-and-pencil test and is offered by many colleges, universities, and high schools on a scheduled determined by the institution. Consult with your counselor to determine the THEA Quick Tests dates for your high school.
- Once you have taken the THEA Quick Test, you must wait 30 days before retaking it.
- Test consists of three sections: Reading, Mathematics, and Writing.
- Each section of the test is designed to measure a student's academic skill.
  - o The Reading sections consists of approximately 40 multiple choice questions matched to about seven reading selections of 300 to 750 words each.
  - o The Mathematics sections consists of approximately 50 multiple choice questions covering four general areas: fundamental mathematics, algebra, geometry, and problem solving.
  - o The Writing Section contains two subsections: a writing sample subsection requiring students to demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively in writing on a given topic and a multiple-choice subsection including approximately 40 questions assessing students' ability to recognize various elements of effective writing.
- Test fee: \$29.00

## TEST DATES

### ACT [www.ACT.org](http://www.ACT.org)

TEST DATES	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
September 12, 2009	August 7, 2009	August 8 – 21, 2009
October 24, 2009	September 18, 2009	September 19-October 2, 2009
December 12, 2009	November 6, 2009	November 7 – 20, 2009
February 6, 2010	January 5, 2010	January 6 -15, 2010
April 10, 2010	March 5, 2010	March 6 -19, 2010
June 12, 2010	May 7, 2010	May 8 – 21, 2010
ACT (No Writing):		\$32.00
ACT Plus Writing:		\$47.00
Late Fee:		\$21.00
<b>*Students are eligible for 2 fee waivers in their lifetime*</b>		

### SAT [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

TEST DATES	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
October 10, 2009	September 9, 2009	September 10 – 25, 2009
November 7, 2009	October 1, 2009	October 2 – 15, 2009
December 5, 2009	October 31, 2009	November 1 – 13, 2009
January 23, 2010	December 15, 2009	December 16 – 30, 2009
March 13, 2010	February 4, 2010	February 5 – 18, 2010
May 1, 2010	March 25, 2010	March 26 – April 8, 2010
June 5, 2010	April 29, 2010	April 30 – May 13, 2010
Test Fee:		\$45.00
Late Fee:		\$23.00
<b>*Students are eligible for 2 fee waivers in their lifetime*</b>		

### THEA [www.thea.nesinc.com](http://www.thea.nesinc.com)

TEST DATES	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
<b>These are TEXAS Test Dates / Check CAMPUS Dates @ Counseling Dept.</b>		
October 17, 2009	September 18, 2009	October 7, 2009
February 27, 2010	January 29, 2010	February 17, 2010
April 24, 2010	March 26, 2010	April 14, 2010
June 19, 2010	May 21, 2010	June 9, 2010
July 24, 2010	June 25, 2010	July 14, 2010
Test Fee:		\$29.00
Late Fee:		\$20.00

# TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI)

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requires students to be assessed in reading, writing, and math skills prior to enrolling in college, and to be advised based on the results of that assessment, but now each institution determines what to do with students who don't pass one or more parts of the test. Institutions have the flexibility to determine if individual students are college ready and to demonstrate that they are indeed ready for college-level courses.

	<b>UTPA</b>	<b>STC</b>
<b>THEA</b>		
Reading	230	230
Writing	240	220
Math	260	250
<b>ACCUPLACER</b>		
Reading	78	78
Writing	80/Essay-6	80/Essay-6
Math	College Algebra - 78	College Algebra - 68
<b>ASSET</b>		
Reading	41	41
Writing	40/Essay-6	40/Essay-6
Math	38	41
<b>COMPASS</b>		
Reading	81	81
Writing	59/Essay-6	59/Essay-6
Math	39	42

Exemptions to submit scores if ONE of the following has been met:

## ACT

	Composite – 23 (19 English & 19 Math)	Check with STC. Some Programs require you submit ACT Scores
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## SAT

	1070 combined score (500 Verbal/Critical Reading & 500 Math)	
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## TAKS (10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade scores)

English	2200 / Writing 3+	2200
Math	UTPA Math Dept. will not accept MATH TAKS exemptions	2200

## TOP 10 PERCENT RULE FOR ADMISSIONS

Students who are in the top 10 percent of their graduating class are eligible for automatic admission to any public university in Texas. To be eligible for automatic admission, a student must:

- Graduate in the top 10 percent of his or her class at a public or private high school in Texas, or
- Graduate in the top 10 percent of his or her class from a high school operated by the U.S. Department of Defense and be a Texas resident or eligible to pay resident tuition;
- Enroll in college no more than two years after graduating from high school; and
- Submit an application to a Texas public university for admission before the institution's application deadline (check with the university regarding specific deadlines).
- Students admitted through this route may still be required to provide SAT or ACT scores, although these scores are not used for admissions purposes. Students must also take the THEA test, unless exempted from the test requirement. Check with the admissions office regarding THEA, SAT, and ACT requirements.

After a student is admitted, the university may review the student's high school records to determine if the student is prepared for college-level work. A student who needs additional preparation may be required to take a developmental, enrichment, or orientation course during the semester prior to the first semester of college. Admission to a university does not guarantee acceptance into a particular college of study or department.

The university may review your final transcript to verify you have graduated in the top 10% of your class. If you are not longer in the top 10%, the university will notify you of your admissions status.

## Academic Achievement (Class Ranking)

La Joya ISD, 108912

Date Issued: 8/24/2009, LDU 2009.03, EIC (LOCAL) – X

<b>Grade Point Average</b>	Effective for all students in the 2009-10 school year, a student's grade point average (GPA) shall be calculated by determining the average of all final semester numerical grades in designated classes through the fifth six-week grading period of the senior year.
<b>Courses Used in GPA Calculation</b>	Effective for grade 9 students in the 2009-10 school year, for purposes of calculating a student's GPA, the District shall use only the following grades calculated through the fifth six-week grading period of the senior year: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Grades earned in the four core areas; that is English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies, including Economics;</li> <li>2. Grades earned in Foreign Languages;</li> <li>3. Grades earned in AP, Pre-AP, and Dual Enrollment courses in the Core Areas only, and</li> <li>4. Grades earned through credit by examination in Core Area courses and in Foreign Languages.</li> </ol>
<b>General Provisions</b>	When a student repeats a course as a result of a failing grade in a core subject or foreign language and passes the course, only the passing grade earned shall be averaged for GPA purposes. Courses that are more than one block long and extended courses shall be provided the number of credits awarded by TEA. The academic achievement record (transcript) shall carry the final grade point average.
<b>Courses Taken Prior to Grade 9</b>	Grades earned in designated high school courses taken in middle school that are used to meet graduation requirements shall be used to calculate grade point average and determine class rank.
<b>Transfer Credits</b>	For students transferring into the District, if the sending district uses letter grades, the conversion shall be as follows: A+ = 98, A = 95, A- = 91, B+ = 88, B = 85, B- = 81, C+ = 79, C = 77, C- = 75, D+ = 74, D = 72, D- = 70 Pass = 80 / Fail: 65
<b>Weighted GPA</b>	Rank in class shall be calculated by totaling the weighted points attained and dividing by the number of course credits used to compute the GPA through the end of the fifth six-week grading period of the graduating year.
	Weighted grade points (WGP) shall consist of the semester grade multiplied by the appropriate weight ratio. Weights shall be assigned to courses designated within the categories below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Basic (Special Education: FLS, DLS only) and local credit courses – 5</li> <li>2. Special Education and Resource – 6</li> <li>3. Academic – 7</li> <li>4. Pre-Advanced Placement – 8</li> <li>5. Advanced Placement / Dual Enrollment – 9</li> </ol> The courses offered shall be set out in the District's course offering document made available to all students. Eligible courses shall include all designated courses taken during the regularly designated school year, as well as summer and evening courses. For courses provided by other public school institutions or by institutions of higher education, including correspondence courses, the weights shall be assigned as

	<p>determined by the providing institution.</p> <p>The administration, in consultation with department heads, shall determine the appropriate weight for all courses based on the level at which the course is taught and appropriate Board policy. Only courses for which there is an Advanced Placement exam may be considered for AP weight. Pre-AP weight may be designated by the administration in consultation with the appropriate department. Dual enrollment courses that produce transferable college credit shall be awarded the AP weight. Dual enrollment courses that do not produce transferable college credit shall be awarded the Pre-AP weight. Credits earned through correspondence courses, credit by examination, and distance learning courses taken for high school credit shall be awarded the academic weight. Tex-Prep (Texas Pre-Freshman Engineering Program) courses shall count as high school elective credits and shall be awarded the Pre-AP weight. Tex-Prep articulated courses may be used as measures under the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program.</p> <p>The final weighted grade points shall be calculated to three decimal points.</p> <p>The academic achievement record (transcript) shall carry the rank in class beside the final grade point average.</p>
<p><b>Honor Graduates</b></p>	<p>The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the two graduating students with the highest class rank in the graduating class. The valedictorian and the salutatorian shall have been enrolled in the same District high school for the past two years or four semesters, excluding summers, prior to graduation.</p> <p>Should a tie exist for valedictorian after all the students' class ranks have been computed, two or more valedictorians shall be declared. After the valedictorian(s) have been designated, the person(s) who came in second shall be designated salutatorian(s). After the valedictorian and salutatorian, all other students shall be ranked accordingly.</p> <p>The top ranking ten percent of graduates shall be determined from the senior peak enrollment plus potential graduates from the District high school and the alternative center for education.</p> <p>A potential graduate is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A first-time junior who has signed the graduation contingency plan.</li> <li>2. A repeating junior who will meet graduation requirements.</li> </ol> <p>The top two percent (of the senior peak enrollment plus potential graduates) shall be designated as "summa cum laude."</p> <p>The next three percent (of the senior peak enrollment plus potential graduates) shall be designated as "magna cum laude."</p> <p>The next five percent (of the senior peak enrollment plus potential graduates) shall be designated as "cum laude."</p>

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# NCAA FRESHMAN-ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS QUICK REFERENCE SHEET

## KNOW THE RULES:

### Core Courses:

**NCAA Division I requires 16 core courses as of August 1, 2008.** This rule applies to any student first entering any Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2008. See the chart below for the breakdown of this 16 core-course requirement.

**NCAA Division II requires 14 core courses.** See the breakdown of core-course requirements below. Please note that Division II will require 16 core courses beginning August 1, 2013.

### Test Scores:

**Division I** has a sliding scale for test score and grade-point average. The sliding scale for those requirements is shown on page two of this sheet.

**Division II** has a minimum SAT score requirement of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes **only** the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used.

The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a **sum** of the four sections on the ACT: English, mathematics, reading and science.

**All SAT and ACT scores must be reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center by the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used. When registering for the SAT or ACT, use the Eligibility Center code of 9999 to make sure the score is reported to the Eligibility Center.**

### Grade-Point Average:

Only core courses are used in the calculation of the grade-point average.

**Be sure** to look at your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses on the Eligibility Center's Web site to make certain that courses being taken have been approved as core courses. The Web site is [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)

<b>DIVISION I 16 Core-Course Rule</b>	<b>DIVISION II 14 Core-Course Rule</b>
<p><b><u>16 Core Courses:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 years of English.</li> <li>3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).</li> <li>2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).</li> <li>1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.</li> <li>2 years of social science.</li> <li>4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or nondoctrinal religion/Philosophy).</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>14 Core Courses:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 years of English.</li> <li>2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).</li> <li>2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).</li> <li>2 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.</li> <li>2 years of social science.</li> <li>3 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or nondoctrinal religion/Philosophy).</li> </ul>

**PLEASE NOTE:** Beginning August 1, 2013, students planning to attend an NCAA Division II institution will be required to complete 16 core courses.

# SENIOR CALENDAR

ACT Test

SAT Test

<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="7">August 2009</th></tr> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	August 2009							S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit your GO CENTER for college admissions information</li> <li>• Visit with your school counselor and check for missing credits</li> <li>• Update your graduation plan with your school counselor</li> <li>• Begin a file for each of the colleges you will be applying to. Make a list of application requirements (essays, transcripts, etc) and DEADLINES for each and Keep in your "Graduate Portfolio".</li> <li>• Apply for Social Security #, if you don't already have one</li> <li>• Document your involvement in extracurricular activities and community service.</li> </ul>
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### December 2009

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- Finish application process. Most college applications are due in December and January.
  - Register / Take SAT or ACT (last time)
  - Visit the GO CENTER for financial Aid information
  - Apply for FAFSA PIN # ([www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)) Application for Federal Student Aid (your parents will a PIN # too)
  - Start gathering information for your FAFSA application. You can file as early as January 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Secure letters of recommendation
- Keep "Graduate Portfolio" organized

### January 2010

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- Have parents complete income tax forms as early as possible (financial aid purposes)
  - Begin FAFSA filing process at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
  - Check with universities & colleges about additional financial aid application forms and requirements
  - Visit your campus GO CENTER or School Counselor for information on Financial Aid Workshops.
  - Verify applications have been received by colleges by calling their admissions office
  - Attend Financial Aid Information Meetings
- Register for ACT

### February 2010

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- Follow up on FAFSA Application
  - Review Student Aid Report (SAR) making sure information is correct
  - Respond quickly to college requests for additional information
  - Keep completing scholarship applications
  - Visit the GO CENTER or your school counselor for additional information regarding scholarships.  
READ MONTHLY SCHOLARSHIP NEWSLETTER.
  - Review Estimated Family Contribution
- Attend Financial Aid Night/Fair

### March 2010

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- Check mail for admissions letters and financial aid awards
- Compare admissions offers
- If on wait list, notify admissions office of your interest
- REMEMBER TO notify your counselor of any scholarships you receive including those from the colleges and universities you apply to.
- Also notify your counselor of your acceptance letters from colleges and universities.

April 2010						
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- Most colleges and universities ask that you choose your school by May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Verify that the college or university you have chosen has all your testing information, transcripts, & Financial Aid information.
  - Notify the school you will be attending and submit your commitment letter to them.
  - Notify, in writing, the schools you have decided not to attend.
  - Keep completing scholarship applications
  - Look for summer job or internship
- Register for Advanced Placement (AP) tests, if necessary

May 2010						
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- Make sure you have received the necessary forms for housing, health insurance, financial aid, etc...
- Have final transcripts sent to your new school.
- Double-check any final deadlines for housing, financial aid, etc...
- Notify your college or university of private scholarship awards
- Sign and return financial aid award letters from college chosen

June 2010						
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- Attend Graduation Ceremonies

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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# JUNIOR CALENDAR

ACT Test

SAT Test

August 2009						
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- Listen to announcements for college visits and sign up in the GO CENTER or with your counselor
- Make appointment with counselor to make sure schedule meets college entrance requirements and for a “credit check” to make sure your “graduation requirements” are in order.
- Look into Concurrent Enrollment possibilities with STC and/or UTPA
- Take Algebra II, Geometry, or Pre-Calculus
- Register to take PSAT in October
- Join clubs and participate in community service activities
- Register with [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) for scholarship opportunities

September 2009						
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- Apply for Social Security #, if you don't have one
- Begin working on resume. Don't forget to list all your activities including extra curricular and community service.
- Visit GO CENTER for college and university information
- Register for THEA test
- Register for ACT
- Sign up and review for the PSAT in October  
Always listen to announcements to sign up for college visits and/or college representatives on campus.

October 2009						
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- Take PSAT for National Merit Scholar recognition
- Visit GO CENTER for university & college information
- Register to take THEA test  
Listen to announcements to visit with college representatives on campus.

November 2009						
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- Look at applying for Concurrent Enrollment/Dual Enrollment courses at UTPA or STC
- Visit your counselor to make sure your second semester schedule is correct
- Organize your college brochures and materials in a “Graduate Portfolio”
- Arrange college visits (on your own or with your parents)
- Register for ACT

December 2009						
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- Review PSAT results.
  - Register for Spring ACT ([www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)) or SAT ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com))
  - Begin to think about what type of college you prefer (private or public (far away or close to home))
  - Visit colleges over the break (if you can).
- Register for the spring ACT or SAT. These tests should be taken once in the Spring semester of your Junior year and once in the Fall semester of your Senior year.

January 2010						
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- Visit GO CENTER for scholarship information
  - Research all scholarship opportunities
  - Begin to research all financial aid opportunities
  - Continue to explore different colleges and universities
- Register for ACT

February 2010						
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- Think about teachers to write letters of recommendations for you
- Visit GO CENTER for scholarship information
- Register (if you haven't) for Spring ACT ([www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)) or SAT ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com))
- Visit colleges campuses if you can
- Check with counselors office for college visit opportunities

March 2010						
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- Sign up for AP exams.
  - Visit college campuses over Spring Break (if possible)
  - Research additional information from the colleges or universities that interest you.
- Register for ACT / SAT

April 2010						
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- Complete concurrent enrollment applications
- Visit college campuses
- Listen to announcements for trips and sign up in counselors office
- Register for ACT / SAT

May 2010						
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- Register for ACT
- Register for summer college programs
- Register for college visit programs
- Visit college campuses
- Register for concurrent enrollment and /or dual enrollment classes
- Participate in community service activities to build up your resume
- Request admissions, housing, and financial aid information / applications from your top college choices.
- Review deadlines for applications
- Begin writing “drafts” to your college application essays.

June 2010						
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27	28	29	30			

- Participate in a Summer Program at a college campus
- Visit as many college campuses as possible
- Continue to request or download information from your top college choices.
- Review deadlines for all applications

From [www.surescore.com](http://www.surescore.com)

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Texas Common Application

The ApplyTexas Application for freshman admission can be used to apply to any Texas public university. It is available on-line at [www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org) where it can be completed and submitted electronically.

- The application booklet has a page showing the admission requirements, application procedures, and major codes. The information outlines the parts you must complete, the application deadline, the application fee, and the documents you must submit. You will also find helpful telephone numbers, e-mail address, mailing address, and other information, such as scholarship and financial aid application deadlines, and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) code for the university.
- If you plan to apply to more than one university, you need the codes for each school. Fill out the application once, leaving the university and major codes blank. Then copy it and fill in the name of the university and the major you plan to pursue. Send to each university.
- Keep your original to use to apply to other universities. If you have any questions about your application, please contact the university or your school counselor.
- Notes:

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**See Next Page for a listing of some of Texas Colleges and Universities**

<b>Admissions Offices / College or University</b>	<b>Telephone &amp; Fax</b>	<b>Web Site Address</b>
<b>Angelo State University,</b> San Angelo, TX	Phone: 800-946-8627 Fax: 325-942-2078	<a href="http://www.angelo.edu">www.angelo.edu</a>
<b>Lamar University</b> Beaumont, TX	Phone: 409-880-8888 Fax: 409-880-8463	<a href="http://www.lamar.edu">www.lamar.edu</a>
<b>Midwestern State University</b> Wichita Falls, TX	Phone: 800-842-1922 Fax: 940-397-4672	<a href="http://www.mwsu.edu">www.mwsu.edu</a>
<b>Prairie View A&amp;M University</b> Prairie View, TX	Phone: 936-261-1000 Fax: 936-857-2699	<a href="http://www.pvamu.edu">www.pvamu.edu</a>
<b>Sam Houston State University</b> Huntsville, TX	Phone: 866-232-7528 Fax: 936-294-3758	<a href="http://www.shsu.edu">www.shsu.edu</a>
<b>Stephen F. Austin State University</b> Nacagdoches, TX	Phone: 936-468-2504 Fax: 936-468-3849	<a href="http://www.sfasu.edu">www.sfasu.edu</a>
<b>Sul Ross State University</b> Alpine, TX	Phone: 432-837-8050 Fax: 432-837-8431	<a href="http://www.sulross.edu">www.sulross.edu</a>
<b>Sul Ross State University – Rio Grande College</b> Eagle Pass, TX	Phone: 830-773-8794 Fax: 830-773-8996	<a href="http://www.sulross.edu">www.sulross.edu</a>
<b>Tarleton State University</b> Stephenville, TX	Phone: 800-687-8236 Fax: 254-968-9951	<a href="http://www.tarleton.edu">www.tarleton.edu</a>
<b>Texas A&amp;M International University</b> Laredo, TX	Phone: 956-326-2270 Fax: 956-326-2269	<a href="http://www.tamiu.edu">www.tamiu.edu</a>
<b>Texas A&amp;M University</b> College Station, TX	Phone: 979-845-3741 Fax: 979-458-1808	<a href="http://www.tamu.edu">www.tamu.edu</a>
<b>Texas A&amp;M University – Commerce</b> Commerce, TX	Phone: 903-886-5081 Fax: 903-886-5888	<a href="http://www.tamu-commerce.edu">www.tamu-commerce.edu</a>
<b>Texas A&amp;M University – Corpus Christi</b> Corpus Christi, TX	Phone: 361-825-2624 Fax: 361-825-5887	<a href="http://www.tamucc.edu">www.tamucc.edu</a>
<b>Texas A&amp;M University at Galveston</b> Galveston, TX	Phone: 877-322-4443 Fax: 409-740-4731	<a href="http://www.tamug.edu">www.tamug.edu</a>
<b>Texas A&amp;M University – Kingsville</b> Kingsville, TX	Phone: 361-593-2315 Fax: 361-593-2195	<a href="http://www.tamuk.edu">www.tamuk.edu</a>
<b>Texas A&amp;M University – Texarkana</b> Texarkana, TX	Phone: 903-223-3069 Fax: 903-223-3140	<a href="http://www.tamut.edu">www.tamut.edu</a>
<b>Texas Southern University</b> Houston, TX	Phone: 713-313-7071 Fax: 713-313-7471	<a href="http://www.tsu.edu">www.tsu.edu</a>
<b>Texas State University – San Marcos</b> San Marcos, TX	Phone: 512-245-2364 Fax: 512-245-9020	<a href="http://www.txstate.edu">www.txstate.edu</a>
<b>Texas Tech University</b> Lubbock, TX	Phone: 806-742-1480 Fax: 806-742-0062	<a href="http://www.ttu.edu">www.ttu.edu</a>
<b>Texas Woman’s University</b> Denton, TX	Phone: 866-809-6130 Fax: 940-898-3081	<a href="http://www.twu.edu">www.twu.edu</a>
<b>The University of Texas at Arlington</b> Arlington, TX	Phone: 817-272-6287 Fax: 817-272-3435	<a href="http://www.uta.edu">www.uta.edu</a>
<b>The University of Texas at Austin</b> Austin, TX	Phone: 512-475-7399 Fax: 512-475-7478	<a href="http://www.utexas.edu">www.utexas.edu</a>
<b>The University of Texas at Brownsville</b> Brownsville, TX	Phone: 956-882-8295 Fax: 956-882-7810	<a href="http://www.utb.edu">www.utb.edu</a>
<b>The University of Texas at Dallas</b> Richardson, TX	Phone: 800-889-2443 Fax: 972-883-6803	<a href="http://www.utdallas.edu">www.utdallas.edu</a>
<b>The University of Texas at El Paso</b> El Paso, TX	Phone: 915-747-5890 Fax: 915-747-8893	<a href="http://www.utep.edu">www.utep.edu</a>
<b>The University of Texas – Pan American</b> Edinburg, TX	Phone: 956-381-8872 Fax: 381-2687	<a href="http://www.utpa.edu">www.utpa.edu</a>
<b>The University of Texas of the Permian Basin</b> Odessa, TX	Phone: 866-552-UTPB Fax: 432-552-3605	<a href="http://www.utpb.edu">www.utpb.edu</a>
<b>The University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX</b>	Phone: 800-669-0919	<a href="http://www.utsa.edu">www.utsa.edu</a>
<b>The University of Texas at Tyler, Tyler Texas</b>	Phone: 903-566-7202 Fax: 903-566-7068	<a href="http://www.go2uttyler.com">www.go2uttyler.com</a>
<b>University of Houston-Main Campus</b> Houston, TX	Phone: 713-743-1010 Fax: 713-743-7542	<a href="http://www.uh.edu">www.uh.edu</a>
<b>University of Houston – Clear Lake</b> Houston, TX	Phone: 281-283-2500 Fax: 281-283-2522	<a href="http://www.uhcl.edu">www.uhcl.edu</a>
<b>University of Houston – Downtown</b> Houston, TX	Phone: 713-221-8522 Fax: 713-221-8157	<a href="http://www.uhd.edu">www.uhd.edu</a>



1. Adelphi University	197. New England College
2. Agnes Scott College	198. New School University - Eugene Lan
3. Albion College	199. New York Institute of Technology
4. Albright College	200. New York University
5. Alfred University	201. Newbury College
6. Allegheny College	202. Niagara University
7. American University	203. Nichols College
8. Amherst College	204. Northeastern University
9. Arcadia University	205. Northland College
10. Assumption College	206. Northwestern University
11. Augsburg College	207. Notre Dame de Namur University
12. Augustana College - Illinois	208. Oberlin College
13. Augustana College - South Dakota	209. Occidental College
14. Austin College	210. Oglethorpe University
15. Babson College	211. Ohio Northern University
16. Baldwin-Wallace College	212. Ohio Wesleyan University
17. Bard College	213. Oklahoma City University
18. Barnard College	214. Pace University
19. Bates College	215. Pacific Lutheran University
20. Belmont University	216. Pacific University
21. Beloit College	217. Pepperdine University
22. Bennington College	218. Philadelphia University
23. Bentley University	219. Pitzer College
24. Berry College	220. *Plymouth State University
25. Birmingham-Southern College	221. Polytechnic Institute of New York
26. Boston College	222. Pomona College
27. Boston University	223. Presbyterian College
28. Bowdoin College	224. Prescott College
29. Bradley University	225. Princeton University
30. Brandeis University	226. Providence College
31. Brown University	227. Quinnipiac University
32. Bryant University	228. Randolph College
33. Bryn Mawr College	229. Randolph-Macon College
34. Bucknell University	230. Reed College
35. Burlington College	231. Regis College
36. Butler University	232. Regis University
37. Cabrini College	233. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
38. California Inst of Technology (Caltech)	234. Rhodes College
39. California Lutheran University	235. Rice University
40. Canisius College	236. *Richard Stockton College of New J
41. Carleton College	237. Rider University
42. Carnegie Mellon University	238. Ringling College of Art & Design
43. Carroll College (Montana)	239. Ripon College
44. Case Western Reserve University	240. Rochester Institute of Technology
45. The Catholic University of America	241. Roger Williams University
46. Cazenovia College	242. Rollins College
47. Cedar Crest College	243. Rosemont College
48. Centenary College of Louisiana	244. Russell Sage College
49. Centre College	245. Sacred Heart University
50. Champlain College	246. Sage College of Albany
51. Chapman University	247. Saint Anselm College
52. Chatham College	248. St. Bonaventure University
53. Claremont McKenna College	

54.	Clark University	249.	St. Catherine University
55.	Clarkson University	250.	St. Edward's University
56.	Coe College	251.	Saint Francis University
57.	Colby College	252.	St. John Fisher College
58.	Colby-Sawyer College	253.	Saint Joseph's College
59.	Colgate University	254.	Saint Joseph's University
60.	The College of Idaho	255.	St. John's University (College of S
61.	College of Mount Saint Vincent	256.	St. Lawrence University
62.	*The College of New Jersey	257.	Saint Leo University
63.	College of New Rochelle	258.	Saint Louis University
64.	College of St. Benedict (St. John's Univ	259.	Saint Mary's College of California
65.	College of the Atlantic	260.	Saint Mary's College of Indiana
66.	College of the Holy Cross	261.	Saint Mary's University of Minne
67.	*College of William & Mary	262.	Saint Michael's College
68.	College of Wooster	263.	St. Norbert College
69.	Colorado College	264.	St. Olaf College
70.	*Colorado State University	265.	Saint Peter's College
71.	Columbia College Chicago	266.	St. Thomas Aquinas College
72.	Concordia College - New York	267.	Saint Vincent College
73.	Connecticut College	268.	Salem College
74.	Converse College	269.	Salve Regina University
75.	Cornell College	270.	Santa Clara University
76.	Cornell University	271.	Sarah Lawrence College
77.	Creighton University	272.	Scripps College
78.	Curry College	273.	Seattle Pacific University
79.	Daemen College	274.	Seattle University
80.	Dartmouth College	275.	Seton Hall University
81.	Davidson College	276.	Seton Hill University
82.	Denison University	277.	Sewanee: The University of the S
83.	DePauw University	278.	Siena College
84.	Dickinson College	279.	Simmons College
85.	Dominican University of California	280.	Skidmore College
86.	Dowling College	281.	Smith College
87.	Drake University	282.	Southern Methodist University
88.	Drew University	283.	Southern New Hampshire Univ
89.	Drexel University	284.	Southwestern University
90.	Duke University	285.	Spelman College
91.	Earlham College	286.	Spring Hill College
92.	Eckerd College	287.	Stanford University
93.	Elizabethtown College	288.	*SUNY Binghamton University
94.	Elmira College	289.	*SUNY Buffalo State College
95.	Emerson College	290.	*SUNY College at Brockport
96.	Emmanuel College	291.	*SUNY College at Geneseo
97.	Emory University	292.	*SUNY College at Oneonta
98.	Erskine College	293.	*SUNY College of Environmental
99.	Fairfield University	294.	*SUNY Cortland
100.	Fisk University	295.	*SUNY Fredonia
101.	Florida Southern College	296.	*SUNY New Paltz
102.	Fordham University	297.	*SUNY Oswego
103.	Franklin & Marshall College	298.	*SUNY Plattsburgh
104.	Franklin Pierce University	299.	*SUNY Purchase College
105.	Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering	300.	*SUNY Stony Brook University
106.	Furman University	301.	*SUNY University at Albany

107. George Fox University	302. *SUNY University at Buffalo
108. The George Washington University	303. Stetson University
109. Gettysburg College	304. Stevens Institute of Technology
110. Gonzaga University	305. Stevenson University
111. Goucher College	306. Stonehill College
112. Green Mountain College	307. Suffolk University
113. Grinnell College	308. Susquehanna University
114. Guilford College	309. Swarthmore College
115. Gustavus Adolphus College	310. Sweet Briar College
116. Hamilton College	311. Syracuse University
117. Hamline University	312. Texas Christian University
118. Hampden-Sydney College	313. Thiel College
119. Hampshire College	314. Thomas College
120. Hanover College	315. Transylvania University
121. Hartwick College	316. Trinity College
122. Harvard College	317. Trinity University
123. Harvey Mudd College	318. Tufts University
124. Haverford College	319. Union College
125. Hendrix College	320. University of Chicago
126. Hillsdale College	321. University of Dallas
127. Hiram College	322. University of Dayton
128. Hobart & William Smith Colleges	323. *University of Delaware
129. Hofstra University	324. University of Denver
130. Hollins University	325. University of Findlay
131. Hood College	326. University of Great Falls
132. Hope College	327. University of LaVerne
133. Illinois College	328. *University of Maine
134. Illinois Institute of Technology	329. *University of Maine at Farmingt
135. Illinois Wesleyan University	330. *University of Maine at Machias
136. Immaculata University	331. *University of Mary Washington
137. Iona College	332. *University of Massachusetts
138. Ithaca College	333. *University of Massachusetts Bost
139. John Carroll University	334. *University of Massachusetts Dart
140. Johns Hopkins University	335. *University of Massachusetts Lo
141. Juniata College	336. University of Miami
142. Kalamazoo College	337. University of New England
143. *Keene State College	338. *University of New Hampshire
144. Kenyon College	339. University of New Haven
145. Keystone College	340. University of Notre Dame
146. King's College	341. University of Pennsylvania
147. Knox College	342. University of Portland
148. La Salle University	343. University of Puget Sound
149. Lafayette College	344. University of Redlands
150. Lake Erie College	345. *University of Rhode Island
151. Lake Forest College	346. University of Richmond
152. Lasell College	347. University of Rochester
153. Lawrence Technological University	348. University of San Diego
154. Lawrence University	349. University of San Francisco
155. Lees-McRae College	350. University of Scranton
156. Lehigh University	351. *University of Southern Maine
157. LeMoyne College	352. University of Tampa
158. Lesley College	353. University of the Pacific
159. Lewis & Clark College	354. University of Tulsa

160. Linfield College	355. *University of Vermont
161. List College, The Jewish Theological Seminary	356. *University of Virginia
162. Long Island University - C.W. Post Campus	357. Ursinus College
163. Loyola Marymount University	358. Utica College
164. Loyola University Maryland	359. Valparaiso University
165. Loyola University New Orleans	360. Vanderbilt University
166. Luther College	361. Vassar College
167. Lycoming College	362. Villanova University
168. Lynn University	363. Virginia Wesleyan College
169. Macalester College	364. Wabash College
170. Manhattan College	365. Wagner College
171. Manhattanville College	366. Wake Forest University
172. Marietta College	367. Washington & Jefferson College
173. Marist College	368. Washington and Lee University
174. Marlboro College	369. Washington College
175. Marquette University	370. Washington University in St. Lou
176. Marymount Manhattan College	371. Webster University
177. Maryville College	372. Wellesley College
178. Maryville University of St. Louis	373. Wells College
179. Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health	374. Wentworth Institute of Technolo
180. McDaniel College	375. Wesleyan University
181. Menlo College	376. Westminster College - Missouri
182. Mercyhurst College	377. Westminster College - Pennsylv
183. Meredith College	378. Westminster College - Utah
184. Merrimack College	379. Wheaton College
185. *Miami University (Ohio)	380. Wheelock College
186. Middlebury College	381. Whitman College
187. Mills College	382. Whittier College
188. Millsaps College	383. Willamette University
189. Moravian College	384. William Jewell College
190. Morehouse College	385. Williams College
191. Mount Holyoke College	386. Wilson College
192. Mount St. Mary's College	387. Wittenberg University
193. Muhlenberg College	388. Wofford College
194. Naropa University	389. Worcester Polytechnic Institute
195. Nazareth College	390. Xavier University
196. *New College of Florida	391. Yale University

\*Denotes Public Institution

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS – PAN AMERICAN ADMISSION CHECKLIST  
UTPA school code - 003599

- Complete & submit Texas Common Application online at ([www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org)) Computers and assistance available at **GO Center**
  - **Note:** UTPA will no longer accept paper applications
- Submit ACT or SAT scores
- Submit THEA or ACCUPLACER scores
- Submit high school transcript reflecting updated information.
- Submit final high school transcript. Your final transcript will be ready after graduation.
- Request college transcripts to be sent (for any dual/concurrent enrollment courses)
- Submit the 2010-2011 UTPA “Excellence / Departmental” Scholarship Application.
  - Application Deadline January 04, 2010
  - Award Notification March 2010
- Pay deposit to reserve seat for new student orientation
  - Mandatory for all new students; contact (956) 381-3541
- Attend orientation
  - New Freshman will register for classes at orientation
- Pay classes for your classes
  - Review your bill & payment options @ [www.assist.utpa.edu](http://www.assist.utpa.edu)
- Print class schedule before classes begin

**Visit UTPA website for additional information at**  
**[www.utpa.edu](http://www.utpa.edu)**

## SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE ADMISSION CHECKLIST

STC school code - 031034

- Complete & submit Texas Common Application online at ([www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org)) Computers and assistance available at **GO Center**
- Submit THEA or ACCUPLACER or COMPASS scores or determine if you are eligible for exemption.
- Submit high school transcript reflecting updated information.
- Submit final high school transcript. Your final transcript is available after graduation.
- Request college transcripts to be sent (for any dual/concurrent enrollment courses)
- Attend Orientation on Campus where you will be assigned a temporary advisor to plan your schedule.
- Use the Advisement Form to select courses from the current STC course schedule. Complete the registration worksheet included in the Admissions Packet and register at campus kiosks, online, by phone or in person.
- Pay tuition and fees and buy your books at campus bookstore.
- Print class schedule before classes begin

**Visit STC website for additional information at**  
**[www.southtexascollege.edu](http://www.southtexascollege.edu)**

## TSTC ADMISSIONS CHECKLIST

**Texas State Technical College has an open-door admissions policy that encourages everyone to pursue their dream of a quality, affordable education.**

- You can apply online at [www.harlingen.tstc.edu](http://www.harlingen.tstc.edu) or You may also complete a paper application and Mail to:
  - TSTC Harlingen, Office of Admissions & Records,  
1902 North Loop 499, Harlingen, TX 78550.
- Submit THEA or ACCUPLACER scores
- Submit high school transcript reflecting updated information.
- Submit final high school transcript. Your final transcript is available after graduation.
- Meet with an Academic Advisor to register for classes
- Pay for your classes
- Print schedule before classes begin.

**Visit TSTC website for additional information at  
[www.harlingen.tstc.edu](http://www.harlingen.tstc.edu)**

## ARMED FORCES

Education and training opportunities are offered in all branches of the armed forces. Look out for recruiters on campus throughout the year. Visit the **GO CENTER** at your high school.

United States Army  
2625 North 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Ste. 200  
McAllen, TX 78501  
(956) 682-6141

United States Air Force  
2625 North 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Ste. 300  
McAllen, TX 78501  
(956) 687-3541

Marine Recruiting Station  
2625 North 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Ste. 400  
McAllen, TX 78501  
(956) 631-3356

Navy Recruiting Station  
2625 North 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Ste. 500  
McAllen, TX 78501  
(956) 687-7127

# CONCURRENT & DUAL ENROLLMENT

UTPA & STC offer programs for students to earn college credit while still in high school

## UTPA

Students qualify for the UTPA Concurrent Enrollment program if one of the following pre-requisite is met:

- Ranked in Top 10% of class OR
  - Have 90 or above GPA in academic courses OR
  - Score 23 composite on ACT (1070 SAT composite)
- OR meet minimum TSI scores in addition to the following scores

	Reading	Writing	Math
THEA	230	240	260
ACCUPLACER	78	80/5 or 6	70
COMPASS	81	59/6	NA
ASSET	41	40/6	NA
ACT	34 English + Rdg	24 English	20
TAKS	2200/3 ELA	2200/3 ELA	Na

Students must also complete admission application, provide transcripts, and take THEA exam.

## STC

Students qualify for the STC Dual Enrollment Program if they:

- Submit THEA scores, OR
- Submit ACT, SAT, or TAKS scores indicating exemption from THEA with the following scores:
  - ACT – 23+ Composite:      19+ English and 19+ Math
  - SAT – 1070+ Composite:    500+ Verbal and 500+ Math
  - Exit TAKS – 2200 English    2200 Math, 3 Writing
  - ACCUPLACER – 80/Essay 6, 68 Math, 78 Reading

## FINANCIAL AID

- Complete FAFSA online at the GO CENTER. Award covers Fall, Spring & Summer
- **Fastest way to submit FAFSA is online ([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov))**
- Sign FAFSA. Print signature page, sign it, and mail it. If you are a dependent student, both you and parent must sign and mail signature pages.
- **Signatures can also be done electronically by applying for a Federal PIN # at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)**
- Find out your college's priority deadline for applying for financial aid.
- Contact college financial aid office and make sure it receives all information needed
- You will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) summary. Review it carefully and make corrections if necessary. Students can quickly and easily correct or update information using FAFSA on the Web. If needed, submit corrections online.
- The college will review your SAR and put together a financial aid package to offer you (via an award letter)
- Sign and return award letter, IF you accept the offer. If not accepting, notify college immediately so that it can be offered to another applicant.

### Things to remember...

- If you enter a wrong Social Security #, you will be required to complete a new FAFSA application with correct SSN.
- A student must have a social security number to apply for federal student aid. If the student submits a FAFSA without a SSN, the FAFSA will be returned to the student unprocessed.
- To get a SSN, or to determine a student's SSN if the card has been lost, the student must contact the local Social Security Office. For additional information (in English and Spanish), call the SSA at 1-800-772-1213.
- Answer question 24 (your grade level) on the FAFSA. You will need to make a correction if you leave it blank.
- **To avoid mistakes and delays in processing, it is crucial that students and parents carefully read and follow all directions on the FAFSA.**
- You must apply for financial aid each year since personal financial situations change yearly. Always keep copies of forms submitted.

# **FINANCIAL AID FAIR**

## **Transmittal Night**

### **ITEMS TO BRING**

- 2009 Federal Tax Return or other income documentation – IRS Form 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ or foreign tax return (If you will be attending Summer Session I, June 2009, you must bring your 2008 Federal Tax Return)
- Social Security Number
- Driver's License (if any)
- 2009 W-2 Forms or year-end pay stubs, and other year-end records of wages received
- 2009 untaxed income records – Social Security, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, Welfare, or Veterans Benefits records
- 2009 business and investment mortgage information, business and farm records, stock, bond, and other investment records
- Alien Registration Card (if not a U.S. citizen)
- Your PIN and your parents' PIN
- Listen to announcements for the dates for “transmittal nights”

## Financial Aid Glossary Terms

<b>COA</b>	Cost of Attendance: amount of money that it will cost for a student to attend a particular college; usually includes: tuition and fees, room and board, transportation, and miscellaneous personal expenses.
<b>EFC</b>	Expected Family Contribution: amount a student and his/her family is expected to pay toward the student's cost of attendance; based on results of the FAFSA.
<b>FAFSA</b>	Free Application for Federal Student Aid: needed for students to apply for government money for college; information needed is student's demographic information, family size, number of family members in college, and the income of parents and student.
<b>Financial Aid Package</b>	Financial aid award to a student comprised of a combination of different types of financial aid (loans, grants, scholarships, work-study).
<b>Grants</b>	Based on financial need; Do Not have to be paid back.
<b>Loans</b>	Money that either you or your parents borrow for college education; <b>MUST</b> be paid back.
<b>Merit-Based Scholarships</b>	Money awarded based on achievement in high school; You Do Not have to pay back.
<b>Need-Based Scholarships</b>	Money awarded based on family income (need); You Do Not have to pay back.
<b>Pell Grant</b>	The amount you receive is based on your family size, family income, number of household members in college; awarded using a formula determined by the US Department of Education; the FAFSA is used to apply for this grant.
<b>CSS/Financial Aid Profile</b>	Financial aid application used by many colleges and universities to award non federal student aid funds.
<b>Renewal FAFSA</b>	FAFSA used in the years after the 1 <sup>st</sup> FAFSA is completed; student only provides information that requires updating (ex: current income tax year information).
<b>SAR</b>	Student Aid Report; summary of all information provided on the FAFSA; sent to student once FAFSA has been processed by the U.S. Department of Education.
<b>Texas Grant</b>	May be awarded to students who graduate from a Texas high school under the Recommended or Distinguished Achievement Program.
<b>Verification</b>	Process in which the college the student plans to attend may ask for documents to verify his /her information provided on the FAFSA.
<b>Work-Study</b>	Part-time employment program that allows students to work (either on or off campus) to make money to pay college expenses.

# USEFUL INFORMATION / WEBSITES

## College Admissions Applications

ApplyTexas Application  
Common Application

[www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org)  
[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

## Financial Aid / Scholarships

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)  
[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)  
[www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)  
[www.collegefortexans.com](http://www.collegefortexans.com)  
[www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)  
CSS Profile: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.adventuresineducation.org](http://www.adventuresineducation.org)  
[www.salliemae.com](http://www.salliemae.com)  
[www.students.gov](http://www.students.gov)  
[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)  
[www.scholarshipamerica.org](http://www.scholarshipamerica.org)  
[www.nasfaa.org](http://www.nasfaa.org)

## Testing

ACT  
SAT  
THEA

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)  
[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)  
[www.thea.nesinc.com](http://www.thea.nesinc.com)

## Test Preparation

[www.kaplan.com](http://www.kaplan.com)  
[www.review.com](http://www.review.com)  
[www.testprep.collegefortexas.com](http://www.testprep.collegefortexas.com)  
[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

## Searching for the Right College

[www.adventuresineducation.org](http://www.adventuresineducation.org)  
[www.anycollege.com](http://www.anycollege.com)  
[www.collegent.com](http://www.collegent.com)  
[www.collegeexpress.com](http://www.collegeexpress.com)  
[www.texasmentor.org](http://www.texasmentor.org)

[www.collegefortexans.com](http://www.collegefortexans.com)  
[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)  
[www.collegview.com](http://www.collegview.com)  
[www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)  
[www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com)

## Careers

[www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com)  
[www.careers.org](http://www.careers.org)  
[www.mapping-your-future.org](http://www.mapping-your-future.org)  
<http://texasscholars.lifeafterhighschool.org>

**You should never pay a fee for any financial aid or scholarship information.  
Have fun searching for your college information on the web.**

La Joya ISD  
201 East Expressway 83  
La Joya, TX 78560

I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge I have received the La Joya ISD Junior/Senior Handbook. I understand this handbook will help me in my journey to post secondary education. I will keep and use this handbook as a guide throughout this school year. I also understand I can go to my counselor if I have any questions regarding the college application and/or financial aid application process.

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Signature

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ID#

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Date

#### Disclaimer

This Junior/Senior handbook provides students and parents with the necessary information for making decisions about post secondary education requirements. However, it is strongly recommended all students consult with their high school counselors, during the school year, for updated information. We also recommend that students check with the admissions office of each university / college of their choice for specific admissions requirements and deadlines. If you need further information or assistance, please contact the counseling department at each of the district's high schools.

La Joya Independent School District  
Student Services / Guidance & Counseling Dept.  
If you have questions regarding this handbook, please contact  
Myriam Tellez, Guidance & Counseling Coordinator  
(956) 580-5000