



Texas GEAR UP Educator College-Prep Checklists

12th GRADE

APPLYING FOR COLLEGE

- ❑ **Ensure seniors are very aware of the importance of planning and managing deadlines in the college process.**

RESOURCES

- <https://www.texasgearup.com/hub/college-prep-tools>
- <https://www.nacacfairs.org/learn/apply/preparing-for-college-senior-checklist/>
- <https://www.texasgearup.com/dates-deadlines/admissions>

- ❑ **Provide information to students on the college admissions process and the different types of college applications.**

RESOURCES

- <https://www.nacacfairs.org/learn/apply/parts-of-a-college-application/>
- https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c_start.WBX
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/applying-101/applying-to-college-faq>

- ❑ **Assist seniors with their college essays (which is often what they consider the most difficult part of their applications).**

RESOURCES

- <https://www.nacacfairs.org/learn/apply/EssayTips/>
- <https://www.khanacademy.org/college-careers-more/college-admissions/applying-to-college/admissions-essays/v/writing-a-strong-college-admissions-essay>
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays/tips-for-writing-an-effective-application-essay-college-admissions>
- <http://blog.collegegreenlight.com/blog/write-great-personal-statement/>
- <http://www.collegegrazing.com/essay-guide>
- <https://www.petersons.com/graduate-schools/graduate-personal-statement.aspx>

- ❑ **Make sure first-generation students have support to navigate the college-planning process.**

RESOURCES

- <https://imfirst.org/>
- <https://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/first-generation-college-students/>
- <https://blog.collegevine.com/resources-for-first-generation-college-applicants/>

SELECTING A COLLEGE

- ❑ **Familiarize seniors with the different types of admission decisions.**

RESOURCES

- <https://www.khanacademy.org/college-careers-more/college-admissions/applying-to-college/college-application-process/v/early-vs-regular-decision>
- <https://www.campusexplorer.com/college-advice-tips/FC3F1C62/College-Admissions-Options-Early-Decision-Early-Action-Rolling-Regular/>
- <https://www.nacacfairs.org/learn/apply/early-to-rise-early-to-college-early-applications-in-the-admission-process/>
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/applying-101/the-facts-about-applying-early-is-it-right-for-you>

- ❑ **Provide information to students on how to compare and select colleges and the importance of college fit.**

RESOURCES

- <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>
- <http://comparecollegetx.com/>
- <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>
- <https://www.jkcf.org/our-stories/10-questions-to-help-you-determine-the-right-college-fit/>

- ❑ **Offer strategies to seniors who've been "waitlisted" by their top-choice college.**

RESOURCES

- <https://www.petersons.com/blog/what-the-waitlist-or-a-deferral-means-for-your-college-acceptance/>
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/making-a-decision/what-to-do-if-youre-wait-listed>
- <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/2017-04-13/how-to-get-admitted-off-a-college-waitlist-6-steps-for-success>

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

- ❑ **Ensure students understand that scholarships can help reduce loans and out-of-pocket expenses.**

RESOURCES

- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships>
- <https://www.khanacademy.org/college-careers-more/college-admissions/paying-for-college/modal/v/searching-for-scholarships>
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/grants-and-scholarships/the-basics-on-grants-and-scholarships>
- <https://www.usnews.com/education/scholarship-search-insider/articles/2018-03-15/7-types-of-scholarships-that-can-help-pay-for-college-graduate-school>
- <https://www.usnews.com/education/scholarship-search-insider/articles/2018-02-08/what-students-can-use-scholarship-money-for>

- ❑ **Familiarize seniors with how college costs are calculated and the role of financial aid in paying for school.**

RESOURCES

- https://www.texasgearup.com/public/content/Understanding_the_True_Cost_of_College.pdf
- <https://collegecost.ed.gov/>
- https://www.texasgearup.com/public/content/Strategies_for_Increasing_Financial_Aid.pdf

- ❑ **Provide information and guidance to students on completing the FAFSA or TASFA.**

RESOURCES

- https://www.texasgearup.com/public/content/Filling_Out_the_FAFSA_TASFA.pdf
- <https://www.aie.org/get-ready-for-college/paying-for-college/financial-aid-101/quick-tips-completing-fafsa/>

- ❑ **Help seniors identify the college with the best financial fit by providing information on how to compare financial aid awards.**

RESOURCES

- <https://www.aie.org/get-ready-for-college/paying-for-college/comparing-financial-aid-awards/>
- <https://blog.ed.gov/2016/04/4-steps-understanding-comparing-financial-aid-offers/>
- https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/AwardLetterComparisonWorksheet2017_2.pdf

TRANSITIONING TO COLLEGE

- ❑ **Help students avoid summer melt by providing them with checklists to assist with the transition to college.**

RESOURCES

- <https://blog.ed.gov/2018/06/students-can-avoid-summer-melt/>
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/making-a-decision/you-made-your-college-choice-whats-next>
- <https://www.khanacademy.org/college-careers-more/college-admissions/wrapping-up/modal/v/making-the-transition>

- ❑ **Offer tips to students on how to budget while in college.**

RESOURCES

- <https://www.petersons.com/blog/make-college-cheaper/>
- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/prepare-for-college/budgeting/budgeting-tips>
- <https://www.texasgearup.com/hub/accepted-now-what-hub>

PREPARING FOR CAREER

- ❑ Share tips and advice on majors and careers students can use while in college.

RESOURCES

- <https://www.aie.org/life-after-college/starting-your-career/launching-job-search/>
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/majors-careers>
- <https://www.texasgearup.com/discover/explore>