

MCALLEN HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS 2015

My College Prep Workbook

All My College Questions Answered in One Spot

(Your Name Here)

(Your ID#)

Tips

- Keep this packet in a safe place. You will use it to navigate through the college application process.
- Questions? Ask your College Specialist – Ms. E. Ramos
- **Do not procrastinate! Keep up with all DEADLINES.**



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It is the policy of McAllen I.S.D. not to discriminate on the basis of sex, handicap, race, color or national origin in its educational or career and technology program activities or employment as required by Title IX, Section 504 and Title VI. The district will take steps to insure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission or participation in any educational or career and technology program.
El Distrito Escolar Independiente de McAllen no discrimina a ninguna persona por cuestiones de sexo, discapacidad, raza, color o nacionalidad en sus programas educativos de Carrera y tecnología, actividades o empleo, según lo requiere el Título, IX, Sección 504 y el Título VI, El distrito tomará las medidas necesarias para garantizar que la falta de destrezas en el idioma inglés no sea una Barrera para la admisión o participación en cualquier programa educativo o de Carrera y tecnología.

Username and Passwords

TOP SECRET



My College Access Card SENIOR CLASS of 2015



**Keep all your account information on this card. Keep this card in a safe place.
DO NOT LOSE YOUR ACCOUNT INFORMATION. YOU WILL NEED IT!**

| Website | | Username | Password |
|--|---|----------|----------|
| APPLICATIONS | | | |
| Apply Texas www.applytexas.org | Application used to apply to public & some private colleges in TEXAS. | | |
| Common Application www.commonapp.org | Application used to apply to most colleges in the United States. | | |
| COLLEGE PLACEMENT EXAMS | | | |
| SAT College Board www.collegeboard.com | The SAT/ACT are standardized tests for most college admissions in the United States. | | |
| ACT www.actstudent.org | | | |
| SCHOLARSHIPS | | | |
| Fastweb www.fastweb.com | Free online scholarship search service Create your account, fill out your profile and receive scholarships through your email. | | |
| Scholarships.com www.scholarships.com | | | |
| Scholarship Experts www.scholarshipexperts.com | | | |
| FINANCIAL AID | | | |
| PIN www.pin.ed.gov | Your PIN can be used each year to electronically apply for federal student aid & to access your Federal Student Aid records online. Your PIN serves as your electronic signature & provides access to your personal records, so you should never give your PIN to anyone, including commercial services that offer to help you complete your FAFSA. Be sure to keep your PIN in a safe place. | | |
| FAFSA www.fafsa.ed.gov | The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is the form used by the U.S. Department of Education to determine your Expected Family Contribution by conducting a "need analysis" based on financial information, such as income, assets and other household information, which you will be asked to provide. | | |
| ATHLETIC | | | |
| NCAA www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.org | Regulates athletes of 1,281 institutions, conferences, organizations, and individuals that organizes the <u>athletic programs</u> of many <u>colleges and universities</u> in the <u>United States and Canada</u> . | | |
| NAIA www.naia.org | NAIA is a governing body of small athletics programs that are dedicated to character-driven intercollegiate athletics. 13 sports and 23 national championships Close to 300 colleges and universities and conferences | | |

My College Checklist

- College Application** (You must create an account. Keep your account information.)
 - ✓ ApplyTexas: **www.applytexas.org**
 - ✓ The Common Application: **www.commonapp.com**
 - ✓ Individual School's Website: *EX. Our Lady of the Lake is www.ollu.edu*
 - ✓ Keep a tab on school's admission deadlines and their scholarship deadlines!
 - ✓ Be sure to enter ALL of your activities and work experience. Everything counts!
 - ✓ Is an essay required? A B C Other

- College Scholarship Applications**
 - ✓ Some colleges will have them on Apply Texas, along with their admissions application. Others will have different websites where you will find their scholarship application(s). Check with each college. **ADHERE TO DEADLINES!**

- SAT/ACT Scores**
 - ✓ You must register ONE MONTH before the test date.
 - ✓ When registering, sign-up to have your scores automatically sent to the universities. Sending them after you test?.....\$12 per college.
 - ✓ Send your scores to EVERY school receiving an application. Look under “**SEND MY SCORES**”.

- High School Transcript**
 - ✓ Official Transcript requested at the Registrar's Office (front office). Transcripts-\$1
 - ✓ Mail an official sealed transcript with EVERY college/scholarship application.

- College Transcript**
 - ✓ Did you take Dual Enrollment classes through STC here at McHi?
 - ✓ Did you take Concurrent Enrollment classes at UTPA?
If so, you must send every college you are applying to your college transcript. Request from STC/UTPA.

- College Application Fee Waiver**
 - ✓ If you used an ACT and/or SAT fee waiver, you are eligible for *application fee waivers*. ☺ You can request them from Ms. Ramos. Just make sure to send a fee waiver with every application by their **deadline!**

- Financial Aid Application**
 - ✓ Beginning Jan. 1st of every year, you need to fill out an application to get financial aid (money for college). This application is called the FAFSA. Go to **www.fafsa.ed.gov** (*some schools may require a CSS Profile. Visit Collegeboard.org for information*).
 - ✓ Submit no later than **MARCH 15th to EVERY COLLEGE** to get all the financial aid you can!

Sit back and wait for those acceptance letters ☺
Don't forget to apply for scholarships!

SENIOR CALENDAR

ACT TEST DATE

SAT TEST DATE

| <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">AUGUST 2014</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> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> | AUGUST 2014 | | | | | | | 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 | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit your GO CENTER for college admissions information. <input type="checkbox"/> Continue to research colleges/scholarships. <input type="checkbox"/> Take Pre-Calculus or Calculus and an Advanced Science class. <input type="checkbox"/> Begin a file for each of the colleges you will be applying to. Use College Tracking Sheet (page 9) <input type="checkbox"/> Continue your involvement in extracurricular activities. <input type="checkbox"/> Register for the ACT or SAT <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for a social security number, if you don't already have one. |
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| SEPTEMBER 2014 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| NOVEMBER 2014 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| DECEMBER 2014 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| JANUARY 2015 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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|---|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| FEBRUARY 2015 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| MARCH 2015 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| APRIL 2015 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| MAY 2015 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| JUNE 2015 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

ADAPTED FROM www.suresscore.com

NOTES:

The Entrance Exam

SAT or ACT: What's the difference?

| | SAT | ACT |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Type of Test | Aptitude; tests reasoning and verbal abilities (<i>tests your potential and test taking abilities</i>) | Achievement; tests what you learned in school (<i>tests what you already know</i>) |
| Length | 3 hours, 45 minutes | 3 hours, 25 minutes (<i>with writing</i>) |
| Subjects Covered | Critical Reading, Math, Writing | English, Math, Reading, Science, Writing |
| Structure | 10 short sections: 3 Critical Reading, 3 Math, 3 Writing, and 1 Experimental | 5 sections: English, Math, Reading, Science, Writing |
| Penalty for Wrong Answers? | Yes, $\frac{1}{4}$ point deducted for each wrong answer | No; if you don't know the answer to a question, GUESS! |
| Reading Sections | More of a focus on vocabulary Reading Comprehension Sentence Completion | More of a focus on grammar Reading Comprehension |
| Math Sections | Arithmetic Algebra Geometry Algebra II | Arithmetic Algebra Geometry Algebra II Trigonometry |
| Science Section | Not Applicable | Analysis Interpretation Evaluation Basic Content Problem Solving |
| Writing Section | Abstract topic: 25 minutes | Topic important to high school students; 30 minutes |
| Order of Questions | Easy questions first, harder later | Random order |
| Scoring | Score of 200-800 for each of the three subjects, additional score of 0-12 for writing prompt; Total score of 600-2400 (<i>add scores from each subject</i>) | 4 Scores of 1-36 for each section except score of 1-12 for the writing section; Total Score of 1-36 based on the average of the individual scores on each subject (<i>not including writing</i>) |

Keep in mind that most college and universities accept scores from both exams. It is in your benefit to test on both multiple times if needed. Remember, you are not just testing for admission purposes, but also for scholarships.



**MCALLEN HIGH SCHOOL
ACT/SAT TEST DATES
2014/1015**



- **ALL STUDENTS REGISTERING FOR THE ACT MUST REGISTER FOR THE ACT PLUS WRITING.**
- **MCALLEN HIGH SCHOOL CODE: 444-595**
- **FOR WAIVER AVAILABILITY, CHECK WITH MS. RAMOS.**
- **FOR ASSISTANCE, STOP BY THE GO CENTER.**

| Date of Test | Test | Register by | Get Scores By | |
|---------------|-------------------|--|---------------|---------|
| | | | Web | Mail |
| Sep. 13, 2014 | ACT | Aug. 8 (8/22 with late <u>fee</u>) | Sep. 29 | Oct. 4 |
| Oct. 11, 2014 | SAT & SAT Subject | Sep. 12 (9/30 with late <u>fee</u>) | Oct. 30 | Nov. 8 |
| Oct. 25, 2014 | ACT | Sep. 19 (10/03 with late <u>fee</u>) | Nov. 10 | Nov. 15 |
| Nov. 8, 2014 | SAT & SAT Subject | Oct. 9 (10/28 with late <u>fee</u>) | Nov. 25 | Dec. 6 |
| Dec. 6, 2014 | SAT & SAT Subject | Nov. 6 (11/24 with late <u>fee</u>) | Dec. 23 | Jan. 3 |
| Dec. 13, 2014 | ACT | Nov. 7 (11/21 with late <u>fee</u>) | Dec. 29 | Jan. 3 |
| Jan. 24, 2015 | SAT & SAT Subject | Dec. 29 (1/13 with late <u>fee</u>) | Feb. 12 | Feb. 21 |
| Feb. 7, 2015 | ACT | Jan. 9 (1/16 with late <u>fee</u>) | Feb. 23 | Feb. 28 |
| Mar. 14, 2015 | SAT only | Feb. 13 (3/3 with late <u>fee</u>) | Apr. 2 | Apr. 11 |
| Apr. 18, 2015 | ACT | Mar. 13 (3/27 with late <u>fee</u>) | May 4 | May 9 |
| May 2, 2015 | SAT & SAT Subject | Apr. 6 (4/21 with late <u>fee</u>) | May 21 | May 30 |
| June 6, 2015 | SAT & SAT Subject | May 8 (5/27 with late <u>fee</u>) | June 25 | July 4 |
| June 13, 2015 | ACT | May 8 (5/22 with late <u>fee</u>) | June 29 | July 4 |

Notes: Current U.S. registration fees are \$51 for the SAT, and \$52.50 for the ACT (*with writing*). Current U.S. registration fees for SAT Subject tests are \$24.50 per test date plus \$13 for each test scheduled. Current U.S. late fees are \$27.50 for the SAT and \$22 for the ACT.

**ACT REGISTRATION: www.actstudent.org
SAT REGISTRATION: www.collegeboard.com**

TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI)

What Is the TSI Assessment?

The TSI Assessment is a program designed to help your institution determine if you are ready for college-level course work in the general areas of reading, writing and mathematics. This program also will help determine what type of course or intervention will best meet your needs to help you become better prepared for college-level course work if you are not ready. If you are an incoming college student in Texas, you are required to take the TSI Assessment — unless you are already exempt (read below) — to determine your readiness for college-level work. Based on how you perform, you may either be enrolled in a college-level course that matches your skill level or be placed in the appropriate developmental course or intervention to improve your skills and prepare you for success in college-level courses.

Do I Have to Take the TSI Assessment?

Not all incoming students need to take the TSI Assessment. There are many ways you can be exempt. Qualifying for a TSI Assessment exemption means that you can enroll in any entry-level college course without restrictions. In other words, there are no prerequisites for enrollment in college-level courses. You may be exempt if you:

- Have met the minimum college readiness standard on **SAT, ACT** or a statewide **high school test**;
- Have successfully completed **college-level English and math courses**;
- Have enrolled in a **Level-One certificate program** (fewer than 43 semester credit hours);
- Are **not seeking a degree**; or
- Have been, or currently are, in the **military**.

| TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE CUT SCORES & EXEMPTIONS | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| New TSI Assessment Score | Course |
| Reading | |
| 310-350 | Developmental Education Coursework |
| 351-390 | College Level Reading Courses |
| Math | |
| 310-349 | Developmental Education Coursework |
| 350-390 | College Entry Level Math Courses |
| Writing | |
| Essay of 4 or less AND Multiple Choice of 310-362 | Developmental Education Coursework |
| Essay of 5 or Essay of 4 AND Multiple Choice of 363 or higher | College Level English Courses |
| OTHER EXEMPTIONS... | |
| ACT: Composite score of 23 & minimum of 19 on both English and Mathematics tests. | |
| SAT: Combined Verbal and Mathematics score of 1070 & minimum of 500 on each test. | |
| STAAR/EOC: Minimum combined score of 4000 on English II for Reading & Writing and Algebra I with a minimum score of 4000. | |
| South Texas College: http://studentservices.southtexascollege.edu/testing/ | |
| UTRGV: www.utpa.edu/step | |

Researching Colleges/Universities

Researching colleges will make your admissions process much easier. This will help you narrow your choices and will also help you formulate a timeline. Pay close attention to ALL deadlines. If you have any questions, Please see Ms. Ramos at the GO CENTER.

| | College 1 | College 2 | College 3 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Name: Address: Phone/Fax: Web Address: Representative: Email: | | | |
| APPLICATIONS | | | |
| Request info/application (Texas Common App/Common App/College App?) | | | |
| My program offered? | | | |
| Regular application deadline? | | | |
| Early Action/Early Decision deadline(s)? | | | |
| Safety? Match? Reach? | | | |
| GRADES | | | |
| Average GPA? (from previous admitted class) | | | |
| TEST SCORES | | | |
| Average SAT score? (from previous admitted class) | | | |
| SAT Subject Test(s) required? | | | |
| Average ACT score? (from previous admitted class) | | | |
| AP/DUAL CREDIT | | | |
| Will my AP/Dual credit(s) count as college credit? | | | |
| ESSAYS | | | |
| Essay(s) required? | | | |
| LETTERS of RECOMMENDATION | | | |
| Required? Recommenders? | | | |
| INTERVIEW | | | |
| Required? | | | |
| Alumni interview? | | | |
| FINANCIAL AID FORMS | | | |
| Priority financial aid deadline? | | | |
| Regular financial aid deadline? | | | |
| PROFILE needed? | | | |
| Special financial aid program offered based on parents/students financial earnings? | | | |
| SCHOLARSHIPS | | | |
| Merit based scholarships: SAT/ACT test scores needed? (most schools publish this information on their website. DIG!) | | | |
| Need based scholarships: Scholarships based on parent income? Average income amount to qualify? | | | |
| Departmental Scholarships available? (Specific to your area of concentration (major). | | | |
| HOUSING | | | |
| Living on campus required as a freshman? | | | |
| Cost of dorm? | | | |
| Housing deposit fee? | | | |

The Application and Essays

Where do I go? What do I do? Why, How, Huh?

www.applytexas.org

Are you staying in TEXAS?

Then it's Apply Texas for most of your application needs.

ESSAYS

Essay A:

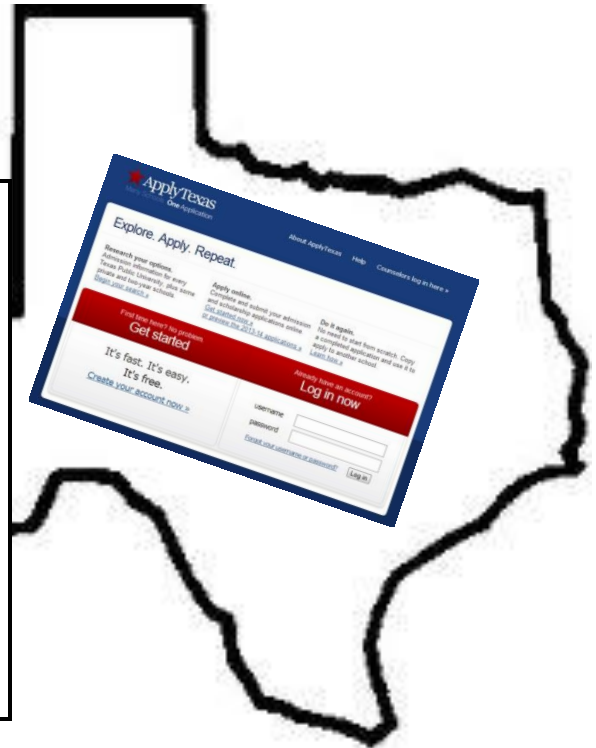
Describe a setting in which you have collaborated or interacted with people whose experiences and/or beliefs differ from yours. Address your initial feelings, and how those feelings were or were not changed by this experience.

Essay B:

Describe a circumstance, obstacle or conflict in your life, and the skills and resources you used to resolve it. Did it change you? If so, how?

Essay C:

Considering your lifetime goals, discuss how your current and future academic and extra-curricular activities might help you achieve your goals.



Applying Out-Of-State? Try the Common Application for your private, Ivy League, and out-of-state universities.

ESSAYS

Some students have a background or story that is so central to their identity that they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.

Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn?

Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?

Describe a place or environment where you are perfectly content. What do you do or experience there and why is it meaningful to you?

Discuss an accomplishment or event formal or informal that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family

APPLICATION TRACKING FORM: COLLEGE

Remember, deadline @ McAllen High School for ALL admission applications is DECEMBER 1st!

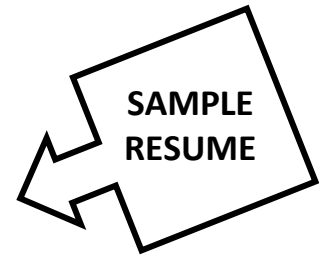
| COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY APPLICATION STATUS: <i>List date of completion under each section.</i> | COLLEGE 1 <u>UTRGV</u> APPLICATION DEADLINE: SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE | COLLEGE 2 APPLICATION DEADLINE: SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE | COLLEGE 3 APPLICATION DEADLINE: SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE | COLLEGE 4 APPLICATION DEADLINE: SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE | COLLEGE 5 APPLICATION DEADLINE: SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Application Submitted including required essays Applying Early Action/Early Decision? Check for earlier deadlines. | | | | | |
| Scholarship Application Submitted College scholarship | | | | | |
| ACT/SAT Scores Submitted SAT Subject Scores (if applicable) | | | | | |
| Application/ Fee/Waiver Sent Used ACT/SAT waiver? You are eligible for application fee waiver(s). Check in the Go Center. | | | | | |
| Official High School Transcript Submitted (after 6 th semester rank is available) | | | | | |
| College/University Transcript(s) Submitted (Dual Enrollment/Concurrent Enrollment) | | | | | |
| Resume Submitted (optional) Only if activities don't fit on application. List most important to least important. | | | | | |
| CSS/Financial Aid Profile Submitted Required by some colleges. Check with your colleges. | | | | | |
| Texas colleges only: TSI ASSESSMENT Check for exemptions through EOC, ACT or SAT | | | | | |
| Housing Application submitted w/fee | | | | | |
| Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Application submitted | | | | | |
| Final Transcript Submitted (after graduation) This transcript will reflect all your senior grades. | | | | | |

Building My Resume

What DID I Do?!

A resume should highlight your qualifications for the desired position, internship, scholarship, or application. Keep track of all your extracurricular activities, in and out of school, community service hours, employments, talents or awards. Make sure you tailor your resume to your audience and display your strengths.

Name
Address
Phone #
E-mail



College Major/ Career Goal:
(include this only if you have one)

Education

Aug. 2006- June 2010

High School Attended

G.P.A. (only if good)

High School Activities

10th –12th

Student Council, Member (10th-11th), President (12th—Elected)

- Organized special movement of seniors to tutor a variety of subjects to underclassmen.
- Represented the high-school in a “Student-Led Curriculum”

Leadership Consortium in Austin, TX.

10th – 12th

KHS Swim Team, Varsity Team Captain (12)

- Assist with the training of new members and help evaluate performance.

9th –12th

KHS Choir

- Performed at several venues within the district and traveled out of state for competitions.
- Received highest ratings in all school performance evaluations.

Community Service

2003-Present

Meals on Wheels Volunteer

4/wk

- Deliver 3-5 meals to senior citizens every Saturday throughout the year.

2001-2004

Church Youth Group

4/wk

- Coordinated over 100 youth members for a 2-week mission trip.

Work Experience

2003-Present

McBevo’s (Austin, Texas), Cashier

20/wk

- Take customer orders and prepare meals for drive-thru
- Manage day-shift crew and prepare weekly schedules.

2000-2002

Kirkwood Library

15/wk

- Helped organize books and periodicals, as well as assisted with special events, held monthly at the library.

Honors and Awards

11th

National Merit Semi-Finalist

9th -11th

Lamp of Learning Academic Achievement Award

- Awarded to all students with a 3.80 GPA or above.

10th-11th

Texas All State Choir

- School choir received highest ratings in all possible categories in state-wide evaluation.

Skills, Talents, and Achievements

Diving – Greenbriar Pool Dive Team (6 years)

MCALLEN HIGH SCHOOL LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

**Check with
your College
Specialist for
deadline!**

Please TYPE. Include all information on the **front** and **back** of this page only. All data will be released to committees reviewing applicants for scholarships or special programs. It is the student's responsibility to update form.

| NAME | | | | | |
|------|------|-------|--------|-----------|------------------------|
| | Last | First | Middle | ID Number | Social Security Number |

| ADDRESS | | | | | |
|---------|--------|------|-------|-----|--------------|
| | Street | City | State | Zip | Phone Number |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| MALE <input type="checkbox"/> | FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/> | DATE OF BIRTH: |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|

| College Preference: | | Career Interests |
|---------------------|----|------------------|
| 1) | 2) | 1) |
| 3) | 4) | 2) |

| FATHER'S | | MOTHER'S | |
|----------|------|------------|------|
| | NAME | OCCUPATION | NAME |
| | | OCCUPATION | |

| # OF CHILDREN (INCLUDING YOURSELF) IN FAMILY | | AGES | | # ATTENDING COLLEGE | |
|--|--|------|--|---------------------|--|
|--|--|------|--|---------------------|--|

| PARENT'S GROSS INCOME: | | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Check One | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30,000 and below | <input type="checkbox"/> \$31,000-\$50,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$51,000-\$70,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$71,000+ |

| SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, IF APPLICABLE | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
|--------------------------------------|--|

| RELIGION (Optional) | PARENT IS MEMBER OF: | PTSO | TCTA | ELKS | PARENT IS A VETERAN |
|---------------------|----------------------|------|------|------|---------------------|
| | | Y N | Y N | Y N | Y N |

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Parent is a Former McAllen ISD Graduate: Circle One: Yes or No | Parent's Name (while in High School): | Grad Year: | School Name: |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------|--------------|

| Elementary School Attended: |
|-----------------------------|
| |

| Middle School Attended: |
|-------------------------|
| |

Extracurricular Activities and Leadership Positions

| Organization Examples: <i>Speech Club</i> | Your Position/Year <i>Committee Chairperson</i> | Were you elected Yes/No | Level <i>Regional</i> | Description of Activities <i>Hosted Speech Tournament</i> | Hours Per Week/ Weeks Per Year | | | |
|---|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | | | <i>Fresh.</i> | <i>Soph.</i> | <i>Jr.</i> | <i>Sr.</i> |
| | | | | | <i>3/23</i> | <i>3/32</i> | <i>6/32</i> | <i>6/32</i> |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

Community or Volunteer Service

| Service or Volunteer Work Examples: <i>Habitat for Humanity</i> | Your Specific Role <i>Helped build houses</i> | From/To <i>5/01-5/02 & 6/01-8/02</i> | Total Hours <i>120 & 112</i> |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Talents/Awards/ Honors

| Talent/ Award/Honors Examples: <i>Voice, All -State Basketball Team</i> | Activity <i>Sang in high school choir, 1 of 5 in state chosen for first team</i> | Level <i>Regional State</i> | YEAR Received | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| | | | <i>Fresh.</i> | <i>Soph.</i> | <i>Jr.</i> | <i>Sr.</i> |
| | | | <i>X</i> | | <i>X</i> | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Employment/Internships/Summer Activities

| Name of Employer / Sponsor Examples: <i>HEB Grocery Store</i> | Job Title / Your Specific Role <i>Sacker: Sacked groceries, helped customers</i> | From/To <i>6/01 -5/02</i> | Hours Per Week <i>10</i> |
|--|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |

Write a 300-500 word essay. Considering your lifetime goals, discuss how your current and future academic and/or extra-curricular activities might help you achieve your goals.

Scholarship Applications

You should start... NOW! Where can you look?



School:

Try your GO CENTER.



MCALLEN HS MONTHLY SCHOLARSHIP BULLETIN:

IT'S ON EDMODO, MCHI WEBSITE, AND THE GO CENTER.



Outside Resources:

Fastweb

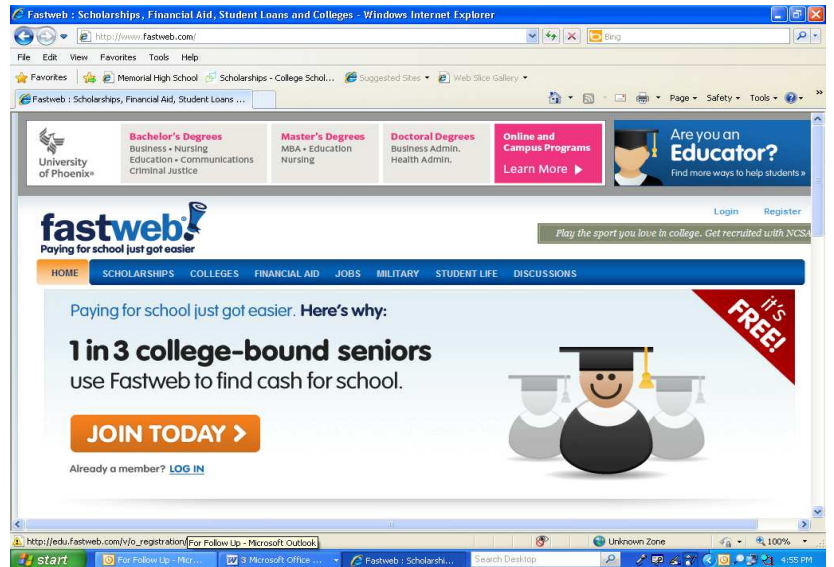
www.fastweb.com

Scholarships.com

www.scholarships.com

Popular Mega Scholarships:

- Terry Scholars (www.terryfoundation.org)
- Coca-Cola Scholars (www.coca-colascholarsfoundation.org)
- Dell Scholarship (www.dellscholars.org)
- Baumberger Scholarships (www.baumbergerendowment.com)
- HSF Scholarships (www.hsf.net)
- Gates Millenium Foundation Scholarship (www.gmsp.org)
- VAMOS (www.vamosscholars.org)
- STARS (www.starsscholarship.org)



Don't be afraid to think outside the box.

Tips

- Remember to avoid scams; you should **NEVER** pay for scholarship help. Check out the website below if your scholarship seems 'too good to be true.'

www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/scholarship/index.shtml

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS TRACKING FORM

| SCHOLARSHIP STATUS: <i>List date of completion under each section.</i> | SCHOLARSHIP 1 _____ | SCHOLARSHIP 2 _____ | SCHOLARSHIP 3 _____ | SCHOLARSHIP 4 _____ | SCHOLARSHIP 5 _____ |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| DEADLINE: _____ | DEADLINE: _____ | DEADLINE: _____ | DEADLINE: _____ | DEADLINE: _____ | DEADLINE: _____ |
| Application Submitted including required essays <i>(if applicable)</i> | | | | | |
| ACT/SAT Scores Submitted <i>(if required)</i> | | | | | |
| Official High School Transcript Submitted | | | | | |
| College/University Transcript(s) Submitted <i>(Dual Enroll/Concurrent Enroll)</i> | | | | | |
| Resume Submitted <i>(if applicable)</i> | | | | | |
| Teacher Letters of recommendation Self-Addressed Envelope w/stamp provided to teacher(s) OR Request sent to teacher through college/company to upload electronically | | | | | |
| Counselor Letters of recommendation Self-Addressed Envelope w/stamp provided to counselor OR Request sent to teacher through college/company to upload electronically | | | | | |
| FAFSA SAR (Financial Aid Student Aid Report) Submitted <i>(if required)</i> | | | | | |
| Other Documents as Required by specific scholarship | Document: _____ | Document: _____ | Document: _____ | Document: _____ | Document: _____ |

**Remember to continually apply for scholarships throughout your senior year.
 Need assistance? Stop by the Go Center.**

Developed by Maryiel Garcia

McAllen High School
 Registrar's Office
 2021 La Vista Avenue
 McAllen, TX 78501

MCHI BULLDOGS

RELEASE OF PUPIL INFORMATION

(In Compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974)

I request that a transcript of my grades, and any other records required, be released from Nikki Rowe High School so that schools, or employers may be more fully informed as to my personal character and qualifications for enrollment or employment.

This is to certify that any person(s) who may furnish such information shall not be held accountable for giving this information. This is not an authorization for release of information to a third party.

Student: _____ Grade: _____ Birth Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Today's Date: _____ Date of Graduation: _____

Student's Signature: _____

If the person above is under 18 years of age, the parent or guardian must sign.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____



City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

sign the
requesting

dy two

U MUST
sing.

write the
more

Code

TRANSCRIPTS???

When do I begin to send my transcript to colleges?

You will send transcripts to college(s) right after you receive Your 6th semester rank from our Registrar's Office which is usually at the beginning of September. Colleges & universities want to see your freshmen, sophomore and junior grades.

This is the transcript they will use, along with other documents, to evaluate you for admissions. You will need to send one to each college you are applying to.

REQUESTING A TRANSCRIPT?

Visit the *Registrar's Office (front office)*, pay \$1 (each), pick up your transcript two days after request was submitted.

FINAL TRANSCRIPT???

What is a "Final Transcript" and when do I send it?

A "Final Transcript" shows all your grades including your senior year grades. ***In May, you will request this transcript be sent to the college you will be attending.*** Our Registrar's Office will begin to mail them to colleges in June. You must graduate from high school before they can send them out.

Final Transcripts (per transcript) cost \$2.





**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY & UNIVERSITY
of TEXAS APPLICANTS!**

Deadline for **admissions** and **scholarship**
application AND ALL documents is DECEMBER
1ST. ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE IN THEIR
OFFICE.



COLLEGE APPLICATIONS/SCHOLARSHIPS

Begin to finalize your college applications. Remember, you must apply for scholarships specific to colleges you are applying to. Need help? See, call, text or email Ms. Ramos for assistance.



CHECK DEADLINES!

Use your tracking sheet (*in this packet-page 11*) to keep track of all documents you are sending to your colleges.



***Happy
Thanksgiving***



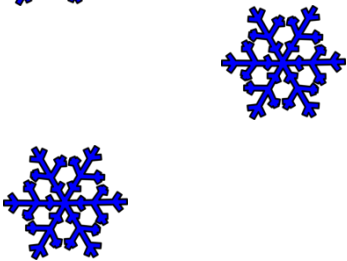
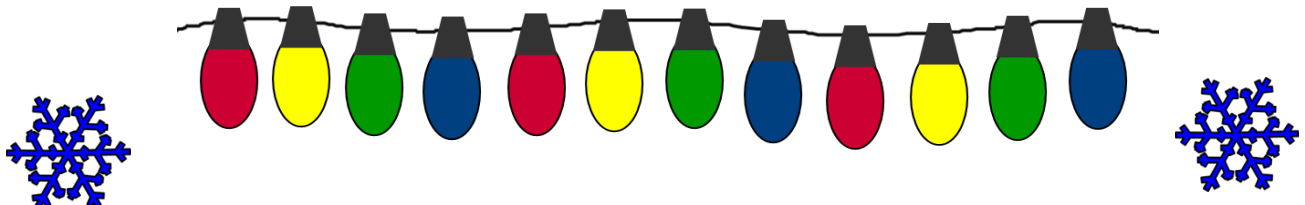
(No pumpkin pie till you APPLY!!)



Submit ALL of your college & college scholarship applications

 **by December 1st**
for a stress free Winter Break

**BUT REMEMBER, YOU MUST
CONTINUE TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS!**



**Happy
Holidays!**





Okay, Now Time for **FAFSA!**

**Remember, you can file your FAFSA
beginning January 1st of your senior year.
Just ask your parents to file their taxes
as soon as possible.**

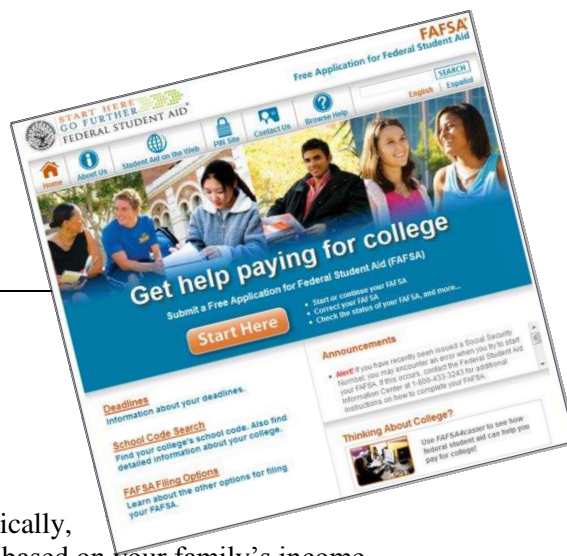
Priority deadline: March 15th!

(check your college/university deadline!)

FAFSA (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*)

What Is It and Why Do I Need It?

Begin as early as January 1st, just do it before March 1st!



What is FAFSA?

FAFSA is your Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Federal Student Aid, an office of the U.S. Department of Education, Ensures that all eligible individuals can benefit from federally funded financial assistance for education beyond high school. Basically, you are applying for money from the government to go to college based on your family's income.

Why is it so important?

FAFSA calculates an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) number for every family and student. It is a number, used by your college, to calculate the amount of federal student aid you are eligible to receive. The lower the number, the less you are expected to be able to pay.

Colleges and Universities use this number to decide how much financial aid (grants, work-study, federal loans, scholarships) to award you. Each college/university will have different amounts of financial aid they can give to students. Your FAFSA could mean the difference between going to college and not going to college.

What do I need before completing my FAFSA?

Before you file your FAFSA, you will need to apply for a PIN. This is a four-digit number you use as an electronic signature. **Both parents and students need a PIN** to sign their FAFSA after completing it online. Students are required to have a Social Security Number to file for a PIN and to apply for FAFSA, parents do NOT need to be citizens.

You will also need your parents' most recent income taxes. Parents should take care to file their taxes as early as possible so that you can submit a completed FAFSA as early as possible. Funds are on a first come first serve.

If you are unable to supply your parents' information, you may qualify to file as "independent"; double check with your counselor to see if you qualify. You must contact the financial office at your college and provide them with documentation to verify your situation.

How do I file my FAFSA?

Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov Begin your online application; submit your parents' and your information; Select the schools you want your FAFSA sent to (if they don't get your FAFSA, they can't give you financial aid); Have FAFSA get your tax information directly from the IRS; sign your FAFSA with your PIN. Wait for your Student Aid Report (SAR) which gives you your EFC number.

ALL SENIORS SHOULD COMPLETE THEIR FAFSA/TASFA APPLICATION REGARDLESS OF INCOME.

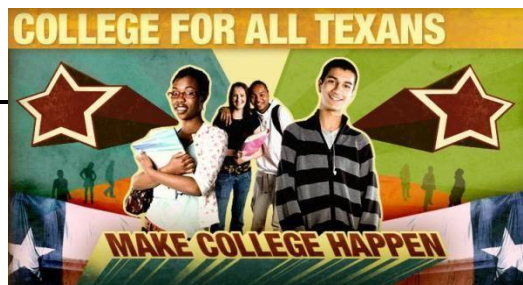
The TASFA: For Students Who Are NOT U.S. Citizens

Undocumented students (aka students who are NOT U.S. citizens) in Texas may still have an opportunity to receive financial aid. If you have lived in Texas for the three previous years leading up to college and graduated from a Texas high school, chances are you are eligible for Texas state financial aid. You will file what is called the TASFA, or the Texas Application for State Financial Aid.

The TASFA is completed on paper and mailed to institutions. Check with financial aid advisors at each college/university as they may require both the TASFA and the paper FAFSA.

Note, undocumented families may still file taxes without a Social Security Number. You are eligible for an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) used to file your taxes. Your report on the TASFA will be most accurate if you and your family file your income taxes. If you are paid “under the table,” you may have to submit a notarized account of your income to financial aid offices.

The paper TASFA is available at www.collegeforalltexans.com -> Apply -> Financial Aid.



Tips

- Remember you are filing your most recent taxes for the upcoming school year. For financial aid for the 2015- 2016, use your taxes from the year 2014.
- IF, your parents won't be filing until after March 1st, use your parents completed income taxes from a year ago. However, remember to make corrections after they have completed their most current income taxes.
- Always say “Yes” to being considered for work-study. This is an on-campus job funded by the government to help you pay for your college costs.
- If you input your own tax information, instead of allowing FAFSA to gather that information from the IRS, you may receive “verification forms,” which are used to verify the income information you supplied on your FAFSA. Turn these in as soon as possible, as your account will be put on hold until they are submitted.
- You will need to file your FAFSA **every year** to see if you are eligible for financial aid to help you pay for college. Keep track of your PIN!

*****Would you like to see an estimate amount of financial aid you could get from the University of your choice?**

Go to www.collegeforalltexans.com/apps/collegemoney

Your Admissions Acceptance Letter

Date: March 21, 2015

_____(Your Name Here)
 1227 Memorial St.
 San Antonio TX 78228

Dear _____ (Your Name Here):

Congratulations! You have been selected for admission for the Fall 2014 semester at the _____ (Dream University Here)! Your academic profile confirms your commitment to personal and educational growth. We are confident you will make a valuable contribution to the University's tradition of scholarship and service. This offer of admission requires that you successfully complete all current course work. You must also make arrangements for our receipt of your final high school transcript recording verification of your graduation.

Enclosed you will find an enrollment contract, along with instructions for accepting our offer of admission and completing the enrollment process. You must submit the enrollment contract on or before May 1, 2014. **We are proud to award you the Distinguished scholarship for \$10,000.** When you return your form, our Academic Advising Center will contact you and assist you in preparing your fall schedule. I, therefore, encourage an early response.

If you are seeking on-campus residence, the enclosed housing application must be returned to the Residence Department. Priority for room assignments is based on the date your housing application is received by the Residence Department.

On behalf of the entire University of Learning community, I extend a warm welcome and best wishes for your success. We appreciate your interest in the University and hope you share our enthusiasm about your future at the University of Learning.

Sincerely;

Amy Platt
 Director of Admissions

**ALL SENIORS
 MUST SUBMIT
ALL
ACCEPTANCE
AND AWARD
LETTERS TO
MS. RAMOS BY
 MAY 1ST.**

**Scholarship
 offer**

Your Financial Aid Award Letter

UNIVERSITY OF LEARNING
 FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTER

ID#: 00000009

Award Information
 Your awards are based on the information you reported on your Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Your eligibility for these awards may change if new information is received, including information we may receive with regard to your Satisfactory Academic Progress. The University of Learning reserves the right to adjust your awards.

Please read the Award Letter Guide, enclosed with your initial Award Letter. The Guide explains how to complete the financial aid process. Award information, the Guide, and terms and conditions for receiving aid at the University of Learning are online. You are responsible for understanding these terms and eligibility requirements.

Awards
 We are pleased to offer the following assistance for the upcoming academic year.

| | Fall | Spring | Summer | Total |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| Federal Pell Grant | \$1,150 | \$1,150 | \$0 | \$2,300 |
| Federal Perkins Loan | \$1,000 | \$1,750 | \$0 | \$2,750 |
| Federal Work Study Program | \$1,000 | \$1,000 | \$0 | \$2,000 |
| University of Learning Assistance Grant | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$0 | \$4,000 |
| University of Learning Assistance Grant | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$0 | \$1,000 |
| Direct Loan Subsidized | \$1,313 | \$2,187 | \$0 | \$3,500 |
| DC Tuition Assistance Grant Program | \$3,257 | \$3,257 | \$0 | \$6,514 |
| Other External Aid | \$750 | \$750 | \$0 | \$1,500 |
| Total: | \$10,470 | \$13,094 | \$0 | \$23,564 |
| Term Bill Credit (see Award Letter Guide) | \$5,444 | \$8,055 | \$0 | \$13,499 |

What To Do Next:
 Verify that accurate assumptions have been used to determine your awards. Carefully review and follow the instructions on the Data Changes Form. To reduce or decline all or part of your loans, you must complete and return the Data Change Form. We will assume you fully accept the awards above unless you submit changes to us immediately. Return corrections and required documents promptly. Retain this letter for your records.

**Additional
 Scholarship offers
 may be offered in
 your award letter.**

DECISION TIME

MAY 1ST

After you receive all of your award letters, you and your parents will need to make a decision as to where you will attend college. Understand your award letter before making a decision.

Need assistance, speak to Ms. Ramos.

Consider ALL scholarship offers as well.

Once you have decided, you will need to register for ORIENTATION. Use your college portal to register.

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS BY MAY 1ST TO MS. RAMOS SO THAT WE ARE SURE TO INCLUDE YOU IN THE SCHOLARSHIP & AWARDS CEREMONY AND THE GRADUATION PROGRAM.

Meningococcal Vaccine

Send your immunization record showing your meningitis vaccine. Visit your school nurse at McHi. They may have a record of your vaccine. If so, they will provide you with a copy.

ALWAYS KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Helpful College Resources

Information about Financial Aid

Guide to Federal Student Aid
www.studentaid.ed.gov/guide/

Fastweb
www.fastweb.com

FinAid
www.finaid.org

College Goal Sunday
www.collegegoalsundayusa.org

Mapping Your Future
www.mappingyourfuture.org

Federal Student Aid for Students
www.studentaid.ed.gov

FTC Project Scholarship Scam
www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams

Financial Aid Calculators
www.finaid.org/calculators

Financial Aid Applications

CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE
Profileonline.collegeboard.com

FAFSA
www.fafsa.ed.gov

FAFSA PIN Registration
www.pin.ed.gov

FAFSA 4Caster
www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov

Choosing a Major and Career

Bureau of Labor Statistics
www.stats.bls.gov

Occupational Outlook Handbook
www.bls.ov/oco

MonsterCollege
www.monstercollege.com

College Admissions & Testing

ACT (American College Testing)
www.actstudent.org

AP (Advanced Placement)
www.apcentral.collegeboard.com

SAT (Scholastic Assessment)
www.sat.collegeboard.org

Admissions Information
www.admissions.com

College Search
www.fastweb.com/college-search

College
www.college.gov

Sources of Aid

Scholarship Search
www.fastweb.com

Student Loans
www.studentloans.gov

Americorps
www.americorps.gov

General Information

Social Security Administration
www.ssa.gov

Selective Service
www.sss.gov

Study Abroad
www.studyabroad.com

U.S. Department of Education
www.ed.gov