



Junior Calendar

August

- Make sure you take classes that are as rigorous as you can handle. Take <u>Advanced Placement</u> (<u>AP</u>), and/or PreAP (Honors) classes. The level of difficulty of student coursework is one of the most important factors college admissions officers analyze when deciding on accepting applicants for admission.
- Continue to compete in contests, matches, and challenges. Earn honors and awards to build your student résumé (brag sheet). Consider participating in UIL Academic Teams and perhaps tryout for Academic Decathlon.
- Earn the best grades this year to have the highest possible GPA and class rank.
- Look for leadership roles in campus activities. Plan to be a leader in a few extracurricular activities this school year.
- Prepare to take the <u>TSI Assessment</u> to determine college readiness in October or November if you have not already. The TSI Assessment may be required for Dual Credit courses. Free Resources include: <u>TSI Web Based Study Guide College Board</u>) & <u>ACC TSI Test Prep (Austin CC)</u>.

September

- Check on your graduation plan for high school graduation and college admission. Take AP and PreAP courses. Check with your counselor on your progress and revise your plan as needed.
- Join groups and organizations that recognize high-achieving students. Joining organizations that
 require student members to earn excellent grades will look good on your college applications. See
 your counselor for instructions on membership. Begin looking at National Honor Society criteria.
- Take on leadership roles in some of your extracurricular activities. Leadership is one of the most valuable student qualifications sought by college admission officers.
- Register for the PSAT given in October.
- Prepare for the <u>PSAT</u> in October. Consider taking support classes to prepare for the PSAT with help from the MISD Partners for Excellence using Princeton Review. Look for Saturday Prep Classes at no cost to students. Juniors pay \$15 for testing.
- Prepare to take the <u>TSI Assessment</u> to determine college readiness in October or November if you have not already. The TSI Assessment may be required for Dual Credit courses. Free resources include: TSI Web Based Study Guide College Board) & ACC TSI Test (Austin CC).

October

- Take the <u>Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).</u> National Merit Qualifiers increase their odds greatly on getting into colleges with strict admission standards.
- Look for opportunities to take the <u>TSI Assessment</u>. The TSI Assessment may be required for Dual Credit courses offered. For list of courses and requirements, see <u>Midland College Dual credit</u> website.
- Attend College Forum in October at Midland College.
- Find testing dates for <u>SAT here</u>, and <u>ACT here</u>. Find out more about <u>SAT</u> and <u>ACT</u> testing. You may want to take these tests a couple of times this year.
- Keep thinking about your interests and possible college majors.
- Develop teacher and upperclassmen relationships. Plan to use teachers and older high school





students as mentors.

- Students use the TSI to acquire college-readiness skills to help succeed in college. It is required before entering a state college or university.
- Once you complete the TSI Assessment, you have immediate access to your individual score report, which gives you details on your test results. Use the score report to understand your academic strengths and areas for improvement.

November

- Research the types of colleges and universities you may wish to attend and discuss college costs with your parent(s).
- Learn about financial aid. Many scholarships are awarded based on your GPA, so do well in your coursework.
- Look to attend the UTPB summer bridge program.
- Look for opportunities to take the <u>TSI Assessment</u>. The TSI Assessment may be required for Dual Credit courses offered. For list of courses and requirements, see <u>Midland College Dual Credit</u> website.
- Once you complete the TSI Assessment, you have immediate access to your individual score report, which gives you details on your test results. Use the score report to understand your academic strengths and areas for improvement.
- Continue working on <u>Texas Scholars Hours</u>.

December

- Review your PSAT results. Identify areas of academic weakness. Work with your teachers, counselors, and parents to register for courses that will help improve your weak areas so you earn the highest scores possible on ACT and SAT tests you will take next year.
- Investigate summer programs for high school students. Start filling out application materials for programs you wish to attend.
- Do well on your final exams this semester. Earn the impressive grades needed for admission to college and to receive scholarships.
- Visit with high school friends who are home from college on winter break. Try to get an overall
 picture of what to expect from college life.

January

- Update your student resume (brag sheet). Include all accomplishments and activities from fall semester. Begin looking for teachers, employers, mentors and community members that you may ask to prepare a letter of recommendation for you. Prepare copies of your brag sheet for those that you ask for a letter of recommendation.
- Study hard this spring semester to earn top grades so you can have the highest possible GPA and class rank.
- Continue to develop respectful, hard-working relationships with your teachers. Good relationships result in superior letters of recommendations when you apply for college admission and scholarships.
- Continue participating in extracurricular activities both inside and outside of school. Dedicate yourself to a few extracurricular activities and work toward leadership positions.





February

- Prepare to register for senior level courses. Make sure to follow your four-year plan for high school graduation and college preparation. Sign up for the most AP and Dual Credit courses that you can handle. See your <u>counselor</u> for registration instructions and deadlines.
- Prepare to take AP tests in May.
- Look and listen for announcements for times and locations of sessions with college representatives. Visit with college representatives who come to school this spring. Read information and ask questions to see if their school may be a good fit for you.
- Look for opportunities to take the <u>TSI Assessment</u> if you have not already. The TSI Assessment may be required for Dual Credit courses offered. For list of courses and requirements, see <u>Midland College Dual credit website</u>.
- Once you complete the TSI Assessment, you have immediate access to your individual score report, which gives you details on your test results. Use the score report to understand your academic strengths and areas for improvement.
- BE PROFESSIONAL when visiting with all college representatives.

March

- Register for the SAT's. You should take Subject Tests in June. Register for the Reasoning test in May.
- Register for the ACT in April.
- Consider asking your family to visit campuses of colleges you would like to attend. Begin with local two year and four year universities.
- Prepare to add to your student resume (brag sheet) with summer jobs and college summer bridge experiences.
- Instruction now will prepare you for the STAAR/EOC US History test. Students must pass <u>five STAAR/EOC tests</u> in order to graduate.
- Begin the process now if you are interested in attending a United States Military Academy.
 - o <u>Army</u>
 - o Navy
 - o Air Force
 - o Coast Guard

April

- High GPA's open college admission doors.
- Become a candidate and run for office in your elective and extracurricular classes. Look at student council and other prominent organizations to become a part of.
- Continue to research career options and consider possible college majors.
- Continue to research colleges of your choice. Do not narrow or limit yourself to just a few. Find at least eight colleges to begin looking at admissions.

May

- All <u>AP tests</u> are this month.
- Prepare to take SATs next month.
- Do well on your STAAR/EOC US History test this month.
- Do well on your final exams.





- Take action to insure you will receive excellent recommendations from teachers, counselors and coaches. Say goodbye before you leave school for the summer and demonstrate some of the personal qualities college admission officers are seeking - be engaged and caring.
- Update your brag sheet to include junior year activities and accomplishments.
- If you want to play collegiate sports, take the steps necessary to increase your eligibility. Begin looking at the NCAA Eligibility Center.
- Parents should plan to help your student with the college preparation and admission process over the next two years. Get informed and help with the important decisions ahead.
- Campaign for a leadership position in organizations or clubs you will be involved with next year (become a club president, run for class office, create and lead a new club, be the student leader in a community organization, etc.).

June-July

- Attend Dawg Days at MHS, Rebel Muster at LHS or Summer Bridge at ECHS@MC. Get your parking, schedule, ID and "stuff" taken care of now.
- Take the SATs and/or the ACT during the summer.
- Attend summer school to get ahead.
- Attend summer bridge programs.
- Update your brag sheet with all sophomore activities, awards, honors etc.
- Continue working on Texas Scholars Hours
- Begin working on <u>Legacy Scholarship Hours</u>. Use the <u>correct form</u> to track your hours.
- Visit at least two college campuses you are interested in.

It is always good to be reminded, criminal convictions, poor credit, poor driving record and/or drug/alcohol use now could have a negative effect on career plans and/or college admission in the future.