



# Just for Juniors

## Class of 2025

KHS Counseling Center



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# What are we covering?

- Graduation Requirements
- Junior Timeline
- Testing Information
- Post-Secondary Options
- College Visits
- Scholarship Opportunities



# What are we Not covering?

- Application Information
- Ordering Transcripts
- Essays
- Recommendation Letters

**Why aren't we covering this information? Because we don't want you to get overwhelmed...**





# But where can I find this information?

If you are ready to tackle the information you need for your senior year, or are interested in finding out more, go to the [Keller ISD CCMR page](#)

Home About KISD Students & Families Get Involved Board of Trustees **Departments** Career Opportunities Staff

**COLLEGE, CAREER & MILITARY READINESS**

- College, Career and Military Readiness Home
- ACT/SAT/TSI Resources
- Advanced Placement, Dual Credit & OnRamps
- AVID
- Career Exploration
- Checklists
- College Applications
- College Searches
- College Visits
- FAFSA, TASFA & Financial Aid
- High School Course Guide

**COLLEGE, CAREER AND MILITARY READINESS HOME**

All students should graduate from high school ready for college, careers, the military, or any future they choose in life. College- and career-ready graduates should be able to enter and succeed in entry-level post-secondary classes without the need for remediation.

Keller ISD is committed to focusing on cutting-edge, rigorous, and relevant education that prepares our students for post-secondary learning as well as a wide range of high-wage, high-demand careers. We offer sixty-one programs of study, thirty of which are Career and Technical Education, or CTE, programs. Throughout the progression of each program, students learn relevant skills that may lead to a future career choice and/or path towards a college degree.

Our goal is to prepare our graduates to pursue a future of their choosing and successfully enter our global society.

**DISTRICT CONTACTS**

**Bodie Carroll**  
Director of Career & Technology Education  
817-743-8043

**Kristen Elam**  
Director of District Counseling Programs  
817-743-8075

**CAMPUS & CCMR COACH LINKS**

Just for Juniors



# Social Media

Find us on Facebook and Twitter! We post information about upcoming events and information about registration, college, financial aid, and scholarships.



**Keller High Counselor Corner**



**@Counseling\_KHS**

**@Keller\_go**





# Social Media

Speaking of Social Media...

Did you know that admissions personnel monitor applicant's Social Media accounts?

Did you know that they can rescind your acceptance?

**Watch your social media posts including pictures!**



# Graduation Requirements

<b>English (4 Credits)</b>	<b>Math (4 Credits)</b>	<b>Science (4 Credits)</b>	<b>Social Studies (4 Credits)</b>
English I English II English III English IV	Algebra I Geometry Algebra II 4 <sup>th</sup> Math	Biology Chemistry/Physics* Advanced Science Advanced Science	World Geography World History U.S. History Government (0.5) Economics (0.5)

Most classes have the option of Honors or AP. English III, English IV, Pre-Calculus, U.S. History, Government, and Economics have a Dual Credit option.



# Graduation Requirements

World Language	Fine Arts (1 Credit)	PE (1 Credit)	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Skill (0.5 Credit)	Electives
2 Credits of the Same World Language  Ex: German I and German II	Art Band Choir Dance Theater	PE Adventures in Outdoor Education Partner PE Athletics PE Substitution (Band/Cheer Indianettes, etc.)	Professional Communications or Entrepreneurship	Must have 4 credits in the Endorsement Area*

**\*During your junior conference, you will review your Endorsement and Endorsement Classes.**



# STAAR-End of Course Exams

- English I-probably completed
- English II-probably completed
- Algebra I-probably completed
- Biology-probably completed
- **United States History—Spring 2024**



Let's talk about KHS students in  
college...



# College Choice = College Completion

- Did you know that 74% of KHS seniors attend a four year college right after high school?
- Within the first 2 years post-high school, 16% of our students attend 2 year college!
- Most of the other 10% (an average of about 70-100 of our seniors) go to technical schools or the U.S. Military or start college within 2 years of high school graduation.





# College Choice = College Completion

- 84% of all KHS graduates who attended college right after high school return for their sophomore year of college!
- However...only 65% of KHS graduates graduate from college in 6 years.



# College Choice = College Completion

Why is that? Research shows that students who choose their university carefully and make the best choice based on academics, experience, and amenities are the students who complete college within 6 years.

## **College Choice = College Completion**



College Choice = College Completion

- College Navigator
- Big Future



# Junior Timeline

1. Credit and Transcript Evaluation
2. Create a Personal File and Résumé
3. Ask Yourself, “What do you want to do after Keller High?”
4. Consider Post-Secondary Options
5. SAT/ACT
6. Research Schools/Research Requirements
7. Visit Schools
8. NCAA Eligibility Center (if applicable)



# Junior Checklist (from College Board)

- [KISD CCMR Site](#)

CollegeBoard Access

11<sup>th</sup> Grade

## College Planning: 11th Grade

Junior year marks a turning point. This is because for most students and families, it's when college planning activities kick into high gear. Here are some things you can do this year to stay on track for college.

### FALL

- Start with you:** Make lists of your abilities, social/cultural preferences, and personal qualities. List things you may want to study and do in college.
- Learn about colleges.** Look at their websites and find colleges at [bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search). Talk to friends, family members, teachers, and recent grads of your school now in college. List the college features that interest you.
- Resource check:** Visit the counseling office and meet the counselors there. Is there a college night for students and families? When will college representatives visit your school? (Put the dates in your calendar.) Examine catalogs and guides.
- At school, speak to your counselor about taking the PSAT/NMSQT<sup>®</sup>,** which is given in October. If you plan to ask for testing accommodations (because of a disability), be sure the College Board has approved your eligibility.
- Make a file to manage your college search, testing, and application data.** If appropriate (for example, if you're interested in drama, music, art, sports, etc.), start to gather material for a portfolio.
- Estimate your financial aid need.** Financial aid can help you afford college. Use the College Board's *Getting Financial Aid* and the financial aid calculator at [bigfuture.org](https://bigfuture.org) to estimate how much aid you might receive.



# Transcripts, GPAs, and Rank

- GPAs are recalculated every semester.
- Your GPA and rank will be recalculated at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester (really late Jan. 2024) and again at the end of this school year (June 2024).
- When you send off transcripts to the colleges, they will see your GPA and rank from the end of your JUNIOR year. You will be applying in the fall and will NOT have earned senior grades when you apply.





# Transcripts, GPAs, and Rank

- Your GPA will be recalculated at the midpoint of your senior year. Many colleges will want mid-year reports and WILL look at this updated GPA and rank as well as the classes you take your senior year.
- FINAL RANK locks at the end of the 3rd Quarter of the senior year. GPA NEVER LOCKS.
- KISD reports UNweighted gpa to colleges/universities.



# Create a Personal File and Resume

- Find a good spot in your house (a drawer, a bucket, a bin, etc.) to put all of the mail from colleges
- Create folders for each college, or consider one big folder for colleges that you are interested in.
- Create folders on your computer and in your email to save important email documents (you will get a LOT from email)



# Create a Personal File and Resume

## When writing your resume...

Include: academics, athletics, clubs, volunteer hours, and work experience.

Update your resume every semester so it is ready to go anytime.

## Order your resume:

By Activity, then

By Year

- Include amount of time for each activity.
- Include leadership positions.
- Include descriptions and duties for all activities.
- Include resumes when asking for recommendation letters.



# Ask yourself what you want to do after high school

- You don't have to know exactly what you're going to be now! It will help to know areas of interest such as “computers,” “health care,” etc.
- Take an interest inventory or an aptitude test (such as ASVAB) to help you see how your interests translate into careers.  
Here is a good list of Career Interest Surveys:  
[Career Interest Surveys](#)  
ASVAB (January 23, 2024) Registration: [Link](#)
- Shadow someone in the field to see if that's REALLY what you want to do.



# Consider Post-Secondary Options

## 2 Year College:

- A junior or community college that will allow you to earn an associate's degree with the core courses 4 year universities require.
- These schools also offer scholarships and financial aid.
- They are typically cheaper and a great way to transition to college life.
- Four year universities are much more accepting of transfer students – they only look at your college grades and do not look at your high school GPA/Rank/ACT-SAT scores, etc.
- Some have housing depending on the type and location of the school.
- Some also are “feeder” schools to larger, four year universities (Blinn-A&M, South Plains College – Texas Tech).



# Consider Post-Secondary Options

## 4 Year University:

- A college that will allow you to earn a bachelor's degree or higher.
- These schools offer scholarships and financial aid.
- They offer on-site housing.
- They have higher requirements for acceptance.
- They will have many options for majors and will specialize in certain areas.
- The first 2 years at a four year university will be spent working on the core curriculum and then the last 2 years will be spent working on classes in the major area.





# Consider Post-Secondary Options

## Trade/Technical Schools:

- Trade/technical schools offer programs and certificates in many areas that do not require associates or bachelors' degrees.
- Trade/technical schools do not usually have a core curriculum, students have classes related to the career choice only.
- Some trade/technical schools have on-site housing, but many do not.
- Check accreditation for trade/technical schools to ensure you are attending a quality school.

[www.tstc.edu](http://www.tstc.edu)

[www.uti.edu](http://www.uti.edu)



# Consider Post-Secondary Options

## U.S. Military:

- Talk to a recruiter for specific information on each branch of the U.S. Military. **Do not sign any paperwork without discussing your decision and choice with your parents.**
- Students can earn college credit while in the U.S. Military.
- The U.S. Military can pay for some or all of your college tuition.
- College ROTC programs can help you prepare for the U.S. Military while attending college.
- You must take the ASVAB Career Inventory Program and Test your junior or senior year to determine the type of job for you in the U.S. Military. [www.asvabprogram.com](http://www.asvabprogram.com)



# Consider Post-Secondary Options

## Workforce:

- You may decide to join the workforce immediately after you graduate from high school, but remember, it will be difficult to go back to school after you've taken a break.
- Depending on each job, you will be required to do some sort of training for each job.



# Research Colleges

- Go online and research specific degree requirements
- Research college application requirements and deadlines
- Research the area where the college is located
- Research the “Extras” of the college – dorms, activities, support systems, the career center, the Honors College, etc.
- Make a list of schools you want to visit
- Remember...the Newest, Prettiest building will be on the website.



# How to Maximize College Visits

**Here are things you shouldn't miss while visiting a college. Take a look at this list before planning campus trips to make sure that you allow enough time on each campus to get a sense of what the school—and the life of its students—is really like.**

- √ Take a campus tour.
- √ Have an interview with admissions officer.
- √ Get business cards and names of people you meet for future contacts.
- √ Pick up financial aid forms.
- √ Participate in a group information session at the admissions office.
- √ Sit in on a class of a subject that interests you.
- √ Talk to a professor in your chosen major or in a subject that interests you.
- √ Talk to coaches of sports in which you might participate.
- √ Talk to a student or counselor in the career center.
- √ Read the student newspaper.



# How to Maximize College Visits: Cont.

- √ Try to find other student publications—department newsletters, alternative newspapers, literary reviews.
- √ Eat in the cafeteria.
- √ Ask students why they chose the college.
- √ Wander around the campus by yourself.
- √ Read for a little while in the library and see what it's like.
- √ Ask students what they hate about the college.
- √ Ask students what they love about the college.
- √ Browse in the college bookstore.
- √ Walk or drive around the community surrounding the campus.
- √ Ask students what they do on weekends.
- √ Listen to the college's radio station.
- √ Try to see a dorm that you didn't see on the tour.





# NCAA Eligibility (Future Collegiate Athletes)

- Register with NCAA
- Register with NAIA
- Confirm with your counselor that you are on track with the classes you take for NCAA and Approved NCAA Courses (4 X 4 Curriculum)
- Send KISD official transcript to NCAA or NAIA
- Send your official SAT or ACT scores to NCAA or NAIA
- Pay registration fees (or use fee waivers if eligible)





# Being College and Career Ready

- It is a KISD Expectation that all student graduate from Keller High as “College and Career Ready”
- Meet **one** of the following:
  - Complete a Dual Credit English or Math Course (or 9 hours Dual)
  - TSI: 945 on English, 5 on Writing, and 950 Math
  - 530 on SAT Math; 480 on SAT English (EBRW)
  - 3 on an AP Test
  - 22 on ACT Math & Combined Score of 40 on Reading & English  
ACT Scores
  - Complete a College Prep Course
  - Enlist in the Military



# What is the TSI/Accuplacer?

- Be “College Ready” in English and Math to avoid developmental classes in College.
- Score a 480 on SAT EBRW (English) and a 530 on SAT Math to be college ready
- The Accuplacer/TSI is typically used by colleges in addition to the SAT or ACT to determine college-readiness



# Purposes of SAT/ACT Scores (and TSIA2)

- SAT/ACT Scores serve **three** main purposes:  
**Admissions, Scholarships, & Course Placement**
- **Admissions:** SAT/ACT Scores are typically needed to get into the colleges where you want to go.
- **Scholarships:** SAT/ACT Scores are typically needed to earn **scholarships**: higher scores = **higher scholarships**



# Purposes of SAT/ACT Scores (and TSIA2): Cont.

- SAT/ACT Scores are used for **placement**. To avoid developmental classes and take college-level classes.
- Students should strive to meet the SAT/ACT Benchmark levels at a minimum (to avoid developmental classes)
  - For SAT: 480 on EBRW--Reading & Writing; 530 on Math
  - For ACT: 23 Composite (with 19 on English & Math)
- A passing score on Reading/Writing/Math on the **TSIA2** is needed for students who score below the benchmark levels on SAT or ACT



# SAT/ACT Scores Can be Instrumental in Earning Scholarships: See Example Below

## Freshmen Merit Scholarships\*

GPA	3.9 or above	3.85-3.89	3.75-3.84	3.25-3.74	3.0-3.24
ACT 33 or above / SAT 1490 or above	\$16,000 / \$24,000	\$14,000 / \$20,000	\$14,000 / \$20,000	\$12,000 / \$16,000	\$12,000 / \$16,000
ACT 29-32 / SAT 1350-1480	\$14,000 / \$20,000	\$14,000 / \$20,000	\$12,000 / \$16,000	\$12,000 / \$16,000	\$8,000 / \$12,000
ACT 26-28 / SAT 1240-1340	\$14,000 / \$20,000	\$12,000 / \$16,000	\$12,000 / \$16,000	\$8,000 / \$12,000	\$8,000 / \$12,000
ACT 22-25 / SAT 1100-1230	\$12,000 / \$16,000	\$12,000 / \$16,000	\$8,000 / \$12,000	\$8,000 / \$12,000	\$4,000 / \$10,000
ACT 21 / SAT 1060-1090	\$12,000 / \$16,000	\$8,000 / \$12,000	\$8,000 / \$12,000	\$4,000 / \$10,000	\$4,000 / \$10,000

Just for Juniors



# Exams – ACT or SAT

- Both are typically accepted by colleges
- We recommend that you take both and then focus on your preferred test
- Take more than once, some schools will superscore
- If you need accommodations on either test, you need to apply for them on the testing website when you register and reach out to our campus Testing Coordinators, [Brian.Carman@kellerisd.net](mailto:Brian.Carman@kellerisd.net) and [Elizabeth.Hoseney@kellerisd.net](mailto:Elizabeth.Hoseney@kellerisd.net)





# Exams - ACT

- Each test has a score range of 1-36. (36 is a perfect score)
- KHS students score slightly above national average (~24 range).
- Five Sections: English, Math, Reading, Science, Essay (Optional)
- Total Score is the average score of each of the 4 subtests.





# Exams - SAT

- KHS students score slightly above national average (1100 range).
- There are 2 main sections on the SAT, and the score range is from 200-800 on each section (1600 is a Perfect Score)
- **School-Wide SAT Day:** All juniors will have the opportunity to take the SAT (free of charge) on **Tuesday March 5th** at KHS during the school day.



# Prepping Works

- The best preparation for SAT/ACT are the classes you take in high school and the work you do for those classes.
- Also, for SAT, **Khan Academy** is a terrific, free resource that truly works if students will use it. Be sure, to have your student connect their College Board Account to Khan Academy to get personalized test prep (based off prior PSAT/SAT Scores)!  
[Khan Academy-SAT Prep](#)
- For ACT, they offer free study resources as well:  
[ACT Test Prep](#)



# What is FAFSA and why your student should complete it!

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- A graduation requirement for seniors (opt-out is available but makes sense to do it if going to college)
- FAFSA is a student's way of telling colleges that they need \$\$ for college
- FAFSA should be received by colleges by early January at the latest or by the college's scholarship deadline (whichever is sooner)
- Opens on October 1st of Senior Year-December for this year
- FAFSA only needs to be completed by seniors (unless using for Dual Credit)



# What is FAFSA and why your student should complete it!: Cont.

- Federal/State Grants
- Scholarships (many scholarships require a FAFSA on file)
- Institutional Grants
- Federal Work Study (e.g., working in the college library)
- Federal Stafford Student Loans (most favorable terms if loans are needed)
- Parent Plus Loans



# Scholarships: Pick the “Low-Hanging Fruit”

- First: Focus on applying for scholarships at the colleges themselves
- Second: Focus on local and state scholarships
- Third: Focus on “niche national” scholarships
- Fourth: Focus on national scholarships





# Scholarships

- Start a Scholarship List
- [Raise.me](#)
- [College Board Opportunity Scholarships](#)
- KISD CCMR Scholarships:  
<https://www.kellerisd.net/Page/6482>
- KHS Scholarships:  
<https://www.kellerisd.net/Page/6965>



# Questions?

This presentation will be available on the KHS Website



# Thank You!

This presentation will be available on the KHS Website





# Exams - SAT

- There is an optional writing section on the SAT. We generally recommend that you take it as it could benefit you for a college admissions decision.
- It is a timed test and this is a common problem for students. They **MUST** practice in a timed environment.
- You are not penalized for guessing.