diplomás

ROADMAP TO COLLEGE

Preparing for college isn't easy. It's a journey that begins early in your educational experience. Get ready for the trip of a lifetime – the road to college starts now!

PACK YOUR BAGS

(What you'll need to bring)

Your passions
Subjects in school that interest you, hobbies, clubs, etc.

Your plans
Who do you want to be?

BUCKLE UP

(How to prepare)

Keep your grades up

Find a mentor

TAKE OFF

(What to do)

- Study different careers that excite you
- Visit **texasrealitycheck.com** and make a plan for your dreams
- Participate in camps, clubs, groups, programs and Digital Badging that inspire you
- Compile a list of your accomplishments
- Talk to your teachers and counselors about paying for college
- Take challenging courses
- Talk to your counselor about the best classes to take that align with your dreams
- Create a calendar that includes all of your school, home, community and church activities
- Set a yearly goal for yourself
- Explore colleges in the community
- Develop and practice good study habits
- Check your grades weekly, get tutoring if you need to improve your grades
- Understand how you learn best

8

TIP (GRADE 8)
Study a foreign language (other than English)

- Take the PSAT or PLAN and/or TSI
- Explore advanced placement or dual credit classes
- Adjust your goals based on your passions
- Continue practicing the habits you developed

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9

- After completing Algebra I, take the ACT Explore Test
- Visit a campus & college fair
- Learn about dual credit and how those courses transfer
- Build a high school resume (save your awards, honors and certificates)

10

- Take the PSAT
- Visit a college fair and consider your potential majors
- Explore your school's SAT/ACT test prep courses
- Maintain at least a 3.0 GPA

11

- Create an application calendar
- Take AP exams
- Complete NCAA Clearinghouse Application
- Use a test prep resource and take the SAT/ACT
- Visit fafsa.gov for scholarship & financial aid info
- Visit campuses and see what campus life is all about
- Have a counselor confirm you're on track for graduation
- Use a test prep resource and take the SAT/ACT
- Choose your top 10 colleges, review admissions requirements

12

- Fill out the FAFSA Forecaster
- Identify writers for your letters of recommendation
- Attend college fairs & apply to 3-5 colleges
- Apply for scholarships
- Ask recent teachers to write letters of recommendation
- Begin working your college entrance essays
- Take the ACT/SAT again (if necessary)
- Submit applications & transcript/final test scores
- Decide which college you want to attend & accept offer

SUMMER BEFORE COLLEGE

- Graduate High School!
- Meet all deposit deadlines & accept financial aid packages
- Fill out FAFSA or TAFSA
- Sign up for on-campus housing (if necessary)
- Sign up for new student orientation

COLLEGE

- Print your college schedule
- Ask advisor how your dual credit applies to your degree
- Attend new student orientation