

JUNIOR PARENT/STUDENT NIGHT PRESENTATION

APRIL 9, 2025

CRHS COUNSELING DEPARTMENT





Counselors Alpha Split And email addresses

(you will need these for applications)

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PATHWAYS FOR POST-GRADUATION

- **4-YEAR COLLEGE**
- **2-YEAR COLLEGE**
- **MILITARY**
- **TRADE**
- **WORKFORCE**



WAYS TO APPLY

- **COMMON APP**

Most universities nationally and internationally are compatible with Common App

- **APPLY TEXAS**

Specific to Texas universities and colleges

- **COMMON BLACK APP**

Central locations for over 40 historically black colleges and universities (HBCU)

- **ON THE COLLEGE WEBSITE**

BEFORE APPLYING

- **START BUILDING YOUR COLLEGE LIST**
 - Safety vs. Match vs. Reach
 - 2-3-2 rule
- **FIND INFORMATION SESSIONS**
 - College Website > Admissions > Prospective Students
 - Youtube
- **TALK TO YOUR COLLEGE & CAREER FACILITATOR / COUNSELOR**

SAT/ACT.....WHICH ONE TO TAKE?

The choice is up to you; however it is suggested to take each one once. Then take the one you do better on, again. You can take these as many times as you want. Schools will only see the scores of a test if you report it to them through College Board (SAT) or ACT website (ACT)

SAT

- **READING, WRITING AND LANGUAGE, MATH**
 - 3 HOURS 50 MINUTES WITH ESSAY
 - 5 READING PASSAGES
- ARITHMETIC, ALGEBRA I & II, GEOMETRY, TRIG. & DATA ANALYSIS
- CALCULATOR & NON-CALCULATOR SECTIONS
- SCORED ON A SCALE OF 400 – 1600
- USUALLY REQUIRED FOR 4-YEAR UNIV.

ACT

- **ENGLISH, MATH, READING, SCIENCE**
- 3 HOURS 40 MINUTES WITH ESSAY
- 4 READING PASSAGES
- 1 SCIENCE SECTION (CRITICAL THINKING)
- ARITHMETIC, ALGEBRA I & II, GEOMETRY & TRIG.
- CALCULATOR CAN BE USED THROUGHOUT
- SCORED ON A SCALE OF 1 – 36
- USUALLY REQUIRED FOR 4-YEAR UNIV.

SAT & ACT

CRHS Code: 443-509
(needed to register)

- **WHERE TO REGISTER/DATES OFFERED:**

- WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG (SAT)
- WWW.ACT.ORG (ACT)

- **WHEN?**

- LATE SPRING OF JUNIOR YR. – SENIOR YR.

- **WHICH?**

- BOTH, IF POSSIBLE
- REPEAT (WHICH SCORED THE HIGHEST ON)

- **NEED TO KNOW:**

- 4 SCORE REPORTS FOR POTENTIAL COLLEGES AT NO COST – IDENTIFY COLLEGES ON REGISTRATION FORM
- SAT/ACT SCORES ARE NOT ON HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT
 - SCORES MUST BE ORDERED FROM SAT/ACT

Watch DEADLINES & LATE
REGISTRATION FEES!

Texas SUCCESS Initiative or TSI

Test for entrance into community college or technical school in TEXAS

Community colleges DO NOT require SAT or ACT, but if a student has SAT/ACT scores high enough they could be exempt from TSI

TSI assesses READING, WRITING, & MATH (prior to ENTRANCE)

See link below for practice exam and more TSI information

Students can exempt TSI with SAT/ACT scores:

- ACT – combined score on Eng & Read of 40; 22 on Math**
- SAT- minimum 480 on Reading & Writing; 530 on Math**

HOW DO I START MY APPLICATIONS

COMMON APP/APPLY TX OPENS AUGUST 1, 2025

- 1. GO TO YOUR CHOSEN PLATFORM**
- 2. CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT**
- 3. BEGIN FILLING OUT YOUR APPLICATIONS!**

★ApplyTexas

Many Schools **One** Application

Explore. Apply. Repeat.

FIRST TIME
HERE?

No problem. It's fast.
It's easy. It's free.

Get Started

ALREADY HAVE
AN ACCOUNT?



[Access our COVID-19 resources >](#)



[FIND A COLLEGE](#)

[Plan for college ▾](#)

[Apply to college ▾](#)

[Support your students ▾](#)



[Sign in](#)

[Create an account](#)

Your future starts here

Apply to college for the first time or transfer to complete your degree. Navigate your entire college application journey with Common App.

[Start your application](#)

GET EDUcated!



[HOME](#)

[APPLY NOW](#)

[HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR](#)

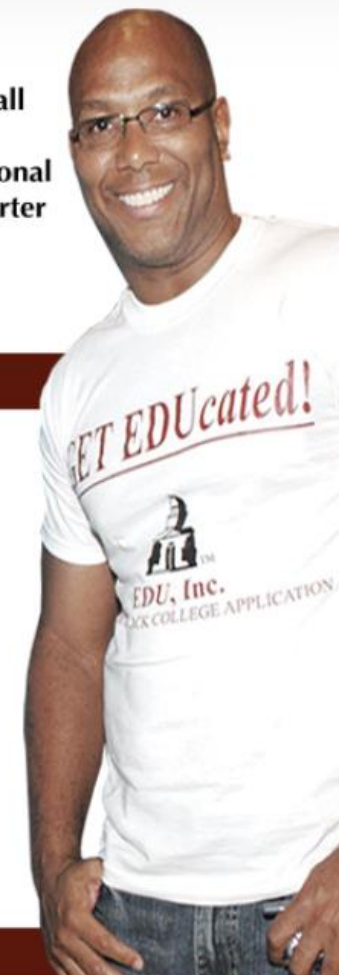
[SPONSOR A STUDENT](#)

[LOG IN](#)



As we celebrate our 20th year anniversary, on behalf of the CBCA staff, I want to thank all those that have contributed to the CBCA becoming one of the most recognized educational services in the country. To date, close to a quarter million students have completed the CBCA.

Robert Mason - CBCA Founder



20
YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

Student Profile-needed for counselor recommendations

- In-state public colleges do NOT need rec letters-only out-of-state or private
- Profile is all about you – gives counselor and teacher more insight, includes parent input
- Complete this profile summer before senior year.
- Allow **15 working days** for teachers & counselors to complete recommendations
- Ask teachers in person and follow up with email
- If incomplete, recommenders cannot get started on recommendation letter.

*****THIS CAN BE DONE THIS SUMMER!!!**

Student PROFILE is located on the **CRHS website/counselor page/Seniors/Counselor recommendation packet**

VERY IMPORTANT
YOU MUST WAIVE YOUR RIGHTS.

Demo

- My Colleges**
- Search for Colleges**
- Common Application**
- Future Plans
- Applicant
- Demographics
- Family
- Education
- Academics
- Activities
- Writing
- Signature
- Supplements
- Payments
- School Forms

unlimited number of teachers and assign them to any colleges you'd like, but only one Counselor may be invited. Fields with a yellow dot are required and must be filled in prior to submission of this form. To ensure your information is saved, please click the 'Save' button at the bottom of the page. After saving, those school officials with email addresses will receive an email inviting them to send your recommendations online or via mail, whichever they prefer. If any of your school officials choose to mail their forms, you will need to return to this website to print paper forms for them to mail.

Please be sure to ask your teachers if they'd be willing to recommend you before listing them here.

Personal Data

● **School Official Type:** ☒ Counselor ☐ Teacher

Mr. ▼	Sugath	Karunaratne
● Title	● First Name	● Last Name

skarunaratne@commonapp.i
Email

We never share email information with third parties. We collect this email address to contact this official on your behalf and so that we can forward it on to those colleges to which you submit your application.

☒ ● I understand that, upon inviting a School Official, I will no longer be able to alter my Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) release authorization.

Send Invitation
Cancel

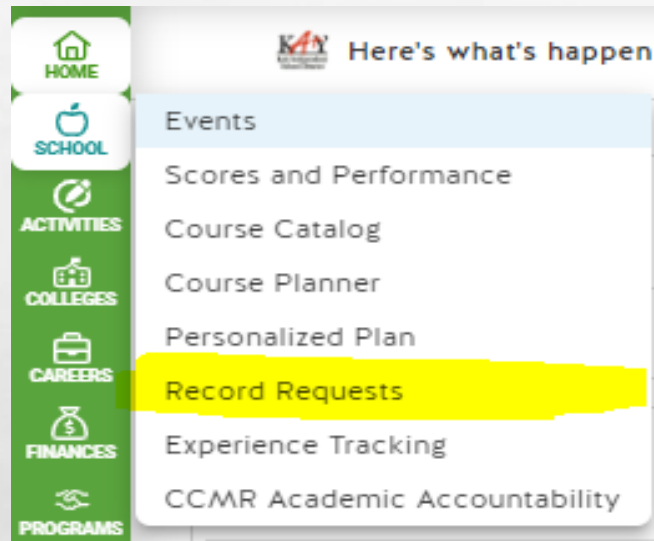
▲ Applicant Initiates a Request -3:20
⏮ ⏪ ⏩ ⏭
Contact | Share
🔊 CC ?

Transcripts

- Transcripts should be ordered through SchooLinks/School/Record Request – not before 9/1/25.
- EXCEPT if you are using Common App - counselors send transcripts.

Requesting a transcript (official-goes to school / unofficial-goes to you)

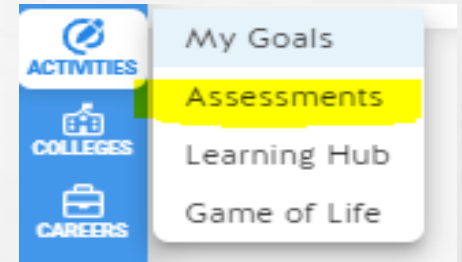
IN School Links hover over “school” and chose “record request”




You ONLY need to do this step if you are NOT applying through Common App

UNSURE OF YOUR FUTURE CAREER?

If you are unsure about a future career, visit
SchooLinks / activities (left side bar)/assessments




Find your path 

Get suggested career clusters based on your personality.
Use this info to jumpstart your college and career exploration process!

● NEVER TAKEN


[Start assessment →](#)

Would you rather 

Choose your favorite activities to get career suggestions.
Use this info to see which of your favorite careers match your hobbies!

● NEVER TAKEN


[Start assessment →](#)

Top skills 

Discover your top skills and areas for improvement.
Use this info to see which careers match your skill set!

● NEVER TAKEN


[Start assessment →](#)

Social-emotional learning 

Respond to statements about yourself using a rating scale.
Use this info to assess your social and emotional skills.

● NEVER TAKEN


[Start assessment →](#)

Learning style 

Answer questions about how you prefer to learn and solve problems.
Use this info to set yourself up for more effective learning in the future!

● NEVER TAKEN

[Start assessment →](#)

Student focus 

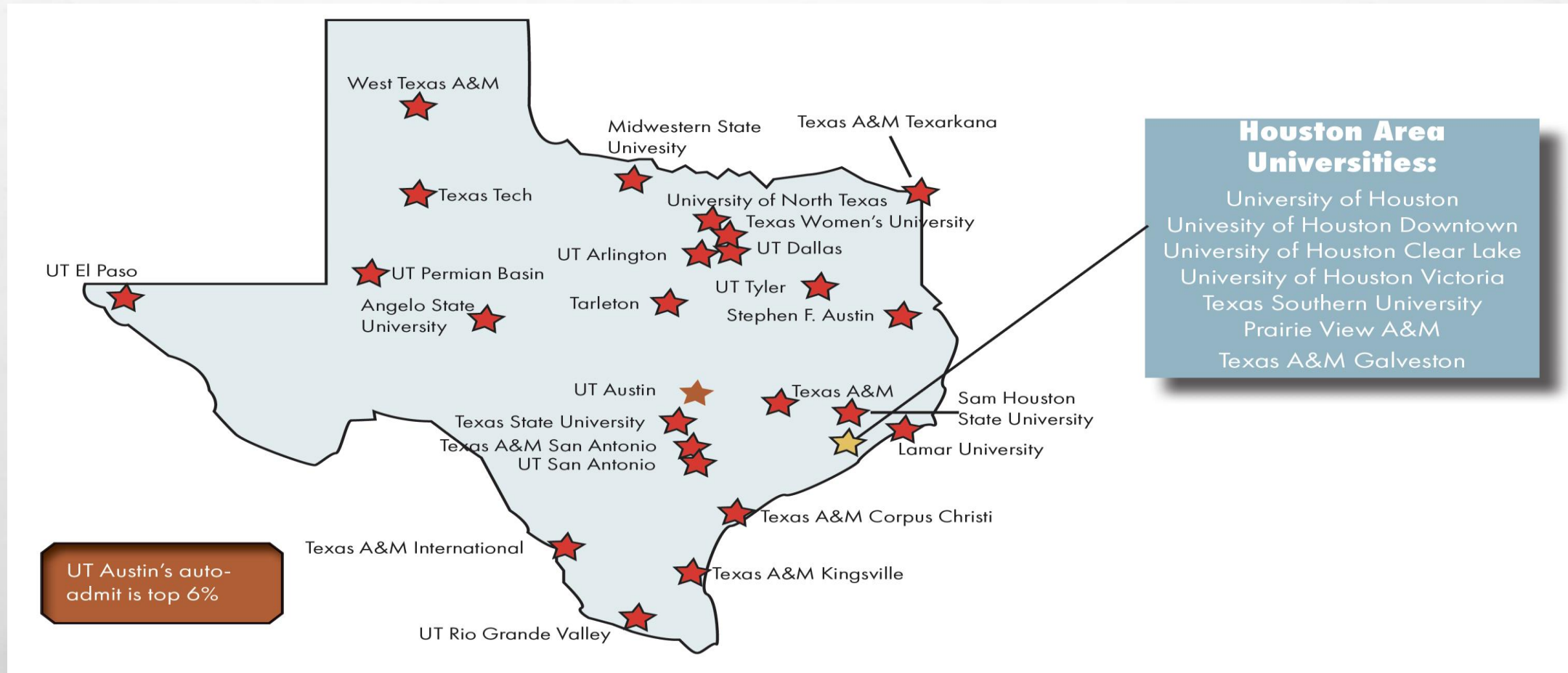
Discover your motivations for life after high school.
Use this info to analyze the colleges and programs you're interested in!

● NEVER TAKEN

[Start assessment →](#)

The results of these will point you to possible careers!

Automatic Admission



GPA & RANK CLASS OF 2026 AS OF 1/31/25

QUARTER

GPA

1

4.8852 – 4.0204

2

4.0192 – 3.6000

3

3.5957 – 3.0732

4

3.0652 AND BELOW

Katy ISD only ranks the top 10% of the senior class. All other students are awarded a quartile ranking.

ESSAYS

- **ONLY SOME SCHOOLS REQUIRE ESSAYS**
- **THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO SHOW WHO YOU ARE & SET YOU APART FROM OTHER CANDIDATES**
- **ASK PEOPLE TO LOOK OVER IT & ANSWER THE QUESTION/PROMPT**
- **WORK ON ESSAYS THIS SUMMER!!**

College Admission Terms

EARLY DECISION

**BINDING COMMITMENT TO ATTEND
COLLEGE IF YOU ARE ACCEPTED!!!**

“I AM ONLY APPLYING TO YOU!”

EARLY ACTION/ NOTIFICATION

APPLYING EARLY TO RECEIVE ACCEPTANCE
NOTIFICATION EARLY
NO COMMITMENT TO ATTEND!

WAIT LIST

ADMISSION PENDING

PROVISIONAL/SUMMER ADMIT

VARIES FROM SCHOOL TO SCHOOL

FINDING MONEY FOR COLLEGE

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

Scholarships	Grants	Loans	Work-Study
<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Usually merit based→ Free money!→ Can be found<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Colleges◆ Outside organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Usually need based→ Free money!→ Can be found...<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ FAFSA◆ TASFA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Usually need based→ Borrowed money→ Can be found<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ FAFSA◆ TASFA◆ Colleges◆ Outside organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Usually need based→ Money you work for→ Can be found...<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ FAFSA◆ TASFA

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships based on requirements

- No requirement
 - ◆ Anyone can apply
- Academic requirements
 - ◆ Things like gpa, rank or test scores are important
- Extracurricular/major requirements
 - ◆ Based on what you do
 - ◆ Athletics, talent, major
- Financial requirements
 - ◆ Need based scholarships

Things you need

- A completed application
- Transcript
- Test score report
- Essay
- Recommendation letters
- Record of activity/resume
- Portfolio or audition
- Financial reports

HOW TO FIND SCHOLARSHIPS

College/university application or website

CRHS counselor page/scholarship bulletin

Google

School links

Scholarship search database

GOVERNMENT AID

FAFSA Free Application for Federal Aid

- ◆ Must be U.S. Citizen, permanent resident or eligible non-citizen
- ◆ Open date - unknown
- ◆ Priority Deadline is January 15th
- ◆ **fafsa.ed.gov**

TASFA Free Application for State Aid

- ◆ Open to Texas residents without citizenship
- ◆ Opens date - unknown
- ◆ Priority Deadline is January 15th
- ◆ Forms found online

GOVERNMENT AID

What will I need?

Both

- ♦ A completed application
- ♦ Males - selective service
- ♦ List of colleges to send info to

FAFSA

- ♦ FSA ID
 - You and a parent

TASFA

- Signed residency affidavit

THE BIG DAY!

- **FAFSA/TASFA – OPENING DATE UNKNOWN**
- **IT IS IMPORTANT TO SUBMIT FINANCIAL AID EARLY**
 - **PRIORITY DEADLINES**
 - **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE**
 - **SCHOLARSHIPS**
- **DON'T RUSH, BUT DON'T WAIT**

TERMS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Cost Of Attendance (COA): the total amount of college expenses. Includes tuition, room & board, books & supplies, etc.
- Student Aid Index (SAI): is an eligibility index number that your college's or career school's financial aid office uses to determine how much federal student aid you would receive if you attended the school.
- Student Aid Report (SAR): a document that lists your answers to your financial aid application
- Award Letter: explains the financial aid package a college is offering you.

NEW FINANCIAL AID REQUIREMENT

In accordance with [texas education code 28.0256](#), seniors graduating in 2022 and thereafter must complete and submit, and show proof of submission, a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) or a texas application for state financial aid (TAFSA).

Seniors who choose to opt out must complete one of the following options:

the student's parent or other person standing in parental relation submits a signed form indicating that the parent or other person authorizes the student to decline to complete and submit the financial aid application;

The student signs and submits the tea opt-out form on the student's own behalf if the student is 18 years of age or older or the student's disabilities of minority have been removed for general purposes under chapter [31 \(removal of disabilities of minority\)](#), family code; or

The school counselor authorizes the student to decline to complete and submit the financial aid application for good cause, as determined by the school counselor.

THINGS TO NOTE

- **Am I first generation?**
- **Dependent vs. Independent**
- **Making it match**
- **IRS data retrieval tool**

CAREER LABS-SUMMER '25

Please stay tuned to Canvas announcements or the counseling webpage for information about summer college & career labs.



- Counselors can complete your recommendation letters, but require 15 school days notice to complete!

- Rec letters will not be written until August



- Request to see counselor or Mr. Mabry

TO DO THIS SUMMER

- **Complete Student Profile – CRHS website / counselor page / Senior page**
- **Work on your essay – refer to Common App or ApplyTexas for prompts**
- **Take Career Assessments in SchoolLinks**
- **Research / visit colleges via SchoolLinks**
- **SAT Prep – Collegeboard.org**



**Thank you for your
attendance**

