

**Are You Ready for
College?**



JUST JUNIORS

STEPS TO COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

What can I do this summer in preparation for college applications?

- Narrow your college search, note deadlines and check college admission criteria
- Visit colleges
- Complete a resume
- Practice for SAT and ACT if you plan to test again in the fall –
 - Method Test Prep on Family Connection
 - College Board at www.collegeboard.org
 - The Princeton Review prep classes offered to Frisco ISD students
- Determine which teachers you will ask to write your recommendation letters
- Begin drafting your application essays



APPLYTEXAS: WHERE DO I FIND THE ESSAY QUESTIONS?

- If applying to a Texas college, preview the 2016-2017 ApplyTexas application and essays at:
 - https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c_start.WBX



The new prompts are as follows:

Essay A: What was the environment in which you were raised? Describe your family, home, neighborhood, or community, and explain how it has shaped you as a person.

Essay B: Some students have an identity, an interest, or a talent that defines them in an essential way. If you are one of these students, then tell us about yourself.

Essay C: You've got a ticket in your hand – Where will you go? What will you do? What will happen when you get there?



Explore. Apply. Repeat.

Research your options.

Admission information for every Texas Public University, plus some private and two-year schools.

[Begin your search »](#)

Apply online.

Complete and submit your admission and scholarship applications online.

[Get started now »](#)

[Preview the 2016-2017 applications »](#)

[Preview the 2015-2016 applications »](#)

Do it again.

No need to start from scratch. Copy a completed application and use it to apply to another school.

[Learn how »](#)

2016-2017 application

Essay prompts for U.S. Freshman and International Freshman Applications will be changing for Summer 2017, Fall 2017, and Spring 2018. (Essays for Summer 2016, Fall 2016, and Spring 2017 Applications are NOT changing.) You may preview the [new essay prompts here](#).

First time here? No problem.

[Get started »](#)

It's fast. It's easy.
It's free.

[Create your account now »](#)

Already have an account?

[Log in now](#)

username

password

[Forgot your username or password?](#)

COMMON APPLICATION: WHERE DO I FIND THE ESSAY QUESTIONS?

If applying to a private school, preview the Common Application essays for 2016-2017 at:

- <http://www.commonapp.org/whats-appening/application-updates/common-application-announces-2016-2017-essay-prompts>
- Essay questions are posted.



2016-2017 Essay Prompts

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

- Among the more than 800,000 unique applicants who have submitted a Common App so far during the 2015-2016 application cycle, 47 percent have chosen to write about their background, identity, interest, or talent - making it the most frequently selected prompt; 22 percent have chosen to write about an accomplishment, 17 percent about a lesson or failure, 10 percent about a problem solved, and four percent about an idea challenged.

FALL OF SENIOR YEAR

- Applications open August 1 – Apply online
 - Texas 4-year colleges
 - www.applytexas.org
 - Private 4-year colleges
 - www.commonapp.org
 - For all other schools, check the school website. All schools have electronic applications now.
- Submit your application fee to the school.
- Request your transcript from Parchment and pay any fees.
- Request test scores from ACT and/or SAT to be sent directly to the colleges
 - www.act.org
 - www.collegeboard.org



EARLY ACTION/EARLY DECISION

- Some selective schools offer early action or early decision.
- These schools often have deadlines of November 1st or earlier.
- **Early Action** is not binding. You just find out early if you are admitted.
- **Early Decision** is binding. If you get in you must withdraw all other applications and attend the school.



COMMUNITY COLLEGE APPLICANTS

- If planning to attend a two-year college, you will apply online in February.
 - For Texas colleges, apply at www.applytexas.org
 - Collin College has its own application, apply at https://www.collin.edu/gettingstarted/admissions/online_app.html
 - SAT/ACT not required for two-year colleges
 - Open enrollment



TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Take the TSI Assessment
 - <http://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/accuplacer-tsi-assessment-student-brochure.pdf>
 - Collin College Testing Center 972-377-1523
- Exemption criteria:
 - Student is exempt on the basis of **SAT I** scores with a minimum qualifying score of 1070 composite, with 500 Critical Reading and 500 Math.
 - Student is exempt on the basis of the **ACT** with a minimum qualifying score of 23 composite, with 19 English and 19 Math.



FINANCIAL AID

Apply for parent and student FAFSA PIN number at

- www.fafsa.ed.gov in the fall.
- Complete the application after October 1st of senior year.



FRISCO EDUCATION FOUNDATION

- One application for all local scholarships
- Open to all FISD seniors
- Apply in December, awarded in May.
- Apply on line at the FEF website at friscoisd.org



FAMILY CONNECTION

- Senior Guidance next September will focus on how to use FC for admissions.
- Update College Status to Applied
- Follow steps per high school for counselor recommendation letter if needed
- Request recommendation letters from teachers if needed
- Check for scholarship opportunities



SPRING OF SENIOR YEAR

- Continue to research and apply for scholarships
- Compare your offers from the universities
- Notify all universities of your decision to attend or not to attend
- Dual credit students should request a final transcript from Collin College to be sent to your school
- Complete the Graduation Survey in Family Connection
 - Identify the college you will attend
 - Request final transcript
 - Indicate scholarships received



**GOOD LUCK
SENIORS 2017!!!**

