College 101 with
UNT Office of Outreach

Preparing yourself or your child for higher education

Landon Ellison
UNT Office of Outreach
Choosing a College

- Each college and university has its own personality, size, and shape
- Visiting campuses are the best way to discover what sort of university you may want to attend
- Location is an important factor, do you want to go far away or stay near home?
- Would you like to attend a small or large institution
- Make sure the university has the major you’re searching for and the necessary support systems
- How much is it going to cost?
What can you do now?

9th Grade:
- Take courses such as Geometry and Algebra. Studies show students who take these courses early are more likely to go to college
- Begin reading about possible careers, exploring topics that interest you
- Meet with your school counselor

10th Grade:
- Take Advanced Placement (AP) Courses
- Join school clubs and organizations or participate in summer programs
- Pursue leadership roles that will help with later scholarship applications
- Take the PSAT
What can you do now?

11\textsuperscript{th} Grade

- Attend a college fair and start gathering information about colleges.
- Take the ACT or SAT
- Start taking campus tours
- Take AP Exams

12\textsuperscript{TH} Grade:

- Retake the ACT or SAT
- Narrow list of potential schools
- Make sure you’re aware of deadlines
- Submit FASFA/TASFA
- Apply for Scholarships
It’s time to Apply!

Application Process for most universities
• Submit application for admission (ex; www.applytexas.org or www.commonapp.org)
• Turn in official transcripts
• Find out and supply your class rank
• Send in exam scores (SAT or ACT)
• Pay application fee
• Some schools may require an essay, interview, or references

Tips
• Apply early (most Texas schools open applications August 1)
• Check if you meet minimum automatic admissions requirements
• If don’t meet automatic admissions, look into individual review
• Fill out application completely, including supporting documents. The sooner your application is complete, the sooner you will know if you’re admitted

UNT Freshmen Admissions Requirements
Top 10% of high school class
• Automatic Admissions

Next 15% of high school class
• Minimum 950 SAT/1030 New SAT* (Critical Reading + Math only) or 20 ACT

2nd Quarter of high school class
• Minimum 1050 SAT/1130 New SAT* (Critical Reading + Math only) or 23 ACT

3rd Quarter of high school class
• Minimum 1180 SAT/1250 New SAT* (Critical Reading + Math only) or 26 ACT

*Critical Reading + Math only on the SAT administered prior to March 2016. After March 2016, the New SAT score will consist of the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section + Math section.

WE DO SUPER SCORE
What happens if you are not automatically admitted?

1. Do not panic, you may still be admitted
2. Most colleges and universities have a individual, holistic review process
3. Sometimes this will require additional steps (such as an essay and or turning in letters of recommendation)
4. If you are still not admitted to your school of choice, you may go to a community college for a year then transfer

Universities look for reasons to say yes to a student!

Transfer to UNT

- > 44 Hours – minimum 2.0 GPA (4.0 system)
- 30-44 Hours – minimum 2.25 GPA (4.0 system)
- < 30 Hours – minimum 2.5 GPA (4.0 system) and fulfill Freshmen Requirements

Possible UNT Individual Review Tasks

- Submitting new entrance exam scores (SAT or ACT);
- Attending a community college and completing 30 or more college level hours with a minimum 2.25 GPA
- Duplicating college level work in which the student received a “D” or “F” to improve college GPA;
- Submitting three letters of recommendation and an essay (personal statement) addressing their education and career goals.
High School Students with College Credit

- Dual Credit: college level courses completed by students in HS

- Advanced Placement (AP): high school courses that student completes for college credit, must take exam.
  - [www.unt.edu/credit](http://www.unt.edu/credit)
How college works once you’re admitted
Orientation

- Can be 1 day or several days long
- Mandatory event for incoming students
- At Orientation you will:
  - Learn lay out of campus
  - Register for classes
  - Meet other students
  - Take placement tests if needed
  - Learn school traditions
Enrollment facts, what is a credit hour?

- 1 Class = 3 credit hours
- Full time enrollment is 12+ hours
  - 4 Classes = 12 credit hours
- Part time enrollment is less than 12 hours
- Need to be at least half time for Financial Aid
  - 3 Classes = 9 credit hours
  - 2 Classes = 6 credit hours (half time)

Texas requires at least 120 credit hours to obtain a bachelors. The total amount will vary depending on the students program.
CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS

• What is Classification?
  Your college academic level

• How is it different than high school grade levels?
  Classification is based on credit hours

- Freshmen: 0-29 credit hours
- Sophomore: 30-59 credit hours
- Junior: 60-89 credit hours
- Senior: 90+ credit hours
ACADEMIC ADVISORS

Assist with:

- Degree plan
- Changing majors and minors
- Department Scholarships
- Knowledge of classes
RESOURCES

• Writing Center, Math Labs, etc.
  – Tutors available

• Career Advising
  – Career interest tests, Resume help, Mock Interviews, etc.

• Personal Counseling
  – Check to see if it is free
RESIDENT LIFE

• Spots are first come first serve
• Tour the dorms
  – There are different types of dorms and offer different pricing
  – 3 bed, 2 bed, semi-private, private, etc.
• Roommates vs. Suitemates
• Residential Assistant (RA)
Organizations/Clubs

• Get involved
  – Organizations, Clubs, Sports Teams, Fraternities/Sororities
  – Make your own organization

• Great Opportunities
  – Study Abroad
  – Internships
## What does it cost?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>UNT</th>
<th>Local Private University</th>
<th>Local Community College</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and fees</td>
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<td>Room and Board</td>
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<td>$24,770</td>
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### And how do you pay?

EST. 1890
Funding Your Child’s Education
How to Pay for College
Different Types of Funding and Aid

- Scholarships
- Grants
- Work Study
- Loans
Scholarships

• Aid granted to a student because of academic merit, need, etc., to pursue their studies.

• Not required to pay back

• Usually have requirements to be fulfilled while attending school.
  – Example- "Student must maintain a 3.0 GPA and fulfill 20+ hours of volunteer service to maintain scholarship"

• External vs. Internal Scholarships
  – External scholarships come from outside sources (Coca Cola)
  – Internal scholarships come from within the college
Grants

- Free Money that does not have to be paid back
- Usually awarded by the state or federal government
- Grants are awarded based on “financial need”
Loans

• Loans must be paid back
• Type of Loans
  • Federal Loans
    • Subsidized: Government pays interest
    • Unsubsidized: Student pays interest upon graduation
    • Subsidized and Unsubsidized do not have to be paid until after graduation
    • Federal PLUS loans require immediate repayment after disbursement
  • Private Loans
    • Completed through private lender
    • Terms can vary
    • Best that student exhaust all other resources

Applying for Federal Aid

FASFA-Free Application for Federal Student Aid

• One of the initial steps in applying for aid
• Will determine what federal loans and grants you are eligible
• Funding is limited, often awarded on a first come first serve basis
• Opens October 1 (previously was January)
• Aid is awarded based on financial need
FASFA

• Terminology
  • EFC-Estimated Family Contribution
  • Verification
  • SAP-Satisfactory Academic Progress

• Awards
  – Texas Grant and Pell Grant
  – Work Study
  – Loans

• Documents Needed for 2017-2018 Academic Year
  • Student and parent tax forms
  • W-2’s from 2015
Parent and Student must create an FSA ID. This will be your username and password for FAFSA. You will use the same FSA ID every year you complete your FAFSA.
TASFA

• TASFA-Texas Application for State Financial Aid
• For U.S. non-citizens who are Texas Residents
• Students who are not U.S citizens cannot receive federal financial aid, but may be eligible for state and institutional aid
• Available in paper form
• UNT has online application!
In the end....

THANKS

MOM & DAD

It’s all worth it
Questions?
Thank You.

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