

CLASS OF 2018

Junior Guidance

A-B

C-G

H-Ma

Mb-Sa

Sb-Z

Mrs. Marshall

Mrs. Lassiter

Mrs. Wilson

Ms. Green

Mrs. Thompson

WHAT COUNTS MOST IN COLLEGE ADMISSIONS?



JUNIOR YEAR IS CRITICAL

- ☐ All years matter because GPA/rank are cumulative.
- ☐ However, the class rank and GPA you have at the end of junior year is the rank and GPA that you apply to college with.
- ☐ This is your last opportunity to increase your class standing for college admissions reasons.

KNOW YOUR GRAD PLAN!

- ☐ Foundation with Endorsement, Distinguished Level of Achievement
 - **Multidisciplinary*** (default)
 - STEM
 - Business & Industry
 - Arts & Humanities
 - Public Service
- ☐ Endorsements are for high school graduation, not for college admission. Don't stress!

SELECTING A COLLEGE

Public Universities

Private Universities

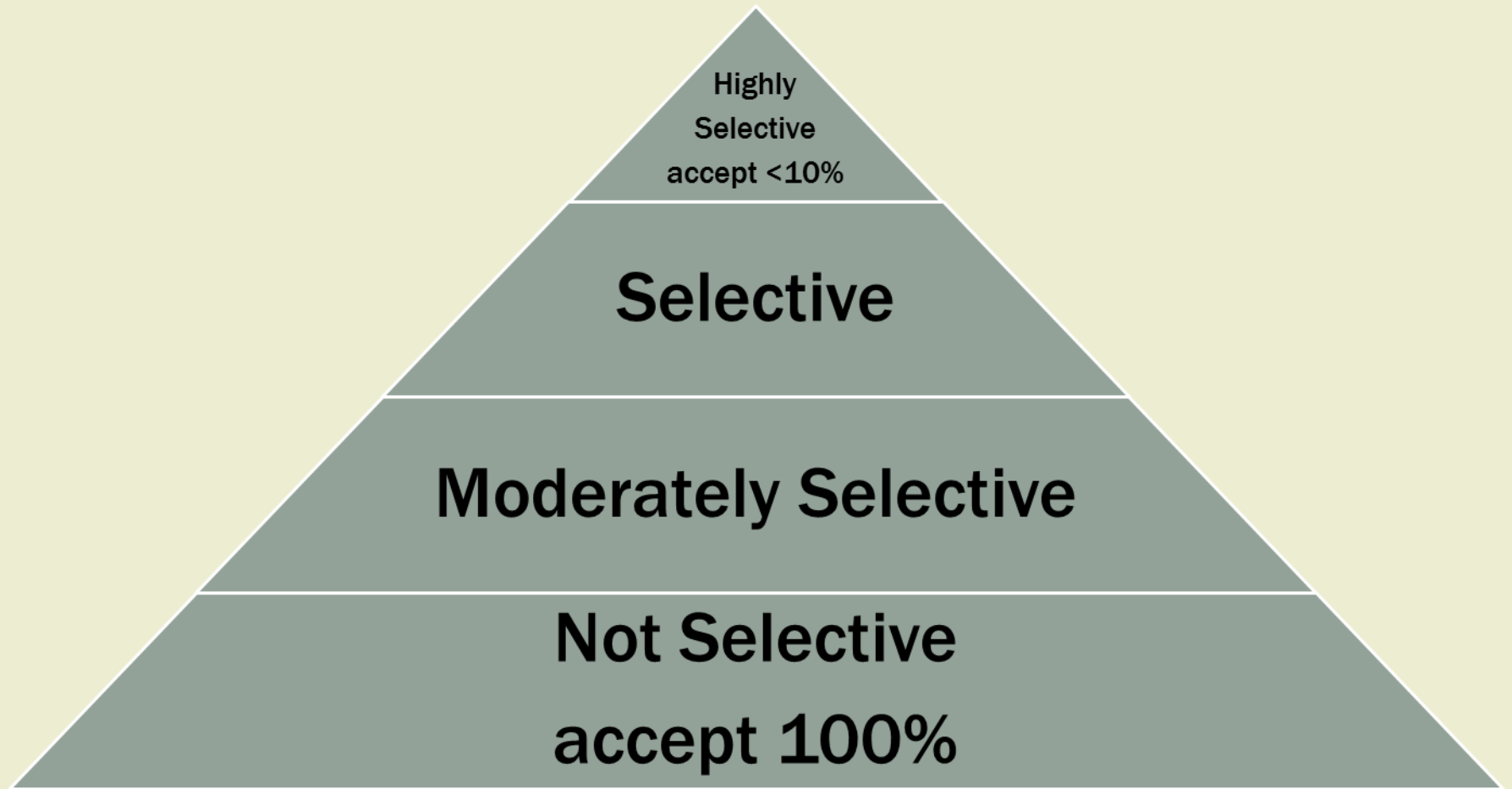
Community Colleges

Technical Colleges

United States Military Academies



SELECTIVITY



SELECTIVITY SPECIFICS

- ☐ Highly Selective Colleges (ie. Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, Rice) admit fewer than 10% of applicants and look for highly ranked students with very high test scores (at least 1300 or 30); may also require additional testing and interviews.
- ☐ Selective Colleges (ie. SMU, A&M, UT, OU, UTD) are looking for students ranked in the top 10-25% with strong test scores (at least 1100 or 24)
- ☐ Somewhat Selective Colleges (ie. SFA, Midwestern, Texas State) target students in the top 50% with average test scores (at least 1000 or 21)
- ☐ Non-Selective Colleges (ie. Collin College, technical/trade schools) accept 100% of applicants; **no SAT/ACT needed
- ☐ Top 10% Rule (7% at UT this year)

TESTING, TESTING, TESTING!

□ College Admissions Tests – ACT/SAT

- Universities require either; many students take both.
- Use school code **442-633**
- Register online
- Register with your legal name as it is on your photo ID you will bring to the test (DL, passport, current year school ID)



□ Placement Exam – TSI (Texas Success Initiative)

- No impact on admissions
- Only for Texas public schools (both 2 and 4 year)
- Can be exempt with strong SAT or ACT scores
- Taken after applying to college and before orientation

ACT

- ☐ Measures: English Usage, Mathematics, Reading, and Science Reasoning.
- ☐ Optional Writing section – check your college's requirements/recommendations
- ☐ May be used to replace or in addition to the SAT Reasoning Test
- ☐ Cost is \$42.50 or \$58.50 with the *optional* Writing Assessment
- ☐ Register on line at www.act.org

SAT

- ☐ Math
- ☐ Evidence-based Reading and Writing
- ☐ Optional Essay
- ☐ Total score: 400–1600
- ☐ Section scores for Math and Evidence-based Reading and Writing: 200–800
- ☐ 3 hours (without essay)
- ☐ 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay)
- ☐ \$45/\$57

SAT – READING/WRITING/LANGUAGE

- ☐ Multiple choice, based on passages rather than prior knowledge
- ☐ No sentence completions; focus on multiple-meaning words
- ☐ Passages will draw from significant historical or scientific documents—may include informational graphs, tables, & charts (but no math required)
- ☐ Passages will include complex structure and vocabulary
- ☐ Passage-based grammar—including punctuation
- ☐ Tests ability to identify evidence of a position

SAT -- MATH

- Mostly multiple choice, but some grid-ins →→→→→
- 2 sections
- Calculator only allowed on the longer section (see website for approved calculators)
- Several questions could be about a single scenario
- Basic Math Operations, Algebra I & II, Geometry, and Trigonometry (covered in Pre Cal)

Answer: $\frac{7}{12}$

Write answer in boxes. →

Grid in result. →

Fraction line

Decimal point

Answer: 2.5

Answer: 201

Either position is correct.

Acceptable ways to grid $\frac{2}{3}$ are:

SAT – OPTIONAL ESSAY

- ☐ Many colleges recommend or require it – see SAT website for info about specific colleges
- ☐ 50 minutes
- ☐ Read a 600-700 word passage.
- ☐ Explain how the author builds an argument to persuade an audience.
- ☐ Support your explanation with evidence from the passage.
- ☐ You won't be asked to agree or disagree with a position, or write about a personal experience

SPRING TESTING AT CHS

- ☐ Sign up early for ACT & SAT if you wish to test at CHS.
- ☐ The new SAT will only be given here in January & May, so they'll fill early
- ☐ The ACT will be given here in February, April, & June.

ACT/SAT TIPS

- Register using the same information on your picture ID.
- Upload acceptable photo:
<https://sat.collegeboard.org/register/photo-requirements>
- Keep track of the time and pace yourself
- Read the directions, questions, & answers carefully.
- Answer the easy questions first; they get progressively harder.
- Use logic on the more difficult questions.
- Review your work.
- Answer every question before time runs out!
- Be precise in marking your answer sheet.
- Erase mistakes completely.

PREPARING FOR ACT & SAT

- ☐ Link on the homepage of Family Connection directs you to free and inexpensive test prep resources for SAT & ACT.
- ☐ Face to face classes available on FISD campuses through partnership with Princeton Review – see document library in Family Connection for more information.

PSAT/NMSQT

□ Given to predict success on the SAT Reasoning Test and to qualify for National Merit scholarships

- October 19th, Wednesday
- All Juniors will test on this day
- You do not have to register
- A calculator will be provided
- Same format as the SAT
- Pick up a practice booklet today!

PSAT TEST

- ☐ 2 hours, 45 minutes
- ☐ Questions start easy and get harder.
- ☐ PRACTICE!
- ☐ Results can be used to predict college matches – don't blow it off!
- ☐ Score report can be used to improve before the real SAT

Component	# of Items	Time Allotted
Reading	47	60
Writing/ Language	44	35
Math	48	70
Total	139	165

CAREER INVENTORY- ASVAB

- ☐ Could be useful in deciding on a major
- ☐ Funded by the military, but not specific to military jobs.
- ☐ CTE Center after school on October 4th or April 18th
- ☐ You will receive an email from the CTE Counselor when it is time to sign up.

COLLEGE VISITS

- ☐ Call the college admissions office for an appointment
- ☐ Check web for Preview Days
- ☐ Go when students are in session, if at all possible.
Consider Oct. 10th, Nov. 21st-22nd
- ☐ Bring a list of questions (see FC for ideas)
- ☐ Get paper documentation
- ☐ Two excused absences are allowed in 11th and 12th grades for documented college.

POTENTIAL COLLEGE ATHLETES

- ☐ Athletes hoping to play sports at a D1 or D2 college must register with NCAA at www.eligibilitycenter.org by the end of Junior year.
- ☐ We will have a meeting for any athlete hoping to play D1 or D2 sports to explain the academic side of NCAA. Plan to attend the morning or afternoon session. Date is TBA.
- ☐ Verify with your counselor that you are in NCAA approved classes.
- ☐ Remember that the admissions office decides whether you get in, not the coaches!

COMMUNITY SERVICE REMINDER

- ☐ Students with 100 hours of documented community service by April 1 of senior year are recognized at graduation.
- ☐ Enter community service on **X2VOL**. There is a link on Family Connection.
- ☐ Log in to the site with your **school email (user name)** and your **ID number (password)**.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO NOW.....

- Continue to make good grades in challenging classes
- Take the PSAT on Wednesday, October 19th
- **Attend College Fair on September 21st at Heritage HS from 6:00-8:00 PM. Complete the online registration form at Family Connection.**
- Visit College Campuses
- Research options online
- Take the SAT or ACT in the spring or early summer if you plan to attend a four year university.
- Investigate career options

REGISTER FOR COLLEGE FAIR

- Go to www.gotocollegefairs.com (second link on the left side of your page)
- Click "Register Now"
- Click on the map of Texas
- Choose the 2nd TACRO link
- Complete Registration and Submit
- Print and bring the confirmation to the college fair

AT FAMILY CONNECTION...

- ☐ Edit your profile and check that your email is accurate
- ☐ College Search
- ☐ Add colleges to “My Colleges”
- ☐ View visit schedule
- ☐ View scattergrams
- ☐ About Me- Do What You Are (personality test)