

# NORTH MESQUITE HS

## SENIOR CHECKLIST

### WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- ☑ Make sure your high school course selections are appropriate for your college/career interests and that you are meeting high school graduation and college requirements.
- ☑ **Attend the MISD College Night and Financial Aid Program** with your parents on September 19th at Eastfield College.
- ☑ If you have not scheduled a time to take either the **SAT or ACT**, do so quickly. *This is only necessary if you plan on enrolling in a four year college or university.*
- ☑ Talk to your counselor about your plans for education after high school in light of your test scores, class rank, your high school grades, and your interests and abilities. Visit with **Go Center** personnel in the Counseling Center, or Ms. Tinney with Advise Texas in room B-23.
- ☑ Go on-line and visit the college of your choice. Most web addresses are "collegename".edu.
- ☑ Visit [becachievetexas.com](http://becachievetexas.com) for guidance regarding career selection and college search information. *See the flyer in this booklet.*
- ☑ Complete applications for admissions (state schools on [applytexas.org](http://applytexas.org)) and financial aid for schools to which you intend to apply. **Ask the college about departmental scholarships.** Most schools have an application fee.
- ☑ If you are requesting college admission to a large or selective college, be sure that your application materials are submitted early- usually by Thanksgiving. It is not necessary to take your SAT or ACT before you apply – these will be sent directly to the colleges by the testing companies.
- ☑ Visit the colleges you are considering (on a weekday if possible) and confirm your choice.
  - ☑ Make arrangements in advance for a personal interview with an admissions officer and a financial aid officer.
  - ☑ Stay overnight if possible.
  - ☑ Be aware of admissions and financial aid application deadlines and meet them.
  - ☑ Keep accurate records of all applications and supporting materials you submit.
- ☑ Search for scholarships with a free search engine (such as [fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com)). But you may want to set up a separate email just for what they send you – you will get a lot of email.
- ☑ If you need them, give recommendation forms to teachers, counselors, and others from whom you are seeking references at least two weeks before they are due to be returned; include a stamped, addressed envelope. Follow up to make sure they have been mailed.
- ☑ If you are seeking an appointment to one of the military academies, make sure your file is current with the person or organization from which you are seeking a nomination.

- ☑ If you are seeking a scholarship based on ability, send a copy of your game or performance schedule to the appropriate college or personnel. Ask your high school teachers and coaches about contacts they might have. If portfolios, audition tapes, writing samples, or other evidence of talent is required for admission or for scholarships, finalize them.
- ☑ If admission interviews are required or recommended, schedule them.
- ☑ Request that a copy of your transcript be sent to the schools to which you have applied. Be sure your current class rank is included.

## PART 2

- ☑ Submit a need analysis form (FAFSA) for financial aid as soon after January 1 as possible!!! You can go to [FAFSA.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov) to set up a PIN for you and your parents now.
- ☑ Pick up, complete, and return the Application for MEA/Local Scholarships in January. This one application is used for multiple scholarship awards. *If you don't complete, you can't compete.*
- ☑ If planning to attend Eastfield summer school for the first semester, make an appointment with an Eastfield counselor to plan your course work and registration (972-860-7052).
- ☑ Make your final decision about which school you will attend and notify them of your acceptance.
- ☑ Review the conditions of any financial award you may receive with the financial officer. Special situations will be taken into consideration at that time.
- ☑ Arrange for housing and a meal plan, if necessary. A housing deposit is often required. *This step should be made **as soon as possible** due to limited housing at many colleges.*
- ☑ Find out when payment of school charges for tuition, fees, room and board, etc., will be due, and plan how you will meet those charges. Understand how financial aid will be disbursed and whether you can defer bills until the funds are available.
- ☑ Be aware of any summer orientation sessions at your school and make plans to attend. Attending this orientation is usually lots of fun, and will make the beginning of your college freshman year less frightening and much easier.
- ☑ Prepare a proposed budget for your freshman year in college.

(VIEW MORE INFO AT [MESQUITEISD.ORG/NMHS/COUNSELING](https://mesquiteisd.org/nmhs/counseling))

Equal access to all programs and activities is assured students in the Mesquite Independent School District without regard to race, religion, color, sex, national origin, and/or handicapping condition.