

# NORTH MESQUITE HS

## SENIOR CHECKLIST

### COMMUNITY/JR. COLLEGE & TRADE/TECH SCHOOLS

#### **Who should attend?**

- Students who do not immediately desire to pursue a four-year program leading to a college degree can obtain a marketable skill in two years or less. Many times this route makes a student more employable at an earlier date. A two-year (Associates) degree which can be immediately transferable to a four year college or university is often the chosen path for a student who either wants an affordable option or who simply would like to remain close to home.

#### **Admission Requirements**

- Generally, a high school diploma or GED is required. For some trade and technical schools, work experience may help to waive that requirement. In addition, some schools require certain placement assessment tests given on their own campuses as a placement process for specific programs.

#### **How to Choose a School**

- The absolute best way to check out a school is to visit it. Try to choose a day when classes are in session. Talk to students to see if they are happy with their training. Look around at the buildings and equipment to see how they compare with the catalog description. If possible, talk to graduates to see what they think of the school.
- Trade and technical schools emphasize placement of their graduates. Because the reputation of a good placement rate is essential for a school to thrive, be sure to get information about the placement rate. Ask to speak with some recent graduates.
- The cost of attending a community college is normally minimal in comparison to other schools. Tuition at the trade and technical schools will vary, according to the programs offered. Generally, private trade/technical schools cost much more to attend, and may not even be accredited but you can usually graduate sooner. Conversely, the community/junior college route should be less expensive, but it may take a little longer.
- Financial aid is available at the community colleges as well as the trade and technical schools.
- We are extremely fortunate that the Dallas County Community College District schools offer great technical education with low cost and numerous financial aid opportunities.

**Note:** In making career decisions, it will be helpful to consider the results of any aptitude and/or interest tests you have taken. Interest tests or surveys can be taken upon request at Eastfield.

(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.