



Getting Ready for College Edition

Did You Know?

Special Education services end once a student graduates from public school. However; colleges, universities, and other institutes of higher learning that receive federal funding are obligated to provide reasonable accommodations through **Section 504**. This means that although *modifications* (or changes to the curriculum) are not provided, common *accommodations* to support student learning (such as access to Assistive Technology, small group test, and extra time) are!

Because students must *self-disclose* their disability and request for accommodations *each* semester, building **self-advocacy skills** is incredibly important.

To learn more about the differences between High School and College, check out this [side-by-side](#) document produced by ThinkCollege.

Month-by-Month To-Dos for College

By this point in the year, the college application deadline has come and gone. It is now time to wait...for your college acceptance letters, which should be coming soon. In the meantime, be sure you are on track with your College To-Do List and continuing to apply for scholarships!

The [**Westlake HS Counseling Department**](#) has a great website with links to numerous scholarship sites to assist you and your child with your search.

If your child is looking to attend a College Experience Program for students with intellectual or developmental disabilities, ThinkCollege has published a list of [**available scholarships**](#). They also have additional resources for paying for college on their website.



Getting Additional Support While at College

While all colleges that accept federal aid provide accommodations through their 504 offices, many colleges have started programs that provide additional supports. Some of these programs are free while others are fee-based. Examples of these include one-on-one tutoring, weekly academic counseling, and social skills development.

To help families with finding additional supports, we've put together a list of some of these **programs available at various [Texas public universities](#)**.

Is Your Child Unsure of Career Options?

If your child is unsure what they may want to do after high school or they are just starting to investigate their options, the **[O'Net Interest Profiler](#)** can help. Further, **[Texas Reality Check](#)** can help them with budgeting for living independently.



On the Road to Independence

As shared earlier in the newsletter, accessing accommodations or services at the college/university level requires students to self-disclose and self-advocate for their needs. The Texas Education Agency, through the Student Centered Transition Network has published a checklist for parents to support building their child's skills in these areas. The [**Next Steps to Independence checklist**](#) covers all ages and is attached here.

Parent Training Opportunities

Save these Dates! Eanes ISD is once again partnering with our surrounding Central Texas School Districts to coordinate the [**Destination...Life Transition Conference**](#). We hope to see you there *in-person* at McNeil High School on March 4, 2023!



Transition Trends

February 2023



Best Buddies Parent Training Series

Our friends at Best Buddies Texas are hosting a series of Virtual Parent Trainings on topics such as Employment, Transition Resources, Financial Planning, and more! You can get dates and register for sessions by clicking [here](#).

BEST BUDDIES®



E4Texas is a post-secondary opportunity for people who have graduated from high school, or have a GED, and want to be a Personal Care Attendant, Child Care Associate or Paraprofessional/Teaching Assistant. The E4Texas experience combines classroom instruction with practical career building experiences in addition to independent living skills and self-determination.

Deadline for applications has been **extended to apply is February 28, 2023.**

[Learn More and Apply](#)

We'd love your feedback!
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