



Breathe! And then take one more deep breath! You made it to your SENIOR year. The work is definitely not over but you've had celebrations and you've overcome challenges to get to this point. We are all here to help you finish this race and set the pace for your new journey that will be here in less than a year. Stay motivated, stay informed of dates and deadlines, and keep working hard.

College Planning Guide 12th Grade

- Attend the SENIOR meeting! This meeting will have important information about your senior year. There will be a presentation covering everything from senior only events to graduation information! This presentation will be sent out to all parents and/or uploaded to the [SENIOR](#) tab of the Magnolia High School [website](#).
- Use a paper or digital organizer and calendar to keep up with important dates and deadlines. Continue with organization and good [study habits](#) while maintaining and improving grades.
- Attend tutorials or study sessions if you need help. It is important that you prioritize your gpa and academics your final year of high school. Check your Canvas courses or ask your teachers when they are available outside of class time.
- Complete a [brag sheet](#) or resume and provide to recommenders when you are asking for letters of recommendation.
- School involvement and leadership roles improve your school and your leadership skills and can be used to highlight your recommendation letters.
- Take the SAT again or maybe consider taking the ACT. Not sure which one? Visit this [link](#) to help you decide.
- Continue exploring career and college options through [Texas Career Check](#).
- Track your volunteer service hours in Track It Forward. Pay attention to deadlines for hours to attain your cords for graduation.
- Research armed forces, colleges and technical schools and sign up for virtual tours. Request information from the ones you are most interested in. Reach out to recruiters and admissions staff to get detailed information about deadlines and financial aid opportunities.
- Attend college fairs and schedule tours. You are allowed 2 college visits and 2 career shadowing days this year that do not count against your exemption absences AS LONG AS you complete required paperwork.
- Check each college to see what application platform they use/recommend. Apply Texas and Common Application are the most popular. Some may use their own university created application. With Common App and Apply Texas you can create one profile and apply to several colleges.
 - For Texas public universities fill out the application at [Apply Texas](#). This is a handy [guide](#) for filling out the ApplyTexas application.
 - For many private and/or out-of-state universities, complete the application at [Common App](#). Additional forms and reports will be required for the Common Application.
- Be sure to use Mrs. Harper's name on your applications for counselor recommendations. **Kara Harper**; kharper@magnoliaisd.org.
- Meet with your counselors during their senior meetings to determine you are on track and have the credits you need for graduation in May. Visit the college and career center and check the website to stay updated on information and resources.
- College websites are full of information for you to discover academic programs, required test scores, scholarship opportunities, etc. Continue to research to determine what you really want out of the experience.
- Continue to work on college and scholarship essays.
- Do you have late arrival or early release? Consider using that time to work on your college and/or scholarship applications. Come into the College and Career Student Center if you need help. That is what we are here for!!
- Transcripts- ALL colleges and programs that you apply to will want a copy of your high school transcript. Use the [link](#) on the Magnolia High School Registrar website.
- Financial Aid and Scholarships: Create an [FSA ID](#). If you want to be considered for federal financial aid then you are required to complete a [FAFSA](#). This document takes time and patience along with income and tax information that your parents must provide. **START EARLY!** The [TASFA](#) is for students that are determined as Texas residents but cannot apply for federal financial aid using the FAFSA are encouraged to complete the TASFA. Read more about it [here](#).
- Continue to look for and apply for [scholarship opportunities](#). This information is updated regularly. Listen for announcements for the scholarship fair and additional opportunities. Always check the website and your "Class of" Canvas page for the latest information.
- Graduation: There will be a lot of information that comes out after spring break about graduation. You will need to attend the meetings and keep up-to-date with the information. Graduation day for the Class of 2025 is May 24, 2025!!