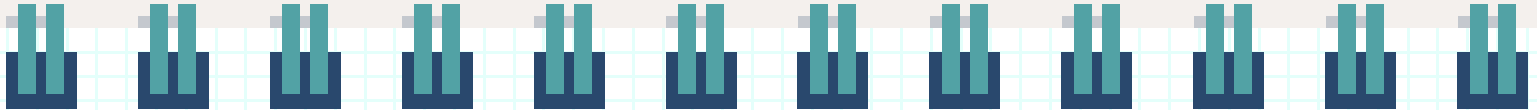


Check the Senior Class
of 2026 Canvas Page!

Senior Year 101

Class of
2026





* What Are Your Post-Graduation Options? *

01

2-Year
College

02

4-year College

03

Short-term
training

04

Military

05

Work

Need Help Deciding?



KELLER ISD
intentionally exceptional

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- [Advanced Placement, Dual Credit & OnRamps](#)
- [AVID](#)
- [Career Exploration](#)
- [Checklists](#)
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- [College Searches](#)
- [College Visits](#)
- [FAFSA, TASFA & Financial Aid](#)

CAREER EXPLORATION

Career Interest Inventories

The following are a few inventories or profile assessments that you may find helpful when trying to decide on a career or major to study.

- [Personality Type Guided Activity](#)
- [Careeronestop Interest Assessment](#)
- [Education Planner.org](#)
- [O'Net Interest Profiler](#)
- [Texas Career Check Interest Profiler](#)
- [Jung Typology personality test](#)
- [Enneagram Personality test](#)
- [123Personality test](#)

Career Search Sites

Career Coach

This amazing FREE online tool from Workforce Solutions gives Tarrant County residents the ability to research local careers and training programs like never before.

Career One Stop

A source for career exploration, training and jobs, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor.

[Get Schooled](#)

Choosing a College



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COLLEGE INFORMATION & TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

College Research Worksheet

A tool to help students research and identify the colleges that are a good fit

[Worksheet](#)

College Search Tools

Big Future

Not sure where to start? This site provides you with a step-by-step interactive guide.

Christian Connector

A free Christian College resource center

College Affordability Guide

This site uses millions of data points to analyze college costs and degree plans.

CollegeData.com

Set up a free account and get access to unique college planning tools to help you make right decisions about college. You can also save your favorite college, scholarships and articles in one place. Stay organized on your path to college!



Most Common Institutions of Enrollment by Keller ISD Students

- ✓ Tarrant County College
- ✓ University of North Texas
- ✓ Texas Tech
- ✓ Texas A & M
- ✓ UT Arlington

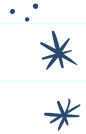


- ✓ UT Austin
- ✓ University of Arkansas
- ✓ University of Oklahoma
- ✓ Oklahoma State
- ✓ Texas State University





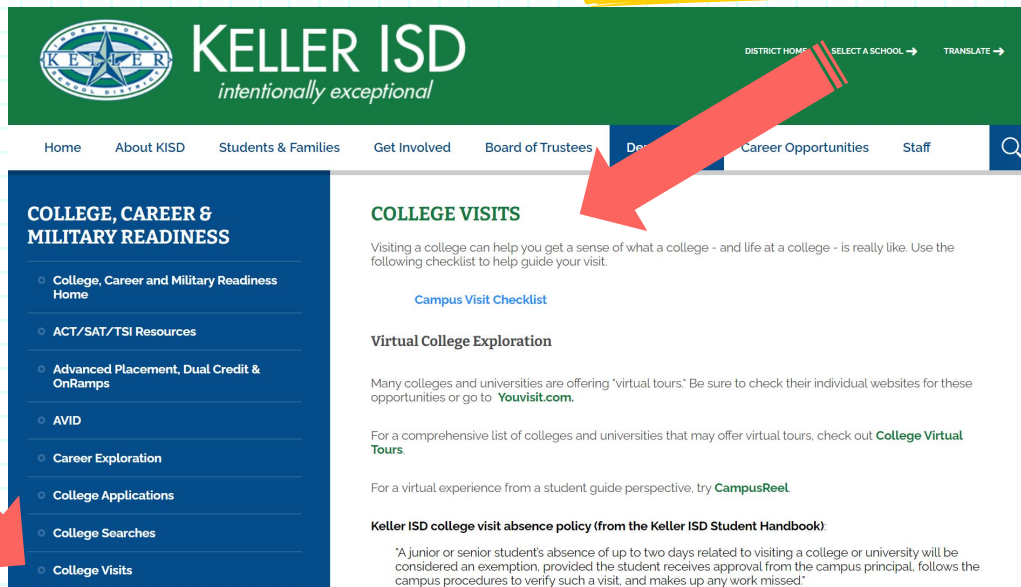
College Visits



"A junior or senior student's absence of up to two days related to visiting a college or university will be considered an exemption, provided the student receives approval from the campus principal, follows the campus procedures to verify such a visit, and makes up any work missed."

[How to Get an EXCUSED Absence... for College Visits \(also linked in your Canvas Modules\)](#)

Virtual College Visits and Fairs



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DISTRICT HOME SELECT A SCHOOL → TRANSLATE →

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- College Searches
- College Visits

COLLEGE VISITS

Visiting a college can help you get a sense of what a college - and life at a college - is really like. Use the following checklist to help guide your visit.

[Campus Visit Checklist](#)

Virtual College Exploration

Many colleges and universities are offering "virtual tours." Be sure to check their individual websites for these opportunities or go to [Youvisit.com](#).

For a comprehensive list of colleges and universities that may offer virtual tours, check out [College Virtual Tours](#).

For a virtual experience from a student guide perspective, try [CampusReel](#).

Keller ISD college visit absence policy (from the Keller ISD Student Handbook):

"A junior or senior student's absence of up to two days related to visiting a college or university will be considered an exemption, provided the student receives approval from the campus principal, follows the campus procedures to verify such a visit, and makes up any work missed."



[Youvisit.com](#)



[CampusReel](#)



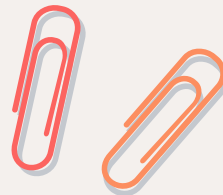
[College Virtual Tours](#)

∴ * *

College Applications

- Apply Texas
- Common App
- Coalition App
- HBCU App
- School specific application

Transcripts



- Colleges will need a copy of a student's transcript to admit the student.
- After high school graduation, students will need to submit a final (official) transcript to the college where they will attend.
- Students should begin requesting final transcripts in mid-May using the system (link is in your Canvas).

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- AVID

TRANSCRIPTS

Need to order a transcript?

[Click here to order your transcripts and student records](#)

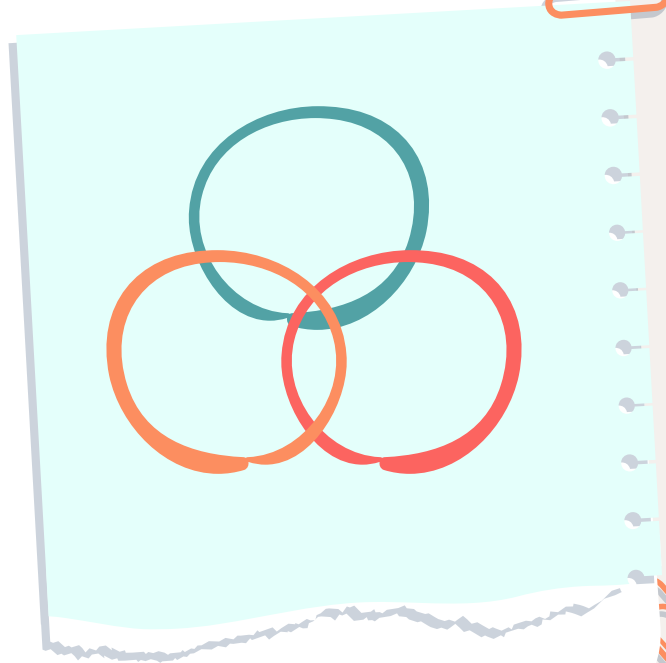
Strengthen Your Application

- Extra-curricular activities

Clubs, sports, band, etc.,

- Volunteer Hours

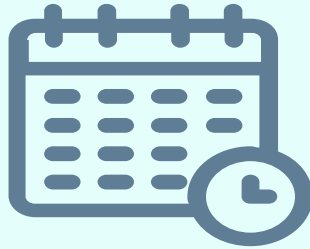
- Community Involvement



Essays!



- Answer the question asked.
- Tell your story...How are you unique?
- Be clear about why you are interested in the college.
- Show your creativity.
- Write several drafts and revise.
- Get feedback from good writers you know.



: * *

Letters of Recommendation

n

1. Cannot be a family member.
2. Give at least **3 weeks** notice.
3. LOR Request in your Canvas
4. ONLY when REQUIRED of a COUNSELOR.



Test Optional

Make sure you clearly understand exactly what “test optional” means to the college or university you are applying to.

Taking an SAT or ACT does not mean you *have* to submit your scores.



SAT
VS.
ACT ?

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- High School Course Guide

ACT/SAT/TSI RESOURCES

Due to COVID-19, many colleges and universities have changed their admission policies. Several have adopted "test optional" policies. You may access a list of those colleges and universities at this website: [Test Optional Colleges & Universities](#)

ACT Test Registration

Registration, Career Planning, Test Prep, Last Minute Questions.

SAT Information & Registration

Registration, Career Planning, Test Prep, Last Minute Questions.

ACT/SAT registration codes:

Central High School Code **442583**

Fossil Ridge High School Code **443753**

Keller High School Code **443755**

Timber Creek High School Code **443752**

New Directions High School Code **443757**

If you are on free/reduced lunch, you may pick up a **fee waiver** in the counseling office before registering.

Compare the ACT and SAT tests [here](#)



SAT vs. ACT

Compare the ACT and SAT tests

- ACT includes a Science section
- SAT is a computer-based test

	SAT	ACT
Why Take It	Colleges use SAT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.	Colleges use ACT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.
Test Structure	Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Math	English Math Reading Science Reasoning Essay (Optional)
Length	2 hours, 14 minutes	2 hours, 55 minutes (without essay) 3 hours, 40 minutes (with essay)
Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	2 modules	4 reading passages
Science	None	1 science section testing your critical thinking skills (not your specific science knowledge)
Math	Covers: Arithmetic Algebra I & II Geometry, Trigonometry and Data Analysis	Covers: Arithmetic Algebra I & II Geometry, Trigonometry, and Probability & Statistics
Calculator Policy	You can use a calculator on all math questions.	You can use a calculator on all math questions.
Essays	None	Optional. The essay will test how well you evaluate and analyze complex issues.
How It's Scored	Scored on a scale of 400-1600	Scored on a scale of 1-36
	SAT Prep Options	ACT Prep Options



* How to Register for SAT or ACT *



Know the
date you
want to
test



Credit
card or
other
payment



HS course
details



You can
register
online



High school
code



Headshot
photo



ACT & SAT Preparation

It is of the *utmost importance* that you **STUDY** before taking the ACT or SAT college entrance exam. Doing your best on these tests cannot only ensure your admission to the college of your choice, but it could also mean **scholarship** opportunities for you!

- Schedule your test far enough in advance to give yourself plenty of time to prepare.
- Take advantage of these FREE online tools.
- Study a little every day! Don't wait until the last minute to cram for the test. You will not get your best results!!

ACT Prep

<https://academy.act.org/>

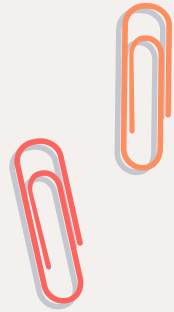
SAT Prep

<http://www.khanacademy.org/sat>

March2Success

March2Success provides an online study program to help students prepare for standardized tests, improve school work and review materials.

What is the TSI/Accuplacer and Who Needs It?

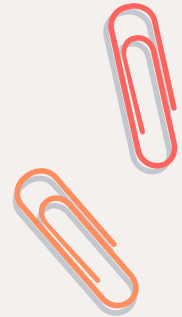
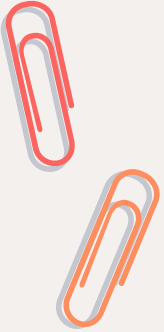


- Typically need to be “College Ready” in English and Math to avoid developmental classes in College.
- Score a 480 on SAT EBRW (English) and a 530 on SAT Math to be college ready.
- The Accuplacer/TSI is typically used by colleges in addition to the SAT or ACT to determine college-readiness.

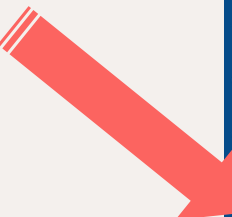
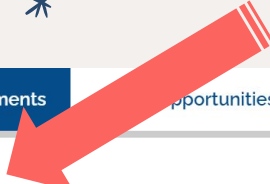
Financia

∴ Aid ∴

Financial Aid is
money (grants, loans,
scholarships and
work study) that
helps defray the
overall cost of your
college education.



Financial Aid



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- Scholarships

FAFSA, TASFA & FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid Resources

Every student should fill out the FAFSA (or TASFA) as early as possible during their senior year to be considered for Federal, State, and individual colleges' financial aid money. FAFSA will open on October 1, for students who will begin college in the fall of the following year.

Texas OnCourse Guidance for Families (Financial Aid Requirement)

U*Aspire Financial Aid Timeline

College Board: 3 Steps to Financial Aid

Texas Workforce Commission: Financial Resources and Planning (For Education and Training Beyond High School)

FAFSA Resources

All students and at least one parent with a social security number on the tax return should get an **FSA ID before** filling out their FAFSA. You will use the **FSA ID each year** you are in college to electronically sign and submit the FAFSA.

Step 1: Click [here](#) to create your FSA ID.

Step 2: Click [here](#) to start your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

TAFSA Resources

3 Types of Federal Student Aid

1



Free
money.

Grants are usually based on financial need and don't have to be repaid.

2



Borrowed
money.

Loans are an investment in your future. But remember, they must be repaid with interest.

3



Earned
money.

A **work-study** job lets you earn money while you're in school.



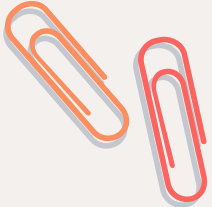
:: 😊 **FAFSA** ::

**(Free Application for
Federal Student Aid)**

No matter what your financial situation, it is *strongly recommended* that you complete the FAFSA.

It is required by *all* colleges for students to be eligible for financial aid.

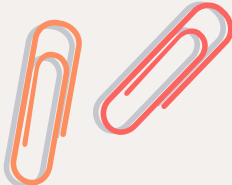
The application has a soft launch December 1st, but it's best to wait for January.



What is the TASFA?

- Texas Application for State Financial Aid
- For students classified as Texas residents who are not eligible to complete the FAFSA
- Used to determine eligibility for state financial aid





Which financial aid application should students use?

Student Residency Status	Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)	Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA)
US citizen	✓	
Permanent resident with an Alien Registration Card (I-551 visa)	✓	
Conditional permanent resident (I-551C visa)	✓	
Eligible noncitizen with an Arrival/Departure Record (I-94 visa)	✓	
None of the statuses above BUT Texas resident, eligible for in-state tuition		✓



Scholarships



∴ Institutional ∴

Straight from the university; based on need, academics, ACT/SAT, or special programs like athletics, fine arts, or volunteer hours. Some universities will have one application for all freshmen scholarships.

∴ Independent ∴

Straight from organizations; can be based on need, or specific to the organization. Check with your work, church, or community organization for available scholarships.

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- Scholarships

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Opportunities

To find out about scholarships, use the scholarship database and search engine sites listed below or look on your specific campus webpage.

Tips for successfully submitting a scholarship application:

- Complete the application correctly.
- Have your name on every page
- Include all required paperwork/forms
- Copy everything before you submit the application
- Be sure to submit the application before the deadline

Scholarship Search Sites

Cappex

College Board Opportunity Scholarships

College Board Scholarship Search

Edumed

Fastweb

Raise.me

Sallie Mae

Scholarships.com

Scholarship America

Scholarship Bee

Scholarships for Historically Black Colleges & Universities

UNCF

Unigo

Student Athletes



- Register with NCAA
- Register with NAIA
- Confirm with your counselor that you are on track with the classes you take for NCAA (4 X 4 Curriculum).
- Send official KISD transcript to NCAA or NAIA.
- Send your official SAT or ACT scores to NCAA or NAIA.
- Pay registration fees (or use fee waivers if eligible).

Community College

2 yr/transfer

Get your basics then transfer to larger school.



Certificate

Some jobs require a certificate rather than a degree.



Associates Degree

Some opportunities require an Associate's degree.



General Education

A great place to increase your general knowledge.



Benefit



∴ \$ ∴

- smaller classroom settings
- lower cost of attendance
- remaining closer to home
- complete “the basics”



Technical or Trade Schools

- Train students in highly specialized careers.
- Most programs are two years in length.
- Credits may or may not transfer to other traditional schools.



Health Care and
Social Assistance



Construction



Manufacturing



Trucking



Bookkeeping, Accounting
and Auditing

VOCATIONAL SKILLS

in High Demand Today

SOURCES: bls.gov | money.cnn.com



Food Services



Computer
Support



Dental Care



Hair Styling and
Cosmetology



Auto Servicing



Veterinary
Technology

Technical Programs

- Texas State Technical College: Registered Nurse (RN), Automotive Service Technology, Aviation Maintenance, Construction Management, Firefighter Certification, HVAC (Air Conditioning), Real Estate
- Texas State Technical College (Dallas): Architectural Design, Computer Networking, Cybersecurity, HVAC, Welding
- Parker University: Chiropractics, Health Sciences, Business & Technology
- Ogle School & L Makeup Institute (Southlake): Cosmetology, Esthetics, Manicurist, Stylist
- And so many more!

Military



Military

- Students can earn college credit while in the military.
- The military can pay for some or all of your college tuition.
- College ROTC programs can help you prepare for the military while attending college and can open up additional scholarship opportunities.
- Do not sign paperwork without discussing with your parents!

