Important Resources

- Cypress Ranch Website: **cfisd.net/cyranch**
- College & Career Website: **www.bit.ly/crhscollege**
- Social Media:



@CyRanchHS

@CyRanchCounsel



@CypressRanchHS (Cypress Ranch High School)

@CyRanchCounselors (Cypress Ranch Counselors)

- Make sure your contact information is up-to-date:
  Home Access Center > School Links > Annual Student Update

Senior Presentation

Cypress Ranch High School



Cy-Ranch Counselors

A – Cao	**Danielle Abrams**	danielle.abrams@cfisd.net
Cap – Gab	**Sarah Gaona**	sarah.gaona@cfisd.net
Gae – Jer	**Natasha Brooks**	natasha.brooks@cfisd.net
Jia – Mc	**Zachary Lucas**	zachary.lucas@cfisd.net
Me – Per	**Denise Patrick**	denise.patrick@cfisd.net
Pet – Spu	**Kimberly Lloyd**	kimberly.lloyd@cfisd.net
Sre – Z	**Lauren McClaid**	lauren.mcclaid@cfisd.net

Coordinating Counselor: Lindsey Housson - lindsey.housson@cfisd.net
Secretaries: Lisa Ehricke & Amy McClellan

College & Career Specialist: Kimberly Marks – **kimberly.marks@cfisd.net**



2026-2027
Cypress Ranch
Counseling Team

Foundation with Endorsement

English – English I, English II, English III + 4th English credit	4 Credits
Math – Algebra I, Geometry + 2 Advanced Math (Alg 2 required for some)	4 Credits
Science – Biology + IPC/Chem/Physics + 2 Additional Science courses	4 Credits
Social Studies – W. Geo/W. Hist + US History + Govt & Econ	3 Credits
Health	½ Credit
PACE – 9th Grade Year	½ Credit
PE	1 Credit
Language Other Than English – LOTE 1 + LOTE 2*	2 Credits
Fine Arts	1 Credit
Electives	6 Credits
TOTAL STATE CREDITS	**26**

*A student who struggled in completing the first LOTE credit and is unlikely to complete the second level LOTE credit may, with approval from Committee, substitute another course from a state-mandated list.
MAY NOT be appropriate choice for university bound students.

EOC (STAAR)

Exit Level Retests

12/1/26 English I

12/2/26 Algebra I & U.S. History

12/3/26 English II & Biology

- Retest opportunities in the Spring and Summer.
- Students will NOT be allowed to walk the stage at graduation if they do not pass all required EOC exams.



Correspondence Courses

- Course must be **completed,** and the **final exam requested** by **November 1st**.
- If the student does not complete the course, it will be recorded on the transcript as a "WD" and will be calculated in the grade point average as an "F" which negatively affect class rank.
- Must sign correspondence agreement letter prior to registration.
- Credit may not count for NCAA

Pass/Fail Classes

- Can earn up to 2.0 credits pass/fail
- Must exceed 22 credits (Foundation only) or 26 credits (Foundation + Endorsement) to be eligible.
- Benefits students who have a 6.0 GPA or higher.
- Fall semester Pass/Fail application cycle has ended.
- Spring semester Pass/Fail applications will be available in January (first week of classes).
- Students MUST complete the Pass/Fail application each semester.





NCAA Initial Eligibility Center

- Not all classes you take to meet high school graduation requirements may be used as NCAA core courses.
- Courses completed through credit-by-exam will not be used.
- CFISD DCR courses do not count towards the NCAA core requirements.
- See your Counselor or head coach for more NCAA information

http://www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.org





AP Exam Registration 2026-2027
October 1 - October 31

- AP Exam registration for year-long and fall semester courses will OPEN October 1, 2026 at 12:01 am.
  (Spring AP courses will have registration beginning in January)
- AP Exam registration will **CLOSE** on October 31, 2026 @ 11:59 PM.
  - **TWO STEP PROCESS:**
    1. Teachers will give join codes to join AP course in College Board; students will need their College Board login information or they will need to create a College Board account.
    2. Student must pay for AP exams in School Cash
  - Tests will NOT be ordered until student pays (by the deadline) in School Cash
- Cost = $105.00 per exam
  - Cost per exam for Free/Reduced lunch status $29.00 per exam

ASVAB Testing

Thursday, November 12th

Google Form to register - Watch for announcements and monthly newsletter for sign up information.

Sign up Deadline: Friday, November 6th

District Final Exemption Policy

To earn an exemption:

Grade Level	Fall Exemptions Available	Spring Exemptions Available
12th	4	7

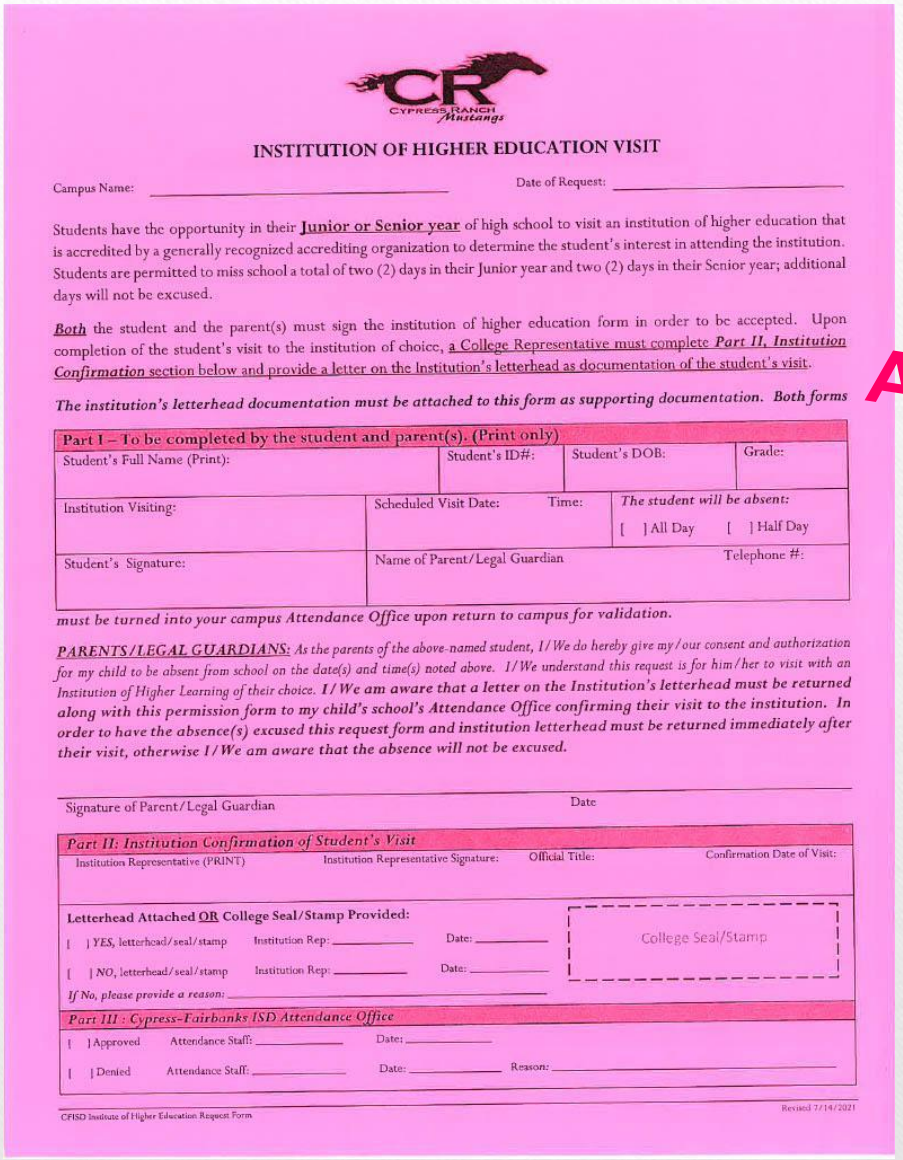
- THREE or less absences
- THREE or less tardies
- Average of 80+ for the semester
- E, S, or I in conduct / No OSS, ALC, or JJAEP Placement
- No outstanding fees or fines
- Meet the CCMR (College, Career, Military Readiness) requirement
- Lone Star College finals are required in all dual credit classes and CANNOT be exempted.

College/Military Visits

- 2 days for college visits & 4 days for military visits during senior year
- Check with colleges to see what in-person options are available
- Register for the visit through the college or university's website; "demonstrated interest" might be a consideration in their admissions process
- Pick up bright pink **"Institution of Higher Education Visit"** form from our Attendance Office **BEFORE** visit
- Form must be **signed and stamped** by a college official/military recruiting office and returned to the Attendance Office within 3 days of returning

College Visit Request Form!

2 Days during senior year!



CYPRESS RANCH Mustangs

INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION VISIT

Campus Name: _____ Date of Request: _____

Students have the opportunity in their **Junior or Senior year** of high school to visit an institution of higher education that is accredited by a generally recognized accrediting organization to determine the student's interest in attending the institution. Students are permitted to miss school a total of two (2) days in their Junior year and two (2) days in their Senior year; additional days will not be excused.

Both the student and the parent(s) must sign the institution of higher education form in order to be accepted. Upon completion of the student's visit to the institution of choice, a College Representative must complete ***Part II, Institution Confirmation*** section below and provide a letter on the Institution's letterhead as documentation of the student's visit.

The institution's letterhead documentation must be attached to this form as supporting documentation. Both forms must be turned into your campus Attendance Office upon return to campus for validation.

Part I – To be completed by the student and parent(s). (Print only)

Student's Full Name (Print):	Student's ID#:	Student's DOB:	Grade:
Institution Visiting:	Scheduled Visit Date: Time:	*The student will be absent:* [ ] All Day [ ] Half Day	
Student's Signature:	Name of Parent/Legal Guardian	Telephone #:	

PARENTS/LEGAL GUARDIANS: *As the parents of the above-named student, I/We do hereby give my/our consent and authorization for my child to be absent from school on the date(s) and time(s) noted above. I/We understand this request is for him/her to visit with an Institution of Higher Learning of their choice.* ***I/We am aware that a letter on the Institution's letterhead must be returned along with this permission form to my child's school's Attendance Office confirming their visit to the institution. In order to have the absence(s) excused this request form and institution letterhead must be returned immediately after their visit, otherwise I/We am aware that the absence will not be excused.***

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian Date

Part II: Institution Confirmation of Student's Visit

Institution Representative (PRINT)	Institution Representative Signature:	Official Title:	Confirmation Date of Visit:

Letterhead Attached OR College Seal/Stamp Provided:

[ ] *YES*, letterhead/seal/stamp Institution Rep: _____ Date: _____

[ ] *NO*, letterhead/seal/stamp Institution Rep: _____ Date: _____

College Seal/Stamp

If No, please provide a reason: _____

Part III : Cypress-Fairbanks ISD Attendance Office

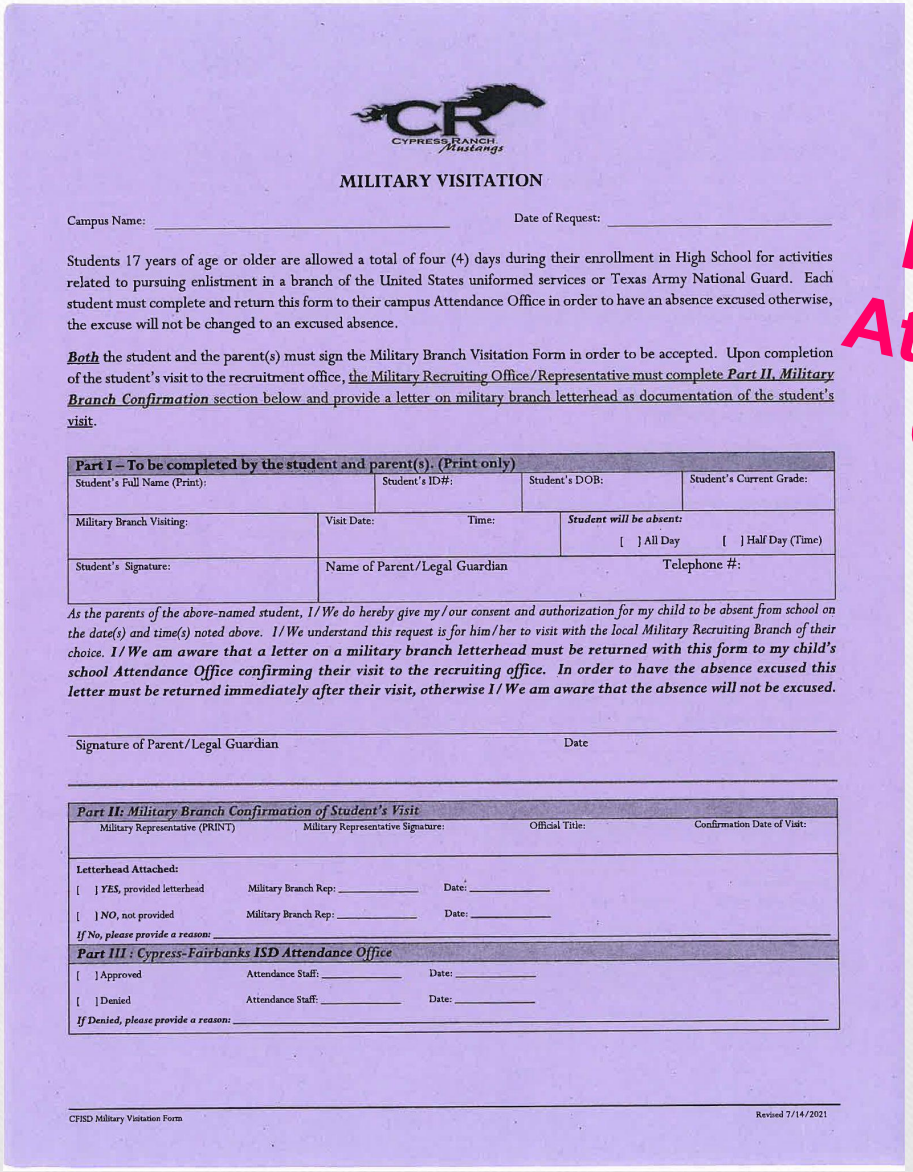
[ ] Approved Attendance Staff: _____ Date: _____

[ ] Denied Attendance Staff: _____ Date: _____ Reason: _____

CFISD Institute of Higher Education Request Form Revised 7/14/2021

Pick up & Return to Attendance Office!

Military Branch Visit Request Form!



CYPRESS RANCH Mustangs

MILITARY VISITATION

Campus Name: _____ Date of Request: _____

Students 17 years of age or older are allowed a total of four (4) days during their enrollment in High School for activities related to pursuing enlistment in a branch of the United States uniformed services or Texas Army National Guard. Each student must complete and return this form to their campus Attendance Office in order to have an absence excused otherwise, the excuse will not be changed to an excused absence.

Both the student and the parent(s) must sign the Military Branch Visitation Form in order to be accepted. Upon completion of the student's visit to the recruitment office, the Military Recruiting Office/Representative must complete ***Part II, Military Branch Confirmation*** section below and provide a letter on military branch letterhead as documentation of the student's visit.

Part I – To be completed by the student and parent(s). (Print only)

Student's Full Name (Print):	Student's ID#:	Student's DOB:	Student's Current Grade:
Military Branch Visiting:	Visit Date: Time:	***Student will be absent:*** [ ] All Day [ ] Half Day (Time)	
Student's Signature:	Name of Parent/Legal Guardian	Telephone #:	

As the parents of the above-named student, I/We do hereby give my/our consent and authorization for my child to be absent from school on the date(s) and time(s) noted above. I/We understand this request is for him/her to visit with the local Military Recruiting Branch of their choice. ***I/We am aware that a letter on a military branch letterhead must be returned with this form to my child's school Attendance Office confirming their visit to the recruiting office. In order to have the absence excused this letter must be returned immediately after their visit, otherwise I/We am aware that the absence will not be excused.***

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian Date

Part II: Military Branch Confirmation of Student's Visit

Military Representative (PRINT)	Military Representative Signature:	Official Title:	Confirmation Date of Visit:

Letterhead Attached:

[ ] ***YES***, provided letterhead Military Branch Rep: _____ Date: _____

[ ] ***NO***, not provided Military Branch Rep: _____ Date: _____

If No, please provide a reason: _____

Part III : Cypress-Fairbanks ISD Attendance Office

[ ] Approved Attendance Staff: _____ Date: _____

[ ] Denied Attendance Staff: _____ Date: _____

If Denied, please provide a reason: _____

CFISD Military Visitation Form Revised 7/14/2021

Pick up & Return to Attendance Office!

4 Days during senior year (age 17 or older)!

Requesting Transcripts

- Submit college or scholarship applications PRIOR to ordering official transcripts to be sent.
- Know your deadlines & plan ahead - Transcript processing takes up to 3 days.
- To order transcripts:
  - Scan this QR code:
  - If you do not have a smartphone, you can use this link from your computer: https://cypressfairbanksk12.scriborder.com/applicationCurrent
- Fee schedule for all other schools/transcript requests:
  - The first 3 transcripts are FREE
  - The 4th transcript is $6.00
  - Additional transcripts on the same order are $1.00 each.
- Tips: If you do not have a social security number or driver's license number, you can put zeros in for the response to those questions and it will allow you to bypass it.



Graduation



May 29th at 4:00 pm

Berry Center

Honor Graduate Designation by GPA:

- 6.5+ - Summa Cum Laude
- 6.25-6.49 - Magna Cum Laude
- 6.0-6.24 - Cum Laude

Graduation status determined at end of the **3rd 9-week grading period** of senior year.

Choices After Graduation

- College
  - 2-year or 4-year institutions
- Career / Technical Training
- Military









College and Career Update

www.bit.ly/crhscollege

TEXAS Top 10% Admissions

- Automatic Admission to Texas Public Institutions; UT top 5%
- Must submit completed application and all required documents prior to deadline set by the university.
- Apply no later than 2 years after graduating from high school.
- Graduate under FHSP+E and Distinguished Level of Achievement.
- Colleges within the universities may limit the number eligible for admission due to enrollment caps. (i.e., You could be accepted to the university but NOT offered your major of study.)

Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

- A statewide program to assess college readiness in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.
- Required by all in-state, public institutions.
- Helps colleges determine what type of course or intervention will best meet your needs in each of these areas.

TSI Exempt if student meets college readiness benchmark:

TSI Requirement	SAT (after March 2016)	ACT (before 2/15/23)	ACT (on or after 2/15/23)
ELAR	**480+**	**23+ Composite**, and **19+ English**	**40+ on English & Reading (E+R)** NO Composite score requirement
MATH	**530+**	**23+ Composite**, and **19+ Math**	**22+ on Math** NO Composite score requirement

If a student is not TSI exempt…A placement test will be required before enrollment. Check with your college/university for instructions on how to test and submit results.

Before Starting the Application Process

- Do your research & develop a college list of at least 6 schools.
- Take the required entrance exams SAT/ACT.
  - A lot of schools are TEST OPTIONAL but the shift back to requiring them is the current trend.
- Develop a résumé - don't be modest!
- Compose Essays - have them edited by teacher, parent, or other resources.
- If needed, ask for letters of recommendation.
  - MUST give Ranch Staff 3 weeks notification

Common Requirements for College Applications

- Fees
- Essay
- Application
- Scores
- Transcripts

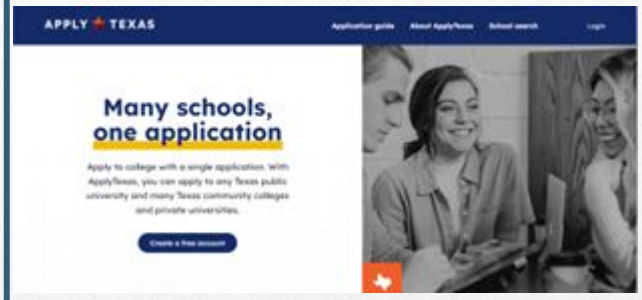


College Essay Writing Tips

- Research the traits the college/university describes their students possessing, and ensure your essay demonstrates/shows that you possess those traits.
- BE AUTHENTIC & use the essay to tell them what your application can't
- Focus on the unique qualities, characteristics, and/or talents that you will bring to their college community
- Include deep, personal reflections - don't just retell a story
- Make sure your essay is about YOU – they're not admitting any of your family members

College Applications

Texas Public Colleges/Universities



ApplyTexas.org

FREE Application Week: Oct. 13-19, 2025

Used by over 1,100 member colleges and universities in all 50 states & 18 countries

THE COMMON APPLICATION

CommonApp.org

COALITION

Used by only 6 private Texas universities and many other colleges & universities across the U.S.

www.CoalitionForCollegeAccess.org

COMMON BLACK COLLEGE APP

Apply to 67 HBCUs for only $20!

GET EDUcated!
EDU, Inc.
COMMON BLACK COLLEGE APPLICATION

www.CommonBlackCollegeApp.com

Institution-Specific Application

Some colleges have their own application accessible from their website.

SAT Test Dates 2026-2027

SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline
***September 12, 2026**	August 28, 2026
***October 3, 2026**	September 18, 2026
***November 7, 2026**	October 23, 2026
***December 5, 2026**	November 20, 2026
***March 6, 2027**	February 19, 2027
***May 1, 2027**	April 16, 2027
June 5, 2027	May 21, 2027

**** Cy Ranch is currently a testing center option for these test dates.***

NOTE: The School-day SAT on March 3, 2027 is for JUNIORS ONLY.

www.collegeboard.org

ACT Test Dates 2026-2027

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline
September 19, 2026	August 14, 2026
October 17, 2026	September 11, 2026
December 12, 2026	November 6, 2026
February 27, 2027	January 22, 2027
April 10, 2027	March 5, 2027
June 12, 2027	May 7, 2027
July 10, 2027	June 4, 2027

www.actstudent.org

Applying To College



Don't Trick or Treat Before You Complete!

1. **APPLY EARLY** – Don't meet deadlines, beat them! College deadlines are firm…no exceptions!

2. **READ CAREFULLY** - Provide accurate information and ALL required materials. Don't forget to pay the application fee and click SUBMIT! Proofread, proofread, proofread.

3. **RESPOND IMMEDIATELY** – Remind students to check emails daily and respond as quickly as possible to provide whatever they're requesting.

4. **CHECK APP STATUS ONLINE** - OFTEN! / Don't forget the Bac Men vaccine requirement!

5. **COMPLETE THE FAFSA APPLICATION** – opens October 1st and you should complete the 2027-2028 application as soon as it's available

Keep this info handy for College Applications

- GPA is: Weighted on a 6.0 scale
- Class rank is: Exact and Weighted
- Counselor: List your assigned alpha counselor
- High School Code: 441689
- NCAA Eligibility Center Code: 9999
- School address:
  - Cypress Ranch HS
  - 10700 Fry Rd. Cypress, TX 77433
- School phone: 281-373-2300
- Principal: Dr. Michael Maness

Letters of Recommendation
Research, Request, Respond, Review

- **Research** each college carefully - Some colleges won't consider them at all, and some colleges consider them heavily.
- **Request** letter(s) at least 3 weeks in advance to give the recommender time to write the recommendation.
- **Respond** to your recommender's request for any additional information, such as a Student Profile
- **Review** your admissions checklist on each of your college portals to ensure letters are submitted before the deadline.

Letters are sent directly to each college/university by person who is writing the recommendation letter. Letters should NEVER be given directly to a student.

Paying for College (Financial Aid Options)



- Grants
- Scholarships
- Loans
- Work-Study Programs

FAFSA

- **FAFSA – opens OCTOBER 1st**
- Complete the **2027-2028 Application** (this will be your first year in college if you start next August)
- Texas HS Graduation Requirement & required by most colleges and scholarships
- Updated application with approx. 35 questions
- Don't delay - Money is awarded on first-come, first-served basis
- Texas Priority Deadline is Jan. 15th, but you need to know & meet each college's financial aid deadline

FAFSA

Important Things to Note:

- Student and parent(s) must set up their own FSA ID/login. You can get started at: www.studentaid.gov
- Fewer issues when the student logs in FIRST and enters their parent(s) info on the application. Parents then receive an email directing them to complete their portion. Parents can launch their application using the link in that email.
- FAFSA application must be completed EVERY YEAR to receive ANY financial aid from the university (including federal student loans); use the same FSA ID/login every year

Scholarships

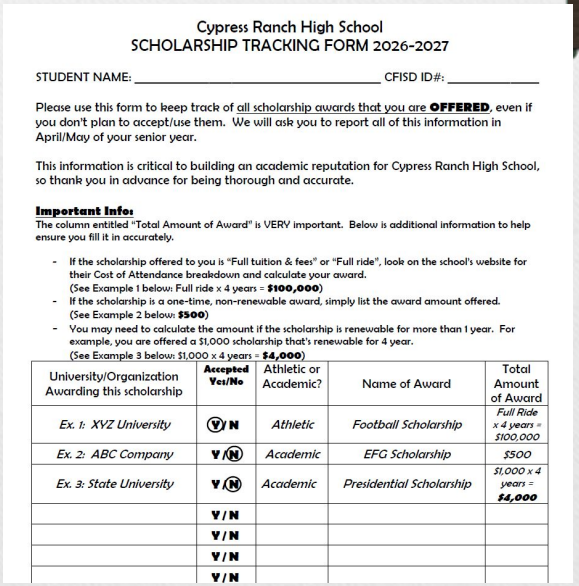
- District Website: www.CFISD.net
  - → Search for: Scholarships
- Parent's Employers/Major Corporations
- Scholarship "Search" Websites:

  www.GoingMerry.com
  www.fastweb.com
  www.scholarships360.org
  https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search

- Colleges – research to find out if they review your admissions app or if there is a separate scholarship application & deadline

Scholarship Reporting Form

- **Keep track of ALL scholarship offers (academic and athletic) *even if you're not planning to accept them*!**
- **You can print the Scholarship Reporting Form from our College & Career website (please use this form to track your scholarship offers until we ask for the final totals in the Spring)**
- **Students will report these totals in April/May on the district's Senior Survey:**
  - **Academic Scholarships offered = $**
  - **Academic Scholarships accepted = $**
  - **Athletic Scholarships offered = $**
  - **Athletic Scholarships accepted = $**



Cypress Ranch High School
SCHOLARSHIP TRACKING FORM 2026-2027

STUDENT NAME: _____ CFISD ID#: _____

Please use this form to keep track of all scholarship awards that you are **OFFERED**, even if you don't plan to accept/use them. We will ask you to report all of this information in April/May of your senior year.

This information is critical to building an academic reputation for Cypress Ranch High School, so thank you in advance for being thorough and accurate.

Important Info:
The column entitled "Total Amount of Award" is VERY important. Below is additional information to help ensure you fill it in accurately.

- If the scholarship offered to you is "Full tuition & fees" or "Full ride", look on the school's website for their Cost of Attendance breakdown and calculate your award.
  (See Example 1 below: Full ride x 4 years = **$100,000**)
- If the scholarship is a one-time, non-renewable award, simply list the award amount offered.
  (See Example 2 below: **$500**)
- You may need to calculate the amount if the scholarship is renewable for more than 1 year. For example, you are offered a $1,000 scholarship that's renewable for 4 year.
  (See Example 3 below: $1,000 x 4 years = **$4,000**)

University/Organization Awarding this scholarship	**Accepted Yes/No**	Athletic or Academic?	Name of Award	Total Amount of Award
Ex. 1: XYZ University	**(Y) / N**	*Athletic*	*Football Scholarship*	*Full Ride x 4 years = $100,000*
Ex. 2: ABC Company	**Y / (N)**	*Academic*	*EFG Scholarship*	*$500*
Ex. 3: State University	**Y / (N)**	*Academic*	*Presidential Scholarship*	*$1,000 x 4 years = **$4,000***
	Y / N			
	Y / N			
	Y / N			
	Y / N			

CFISD

COLLEGE NIGHT



OCT. 6 | 6:00 -8:00 P.M. | BERRY CENTER

Create a personal QR code to share with College Reps at the Fair

falltacrao.swoogo.com/registration

Filter by: Region - Houston I / Cypress-Fairbanks ISD - October 6

Senior Conferences
Fall 2026 Semester

A - Cao	Danielle Abrams
Cap - Gab	Sarah Gaona
Gae - Jer	Natasha Brooks
Jia- Mc	Zachary Lucas
Me - Per	Denise Patrick
Pet - Spu	Kimberly Lloyd
Sre - Z	Lauren McClaid



Questions???

Counselors will be available outside the commons