

# CYPRESS RANCH COUNSELING



COLLEGE 101: JUNIOR YEAR  
PLANNING GUIDE  
CLASS OF 2028



# 2026-2027 Cypress Ranch Counseling Team

# CRHS Counseling Staff

|          |                 |                           |
|----------|-----------------|---------------------------|
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**Coordinating Counselor:** Lindsey Housson - lindsey.housson@cfisd.net

**Secretaries:** Lisa Ehricke and Amy McClellan

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

# FOUNDATION WITH ENDORSEMENTS

|                                                                               |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| English – English I, English II, English III + 4 <sup>th</sup> English credit | 4 Credits |
| Math – Algebra I, Geometry + 2 Advanced Math credits                          | 4 Credits |
| Science – Biology + IPC/Chem/Physics + 2 Additional Science courses           | 4 Credits |
| Social Studies – W. Geo/W. Hist + US History + Govt (.5) & Econ (.5)          | 3 Credits |
| PACE – 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Year                                             | ½ Credit  |
| Health                                                                        | ½ Credit  |
| PE                                                                            | 1 Credit  |
| Language Other Than English – LOTE 1 + LOTE 2                                 | 2 Credits |
| Fine Arts                                                                     | 1 Credit  |
| Electives                                                                     | 6 Credits |
| <b>TOTAL STATE CREDITS</b>                                                    | <b>26</b> |



# Grade Classification Standards

| Grade            | Criteria for Promotion                                                |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | Promotion from Middle School                                          |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | 1 year of attendance and 5 credits, including English I and Algebra I |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> | 2 years of attendance and 11 credits                                  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | 3 years of attendance and <b>17 credits</b>                           |

Colleges do not see your report card. Colleges see your transcript

3/2022

Student Transcript

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Student:

Cypress Ranch High School

10700 Fry Road

Cypress, TX 77433

Cypress-Fairbanks I.S.D.

(281) 373-2300

CEEB #: 441689

Birth Date:

Student ID:

Parent Guardian:

Phone:

Grade:

Gender:

State ID:

Ethnicity:

Race:

Graduation Date:

TX Grant Eligibility:

Certificate of Completion Date:

Student Unique ID:

Graduation Program Type:

Department: ENGLISH

End HS Prg-Tac Ch 74.1021-Stu Spced Gr 9 2015 & after

Department: MATHEMATICS

| Year | Building  | Course        | SEM1 | SEM2  | Credit |
|------|-----------|---------------|------|-------|--------|
| 2019 | 101907012 | English I H   | 97 G | 100 G | 0.5    |
| 2019 | 101907012 | English I H   |      | 100 G | 0.5    |
| 2019 | 101907012 | PACE          |      | 100   | 0.5    |
| 2020 | 101907012 | English II H  | 95 G |       | 0.5    |
| 2020 | 101907012 | English II H  |      | 98 G  | 0.5    |
| 2021 | 101907012 | English III K | 97 H |       | 0.5    |
| 2021 | 101907012 | English III K |      | 99 H  | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | Eng IV K      |      |       | 0      |
| 2022 | 101907012 | Eng IV K      |      |       | 0      |

Department: SCIENCE

| Year | Building  | Course          | SEM1  | SEM2   | Credit |
|------|-----------|-----------------|-------|--------|--------|
| 2019 | 101907012 | Biology I H     | 98 G  |        | 0.5    |
| 2019 | 101907012 | Biology I H     |       | 99 G   | 0.5    |
| 2020 | 101907012 | CHEMISTRY H     | 98 G  |        | 0.5    |
| 2020 | 101907012 | CHEMISTRY H     |       | 93 G   | 0.5    |
| 2021 | 101907012 | PHYSICS H       | 92 G  |        | 0.5    |
| 2021 | 101907012 | PHYSICS H       |       | 94 G   | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | FORENSICS K     | 98 H  |        | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | FORENSICS K     |       | 99 H   | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | PATHOPHYS K     | 100 H |        | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | PATHOPHYS K     |       | 100 H  | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | Antmy/Physlgy K | 98 HA |        | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | Antmy/Physlgy K |       | 100 HA | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | Earth Space H   | 100 G |        | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | Earth Space H   |       | 100 G  | 0.5    |
| 2023 | 101907012 | CHEM-CA AP/DC   |       |        | 0      |
| 2023 | 101907012 | CHEM-CA AP/DC   |       |        | 0      |

Department: ECONOMICS

| Year | Building  | Course      | SEM1 | SEM2 | Credit |
|------|-----------|-------------|------|------|--------|
| 2023 | 101907012 | Economics K |      |      | 0      |

Department: HEALTH

| Year | Building  | Course | SEM1 | SEM2 | Credit |
|------|-----------|--------|------|------|--------|
| 2023 | 101907012 | Health |      |      | 0      |

Department: SOCIAL STUDIES

| Year | Building  | Course         | SEM1  | SEM2  | Credit |
|------|-----------|----------------|-------|-------|--------|
| 2020 | 101907012 | Human Geog Hap | 96 GP |       | 0.5    |
| 2020 | 101907012 | Human Geog Hap |       | 99 GP | 0.5    |
| 2021 | 101907012 | Wld Hist St K  | 100 H |       | 0.5    |
| 2021 | 101907012 | Wld Hist St K  |       | 99 H  | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | U S History K  | 99 H  |       | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 101907012 | U S History K  |       | 100 H | 0.5    |
| 2022 | 900       | Sociology D    | 95 DR |       | 0.5    |
| 2023 | 101907012 | Psych Hap Dual |       |       | 0      |
| 2023 | 101907012 | US Govt H/AP   |       |       | 0      |

Semester averages, courses taken &amp; credits awarded are shown on transcript

# How is a semester average calculated?

- **1<sup>st</sup> 9 Weeks Grade** - added three times
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks Grade** - added three times
- **Semester Exam** - counts as 1/7 of the semester grade\*

\*unless you are exempt from the semester exam\*

## Example

**MP1: 85 + 85 + 85**

+

**MP2: 95 + 95 + 95**

+

**Final Exam: 90**

**630 (sum)**

**/ 7 (divide by 7)**

=

**90 (Semester Average)**

# CFISD Grading Scale for Determining GPA

## Grading Scale

CFISD uses a weighted 6.0 grading scale. Grade points are allocated for a course of study based on the designation of the course as indicated in the chart below.

Grading Scale for Students Graduating through the Class of 2029

| GRADE        | LEVEL OR COURSE            |                    |                                                     |                 |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|              | K, AP, and HORIZONS Levels | L-Level (on-level) | Below Level Adaptive Behavior, ICS-M, NAC, Resource | L.I.F.E. Skills |
| A (90-100)   | 7 grade points             | 6 grade points     | 5 grade points                                      | 4 grade points  |
| B (80-89)    | 6 grade points             | 5 grade points     | 4 grade points                                      | 3 grade points  |
| C (75-79)    | 5 grade points             | 4 grade points     | 3 grade points                                      | 2 grade points  |
| C- (70-74)   | 4 grade points             | 3 grade points     | 2 grade points                                      | 1 grade points  |
| F (below 70) | 0 grade points             | 0 grade points     | 0 grade points                                      | 0 grade points  |

CFISD uses a 6.0 Weighted GPA Scale  
Rank is EXACT

# When does CFISD calculate your GPA/Rank

## For JUNIORS:

- GPA is calculated at the end of Junior Year.
- This is the GPA that will be used when applying to college!
- No summer classes are included in this GPA.

## For SENIORS:

- GPA is calculated:
  - At the end of the Fall Semester (January)
  - At the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period (March)\*
  - At the end of senior year to send final transcripts to colleges.

\*March calculation is used for graduation seat order/honor grad status\*

# Options for Earning HS Credit Original/Make Up

- Summer School
- District Credit by Exam (CBE)
- CFISD Virtual Pathways Supplemental Courses
- Correspondence Course (TTU or UT)
- Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN)

Students must have written counselor permission BEFORE  
registering for these types of courses.

# Early Release / Late Arrival

**Beginning with the class of 2026, the principal may grant early release/late arrival to a senior who:**

- **Is enrolled in courses that complete the FHSP+E**
- **Has met at least one CCMR indicator (College Career Military Readiness) standard**
- **Has passed all required state-mandated assessments**
- **Meets one of the following conditions below:**
  - **Enrolled in a college or co-op course**
  - **Has a job**
  - **Caregiver for infant/child/elderly**
  - **Other situations requested by parent and approved by principal**

# CCMR (college, career, military readiness)

| CCMR Indicators                                                                                           | 2026-27 Grads                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>TSI</b><br>(meet TSI criteria in both RLA and Math – can meet RLA in one criteria and Math in another) | Reading TSIA1 $\geq$ 351 OR TSIA2 $\geq$ 945 AND Essay $\geq$ 5<br>ACT English (E+R) Combined Score $\geq$ 40 (On or after 2/15/2023)<br>SAT ELA $\geq$ 480<br>Math TSIA1 $\geq$ 350 OR TSIA2 $\geq$ 950<br>ACT Math $\geq$ 22 (On or after 2/15/2023)<br>SAT Math $\geq$ 530 |
| <b>AP Exam</b>                                                                                            | Score of 3 or higher in any subject                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Dual Course Credits</b>                                                                                | $\geq$ 3 hours in RLA or Math OR $\geq$ 9 hours total across subjects                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Associate Degree</b>                                                                                   | Earn an associate degree prior to high school graduation (College Academy)                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Industry Based Certification (IBC)</b>                                                                 | Earn an IBC AND Completer in aligned Program of Study (Three or more courses for four or more credits, including one level three or level four course in the same program of study.)                                                                                          |
| <b>IEP Grad</b>                                                                                           | SPED Graduate with completed IEP and workforce readiness (Graduation Code 04, 05, 54 or 55)                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>SPED Grad</b>                                                                                          | SPED Graduate with Advanced Degree Plan (RHSP, DAP, FHSP-E, FHSP-DLA)                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Armed Forces</b>                                                                                       | Enlist in US Military or Texas National Guard (TEAL submission of DD Form 4)                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

# Endorsements

## Public Services

CTE-Education and Training (teacher)/Health Science (medical)/Human Services (cosmo)  
AFJROTC

## Arts & Humanities

Social Studies

LOTE

Fine Arts

## Business & Industry

CTE (Ag, Arch, AVP, Fashion, Bus, Marketing, Fin, IT, Manu, Transp)  
English (Journalism, Debate)  
Combination

## STEM

Computer Science  
CTE-Engineering  
Math  
Science  
Combination

## Multidisciplinary

4 X 4

AP/Dual Credit

**Seniors MUST have  
at least ONE endorsement  
to qualify for Early Release  
or Late Arrival**



## **Distinguished Level of Achievement Under Foundation with Endorsements**

- **To be eligible for the top 10% automatic admission and/or the Texas Grant a student must earn Distinguished Level of Achievement.**
- **The Distinguished Level of Achievement requires:**
  - \*4 credits in math including Algebra II**
  - \*4 credits in science**
  - \*All Foundation High School Program requirements**
  - \*At least one endorsement**

# Performance Acknowledgements

**A student may earn a performance acknowledgment for outstanding performance in the areas of:**

- **Dual credit**
- **Bilingual / Bi-literacy**
- **College Board Advanced Placement (AP) exams**
- **PSAT, ACT ASPIRE, SAT, or ACT performance**
- **Nationally or Internationally Recognized Business or Industry Certification or License.**

**Details are available in the HS Course Description booklet found at  
[www.cfisd.net](http://www.cfisd.net) > Academics > Curriculum/Course Descriptions**

# Foundation High School Program

|                                                                   |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| English – English I, English II, English III + 4th English credit | 4 Credits |
| Math – Algebra I, Geometry, + additional math credit              | 3 Credits |
| Science – Biology + IPC/Chem/Physics + additional science credit  | 3 Credits |
| Social Studies – W.Geog or 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 (one full course)                                       | 1 Credit  |
| Electives                                                         | 4 Credits |
| <b>TOTAL STATE CREDITS</b>                                        | <b>22</b> |

**Must have completed Opt Out Form on file**  
**Students cannot have early release/late arrival without endorsement**



Additional graduation requirements

**Students are required to pass the following EOC Tests:**

**English I - April 6**

**English II - April 7**

**US History- April 13**

**Biology – April 14**

**Algebra I – April 20**



**Students must pass all EOCs to have early release/late arrival**

# Junior Conferences

Counselors will begin meeting individually with students during fall semester to:

1. Evaluate credits left for graduation.
2. Finalize classes they are interested in taking their senior year.

Forms will be sent home after the conference for a parent signature.

Any requested changes **MUST** be made in writing with parent signature before the end of April.

**No course changes will be made after  
April 30, 2027!**



# SAT Test

## March 3, 2027

**All juniors will take the SAT Test during the school day.  
No registration is required!**

**Qualification for CCMR Indicator:**

**SAT ELA  $\geq$  480**

**SAT Math  $\geq$  530**

**Take this test seriously if you want access to ER/LA**

# Opportunities to earn College Credit in HS

## Dual Credit (DC) and Advanced Placement (AP)

| <u>Dual Credit</u><br>Must meet qualifications                                                       | <u>Advanced Placement –AP</u><br>Must meet qualifications                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Enrolled in LSC & CRHS campus course.<br>Taught by CRHS teacher who is LSC<br>qualified              | Enroll in campus AP course only                                                                      |
| Pay tuition (\$129 for a 3-credit course)                                                            | Pay for AP exam (\$105)                                                                              |
| Grade in course = credit                                                                             | Score on ONE test (3,4,5) = credit                                                                   |
| Credit transfers to public TX<br>Colleges/Universities and many<br>Colleges/Universities within U.S. | College/University determines whether<br>test score is acceptable and type/amount<br>of credit.      |
| You will build both a HS transcript & LSC<br>transcript & submit with your college<br>apps.          | You will request an official score report<br>from College Board after you enroll in<br>your college. |

## Dual Credit PARENT Meeting

**Students interested in registering for ANY DC courses for summer 2027 or the 2027-2028 school year MUST attend:**

**\*\*Mandatory\*\***

**Dual Credit Student and Parent Meeting  
February 8th at 5:00 PM**

**CRHS Auditorium - Non CA  
CRHS Commons - College Academy**

**Before registering for any dual credit course,  
check the College website**

**All colleges have Course Equivalency System**

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `s3apps.ou.edu/ted/`. The page header features the University of Oklahoma logo and the text "ADMISSIONS & RECRUITMENT The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA". The main content area is divided into three search sections, each with a "Reset Form" button:

- Search by OU Course**: Includes dropdown menus for Subject, Course, State, and Transfer Institution.
- Search by Other Institution Course**: Includes dropdown menus for State, Transfer Institution, Transfer Subject, and Transfer Courses.
- Search by General Education Requirement**: Includes dropdown menus for State, Transfer Institution, and General Education Requirement.

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the date and time as 11:59 AM on 10/31/2019.

**Research which courses are required for your degree  
plan**

# AP Exams



## 2026-2027 AP EXAM INFORMATION

*For Yearlong and Fall Semester Courses*



**OPENS** – Thursday, October 1st at 12:01 AM

**CLOSED** – Friday, October 31st at 11:59 PM

**AP EXAM COST & REFUND INFORMATION:**

- Regular Exam: \$105.00 per exam
- Free/Reduced Lunch Students: \$29 per exam



**November 2nd - November 11th**  
Late AP Exam Registration

- Full refunds will be given for exams canceled **BEFORE Nov.11th at 11:59 PM.**
- NO REFUNDS** will be issued **AFTER November 12th @ 12:01 AM.**

**AP EXAM REGISTRATION & PAYMENT (3 STEPS):**



**STEP 1**  
Students will need their CollegeBoard login information or will need to create a CollegeBoard account for AP exam registration.  
[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) (My AP)



**STEP 2**  
Teachers will give JOIN Codes to join the AP course in CollegeBoard. If you are requesting an AP exam and are **NOT** currently enrolled in the AP course, please come to the counseling office.



**STEP 3**  
Students pay for their AP exam using SchoolCash.  
[www.schoolcashionline.com](http://www.schoolcashionline.com)

★ **AP EXAM SCHEDULE** ★

**WEEK 1**

|                        | Morning 8 AM Local Time                                                     | Afternoon 12 PM Local Time                                 |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday, May 3, 2027    | Human Geography<br>Physics C: Mechanics                                     | Biology                                                    |
| Tuesday, May 4, 2027   | US Government & Politics                                                    |                                                            |
| Wednesday, May 5, 2027 | English Literature/Comp (Eng IV)                                            | Physics 1: Alg Based<br>Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism |
| Thursday, May 6, 2027  | French Language & Culture<br>Physics 2: Alg Based<br>World History – Modern | Chemistry                                                  |
| Friday, May 7, 2026    | US History                                                                  | Macroeconomics                                             |

 7:00 p.m. deadline to enter AP Art & Design Portfolio Components into AP Digital Portfolio

**WEEK 2**

|                         | Morning 8 AM Local Time                           | Afternoon 12 PM Local Time |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Monday, May 10, 2027    | Calculus AB<br>Calculus BC                        | Music Theory               |
| Tuesday, May 11, 2027   | Precalculus                                       | Statistics                 |
| Wednesday, May 12, 2027 | English Lang/Comp (Eng III)                       | Computer Science A         |
| Thursday, May 13, 2027  | Spanish Lang/Culture                              | Environmental Science      |
| Friday, May 14, 2027    | Computer Science Principles<br>Spanish Literature | Psychology                 |

- Exam Registration Closes October 31<sup>st</sup>
- \$105.00 Per Exam (\$29.00 F/R)
- May 3 – 14, 2027

# AP Credit Policy Search

Find colleges and universities that offer credit or placement for AP scores. Begin your search by entering the name of the institution below. For the most up-to-date AP credit policy information, be sure to check the institution's website.

## Find a college's credit policy

Please enter at least two characters to view a preliminary list of matches. Click Search to see a complete list of results. The number in parentheses is the school's College Board code.

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

# Pass/Fail Courses

- **Benefits students who earn mostly A's in K-level academic courses and have a 6.0+ GPA**
- **Will not be included in GPA or class rank**
- **Students can only P/F the 3rd or 4th course taken in an approved sequence**
- **May earn up to 2.0 total credits P/F (Juniors/Seniors Only)**
- **Available for courses beyond 26 (Foundations + Endorsement Plan) credits required for graduation**
- **Students MUST apply for pass/fail each semester**
- **Students will have the opportunity to pass/fail spring 2027**

# ROADMAP TO COLLEGE



College & Career Update  
[www.bit.ly/crhcscollege](http://www.bit.ly/crhcscollege)

# **Fall Semester – Junior Year**

## **(a.k.a. RIGHT NOW)**

- **Create a College List – include Match, Safety, and Reach Schools**
- **Research colleges and their admission requirements**
- **Is the SAT or ACT test required? Is the school “test optional” for your application cycle?**
  - **Many schools are beginning to require the SAT/ACT for admissions**
  - **Scholarship money may be available for certain test scores**
- **Start a “College Applicant Tracker” - [www.bit.ly/crhscollege](http://www.bit.ly/crhscollege)**
- **Consider taking the SAT and/or ACT in December for a baseline so you can prep for your school-day SAT on March 3rd**

# SAT Test Dates 2026-2027

| <u>SAT Test Date</u>                    | <u>Registration Deadline</u>                     |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| December 5, 2026                        | November 20, 2026                                |
| <b>School Day SAT<br/>March 3, 2027</b> | <b>ALL Juniors; no<br/>registration required</b> |
| May 1, 2027                             | Apr 16, 2027                                     |
| June 5, 2027                            | May 21, 2027                                     |

[www.collegeboard.org](https://www.collegeboard.org)

# ACT Test Dates 2026-2027

| ACT Test Date  | Registration Deadline |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Dec. 12, 2026  | Nov. 6, 2026          |
| Feb. 27, 2027  | January 22, 2027      |
| April 10, 2027 | March 5, 2027         |
| Jun. 12, 2027  | May 7, 2027           |
| Jul 10, 2027   | Jun 4, 2027           |

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

# Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

- A statewide program to assess college readiness in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.
- Required by in-state, public institutions.
- Helps colleges determine what type of course or intervention will best meet your needs in each of these areas.
- TSI can also award CCMR points if there is no other qualifying score.

## **TSI Exempt if student meets college readiness benchmark:**

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

# Fall Semester – Junior Year cont'd (a.k.a. RIGHT NOW).



- Plan college visits
  - \* Allowed 2 during junior year & 2 during senior year
  - \* Fall break, Thanksgiving week, & Spring Break are good times to visit
  - \* Schedule in-person tours and/or visits through the college's website
- Attend College Fairs & visit with College Reps
- Discuss plans for paying for college
  - \* Are out-of-state and/or private schools an option?
- Research scholarships
  - \* College Board-Big Future / [www.FastWeb.com](http://www.FastWeb.com) / [www.cfisd.net](http://www.cfisd.net) (search: scholarships)

# College Visits

Students are  
allowed 2 days  
during junior  
year & 2 days  
during senior  
year  
(1 of the days  
can be used as a  
travel day)

## STEP 1:

Register for a campus visit/tour on the  
college's website

## STEP 2:

Pick up an *Institution of Higher Education  
Visit Form* from the attendance office  
BEFORE the visit

## STEP 3:

A college representative must sign and place  
the college seal on the college visit form  
(virtual visits do not qualify)

## STEP 4:

Student must return the form to the attendance  
office within 3 school days so the absence will  
not count against final exam exemptions



# Spring Semester – Junior Year

- Take the ACT and/or the SAT
  - \* SAT test for ALL juniors – Wednesday, March 3rd
  - \* Take this test seriously! CCMR - 480 ELA, 530 Math
- Begin your college essay (Check for 2027 prompts online around Spring Break)
- Complete Step #1 of College Board's Opportunity Scholarship  
<https://opportunity.collegeboard.org/>
- Finish your academic year STRONG
- Review all SAT & ACT scores, and register if you're re-taking

# 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 the essay lets them learn about **YOU**; don't leave them wanting to admit your family members instead of you!

# Summer Before Senior Year

- **JUNE**

**Finish college essay**

**Review all SAT & ACT scores & if you're retaking, then:**

**Complete test prep program**

**Register for August test date**

- **JULY**

**July 1st or Aug 1st – most college apps open**

**Try to submit 1-2 college apps BEFORE school starts**

**Supplemental documents can be sent after we return to school**

# Information for College Applications

- GPA is on a 6.0 weighted scale
- Class rank is exact and weighted.
- 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
- Counselor contact info (refer to slide 2)



## 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.
- Essay also may be used for scholarship consideration
- Apply no later than 2 years after graduating from high school.
- Graduate under FHSP+E and Distinguished Level of Achievement.
- Apply early - Colleges within the universities may limit the number eligible for admission due to enrollment caps.



# Applying to College

## STEP 1:

Submit only ONE application to  
each school

## STEP 2:

Set up portals and submit ALL  
documents BEFORE the deadline.  
(official transcript, score reports, fees)

## STEP 3:

Check emails and portals daily  
(respond to requests for information promptly)



# 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 school days.
  - To order transcripts:
    - Scan QR Code
- 
- The first 3 transcripts are FREE!

**NOTE:** Counselors can upload transcripts to Common App once the student has listed their counselor's name & email address as "Counselor" and most colleges download official transcripts from there. If you have any doubt, call the Admissions Office at your future school(s).

## Submitting Scores

- If you're submitting SAT or ACT scores, most colleges require an Official Score Report sent directly from the testing agency – and received by their deadline!
- These score reports can take 3-4 weeks after you place your order – another reason to apply early!
  - SAT Scores – [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
  - ACT Scores – [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)



# 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 an effective letter. Provide recommender with instructions on how to submit their letter!
- 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 the recommender.*

*Letters will NEVER be given directly to a student.*



# College Admissions Terminology

- Early Decision – BINDING AGREEMENT
  - Only suggested for students who are VERY certain of their first-choice college, including finances.
  - If accepted, you MUST attend that college. May apply to other schools under Regular Decision option; but if accepted by the Early Decision school, applicant must withdraw other applications
- Early Action – NON-BINDING
  - Allows student to apply early and learn of the admission decision before regular decision applicants (usually Dec or Jan). If accepted, you are NOT obligated to attend.
- Priority Deadline
  - Generally means that students applying by this date will be the first applications reviewed, AND these applicants will be reviewed for the MAXIMUM amount of scholarships distributed by the school
- Test Optional – SAT/ACT scores are not required to be considered for admission

LAST DAY

FOR ANY

COURSE CHANGES

APRIL 30, 2027