



# Hays Consolidated ISD

Committed to Preparing All Students to Graduate College, Career and Life Ready!

## JUNIOR CHECKLIST for College & Career Readiness

CLASS OF 2027

- **Take the PSAT/NMSQT** (it will be scheduled in the month of **OCTOBER**). You will get information from your campus once plans are finalized. Study with the PSAT study guide. The junior year (11th grade) PSAT is connected to the National Merit Scholar Competition and it is also used as an indicator to gauge College Readiness, so it is **IMPORTANT TO DO YOUR BEST ON THE PSAT**. Our District pays for all Hays CISD students 8<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> and there is no need to pre-register.
- Take the SAT/ACT at least once during the **spring of Junior year**. We anticipate that date will be in **late March/early April**, ALL HCISD juniors will take the **SAT School Day** test at their HS campus.  
\*No need to pre-register (*just practice before the test, be in attendance and ready to do your very best!*)

Test Dates	Registration Deadlines	Test Type
<b>December 6, 2025</b>	<b>November 21, 2025</b>	<b>SAT</b>
December 13, 2025	November 7, 2025	ACT
February 14, 2026	January 9, 2026	ACT
<b>March 14, 2026</b>	<b>February 27, 2026</b>	<b>SAT</b>
April 11, 2026	March 06, 2026	ACT
<b>*Testing Window: March*</b>	<b>SAT School Day administration</b> <i>(HCISD will select a date within testing window)</i>	<b>SAT</b>
<b>May 2, 2026</b>	<b>April 17, 2026</b>	<b>SAT</b>
<b>June 6, 2026</b>	<b>May 22, 2026</b>	<b>SAT</b>
June 13, 2026	May 8, 2026	ACT
July 11, 2026	June 5, 2026	ACT
<b>** August 13<sup>th</sup> **</b>	<b>Anticipated SAT summer test administration</b>	<b>SAT</b>

- **College Entrance exams** (during 11th grade): It is recommended to take your first SAT/ACT college entrance exam in the spring of junior year, summer administration and/or early during your senior year.  
SAT [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) \*SAT Test Fee - \$68

ACT [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) \*Test Fee: ACT assessment (no writing) - \$68 Full ACT (with writing) - \$93

### \*Need help paying for the SAT and/or ACT?

See the College Counselor/College Center at your school; you may qualify for a FEE WAIVER.

- Ensure you are enrolled in the most **rigorous coursework** possible and that you are **doing your BEST!** Keep in mind that the **GPA** (which drives your rank) that you will use for applying to college is calculated from all **coursework taken 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> grade** (even HS credit courses taken in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade).
- **SAT and ACT Prep is important.** Practice SAT and ACT questions on-line at [www.number2.com](http://www.number2.com). Other free websites that offer SAT/ACT Prep online are [www.sat.collegeboard.org](http://www.sat.collegeboard.org), ACT [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org), or <https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/sats>. Sign up for the SAT question of the day at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).
- Talk to your counselor about your path towards achieving **College Readiness based on your SAT, ACT, TSIA2** and other test scores.
- **Research colleges and universities.** Try to visit colleges and have a solid list of your top four choices by the summer of your senior year. Good websites for college searches are: [www.mytexasfuture.org](http://www.mytexasfuture.org), <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>, <https://app.schoolinks.com/login/k12>



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- Access **SCHOOLINKS** regularly, which is our comprehensive College & Career Readiness platform: <https://app.schoolinks.com/login/k12>  
*\*(You can now access our fairly new college & career readiness platform through your Classlink single sign-on)*  
**A great resource for college & career exploration as well as beginning to utilize the Application Planner, learn about options available by doing college searches and comparing options.**  
This is a great program to help students track college applications and scholarships, create resumes, and help them keep up with the college application process.
- **Work on Community Service/volunteer hours** to boost your resume. Get involved in clubs/ activities (keep log). Also 40 Hrs of Community Service is now a Graduation requirement (document hrs completed in Schoolinks).
- **Get to know your academic and college counselors.** They will be invaluable during the college application process. Make an appointment to go over your transcript and your college plans. Visit the College & Career Center often!
- Get close to your **junior teachers.** You may need them for Letters of Recommendation early next year.
- **Visit potential colleges (engage in virtual tours) and ask lots of questions.** Use a College Visit form to be cleared with attendance. Juniors are allowed 2 visits and seniors are allowed 2 visits with the form turned in before the visit and verification of attendance after the visit.

## TEST PRACTICE & PREPARATION RESOURCES

SAT CUSTOMIZED TEST PREP: [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)

ACT PERSONALIZED PRACTICE: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

TSIA2 TEST PREP through ACCUPLACER & Download the APP as well:

<https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/student/practice> and through the ACC Website:

<http://instruction.austincc.edu/tsiprep/>

## COLLEGE RESOURCES

EXPLORE AND COMPARE COLLEGE OPTIONS: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>

**SCHOOLINKS** is now our comprehensive COLLEGE & CAREER EXPLORATION AND PLANNING

PLATFORM: <https://app.schoolinks.com/login/k12>

*\*(you can now access this new College & career readiness platform through your ClassLink single sign-on)*

COMPARE COLLEGES: <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>

GET FINANCIAL AID GUIDANCE: <https://StudentAid.gov>

COMPLETE the FAFSA (the FREE Application for Federal Student Aid): <https://studentaid.gov>

## CAREER RESOURCES

WHERE TO LEARN ABOUT CAREERS? <https://roadtripnation.com>

OTHER CAREER EXPLORATION TOOLS: <https://texascareercheck.com/>

My Big Future/College Board: <https://roadtripnation.com/edu/careerfinder>

\*Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) - <https://twc.texas.gov/programs>

CAREERS IN THE MILITARY: <https://www.careersinthemilitary.com/>

ASVAB Test: Contact a Recruiter <http://www.todaymilitary.com/>

## COLLEGE/CAREER/SCHOLARSHIP FAIRS

[TACRAO COLLEGE FAIR](#) - October 22nd 9:30am. -11:30am.

*Location: TBA \*Sign-Up through your College & Career Counselor*

*\*Students can begin to set their profiles to share with College Representatives through this link: [Register Here](#)*

Hays CISD SCHOLARSHIP FAIR - February 4th , *Performing Arts Center*

Hays CISD CAREER AND JOB FAIR - *TBA/ Spring Semester*

NACAC Austin National College Fair - *TBA/ Spring Semester*