



A Ranger Rides On...

Plan Your Journey!

SENIOR YEAR Checklist

✓ Explore Colleges

- Visit a college campus (2 college visits in senior year).
- Visit with college and military reps when set up at lunch.
- Check out these resources:
 - [SchoolLinks](#) (App in SSO Portal)
 - bigfuture.collegeboard.org
 - Official College Websites



Visit with your counselor during your lunch for help with your post-secondary plans!

- College Admissions
- Financial Aid
- Scholarship Searches
- Career Exploration
- Military Opportunities

✓ Explore Career & Military Options

- Job shadow.
- Attend local job fairs.
- Check out these websites:
 - [SchoolLinks](#) (App in SSO Portal)
 - Texascareercheck.com (interest inventory, explore salaries, job requirements)
 - Roadtripation.com (explore career interests)
 - Texas Workforce Commission (check trends in the job market)
 - Jobsyall.com (Texas industries & careers)
- Talk with a military recruiter to explore a military career: emsisd.com/Page/48886
- Take the ASVAB career exploration test.
 - Test administered at CTHS on September 30th. Students must register. Test administered at Boswell HS 11/5, Saginaw & Eagle Mountain HS 12/8.



CTHS School Code:
442594



Fee waivers for exams are available for qualifying students (*free/reduced lunch*). Contact our Academic Principal, Mrs. Birdwell for more information.
mbirdwell@ems-isd.net

✓ Plan to take an entrance exam

- SAT (register at www.collegeboard.org)
 - 2024-2025 test dates: 10/5, 11/2, 12/7, 3/8, 5/3, 6/7
 - SAT School Day @ CTHS: March 2025
- ACT (register at www.actstudent.org)
 - 2024-2025 test dates: 9/14, 10/26, 12/14, 2/8, 4/5, 6/14, 7/12
- TSIA2 (Sign up for the TCC College Access Program when TCC visits your class, or test at the TCC NW Campus Testing Center, or test at your college of choice)
- Visit <https://www.emsisd.com/Page/31959> for registration & study information.



To determine if you qualify for fee waivers on testing or college applications, [complete the online application for free/reduced lunch](#) through the Child Nutrition department. Applications must be completed each year.

✓ Apply to College

- Don't be afraid to apply to more than one school. Choose a guarantee and a dream school. Check admission deadlines.
- <https://goapplytexas.org/> (in state schools)
- www.commonapp.org (link your Common App account with [SchoolLinks](#))
- Make sure to submit all required supporting documents. If you are submitting test scores, SAT and ACT scores must be sent to colleges from your official SAT or ACT online account.
- Fee waivers are available – indicate your waiver eligibility in SchoolLinks, check with college admissions office/website for accepted waivers.

✓ Write your College Essays

- Check with your college of choice to see if they require an essay and the specific topic.
- Check essay requirements through Apply Texas or Common Application.



✓ *Letters of Recommendation*

- Ask people that know you in and out of school.
 - Teachers
 - Coaches
 - Community Members or Employers
- If a counselor recommendation is REQUIRED by a college or university, complete a counselor letter of recommendation request at emsisd.com/Page/40289.
- Complete your profile in [SchoolLinks](#).
- Request a letter at least two weeks prior to your deadline.

✓ *Order a Transcript*

- All **official** transcripts need to be requested through your College Applications tab in [SchoolLinks](#).
Directions are here: <https://www.emsisd.com/Page/24765>
- Unofficial transcripts are available in student Skyward accounts for GPA/Rank purposes.

✓ *Financial Aid*

- [Studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) – Opens in December 1 (Tentative)
 - Completing the FAFSA (or TAFSA) is a Texas graduation requirement
 - All students must complete FAFSA, TASFA, or complete an opt-out form
- Check out FAFSA/TASFA & Financial Aid resources at emsisd.com/Page/48624
- General scholarships are usually offered by colleges. Check college websites for requirements and deadlines.
- Search for scholarships (state, national & district posted) via [SchoolLinks](#).
- [EMS Education Foundation Scholarship](#) should be available in January!

✓ *Consider TCC*

- Community college is a great opportunity to save money, get your college basic core curriculum requirements, and earn a degree and/or certifications.
- TCC College Access Program – TCC advisors work with seniors to ensure a seamless transition from admissions to financial aid. Students participating in the program will complete the application to TCC, complete the TSI test, if needed, and visit with a TCC advisor all at CTHS.
- Sign up for TCC College Access when TCC visits your English 4 class (Dates TBD)
- Visit this site for info on the program: emsisd.com/Page/48103

✓ *Important Dates to Remember*

September 10: Open House & Senior Parent Night (6:00 – 7:30 pm)

September 11-13: Senior Guidance in English 4 Classes

September 30: ASVAB @ CTHS

*Other ASVAB Opportunities

November 5th- Boswell HS

December 8- Saginaw HS & Eagle Mountain HS

October 4: AP Exam Initial Deposit Deadline

October 22- TCC College Access Interest Day

October 23: EMS ISD College Night @ CTHS (6-8 pm)

December 1 (Tentative): FAFSA/TASFA Opens

December 3: TCC College Access Application Day

December (TBD)- TSIA Testing

January 29: TCC College Access TCC Account Set-Up Day

February 12th: AP Exam Final Payment Deadline

March 12: SAT School Day (if needing a score before March, register for a national Saturday test date)

April 15: FAFSA/TASFA Priority Deadline for Texas

May 5-16: AP Testing

Check the CTHS
[Counseling Webpage](#)
and the CTHS
[College & Career
Readiness Webpage](#)
for more information!

Report college
acceptance,
scholarships received,
and industry
certifications by entering
your information in
SchoolLinks!

How? Check out these
instructions:
www.smores.com/4xu1d



Get Connected



Follow campus social media accounts
and the Senior Canvas for information!

<https://emsisd.my.canva.site/cthseniors>