

**Parent/Guardian**

# **COLLEGE & CAREER**

**Info Night**

**9th-10th GRADE**



# Outline

- [Counseling Department Information](#)
- Graduation Requirements
- Academic Programs
  - ◆ Advanced Placement Courses (AP/Dual/PLTW/Honors)
  - ◆ Dual Credit Enrollment Process
  - ◆ Endorsements - PLTW Courses
- College Readiness
- College Entrance Exams (TSI-PSAT-SAT-ACT)
- College & Career Counseling Services at HSI-Sugar Land
- Course Selection Process & Timeline
- Career Readiness
- **Parent Action Plan\***



## College & Career Counseling Department Information

- ❑ **Mr. Alper Ciftci**-Campus Guidance Head Counselor  
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# Graduation Requirements and Academic Programs



# Graduation Requirements

- **In order for a student to graduate from Harmony Public Schools, the student must fulfill:**
- ◆ [HPS High School Credit Requirement](#) (Pg. 12)
  - ◆ Passing Score on Texas State Assessments (EOC)-English I, Algebra I, Biology, English II, US History.
  - ◆ Admission by a 4-Year College
  - ◆ Minimum 100 Community Service Hours

## Texas High School Diploma – *Steps*

### Distinguished Level of Achievement

26 Credits • Algebra II Required • Eligible for Top 10% Automatic Admissions to Texas Public Universities

22 Credits for the Foundation High School Program

### Requirements of 1 Endorsement

(including 4<sup>th</sup> credit of Math and Science and 2 additional electives)



Be sure to visit your school counselor to learn more about your options.  
Students may earn more than one endorsement.



# Graduation Requirements

- There are 5 different [endorsements](#) for students
  - ◆ STEM
  - ◆ Public Services
  - ◆ Multidisciplinary Studies
  - ◆ Business and Industry
  - ◆ Arts & Humanities
- Students must declare an endorsement by the end of their Freshman year
- Students can change their endorsement by the end of the their Sophomore year
- After their sophomore year we do not recommend students to change their endorsements

# Academic Programs (Honors Program)

- A stepping stone for students in preparation for rigorous AP courses.
- GPA Weight 4.5
- [Criteria](#)
  - ◆ PSAT Results/TSI
  - ◆ SAT/TSI/ACT and other test data
  - ◆ Teacher Recommendations
  - ◆ Previous Course Experience



# Academic Programs (AP Program)

- [College Level Courses](#), **GPA Weight is 5.0**
- More independent analytical reading, academic discourse, and writing assignments,
- Summer work must be completed prior to the beginning of second week
- Students and parents must sign an AP contract and agree with the AP course guidelines
- Criteria
  - ◆ AP Potential – PSAT
  - ◆ SAT/TSI/ACT and other test data
  - ◆ Teacher Recommendations
  - ◆ Previous AP Experience
  - ◆ AP Exams
  - ◆ GPA

# Academic Programs (Dual Credit Program)

- [Dual credit](#) is a process through which a student may earn high school credit for successfully completing a college course (**Core Curriculum**)
- Advantages for dual credit students include the following:
  - ◆ **Receive high school and college credit** for courses in which they earn a “C” or better
  - ◆ **Fast-track** their undergraduate or vocational degrees
  - ◆ **Save on tuition and fees** by accelerating time to complete a degree
  - ◆ **Reduced cost** of enrolling in higher education courses
  - ◆ Opportunity to **access college facilities and resources** such as tutoring services, computer labs, and counseling services
  - ◆ **Enhances skills** required to be successful at the collegiate level such as time management skills, critical thinking skills, study skills and following directions and procedures

## Academic Programs (PLTW Courses)

Project Lead The Way provides a comprehensive approach to STEM Education. Through activity-, project-, and problem-based curriculum, PLTW gives students a chance to apply what they know, identify problems, find unique solutions, and lead their own learning.

**Biomedical:** Prin. Biomedical Sci., Human Body Sys., Medical Intervention, Anat. & Phys.

**Engineering:** Intro. Eng., Engineering Sci., Digital Elec., Aerospace Eng., Robotics, Sci. Res&Des.

**Computer Science:** Fundamental CS, Comp. Sci. Prin, Comp. Sci. A AP, Sci. Res&Des.

→ Advantages for PLTW students include the following:

- ◆ **Strength of curriculum**
- ◆ **Possible college credit** (EOC-6 and above, Grade-90 and above)
- ◆ **5.0 GPA calculation**

# College Readiness

## College Readiness



College readiness can be defined operationally as the level of preparation a student needs in order to **enroll and succeed—without remediation—in a credit-bearing general education course at a postsecondary institution** that offers a baccalaureate degree or transfer to a baccalaureate degree.

*-Toward a More Comprehensive Conception of College Readiness, David Conley, Educational Policy Improvement Center*

- College Readiness Assessments: College Board's College Readiness Benchmarks SAT, ACT and Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

*Table 1: College Readiness Scores*

<b>Test</b>	<b>Combined Score</b>	<b>Math</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>
TSI	N/A	350-390	351-390	340- 390 and 4 on essay OR 310 - 339 and level 4-6 on ABE Diagnostic and 5 on essay
SAT	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Min. 530</b>	<b>Min. 480</b>	<b>N/A</b>
ACT	23	Min. 19	Min. 19	N/A

# Are you on Track to be College Ready?

Table 2: Minimum grade level scores to be a “College Track” student:

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Point Scale</b>	<b>Math</b>	<b>Evidence Based Reading and Writing</b>
8th	PSAT 8/9	120-720	430	390
9th	PSAT 8/9	120-720	450	410
10th	PSAT/NMSQT	160-760	480	430
11th	PSAT/ NMSQT	160-760	510	460
	SAT	200-800	530	480

# **Why College Readiness Indicators are important in High School ?**





## College Readiness

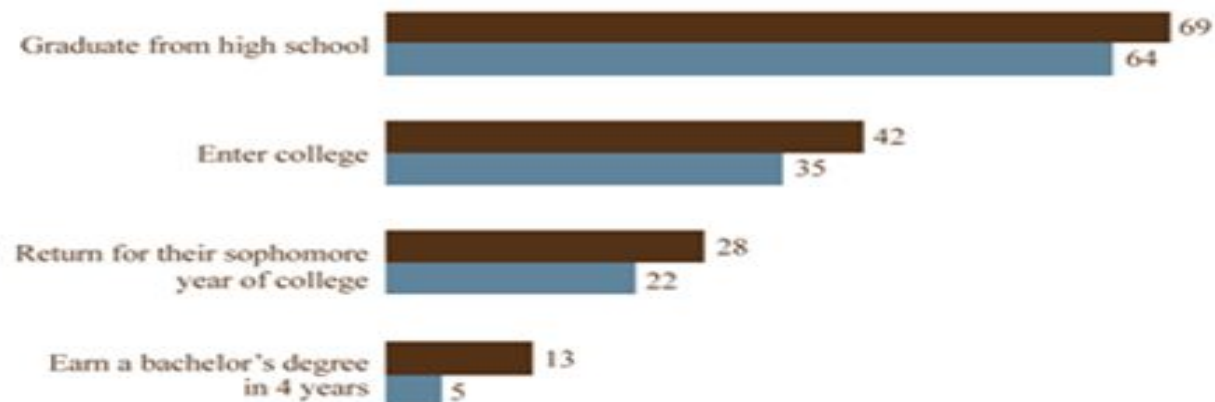
Did you know...

- 42% of new 4-year college students and 49% of students at 2-year institutions take remedial courses due to inadequate high school preparation



According to the College Board, students take on average 6.2 years to complete a 4-year degree (at an average cost of \$18,000 per year) often due to remedial coursework. Thus, when students have the skills necessary to complete their college degrees in 4 years, post-secondary education becomes far more affordable.

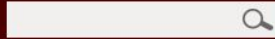
### FOR EVERY 100 NINTH GRADERS... ■ U.S. ■ Texas



# Importance Factors in Admission Decisions

Factor	N	Considerable Importance	Moderate Importance	Limited Importance	No Importance
Grades in College Prep Courses	231	79.2%	13.0%	6.9%	0.9%
Grades in All Courses	229	60.3	31.0	8.7	—
Strength of Curriculum	231	60.2	26.8	10.0	3.0
Admission Test Scores (SAT, ACT)	228	55.7	32.5	7.9	3.9
Essay or Writing Sample	231	22.1	39.0	21.6	17.3
Counselor Recommendation	231	17.3	42.4	27.3	13.0
Student's Demonstrated Interest	231	16.9	33.3	26.8	22.9
Teacher Recommendation	230	15.2	43.5	27.8	13.5
Class Rank	228	14.0	37.7	32.0	16.2
Subject Test Scores (AP, IB)	227	7.0	35.2	32.6	25.1
Portfolio	229	6.6	10.0	30.6	52.8
Extracurricular Activities	231	5.6	43.3	34.6	16.5
SAT II Scores	226	5.3	8.4	23.0	63.3
Interview	229	3.5	23.1	28.4	45.0
State Graduation Exam Scores	228	3.5	11.0	25.4	60.1

# Sample of Admission Requirements



FRESHMAN

## How to be Admitted

You may be admitted one of three ways:

### 1. Top 10% Admits

### 2. Academic Admits\*

You qualify for academic admission, if you:

- rank in the top quarter of your graduating class on or before the application deadline, and
- meet test score minimums
  - SAT: Total score of 1360 with at least 620 Math and 660 Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW)
  - ACT: Composite score of 30 with at least 27 English and 27 Math
- satisfy the [State of Texas Uniform Admission Policy](#), and
- make sure all [required documents](#) are received by the application deadline.

\*Beginning with applicants for Fall 2021, academic admission will no longer be available.

submit  
**APPLICATION**  
*ApplyTexas OR The Coalition*

receive a **UIN**  
*User ID Number*

logon to **AIS**  
*howdy.tamu.edu*

check **STATUS**



# College & Career Counseling Services at HSI-Sugar Land

- **Helping Students Prepare for College**
  - ◆ 1-on-1 College & Career Meetings
  - ◆ College Counseling Advisory Curriculum
  - ◆ Working with Parents Organizing College Info Nights
  - ◆ Alumni Panels
- **Helping Students Research Colleges**
  - ◆ Visits from College Representatives
  - ◆ Organizing/Participating College Fairs & College Tours
  - ◆ Organizing Presentations
  - ◆ Working with Parents Organizing College Info Nights
  - ◆ Creating a List of Colleges Together
- **The College Application Process**
  - ◆ Transcript Checks
  - ◆ The Application Forms
  - ◆ Test Scores
  - ◆ Other Components (Recommendations, Essays, Portfolio, etc..)
  - ◆ Early Decision and Early Action
- **Recommendations**
- **The Application Essay**
- **Tests**
- **Financial Aid**

# Course Selection Process & Timeline

- [HSI-Sugar Land College & Career Counseling Website](#)
- Steps on the Course Selection
  - ◆ **Step 1:** Students should talk to their teachers to find courses they would like to have or review the Course Offerings
  - ◆ **Step 2:** [Schedule a meeting with the student's counselor.](#)
    - DEADLINE: January 27, 2020 - March 06, 2020
  - ◆ **Step 3:** During the Meeting;
    - Select your courses and Do **NOT** forget to sign and copy of the following documents below for your records
      - Personal Graduation Plan (PGP for Newcomers & 8th Grade Students)
      - Dual Credit Documents if Applicable
      - Course Selection Form-Finalized

# Course Selection Process & Timeline

- ◆ **Step 4:** [Appeal Honors/AP/Dual Credit Courses if needed](#)
  - If you need to appeal any Honors/AP/Dual Credit courses, please talk to your counselor and fill out the “[AP/Dual Credit/Honors Course \(s\) Appeal Form](#)” by **Friday, March 6, 2020 at 4:00 pm.**
  - *No submissions will be accepted after the deadline.*
- ◆ **Step 5:** Submit the “Schedule Request Change Form” by Monday, April 27, 2020 at 4:00 pm if the student needs to change their schedule.

*Please note that anything submitted after the deadline will not be considered.*
- ◆ **Step 6:** Contact your assigned counselor if you ever need help.

# CCS Advising

- At more than 20 Harmony high school campuses as of this year
- The next frontier of postsecondary education
- Helping students learn their own potential
- Exposing students to options and pathways they might not have known about or explored before
- Guiding students with knowledge and resources to reach opportunities
- College Data
  - ◆ Class of 2018: only 68% of graduate seniors actually enrolled in college
    - Class of 2017 was 72% (SMP important, reason for CCS-Advisor position)



# CSS Mission, Vision and Goals

→ Mission:

- ◆ To engage and support Harmony students
- ◆ Collaborate w/ alumni to increase their skills
- ◆ Build strong and sustainable college-going atmosphere in our schools

→ Vision:

- ◆ To raise responsible, caring and productive HARMONIANS
- ◆

→ Goals:

- ◆ Build sustainable college-bound school culture btw HPS -HS students and alumni
- ◆ Create smooth college transition for HPS HS seniors by engaging them w/ alumni
- ◆ Help and support HPS alumni to increase HPS postsecondary enrollment, persistence and graduation rate

# CCS Career Exposure Events

- Alumni Panels
  - ◆ Connection to alumni (across multiple campuses)
- Career Talks
  - ◆ Focus on one career/profession
  - ◆ Every month or two months
- Career Day/Fair
  - ◆ Multiple phases of same career/profession
  - ◆ Pooling multiple schools' resources/contacts



# Parent Action Plan

9th Grade

# Fall

- Make sure your child **meets with the school counselor**. Your child should schedule a meeting to talk about college and career options and to choose the most-appropriate classes. Learn more about [the high school counselor's role](#).
- Help your child **set goals for the school year**. Working toward specific goals helps your child stay motivated and focused.
- Make a plan to **check in regularly about schoolwork**. If you keep up with your child's tests, papers and homework assignments, you can celebrate successes and head off problems as a team. Get [homework tips for your child](#).
- **Talk about extracurricular activities**. Getting involved in clubs and other groups is a great way for your child to identify interests and feel more engaged in school. Read more about [the benefits of extracurriculars](#).

# Winter

- Start thinking about financial aid. It's not too early to look into types of aid that could help you cover college costs. Start by reading [7 Things You Need to Know About Financial Aid](#).
- Discuss next year's classes. Make sure your child is challenging him- or herself — and taking the courses college admission officers expect to see. Learn more about the [high school classes that colleges look for](#).

# Spring

- Help your child start a college list. Visit [College Search Step-by-Step](#) together to get tips on starting a college search and figuring out what matters most to your child when choosing a college.
- See how much you need to save for college. Use the [College Savings Calculator](#) to get an idea of where you are compared with your savings goal.
- Help your child make summer plans. Summer is a great time to explore interests and learn new skills — and colleges look for students who pursue meaningful summer activities. Find out ways your child can [stay motivated this summer](#).

# Summer

- Visit a college campus together. It's a great way to get your 9th-grader excited about college. Learn more about how you and your child can [prepare for a campus visit](#).
- Get the facts about what college costs. You may be surprised by how affordable higher education can be. Start by reading [Understanding College Costs](#).
- Help your sophomore explore career ideas. He or she can make a list of interests, talents and favorite activities and start matching them with occupations. Learn how to use exercises like these to [make a career worksheet](#).
- Come up with fun reading ideas. Look for magazines or newspapers your child may like and talk about the books you loved reading when you were in high school. If your family makes reading enjoyable, it can become a daily habit.

# Parent Action Plan

10th Grade



# Fall

- Make sure your child **meets with the school counselor**. Your sophomore should schedule a meeting to talk about college and career options and to make sure he or she is taking the most-appropriate classes. Learn more about [the high school counselor's role](#).
- Encourage your child to **set goals for the school year**. Working toward specific goals helps your high schooler stay motivated and focused.
- Make a plan to **check in regularly about schoolwork**. If you keep up with your child's tests, papers and homework assignments, you can celebrate successes and head off problems as a team. Get [homework tips](#) for your sophomore.

# Fall

- **Talk about extracurricular activities.** Getting involved in clubs and other groups is a great way for your child to identify interests and feel more engaged in school. Read more about [the benefits of extracurriculars](#).
- Help your 10th-grader **get ready to take the PSAT/NMSQT**, if their school offers it to sophomores. Taking the test this fall can help your child prepare for the SAT and get on track for college. Sophomores can also use their score reports to figure out which academic areas they need to work on. Learn more about the [PSAT/NMSQT](#).

# Winter

- If your child was not offered the PSAT/NMSQT as a 10th-grader, they may be offered the PSAT 10 in February or March. They are the same test, just offered at different times of the year.
- **Review PSAT 10 or PSAT/NMSQT results together.** Log in to the [student score reporting portal](#) with your child to learn what she or he is doing well and which skills your child should work on to get ready for college and career. It will also connect your child to [free, personalized SAT study tools](#); AP courses; and college and career planning resources.
- **Start thinking about ways to pay for college.** Most families get help paying for college costs. Read [7 Things You Need to Know About Financial Aid](#) to learn more.

# Winter

- Encourage your sophomore to **consider taking SAT Subject Tests**. Many colleges require or recommend taking these tests to get a sense of your child's skills in a certain academic area. In general, it's best to take a Subject Test right after taking the relevant course. Learn more about [SAT Subject Tests](#).
- **Discuss next year's classes**. Make sure your child will be challenging him- or herself and taking the courses college admission officers expect to see. Learn more about the [high school classes that colleges look for](#).

# Spring

- **Make a college wish list together.** Talk with your 10th-grader about qualities he or she may want in a college in terms of location, size, majors offered and so on. Check out [How to Find a College That Fits You](#) to learn more about deciding on college must-haves.
- **See how much you need to save for college.** Use the [College Savings Calculator](#) to get an idea of where you are in terms of your savings goal.
- **Help your child make summer plans.** Summer is a great time to explore interests and learn new skills — and colleges look for students who pursue meaningful summer activities. Find out five ways your high schooler can [stay motivated this summer](#).

# Summer

- **Get the facts about what college costs.** You may be surprised by how affordable higher education can be. Start by reading [Understanding College Costs](#).
- **Explore financial aid options.** These include grants and scholarships, loans, and work-study programs that can help pay for college costs. Find out more about how [financial aid can make college affordable](#).

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# Q & A ?