

Welcome To SENIOR SEASON

Applying for college, trade school, or enlisting in a branch of the military might seem stressful but I'm here and available to help guide you along the way! I want to make the application process as easy and stress-free as possible!

Personal Email Address

It's imperative you use your personal email address on anything that you will need AFTER high school! Also, make sure you're using an email that you would be okay sending to someone you respect! Companies consider this when hiring, selecting scholarship recipients, and even determining whether to accept you into their program!

👍 Good email: johnsmith@gmail.com

Bad email: hottboy2023@gmail.com

Username & Passwords

Save your login and passwords somewhere secure! I can't stress this enough!!! It's very frustrating when you get ready to start working but has to spend 10 minutes resetting your password because you didn't save it!

College Process & Timeline

1. Apply to College -**August**
 - a. ApplyTexas (most in-state colleges) goapplytexas.org
 - b. Common Application (most out-of-state colleges) commonapp.org
 - c. Individual college application
2. Send [Transcripts](#)
3. Send [SAT](#), [ACT](#), and [AP Scores](#)
4. Request Letters of Recommendation
5. Take or re-take any tests you need ([SAT](#), [ACT](#), & TSI)
6. Apply for scholarships - Page 5
7. Create your [FSA ID](#)- **Before October**
8. Complete [FAFSA](#) or [TASFA](#)
Opens October 1st



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Time To Check The Boxes

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS: ☐

If you are applying to in-state schools, you can complete the [ApplyTexas](#) application that allows you to apply to most Texas schools in one general application! This makes applying much easier and saves time! For out-of-state schools (and some Texas colleges), you can use the [Common Application](#). This is the same as ApplyTexas but it's mainly for out-of-state schools!

SAT, ACT & AP SCORES: ☐

To send your scores, you will need to log in to your [Collegeboard.org](#), [Act.org](#), or [Apstudents.collegeboard.org](#) account.

- ✓ If you qualify for free or reduced lunch, you get fee application waivers, send scores for free and you can take the SAT for FREE!

NCAA

You must register with the NCAA before going on an official visit and receiving an official scholarship offer. College coaches will check to verify that their top recruits are academically eligible, so confirming your eligibility earlier ensures you stay on their radar.

[NCAA Eligibility Center](#)

FINANCIAL AID

FAFSA/TASFA is now a high school graduation requirement for the state of Texas.

STEP 1: FSA ID ☐

Before you can start on your **2023-2024 FAFSA**, you **and your parent/guardian** (if they are a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen) will need to create an FSA ID. This is essentially your login information for your FAFSA application and allows you to sign the official documents electronically. You will need to remember this login information because you will use it every year you apply for financial aid!

STEP 2: FAFSA ☐

The FAFSA opens up on **October 1** for the 2023-2024 school year. **Make sure you select the 2023-2024 Application!** This is the year you will attend college! To apply for federal student aid, such as federal grants, scholarships, work-study, and loans, you need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Completing and submitting the FAFSA is free and it gives you access to the largest source of financial aid to pay for college or trade school. In addition, many states and colleges use your FAFSA information to determine your eligibility for state and school aid, and some private financial aid providers may use your FAFSA information to determine whether you qualify for their aid.

***If you (student) do not have a Social Security Card, you will need to complete the TASFA.

STUDENT PORTION:

FSA ID	—	This is your login for your FAFSA application and used for your electronic signature. www.fsa.ed.gov
2021 Taxes & W2	—	If you filed taxes in 2021, you will need to report this information.
Financial Records	—	You need a general idea of what you have in your checking, savings and investment accounts.
College List	—	You will list all of the colleges you are interested in applying to so your FAFSA application can be sent to those schools.

PARENT PORTION:

Parent(s) will need the following items to complete their portion:

2021 Taxes & W2	Date of Birth	Email Address	Financial Records
FSA ID — Parents will need this if they are a US citizen.	*Date of Marriage/Divorce	Highest Level of Education	
	*If this applies		

***2021 Taxes & W2

TASFA:

The Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) is a free application that determines eligibility for state financial aid in Texas. Students classified as Texas residents who are not eligible for the FAFSA are encouraged to complete the TASFA [Application](#).

The state financial aid priority application deadline for many institutions is January 15, 2023, for the 2023-2024 award year. In order to be considered for the most financial aid, it is important to complete and submit this application with all required documentation to the financial aid office on or before Jan. 15. **Note: Eligibility for financial aid will be determined by the institution that you plan to attend.**

APPLICATION TRACKER

There are so many things to do and keep up with during the application process; I wanted to help and streamline things. I've created a FREE resource to assist you through the process! Once you make a copy of the tracker, you can customize it to meet your specific needs!

Ms. Thrash's Application Tracker																		Share	
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2	UT	Yes	Austin	\$52,346/yr	Merit	No	No	Yes	1	Public	Public Relations	Yes	11/1/2022	11/1/2022	11/1/2022	Public Relations	Yes		
3	A&M	Undecided	College Station	\$52,026/yr	Merit	No	No	Yes	1	Public	Business	No	N/A	12/1/2022	12/1/2022	Business			
4	Aveda	Yes	Dallas	\$10,000/yr	Need	No	Optional	No		Trade School	Esthiology	Started	N/A	3/1/2023	3/1/2023	Esthiology	Yes		
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[LINK](#)

SCHOLARSHIP TIPS & TRICKS

CCMRWITHMSTHRASH.COM

Step 1: Prepare

Create a profile so you know what to look for.



Schools (Current/future):	Tech, SFA or Dallas College
Major/Minor:	Teacher
Career (Future Field):	Reading Teacher
Family History/Decent:	Mom Teacher & Dad Banker
Clubs/Groups/Affiliations:	FTI, Key Club and Stu. Co.
Hobbies/Interest:	Photography, Scrapbooking
Likes/Dislikes:	Trying new places/Writing
Involvement/Projects:	Community service at shelter

Step 2: Set a goal

Set a goal of how many scholarships you will complete each week/month. Be realistic. Follow through.

" I will apply for _____ scholarships a week."

Step 3: Search

Use the things you created in your profile to help guide your searches.

→ EXPAND your search criteria!

- Use keywords like male/female, race, ethnicity, city, and state.

Example searches based on my profile:

- Scholarship for animal lovers in Texas
- Scholarships that don't require an essay
- Scholarship for volunteers
- Scholarship for student volunteers
- Student volunteer scholarships
- Community service scholarships

Step 4: Track the scholly's you apply for.

Keep a log of the scholarships you have applied for and when the announcement date is set to happen.

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[Download a FREE template](#)

In addition to these, these are other good places to look:

- The colleges you are applying to- search "freshman scholarships" on their website
- [My Scholarship List](#) - updated weekly
- [State and Federal Grants & Scholarships](#)
- [Scholarships for Students with disabilities](#)
- [CB Opportunity Scholarship](#)
- [Texas Leadership Scholarship](#)
- [Texas First Diploma](#)

- Terry Foundation
- QuestBridge
- National Merit Scholarship Program