



**Academic Planning Terminology:** A helpful list of terms you will see throughout your middle and high school academic planning journey.

## College Readiness

**Accelerated Block:** LISD high schools operate on an accelerated block schedule. This system allows students to earn eight (8) credits per academic year; four (4) credits in the Fall semester and four (4) credits in the Spring semester.

**ACT/SAT:** Standardized tests sometimes used for college admissions.

ACT: [act.org](http://act.org) & SAT: [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org)

**Admission Requirements:** The academic and application criteria you must meet to get into a college.

**Class Rank or RIC (Rank in Class):** Students are ranked in order by their weighted GPA. [LISD Rank in Class Information](#)

**CCMR (College, Career, Military Readiness) :** College, Career, and Military Readiness is how Texas helps students prepare for life after high school-whether that's college, a career, or the military. By the time you graduate, you must meet at least ONE of the CCMR indicators to be considered "ready". [LISD CCMR site](#)

**Credits:** Earned after successful completion of a high school 18-week course (1 credit). A half credit is earned after successful completion of a high school 9-week course (.5 credit).

**Dual Credit:** Courses that count for both high school and college credit. Starts in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. [Dual Credit in LISD](#)

**Endorsement:** Every LISD student must declare one of the five endorsements to meet graduation requirements: Multidisciplinary; Arts and Humanities; Business and Industry; Public Services; or STEM.

**FAFSA:** Free Application for Federal Student Aid; used to apply for financial aid for college. [Financial Aid Information](#) & [LISD Financial Aid & Scholarship Resources](#)

**Four-Year Plan:** A guide that outlines the courses a student will take to meet graduation requirements.

**GPA (Grade Point Average):** A numerical representation of a student's average academic performance, typically on a scale from 0.0 to 4.0. [How is GPA Calculated?](#)

**Honors Courses:** The purpose of these courses is to meet the needs of students eager to engage in challenging curriculum. Courses offer an additional layer of depth and complexity. [LISD Advanced Academics - Honors](#)

**Loan:** Money borrowed to help pay for college expenses that must be repaid with interest.

**PGP (Personal Graduation Plan):** A Personal Graduation Plan is a customized roadmap that outlines the courses a high school student will take to meet graduation requirements and prepare for college, a career, or the military.

**PSAT (Practice Scholastic Aptitude Test):** Practice standardized test offered in the fall to certain grade levels. College Board: [collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org)

**Scholarship:** Financial aid awarded based on merit, need, or other criteria that doesn't need to be repaid. [Scholarship Resources](#) & [LISD Financial Aid & Scholarship Resources](#)

**Transcript:** A record of your academic performance, including grades and courses taken that counts towards high school graduation. [LISD Transcript Request Order](#)

**TSI (Texas Success Initiative):** Assessment to determine basic skills in reading, math and writing. [LISD TSI Information](#)

**VLA (Virtual Learning Academy):** Virtual Learning Academy supports all LISD students by creating flexibility through online high school courses. [LISD VLA site](#)



## **Career Readiness**

**CTE (Career and Technical Education):** Courses that provide students with real-world experiences and hands-on training to help them begin identifying possible career choices. [LISD CTE site](#)

**Career Pathway:** A series of jobs and experiences that lead to a specific career goal. [LISD CTE Programs of Study](#)

**PGP: (Personal Graduation Plan):** A customized roadmap that outlines the courses a high school student will take to meet graduation requirements and prepare for college, a career, or the military.

**Resume:** A document that outlines your work experience, education, and skills.

**Soft Skills:** Personal qualities like communication, teamwork, and problem-solving.

**TECC-East and TECC-West-** LISD's two Technology, Exploration & Career Centers.

[TECC-East](#) & [TECC-West](#)



## **Military Readiness**

**ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery):** a test used to determine qualification for military service. Offered at least one time during high school.

[LISD ASVAB site](#)

**Military Careers:** After graduation, students have the opportunity to serve in different branches of the military. [LISD CCMR - Military Readiness](#)

- Army
- Marine Corps
- Navy
- Air Force
- Coast Guard
- Space Force
- National Guard

**Junior ROTC:** Junior ROTC or JROTC is an federally-sponsored high school program that educates and trains students to develop a leadership mentality, attention to detail, and a problem-solving skill set that aims to benefit the school, community, and the cadets.

*\*See your high school campus site for specific program information.*