



Senior Class of 2024

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Crucial Information: Important information is available to MHS students almost daily. You must ensure that you are receiving this valuable information. Do your parents receive the Marcus High School callouts and emails? If not, they MUST update their phone number and email address for Skyward in the registrar's office. Also, make sure you have access to the Senior class Canvas page (through Mrs. House), "Like" MHS on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter (@MarcusCounselor) to ensure that you are receiving important updates. Check the MHS Counselor's website for more resources. <http://bit.ly/MHSCounselorWebsite>

Post Graduation Plans: You should already be making decisions regarding what you want to do after graduation. Although you may not choose to go to a four-year school, it is in your best interest to continue your education in some form (i.e. technical school, community college, university, military, or other training).

Timeline for Seniors: Use the month-by-month [checklist](#) in the [Junior/Senior Handbook](#) to ensure that you meet all deadlines during your senior year. This can be found on the Marcus Counseling Website and is also hyperlinked.

Texas On-Course: As a state-funded initiative to improve college and career readiness, our mission is to equip all Texas students for an educational and professional future that unlocks their potential. Texas OnCourse empowers you to make decisions that will help you succeed after high school. Access their resources here: <https://texasoncourse.org>

Resume: If you haven't already, begin building your high school resume now. Your resume will be very helpful when filling out college admission forms and scholarship applications.

College Campus Visits: As a senior, you may have up to 2 college visits that don't count as an absence. You must bring written documentation from the college to ensure that these absences are not counted against you. Additional college visits may be an excused absence. For additional information about how to get the most from your college visit, you may reference your Junior/Senior Handbook, or check with your attendance clerk.

Colleges Visiting Marcus: We have several college admission counselors visiting our campus. [You can sign-up to meet with these colleges in the counseling center.](#) The list of colleges are updated weekly on the MHS website and be aware of callouts and e-mails. We also recommend looking for virtual appointments through the college's direct website.

Career Visits *new this year*

As a senior, you may have up to 2 “career investigation” days each school year within a chosen field. Similar to college visits, you must come back with an approved note from the professional for the absence to be excused. You are also responsible for the school work you missed.

College Fairs: There are two college fair opportunities this year. The first will be on September 11th and will be hosted by the University of North Texas. Go to <https://www.unt.edu/admissions/nortex-college-fair.html> for more information. Additionally, we will co-host a college fair with Flower Mound High School in April of 2024.

Career Exploration: New this year, students can also get 2 exempted days of absence if they spend the day at a business or place of work.

Tests: For all testing information, please reference our [MHS Testing Website](#). To register, access the deadline and additional information for the SAT or ACT, please visit the following websites:

SAT: www.collegeboard.org **ACT:** www.actstudent.org. Use the **Marcus School Code 444-132** when registering.

FREE SAT During School Day - held on October 11, 2023. Must register by Aug. 31st at 3pm. Register [here](#).
ACT During School Day - held on February 27th, 2024. More information available on MHS Testing Website

Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSI): This test is required for all public Texas colleges and universities. Students may be exempt from the TSI depending on SAT/ACT scores. Check with individual colleges and universities for exemption requirements. This test is given one time a year for Seniors at Marcus. Check [here](#) for more information.

GPA and Class Rank: These may be used by colleges to help determine admission. Your GPA and corresponding rank are determined by grades earned in all courses counting towards your GPA. Your GPA is cumulative and began your 9th-grade year. Your class rank may help determine what scores will be required on your ACT or SAT for college admission. New rankings are calculated at the end of each nine weeks. The senior rank (not GPA) is frozen after the 3rd 9 weeks to determine the honor graduates (top twenty). If you would like to OPT-OUT of having your rank posted, the window to do that is **Sept. 15th - Sept. 30th**. Please note that opting out of rank is permanent and you will not be able to opt back in. Please consult with your potential universities and/or your counselor with any questions.

Top 10% Graduates: Students who are in the top 10% of their class are guaranteed admission to any Texas public university, except The University of Texas at Austin. UT Austin requires you rank in the top 6% of your class. This rule guarantees admission to the university, not admission to your choice of major. **YOU STILL MUST APPLY and COMPLETE YOUR ESSAYS, AND MEET ALL DEADLINES!**

Automatic Admission: If you meet the class quartile and corresponding test score requirements, you will be admitted AFTER you have applied and submitted all required information. Check the college websites for automatic admission criteria.

Transcripts: All colleges that you apply to will require you to send an official transcript. Official transcripts must be sent directly from the MHS registrar's office to the designated institution. Transcript request(s) can be obtained [here](#), or found online on the Marcus Webpage Quick Links. The first 5 requests are free, after that each transcript is \$5.00.

Type of Transcript	Time You Should Order Them
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High School Transcript	August-April
Final Transcript	May

College Application Process:

- Stay organized by using a [college application checklist](#).
- Complete online college application (**Complete before you Trick or Treat!**)
- Send official transcripts ([Online](#)). You can not send your own transcript. NO STUDENT COPIES
- Request SAT/ACT scores from College Board or American College Testing to be sent to the college if they are not already on file with the college.
- Recommendation letters by teachers, counselors, alumni, and others. If required, please complete a [Senior Brag Sheet](#) and give this to your recommender/s with at least two weeks notice.
- Proofread – print hard copies of your application before submitting.
- DEADLINES!!!! You must have the completed application on file at the college by the deadline, which means that all documents must be received or postmarked by that date. Put all dates on your calendar!

Once you are admitted:

- Secure campus housing
- Get meningitis vaccination
- Continue to apply for scholarships
- Complete Final Transcript Request (May)

Scholarship Information: A current list of scholarships are available on the MHS Counseling page under [Scholarships](#). Other types of financial aid include grants, loans, and work-study programs.

FAFSA Application: The [FAFSA](#) is the application most colleges use to determine eligibility for federal, state, and college-sponsored financial aid, including grants, scholarships, educational loans, and work-study programs. **FAFSA usually opens on October 1st but MAY OPEN LATER THIS YEAR.** You will need to make sure you have an [FSA ID](#) before completing the [FAFSA application](#).

Each high school senior in a Texas public school district or open enrollment charter school must complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) as a state requirement for graduation. Texas Education Code §28.0256 allows a student to opt out of the financial aid application graduation requirement by submitting a signed form that authorizes the student to decline. This opt out form is located in parent access of Skyward in Back to School forms.

Make plans with your parents to attend our FAFSA night on December 6th from 6:00-7:30 pm.

NCAA Eligibility: If you are planning to be a student-athlete in college and/or are seeking an athletic scholarship, you **must** register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. To register and receive an NCAA ID go to the Eligibility Center's website at www.eligibilitycenter.org. After you complete your registration, be sure to use the MHS Transcript request form for an official copy to be sent to NCAA. When making this request online you will locate NCAA under Educational Institutions and will need to spell out National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Note: Night School and/or Credit Recovery courses may not be accepted by the NCAA. See your counselor for more details.

Virtual Learning Academy: Online courses are offered by LISD, including, BIM, PE, Art, and many core classes. The fee for these classes vary. See your counselor for details, or visit the VLA website: www.lisd.net/vla

Night School: These classes are offered at the Lewisville Learning Center. Classes are free and include many core classes and electives. Night School can be used to catch up on credits or for acceleration. See your counselor for more details.