

TEST-TEST-TEST

Mark Your Calendars! Seniors should take the earliest test possible! Most colleges require a score on either test. Choose the test that best suites your strengths, or try both! Registration and study guides are on line. The paper versions are available in the counseling office.

SAT Test Dates:

www.collegeboard.com cost: \$49 (regular), \$75 (late)

Date	Register by	Late Deadline
Oct. 1	Sept. 9	Sept. 24
Nov. 5	Oct. 7	Oct. 21
Dec. 3	Nov. 8	Nov. 20
Jan. 28	Dec. 30	Jan. 13
Mar 10	Feb. 10	Feb.24
May 5	Apr. 6	Apr. 20
June 2	May 8	May 22

ACT Test Dates:

www.actstudent.org cost: w/Writing \$49.50

Date	Register by	Late Deadline
Sept. 10	Aug. 12	Aug. 26
Oct. 22	Sept.16	Sept. 30
Dec. 10	Nov. 4	Nov. 18
Feb. 11	Jan. 13	Jan. 20
Apr. 14	Mar. 9	Mar. 23
June 9	May 4	May 18

THEA TEST

www.thea.nesinc.com cost: \$29

Required for students who will attend a Texas public school.

Date	Reg/Late	Deadline
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Go to www.thea.nesinc.com for dates and deadlines.

THEA Exemptions:

TAKS:
M: 2300
ELA: 2300
W: 3 or better

Consult your university for SAT and ACT exemption scores.

Mac Web Page:
www.neisd.net/mac

CAREER INTEREST TEST

Would you like to take a test to discover careers that match your interest and strengths? The ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Test) is for you!



The government offers this test FREE to all students with no military obligation. Explore your career options!

Financial Aid Facts



Scholarships: free money based on achievements in academics, citizenship, volunteerism, athletics, and/or career/school interests. Watch the *Senior Scholarship News* on the Senior Website for information!

Grants: free money based on financial need.

Cost of School – Family Contribution = Financial Need

FAFSA: FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Go online (www.fafsa.ed.gov) in the fall to apply for a pin number. Both student and parent need one. Use them after January 1 when filing your FAFSA.

NCAA: Athletic scholarships from Division I and II schools. Get the forms on line at www.eligibilitycenter.org.



Work Study: Campus-based jobs given to students to help pay bills.

Loans: Students and parents can borrow money to pay for education at special interest rates. THIS IS THE MAJORITY OF FINANCIAL AID PACKAGES.



MAC SENIOR 2011-2012



What do you want to do after you graduate?
What are you planning to do after you graduate? See the difference?

Don't just dream, make plans! To make your unique goals a reality you must prepare. Use the information in this pamphlet to help you successfully plan your journey. First stop is the

Senior Webpage

<http://www.neisd.net/mac/seniors>

Important information for seniors is updated regularly on our Senior Webpage including scholarship opportunities, important testing dates, deadlines, college visits, etc. You should plan to visit this site regularly. This information is also posted in the display case across from the counseling office.

SENIOR SURVIVAL 101:

Let your counselor get to know you! The more we know about you and your goals the better we can help you be successful! Even during busy times, seniors are always a top priority. Don't be shy! 210-650-1100

Alpha:	Counselor	Ext.
A - Car	Ms. Bates	233
Cas - Go	Ms. Esparza	236
Gr -Ma	Mrs. Reyes	237
Mc-Ro	Mrs. Piccirilli	243
Ru - Z	Mrs. Boyers	404
STAN	Dr. Bradley	362

HOW TO ORDER A TRANSCRIPT

There are two types of transcripts: official and unofficial. *Unofficial transcripts*, can be picked up by the student, and can only be used for personal records. *Official transcripts* cost \$5.00 each and **must be mailed** or sent electronically directly by the counseling office. Most schools and scholarship programs require transcripts. Transcripts for scholarships are free.

First Transcript is free!

Follow These Steps:

1. Make sure your Transcript Release Form is on file with the counseling office. (You did this in your English IV classroom.)
2. See Ms. Salazar in the AP Hallway (A103.09) for a Transcript Request Form. Complete the form (including address) and pay fee if needed.
3. Give any documents to be mailed with the transcript to Ms. Salazar when you order the transcript. Transcripts are mailed within three days. Allow for this time when reviewing your deadlines.
4. Reminder: SAT and ACT are not part of the transcript. Make sure your test scores are sent directly from SAT or ACT.

HOW TO GET A RECOMMENDATION LETTER

Recommendation letters are very important! Many schools or scholarships require letters from specific people. If you have a choice, choose wisely! You want someone who knows you very well and can articulate that to others. Here are the guidelines for requesting a letter from your counselor.

Follow These Steps:

1. You must have a Senior Information Sheet on file with your counselor (given to you in English IV classrooms). Counselors will not write recommendations unless the information sheet is in their offices.
2. Give your counselor the contact person's name, the organization and address, and any other helpful information. Also include any other paperwork that must be mailed with the letter. Include a stamped envelope.
3. Recommendations must be requested **two weeks prior** to the deadline date. Exception: if your deadline is in January, request a letter by December 1st.
4. If your letter of recommendation requires a transcript included, order your transcript and letter together from Ms. Salazar.

****** If you are requesting a recommendation letter from a teacher you must fill out a FERPA form giving the teacher permission to release information. These are available from your teacher or in the counseling office.

IMPORTANT DATES

NEISD College Night	Oct. 26
Final Senior Rank	January
M Night	May 8
Graduation	June 1



SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

The Senior Scholarship Newsletter is published approximately every three weeks and is posted on the Senior Webpage at www.neisd.net/mac. Click on the "Seniors" link under "Class Information" link.

COLLEGE/MILITARY VISITS

Look in the PTSA Newsletter or on the Senior Webpage for schools who will be coming to MacArthur to visit with you. The school recruiters can help you with admissions! Representatives will meet with students in the Career Center (B116) or in the cafeteria. Dates are posted in the display case across from the Counseling office.

The military will also be recruiting during lunches outside the cafeteria. Check out what they have to offer—including college ROTC scholarships!!

ADDITIONAL COLLEGE RESOURCE

College Café is another resource for college planning, including financial aide, college applications, SAT prep day, etc. Visit them at: www.cafecollege.org or their downtown location at 131 El Paso St., SA, Texas 78204