

BULLDOG REVIEW FOR RISING JUNIORS

The PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10 are highly relevant to your future success because they focus on the skills and knowledge at the heart of education. They'll measure:

- What you learn in high school
- What you need to succeed in college

Reading

The Reading Test focuses on the skills and knowledge at the heart of education: the stuff you've been learning in high school, the stuff you'll need to succeed in college. It's about how you take in, think about, and use information. And guess what? You've been doing that for years.

Writing and Language

When you take the Writing and Language Test, you'll do three things that people do all the time when they write and edit:

1. Read.
2. Find mistakes and weaknesses.
3. Fix them.

The good news: You do these things every time you proofread your own schoolwork or workshop essays with a friend.

It's the practical skills you use to spot and correct problems — the stuff you've been learning in high school and the stuff you'll need to succeed in college — that the test measures.

Math

Questions on the Math Test are designed to mirror the problem solving and modeling you'll do in:

- College math, science, and social science courses
- The jobs that you hold
- Your personal life

For instance, to answer some questions you'll need to use several steps —because in the real world a single calculation is rarely enough to get the job done.

Calculating GPA/Class Rank

Understanding your GPA and class rank should be an important part of every high school student. Not all classes count toward a student's GPA. Below you will find the specific courses that RCHS uses to determine GPA and rank for the class of 2018 and 2019.

English: I, II, III, IV or one advanced English

Math: Geometry, Algebra II

Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics

History: W. History, US History, government, economics

Language other than English: 1 credit (excluding level 1)

To learn about becoming a **National Merit Scholar**, please visit www.nationalmerit.org

Explanation of Eligibility for Automatic College Admission

Under the Automatic Admission policy (Texas Education Code §51.803), can be found at http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum_and_Instructional_Programs/Graduation_Information/Automatic_College_Admission/

PreAP and AP Policies

For information regarding PreAP or AP courses please visit us at <https://sites.google.com/a/rcisd.org/counselors/> Please take time to read the policies regarding prereq's as well as the drop policy. Both procedures are strictly followed at the high school. Dropping a PreAP/AP course is never

PSAT

PSAT is given to all sophomores in October. Other students are invited to participate for a small fee. Please contact your counselor in September if you are planning to participate next year.

Information regarding the PSAT and study tools are available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nzCSiilL3WQ&feature=youtu.be>

Get Connected with the High School Counselors

Remind 101

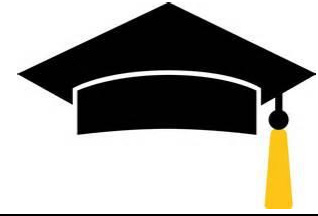
Text @rccounsel to 81010

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Distinguished Level of Achievement (26 Credits)

- **4 Credits ENGLISH** - English I, II, III, English IV or higher
 - **4 Credits MATH** - Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra II, one credit in an advanced math course (**Recommendation-Pre Calculus**)
 - **4 Credits *SCIENCE** - Biology, Chemistry, Physics (**recommendation**) and one credit in any advanced science course (*subject to prerequisites)
 - **3 Credits SOCIAL STUDIES** - World Geography or World History (**recommendation**), US History, Government, Economics
 - **2 Credits LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH**
 - **1 Credit PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
 - **1 Credit FINE ARTS**
 - **0.5 Credit HEALTH (RCISD requirement)**
 - **0.5 Credit SPEECH or Professional Communications (RCISD requirement)**
 - **5 Credits in **ELECTIVES**
- **Credit requirement specific to at least one endorsement.

Students must complete a minimum of 1 Performance Acknowledgement to earn the Distinguished Level of Achievement.

Additional Requirement: Performance Acknowledgements

- **Outstanding Performance:**
Dual credit course work, bilingualism/bi-literacy; College AP exams, PSAT, ACT or SAT scores
- **Certification:**
Nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license.

Dual credit information

Students may begin taking college level courses as early as their sophomore year in high school. Students who are interested in taking a Dual Credit course will need to take the TSI test in the spring of their freshman year. Test results must be submitted to your child's counselor prior to summer break. This will ensure that your child will receive all the necessary information from the college for the FALL enrollment.

What is the TSI?

The TSI Assessment is a program designed to help your institution determine if you are ready for college-level course work in the general areas of reading, writing and mathematics. This program also will help determine what type of course or intervention will best meet your needs to help you become better prepared for college-level course work if you are not ready.

How do I sign up?

Tests are given on the campus of A&M Commerce.

Scheduling: The TSI assessment is done by appointment only. Appointments are scheduled between 8 am and 2 pm. Plan for 1 1/2 hours per section; however, the sections are untimed. Call 903-886-5122 at least 24 hours in advance to schedule an appointment to ensure a computer is available.

*If you are not in the Commerce area, let them know when you call and the staff will attempt to find a testing center as close as possible to your location.

Testing Fee:

The TSI assessment costs \$15 per section payable by cash, money order or credit card on the day of the exam.

Dual Credit vs. Advanced Placement-Which is best for my student?

	<u>Dual Credit</u>	<u>Advanced Placement/AP</u>
<u>Use:</u>	To meet "core" requirements and electives.	To meet "core" requirements and electives.
<u>Transferability:</u>	In-state institutions, some private and out of state-check with the institution.	Accepted by most public and private institutions.
<u>How Transferred:</u>	Must send a transcript from the current college to the institution you are transferring to.	Must send a transcript from College Board to the institution the student is planning to attend.
<u>Assigning Grades:</u>	Grades earned at the university will be the grade earned on the HS transcript. No HS credit awarded for grades lower than 70.	Grades are based on classwork and assignments given in class. AP exam grades are not included in class average