APPLYING TO UT AUSTIN & USING APPLY TEXAS

So many steps, so very many steps

Dedicated to Ben Cohen

"ApplyTexas was designed by monsters who hate counselors and children."
Checklist

- ApplyTexas Application submitted via ApplyTexas by 11/1 (priority) or 12/1 (regular)
- Application fee $75 submitted via ApplyTexas
- Essay submitted via ApplyTexas OR uploaded via Document Upload System in MyStatus
- Resume submitted via Document Upload System in MyStatus
- Request Newman transcript via Document Upload System in MyStatus
- Test scores submitted via College Board or ACT by 12/31
- Request optional teacher recommendations via Document Upload System in MyStatus
- Apply for Housing via MyStatus asap
- Apply to Honors Program via MyStatus by 11/1 or 12/1
- Apply for Scholarships via ApplyTexas by 12/1
- Apply for need-based financial aid by 3/15

Key thoughts about applying to UT

- Take all of our usual advice & do the opposite
- Your choice of major matters a lot, & changing majors is very difficult
- Space can be very limited for out-of-state applicants
So many websites & moving parts...

- **Apply Texas** – the main application for Texas publics & scholarships awarded by those colleges
- **MyStatus** – application tracking portal specifically for UT-Austin
- **Document Upload System** – submit transcripts, recs, resume
- **Honors Programs** – one application for all of the freshman-entry Honors programs
- **Housing** – apply soon after you apply for admissions
- **Financial aid** – need-based aid
- **Texas Exes Scholarships** – Alumni group administered scholarships based on non-need and need

### Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ApplyTexas:</strong> Application</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11/1 priority deadline</td>
<td>12/1 deadline</td>
<td>2/1 priority notification</td>
<td>3/1 regular notification</td>
<td>5/1 decision due!!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12/1 deadline</td>
<td>2/1 forms deadline</td>
<td>2/1 priority notification</td>
<td>4/1-7/1 scholarship notification</td>
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<td>Honors programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11/1 priority deadline</td>
<td>12/1 deadline</td>
<td>2/1 priority notification</td>
<td>3/1 regular notification</td>
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<td>Housing application</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>10/1 FAFSA opens</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3/15 deadline to apply</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas Exes Scholarships</td>
<td>9/1 App opens</td>
<td></td>
<td>12/1 deadline</td>
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<td>4/1-7/1 scholarship notification</td>
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FRESHMAN
APPLICATION

ApplyTexas: Where it all begins

ApplyTexas

- The application required by all Texas public universities
- Must be submitted to move forward in all things UT
- 11/1 priority deadline
- 12/1 final deadline
- ApplyTexas.org
Your application should give lots of evidence that you...

- Know what you want to study
- Are committed to what you want to study
- Have had some exposure to what you want to study
- Are prepared academically for what you want to study
- Will graduate from your chosen area of study

How?

- Your 1st & 2nd choice of Schools/Majors should be related
- Choose the same School for 1st & 2nd choice, then 2 related majors
- Highlight activities that are related to area of study or future career
- Mention intellectual interests, career exploration, or future aspirations in essays
1 School, 2 Majors

First Choice School: Coe College School of Engineering
   First Choice Major: Mechanical Engineering

Second Choice School: Coe College School of Engineering
   Second choice major: Civil Engineering

Business & Related 2nd Choice

First Choice School: Red McCombs School of Business
   First Choice Major: Unspecified Business

Second Choice School: College of Liberal Arts
   Second choice major: Economics

2 Schools, 2 Related majors

First Choice School: University of Natural Sciences
   First Choice Major: Biotechnology, entry level

Second Choice School: Coe College School of Engineering
   Second choice major: Biomedical Engineering

My Account Dashboard - My Profile

Step 1 – Complete My Profile

Your user name is your email
Step 2 – Start a New Application

Choose “create a new 4-year university undergraduate admissions application”

Application – Educational Information

- List academic classes first
- Make sure class names match
- No dual credit/concurrent enrollment
Test Scores

- List only the date(s) of the test score(s) you plan to send
- UT does NOT require SAT or ACT with writing
- Scores must be sent from the testing agencies
- Scores must be received by Dec. 31
Extracurricular & Volunteer Activities

3 Hints

1. Quantity not quality
2. Organize so any activities related to your major are towards the top
3. Send in the “optional” resume...it’s not really optional

“Optional” Resume

Extracurricular Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example Activity 1</th>
<th>Organization / Activity Name</th>
<th>Year / Position / Elected? / Hrs per Week / Weeks per Year (Use whole numbers only, no fractions.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>X Jr / President / Yes / 6 hrs / 12 wks</td>
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<tr>
<th>Example Activity 2</th>
<th>Organization / Activity Name</th>
<th>Year / Position / Elected? / Hrs per Week / Weeks per Year (Use whole numbers only, no fractions.)</th>
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◦ Not optional
◦ Upload your resume in MyStatus
◦ Use the format as shown
◦ More is more
◦ Activities should be listed in ApplyTexas & resume
Online Resume Information Required for Scholarships

- "Information submitted on paper resumes is not considered when scholarship decisions are made. If you want to apply for scholarships, be sure to include details in the sections below about your activities, service, talents, and employment.

- A paper resume cannot substitute for online resume information. If you do not include online resume information with your online ApplyTexas application, you will not be considered for scholarships that require this information, and you will not be able to return to this section to update it."

Custom questions for this institution

- Varies by university
- UT-Austin has many, including 3 short answer questions (250-300 words/response)
- Pay careful attention to these, make sure all are complete
Essay

Topic: "What was the environment in which you were raised? Describe your family, home, neighborhood or community, and explain how it has shaped you as a person."

❖ 500-750 words
❖ No longer than 120 eighty-character lines of text, including spaces & blank lines
❖ Can submit via ApplyTexas when submitting application;
❖ Via ApplyTexas after submitting app, but before deadline
❖ Via Document Upload System in MyStatus, before deadline

SCHOLARSHIPS

ApplyTexas, our old friend
Apply for Scholarships

- ApplyTexas -> My Applications tab -> Scholarships
- You SHOULD complete the optional family financial info
- 5 short answer questions
- Review all of the links in “available scholarships”
  - Many have an extra form found here:
    sites.utexas.edu/texasscholarships/
  - Many require specific recommendations, like a Scout leader or minister
  - Custom Questions for the Institution are tricky!

THEN YOU GET A...
UT EID
MYSTATUS

The UT-Austin admissions portal for all info

What's MyStatus?

"MyStatus offers access to information about admissions, honors, housing, financial aid and more. Through tabs and lists of pending, completed and recommended items, get secure, individualized information from initial application submission to your final admission decision and beyond."

- Apply for Housing
- Apply for Honors Programs
- Submit resume, transcripts, recs
  - Track status
Housing

❖ Apply as soon as you can log into MyStatus
❖ $50 non-refundable fee
❖ Important because housing is limited

Honors Programs

❖ 11/1 priority deadline; 12/1 regular deadline
❖ One application for all programs, BUT you can apply to only one honors program
❖ One required essay & one program-specific essay
❖ Resume required
❖ Some programs require teacher recommendations
Document Upload System

- Request Newman transcript
- Request teacher recommendations, optional for admissions & required by some Honors programs
- Upload resume, "optional" for admissions & required by Honors programs
- Upload admissions essay

TEXAS EXES

Another website? Are you kidding?
Texas Exes Scholarships

- 12/1 deadline
- Wide range of scholarships awarded by UT alumni association
- Requires separate application
- Forty Acres requires another essay