

Junior Year Checklist

1. Keep your grades up. This year is especially important, as college admissions officials will review your GPA and course selections primarily from 9th-11th grades. This will determine your acceptance or denial.
2. **During your junior year, take the ACT or the SAT if you are planning to attend a 4-year college.** As a high school junior, you should take your BEST TEST (ACT or SAT) between March and June. When you take the tests, be sure the testing agency sends the scores directly to the schools that interest you. Remember that if you are not satisfied with your agency scores, you can take the test again in the early fall of your senior year.

Discuss with your counselor which test is best for you. Always use our school code – 112827.

Practice, practice, practice for admissions exams. Excellent sources are:

www.collegeboard.com/satonlineresourceschool www.actstudent.org www.GaFutures.org

3. **GaFutures.org & collegeboard.org should be used now to research careers, schools, financial aid, and scholarships.** During your junior year, you should review web sites and printed materials from several colleges and universities. For scholarship reminders, be sure to be connected to the counseling office via Remind, check the counseling link on our school's website, the announcements, and the bulletin board outside of the counseling office, your GaFutures email and personal email.

Create a GA Futures account: www.gafutures.org. You will need your **social security number** and your **GTID** number. Both can be found on your transcript.

4. **Plan to play college sports?** You will need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at www.eligibilitycenter.org. The cost is **\$80** unless you receive free or reduced lunch.
5. **Establish a professional email account for college admissions purposes and check it frequently.** Most colleges and universities will send you periodic updates on the application process and on your admissions status. Having an email account dedicated to this purpose will prove very useful if you are interested in multiple institutions. However this strategy is effective only if you check the account often. **(Suggestion – carefully consider the email account name that you create. Remember that it should be professional as it is a reflection of you).**
6. **Compare the schools that you're considering.** Create a comparison worksheet for the colleges and universities that you are considering. This will help you to see the features of each institution and how the schools compare to each other. Plus, you'll be able to compare the schools based on the features that matter most to you. College representatives schedule regular visits during lunch. Take advantage of these opportunities to gather pertinent college information.
7. **Visit the colleges that interest you.** One of the best ways to determine if a college or university has the right "feel" is by visiting the campus. Whenever possible, take the campus tour, but it is important to explore the area on your own. To get the most out of

your campus visit, have all your questions written down in advance and bring a notebook so that you can record your thoughts. Don't forget your camera either. Two absences are allowed with parental approval. **Remember to return to the school attendance office with a statement from the college, on letterhead, that you attended a visitation.**

8. **Narrow your search.** After you've researched the different schools that you're interested in, narrow your choices to three to five potential choices and apply to them in the fall. Most schools prefer online applications. Remember to request official transcripts in the counseling office from Mrs. Lovett. **(See more transcript details below).**
9. **Select your senior courses carefully.** When enrolling in courses for your senior year, choose at least four academic courses for the year. Rising 12th grade course registration will be discussed during the spring semester; this would be a great time to discuss with your counselor if you meet the requirements of the institutions that you are considering.
10. **Ask questions.** If you are having difficulty locating the information you need about the college admissions process, don't be afraid to ask for help. Talk to your counselor or contact a representative at the particular institution.

11. **Procedure to Request a Transcript:**

Transcript Requests: See Mrs. Lovett, Counseling Administrative Assistant, for all transcript requests.

- a. Complete the transcript request form located in the counseling office.
- b. Attach **\$2.00** to your completed "Transcript Request" form. Initial request each year is free of charge.
- c. If applying to a Georgia college/university, the transcript will be sent electronically.
- d. If applying to an out of state college/university, the NCAA, or for a scholarship, transcript will be placed in a sealed envelope and it will be your responsibility to mail it.
- e. Transcript requests are processed within 24-48 hours. **They will be held for 2 weeks only and then discarded. A new request and payment will then be required.**

12. **Junior Advisement:**

- a. **Please carefully review your junior advisement transcript. Make sure your name is spelled correctly and your social security number is correct.**

13. Senior Information Sheet- Please ensure that you are actively engaged in various enrichment opportunities/ activities outside of the classroom to help build your resume for college applications.

14. If you are ever in doubt, ask, ask, ask!!! 😊

College Prep Checklist

Junior Year

Don't be fooled...your junior year is a critical time. Take this year to fine tune your classes and grades. Sharpen your test taking skills. Narrow down your college and career choices. By staying on top of things this year, you'll find your senior year could be a little less stressful.

Students

- Meet with your guidance counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate and meet all necessary requirements for graduation, academic rigor and college admissions.
- Continue to explore career options, how much education you'll need and the earning potential.
- Continue to research colleges and what you should look for to make sure you find a good fit. As you look at potential schools, visit their websites and find their net price calculators. These tools can help determine the true cost of attending that specific college.
- Go to a PROBE College Fair. If your school has a financial aid night, be sure to attend.
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT to qualify for scholarships and programs associated with the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- Register for and take exams like the SAT, SAT Subject Test, and the ACT for college admission. Check for free test prep classes in your area.
- Start drafting essays to use for scholarships and college admissions applications.
- Search for scholarships you may be eligible for to help pay for college on **GAfutures**, as well as through your guidance counselor, community, family and friends.
- Schedule campus visits or contact colleges you are interested in attending to request information about financial aid, admission requirements, applications and deadlines.

11th Grade Checklist

Parents, you have things to do, too! →

Parents

- Talk to your child about the colleges they are considering and help clarify goals and priorities.
- As your child narrows the college search, check out the net price calculator and the true cost of attendance for each college. The comparison tool at **consumerfinance.gov** is another helpful resource to compare college costs and financial aid offers.
- Attend events like PROBE College Fairs and visit college campuses. Let your child do most of the talking.
- Review your financial situation and make sure you're planning for the cost of college appropriately.
- Make sure your child is searching for local and national scholarships. Ask your employer whether any scholarships are available for the children of employees.

Visit the *College Planning* section of **GAfutures** for additional information on preparing for college.

What's a Good SAT Score, Compared to the Entire Country?

The short answer: for the New SAT (out of 1600), 1000 is considered an average score.

The top 25% of SAT takers score about 1200 or more (or 1800 on the Old SAT); if your New SAT score is above 1200, then that's quite good. Whether this is good enough to get into the colleges you care about is what we'll cover next.

	New SAT (of 1600)	Old SAT (of 2400)
Excellent (top 25%)	1200	1800
Good (Average)	1000	1500
Poor (lowest 25%)	840	1260

What's a Good ACT Score Compared to the Rest of the Country?

The short answer: 20 (composite score) is the national ACT average. About half of students score above that, and half of students score below. The top 25% of ACT takers score about 24 or more, so if your score is above 24, that's excellent.

	ACT (36)
Excellent	>24
Good (Average)	20
Lowest Quarter	<16

FAFSA Checklist

Don't leave money on the table! More than \$24 billion of financial aid goes unclaimed each year.* Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and find out what federal and state financial aid you may be eligible for to help pay for your college education.

*National College Access Network

Step 1 Create your FSA ID

- Go to **fafsa.gov** to create your FSA ID. Click on the lock icon at the top of the page to begin.
- Create a username and password then enter your email address. Enter your name, date of birth, Social Security number, contact information, and challenge questions and answers.
- Review your information and read and accept the terms and conditions.
- Confirm your email address using the secure code, which will be sent to the email address you entered when you created your FSA ID.
- Once you verify your email address, you can use it instead of your username to log in to complete your FAFSA. You can also use your FSA ID to sign your FAFSA right away.

Step 2 Need Help? Find a FAFSA Completion Event

Check with your school counselor about financial aid nights or FAFSA completion events at your school or in your community. Each year, GSFC partners with schools, colleges and community organizations to host these FREE events across the state to help students and their families complete the FAFSA. Before heading to an event, you'll need to bring:

- Your Social Security Number.
- Your Alien Registration Number (if you are not a U.S. citizen).
- Your (parent's) most recent federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned.
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable).
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable).
- Your FSA ID to sign electronically.

Visit [GAfutures](http://GAfutures.org) for more information.
Do not pay anyone to complete the FAFSA for you!
Free means FREE!

Step 3

Filling out the FAFSA

Below are the basic steps for completing the FAFSA. Remember, the application is available October 1 for the following academic year. The earlier you submit it, the more opportunity you have to receive financial aid to help pay for your education after high school.

1. Go to fafsa.gov and login using your FSA ID.

Applying online is quicker, easier and ensures your information will be saved for next year. Don't forget, you will need to fill out a FAFSA every school year to be eligible for federal funds.

2. Enter your personal information.

Make sure everything you enter is exactly how it appears on official government documents.

3. Enter your financial information.

The IRS Data Retrieval Tool can transfer your tax data to your application automatically. You should use income records for the tax year prior to the academic year you're applying for.

4. Choose up to 10 schools.

Be sure to include schools you are seriously considering, whether you've applied or have been accepted yet. You will get an estimate of your financial aid eligibility.

5. Think you're finished? Double check.

You can check the status immediately after submitting your FAFSA online. You'll receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) within three weeks from FederalStudentAidFAFSA@cpsemail.ed.gov or in the mail if you did not provide an email address. Check it to make sure there are no mistakes. If there are, follow the directions provided to correct and resubmit as soon as possible.

GSEFC | Georgia Student
Finance Commission

800.505.4732

GAfutures.org

Explore. Plan. Succeed.



After the FAFSA

1. Review your **Student Aid Report (SAR)**.

- After you submit your FAFSA, you will receive a SAR within three days if you submitted your FAFSA online or three weeks if you mailed a signature page. Your SAR is a summary of the information you provided on your FAFSA.
- Your SAR also indicates if you have been selected for verification. If you have, the first thing to do is relax. Then, learn more about the next steps on the back of this checklist.

2. Locate your **Estimated Family Contribution (EFC)**.

- Your EFC can be found in the box at the top of the first page of your SAR.
- Your EFC is a measure of your family's financial strength and is calculated according to a formula established by law. This formula considers the following about you (and your parents, if you're a dependent): taxed and untaxed income, assets, benefits (such as unemployment and Social Security), family size and number of family members.
- The EFC determines your eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant as well as other federal and non-federal student aid. Schools use the EFC to determine your federal financial aid eligibility and create your financial aid award letter.

3. Make corrections **If Needed**.

- Once you review your SAR, you may find there is missing data or an error. It is important to contact your college's financial aid office with any questions before making corrections. Corrections can be made by logging on to FAFSA.gov. Note: Any changes to the FAFSA must be signed with the appropriate FSA ID(s) and submitted.
- Your SAR information will be sent to each school listed on your FAFSA. Based on that information, the school may be required to request additional information to correct your FAFSA.

4. Next **Steps**.

- The school(s) you applied to, have been accepted to and listed on the FAFSA, will calculate your aid and send you an electronic or paper award letter with how much aid you're eligible for at that school. The timing of when you receive your award letter varies from school to school and depends on when you apply, if any verification requirements have been completed, and how the school chooses to schedule awarding of aid.
- Contact the financial aid office at the school(s) you applied to for more information or if you have any questions about your financial aid.

5. Check your **Emails Often**.

- Financial aid offices will primarily communicate through your college email. Make sure to check yours often. Requests for additional, often time-sensitive information, as well as your award letter will be sent via email.

Selected for Verification, What's Next?

Being chosen for verification doesn't mean you're in trouble or did something wrong. Verification is simply to confirm the numbers entered on the FAFSA match up with the original documentation. Here are some helpful hints to navigate through the verification process.

1. Contact your **Financial Aid Office(s)**.

- If you submitted your FAFSA information to multiple schools, contact each one to determine the documents you will need to provide for verification. Remember, verification is time sensitive and you do not want to miss any deadlines.

2. Gather and/or complete **Requested Documents**.

- **Tax information** - If you and your parents (if you're a dependent) used the IRS Data Retrieval tool, the Financial Aid Office will most likely not need your tax information. However, if the IRS Data Retrieval tool was not used, a copy of your prior year tax return or tax transcript will be needed. If you or your parents need to obtain copies of tax returns, they can be accessed online at irs.gov. For security purposes, you will need your Social Security number, date of birth, filing status and mailing address to access and request your records.
- **W-2s and/or other financial documents** - If you or your parents did not file a return, W-2s or other financial documents (e.g., proof of child support) may be requested.
- **Verification worksheets** - The Financial Aid Office will provide verification worksheets to accompany any requested documents. In some instances, completing and submitting this information will satisfy verification.

3. Make sure to send in your verification documents **Before Your School's Deadline.**

- Changes to your EFC are rare after you submit your documents for verification, and only occur if your verification materials show a discrepancy from your original FAFSA.
- Need-based institutional aid, such as campus-based and/or state scholarships and grants are time sensitive and are often first-come, first-served. So, submit your verification documents as soon as possible.

4. Follow up on changes to your **Financial Aid Package/Award Letter.**

- Keep in mind there is a chance your EFC could change if verification and the original FAFSA information are vastly different. This difference could either increase or decrease your EFC and change your financial aid package/award letter.
- If there are changes to your financial aid package/award letter, contact your Financial Aid Office to determine how you should move forward.

800.505.4732



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS


Class of 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021

AREAS OF STUDY	REQUIREMENTS		
English/Language Arts <u>4 Units</u>	9 th Lit/Comp, World Lit/Comp, American Lit/Comp, 12 th Advanced Composition OR any AP, IB, or Postsecondary Option English		
Mathematics <u>4 Units</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSE Algebra or Accelerated GSE Algebra/ Geometry A • GSE Geometry or Accelerated GSE Geometry B/ Algebra II • Algebra II • Pre- Calculus or Accelerated Pre- Calculus • Or Additional core units from approved Georgia DOE list of GPS/AP/IB designated courses <p><i>Please contact your counselor for your individual graduation plan of required sequence of math courses.</i></p>		
Science <u>4 Units</u>	Biology, Physics or Physical Science, and two additional science courses from approved Georgia DOE list of GPS/AP/IB designated courses and/or approved CTAE courses for science credit.		
Social Studies <u>3 Units</u>	World History, US History, Government, Economics		
Health/Physical Education <u>1 Unit</u>	Personal Fitness (.5) Health (.5) (3 units of JROTC may be used to meet the requirement)		
CTAE and/or World Language and/or Fine Arts <u>3 Units</u>	<i>Students planning to enter or transfer into a University System of Georgia institution or other post-secondary institution must complete two units of the same World Language.</i>		
Electives <u>4 Units</u>	State requires 4 additional electives.		
TOTAL REQUIRED	23 Units		
PROMOTION & RETENTION	Grade 9 to 10 5 Units	Grade 10 to 11 11 Units	Grade 11 to 12 17 Units

- *EOC Courses*

- Grades earned in ALL core courses will be calculated for awarding of HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships.
- State and local requirements may not include all course requirements for admission to some colleges or universities; therefore, it is recommended that students contact specific institutions for their course requirements or recommendations.

Woodland High Graduation Checklist

 Name _____		Date _____			
English: 4 units total; 9th Lit, World Lit, Amer. Lit or AP Lang, Brit Lit or AP Lit					
YR	EARNED/Grade	YR	EARNED/Grade	NEW (YR)	CR NEEDED (YR)
	Ninth A:		Ninth B:		
	World A:		World B:		
	American/AP Lang A:		American/AP Lang B:		TOTAL EARNED
	British/AP Lit A:		British/AP Lit B:		
Math: 4 units total; Alg, Geo, Alg II/Adv Alg, (AMDM, Pre-Cal, AP Stats, AP Calc are 4th options)					
	Algebra I/Coordinate Algebra A:		Algebra I/ Coordinate Algebra B:		
	Geometry A:		Geometry B:		
	Algebra II/Advanced Algebra A:		Algebra II/Advanced Algebra B:		TOTAL EARNED
	Pre-Cal or AMDM A:		Pre-Cal or AMDM B:		
	5 th Year Optional A:		5 th Year Optional B:		
Science: 4 units total, Bio, PSci or Physics, Chem/Env/AP, and 4th options including specific CTAE courses					
	Bio A:		Bio B:		
	Physical Sci./Physics A:		Physical Sci./Physics B:		
	Chemistry/Environmental/AP A:		Chemistry/Environmental/AP B:		TOTAL EARNED
	4 th option A:		4 th option B:		
Social Studies: 3 units total, World Hist, USHist, Gov/Econ required; all others electives					
	World History A:		World History B:		
	US History A:		US History B:		TOTAL EARNED
	American Government:		Economics:		
Health and Personal Fitness, ½ unit of each required (or 3 years ROTC)					
	Health:		Personal Fitness:		TOTAL EARNED
CTAE/Fine Arts/World Languages, 3 units total, any combination (2 year World Language required for 4 year schools)					
	A		B		
	A		B		TOTAL EARNED
	A		B		
General Electives, 4 units total, all other					
	A		B		
	A		B		
	A		B		
	A		B		TOTAL EARNED
	A		B		
					TOTAL

2018-2019 ACT TEST DATES

2018-2019 Test Dates (National)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 8, 2018**	August 10, 2018	August 11-26, 2018
October 27, 2018	September 28, 2018	September 29-October 14, 2018
December 8, 2018	November 2, 2018	November 3-19, 2018
February 9, 2019*	January 11, 2019	January 12-18, 2019
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019	March 9-25, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 4-20, 2019
July 13, 2019*	June 14, 2019	June 15-24, 2019

Register at act.org

WHS CODE 112-827

SAT Test Dates 2018–2019

To register for the SAT, visit [College Board](http://CollegeBoard). Students with learning differences should call 609-771-7137 for testing accommodations and requirements.

2018-19 SAT TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DATE	SCORES BACK DATE
Saturday, June 2, 2018	May 3, 2018	July 11, 2018
Saturday, August 25, 2018	July 27, 2018	September 7, 2018
Saturday, October 6, 2018	September 7, 2018	October 19, 2018
Saturday, November 3, 2018	October 5, 2018	November 16, 2018
Saturday, December 1, 2018	November 2, 2018	December 14, 2018
Saturday, March 9, 2019	February 8, 2019	March 22, 2019
Saturday, May 4, 2019	April 5, 2019	May 17, 2019

WHS CODE 112-827

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP Eligible Institutions FY 2019

PUBLIC	PRIVATE	TECHNICAL
<p>Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College Albany State University Atlanta Metropolitan State College Augusta University Clayton State University College of Coastal Georgia Columbus State University Dalton State College East Georgia State College Fort Valley State University Georgia College & State University Georgia Gwinnett College Georgia Highlands College Georgia Institute of Technology Georgia Southern University Georgia Southwestern State University Georgia State University Gordon State College Kennesaw State University Middle Georgia State University Savannah State University South Georgia State College University of Georgia University of North Georgia University of West Georgia Valdosta State University</p>	<p>Agnes Scott College American InterContinental University Andrew College Argosy University Art Institute of Atlanta Berry College Brenau University Brewton-Parker College Clark Atlanta University Covenant College DeVry University Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Emmanuel College Emory University Georgia Military College Herzing University LaGrange College Life University Mercer University Morehouse College Oglethorpe University Paine College Piedmont College Point University Reinhardt University Saint Leo University Savannah College of Art & Design Shorter University South University Spelman College Thomas University Toccoa Falls College Truett McConnell University Wesleyan College Young Harris College</p>	<p>Albany Technical College Athens Technical College Atlanta Technical College Augusta Technical College Central Georgia Technical College Chattahoochee Technical College Coastal Pines Technical College Columbus Technical College Georgia Northwestern Technical College Georgia Piedmont Technical College Gwinnett Technical College Lanier Technical College North Georgia Technical College Oconee Fall Line Technical College Ogeechee Technical College Savannah Technical College South Georgia Technical College Southeastern Technical College Southern Crescent Technical College Southern Regional Technical College West Georgia Technical College Wiregrass Georgia Technical College</p>

HOPE Scholarship Rigor Requirements



New academic requirements are included in the HOPE legislation. These changes will impact students graduating from high school on or after May 1, 2015. In order to qualify for the HOPE Scholarship, students must meet the following academic requirements.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS	STUDENTS MUST RECEIVE CREDIT IN THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF COURSES	MINIMUM NUMBER OF COURSES REQUIRED PRIOR TO GRADUATION
2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Advanced math, such as Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry, Math III, or an equivalent or higher course taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution; 2) Advanced science, such as Chemistry, Physics, Biology II, or an equivalent or higher course taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution; 3) Advanced placement courses in core subjects; 4) International baccalaureate courses in core subjects; 5) Courses taken at a unit of the University System of Georgia in core subjects where such courses are not remedial and developmental courses; or 6) Advanced foreign language courses taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution. 	2
2016	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Advanced math, such as Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry, Math III, or an equivalent or higher course taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution; 2) Advanced science, such as Chemistry, Physics, Biology II, or an equivalent or higher course taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution; 3) Advanced placement courses in core subjects; 4) International baccalaureate courses in core subjects; 5) Courses taken at a unit of the University System of Georgia in core subjects where such courses are not remedial and developmental courses; or 6) Advanced foreign language courses taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution. 	3
2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Advanced math, such as Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry, Math III, or an equivalent or higher course taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution; 2) Advanced science, such as Chemistry, Physics, Biology II, or an equivalent or higher course taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution; 3) Advanced placement courses in core subjects; 4) International baccalaureate courses in core subjects; 5) Courses taken at a unit of the University System of Georgia in core subjects where such courses are not remedial and developmental courses; or 6) Advanced foreign language courses taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution. 	4

Admissions and Financial Aid Guide Timeline

Junior Year

- Start to think about your college choices. Meet with your guidance or college counselor to discuss your academic goals.
- Take the ACT and/or SAT in the spring. High scores improve your chance of winning scholarships. You may want to take the tests again in the fall to try for a higher score.
- Talk to your parents about college costs. Visit: www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov and www.finaid.org/calculators.
- Request applications and brochures from your top college choices and visit their web sites.
- Visit prospective colleges over the summer. Ask college friends about their college experiences.
- Include a "financial aid safety school" which is a safety school (a college that will definitely admit you) where you could afford to attend even if you did not receive financial aid.
- Visit www.fastweb.com to find scholarships and to learn more about financial aid and paying for college.
- Consider the out-of-pocket cost (cost of attendance minus any scholarships or grants) as opposed to net cost (cost of attendance minus the financial aid package) when evaluating college costs. Net cost includes loans, which need to be repaid, usually with interest, while out-of-pocket cost tells you how much the college is really going to cost you and your family. All colleges must now provide a net price calculator on their web sites. These calculators estimate the out-of-pocket cost. Some calculators may highlight a net cost figure in addition to a net price figure; don't confuse the two. There may be differences in accuracy from college to college. Net price calculators can be used to evaluate whether a college is inside or outside the ballpark of affordability, but the results for different colleges may not be comparable.

Senior Year - Fall

- Organize applications; create files for each school you are interested in attending. List requirements and deadlines.
- If required, complete the CSS / Financial Aid PROFILE form available at profileonline.collegeboard.com.
- Retake the ACT and/or SAT to improve your score.
- Request letters of recommendation as soon as possible from teachers, counselors and community leaders (no later than one month before the application due date). Provide recommenders with list of your accomplishments, academic achievements and your career goals.
- To save money on application fees, consider applying early action or early decision to a college where you have a good chance of being accepted early to avoid the need for a safety school
Note: Early decision requires you to enroll at the college if admitted, while early action does not.
- Create a FSA ID, eligible students should visit <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas> complete and sign the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online. Be prepared to enter your name, Social Security number, date of birth and a challenge question.
- **As of 2016, you can now apply for the FAFSA as early as October 1st.** File the FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov as soon as possible after October 1st. Some states and colleges have very early deadlines. Do not wait until you've filed your federal income tax returns or have been admitted.

Senior Year - Winter

- Work on your college applications. Many applications are due in late December and before early January.
- Check with your prospective schools about additional financial aid application forms, deadlines and requirements.

Senior Year - Spring

- Review your Student Aid Report (SAR) for any mistakes and report them to your prospective school(s). You can also update your SAR online. You should receive your SAR in 1-3 days if you filed electronically (paper filing: 2-3-weeks).
- Check email and postal mail regularly for admissions decisions (generally late March/early April); a thin envelope does not necessarily mean you are rejected.
- Compare your admissions offers. Ask your guidance counselor and parents to help you weigh your options.
- Compare your financial aid award letters based on net price at: www.finaid.org/calculators/awardletter.phtml where you will find the Award Letter Comparison Tool. Find out more with the Financial Aid Award letter quick reference guide found at: <http://www.fastweb.com/nfs/fastweb/static/PDFs/bulletins/Evaluating%20Financial%20Aid%20Award%20Letters.pdf>.
- Time for a decision! Most schools ask that you choose your school by May 1st, unless early decision.
- Check college's deadlines for housing, financial aid, etc.

Scholarship Scams Scam Warning Signs

- You have to pay a fee
- Money-back offers or guarantees
- Credit card or bank account information required
- Provides “exclusive” information

Common Scams

“Phishing”

Unsolicited emails that bear the logo of your bank or credit card

Appear legitimate but are traps to lure you into giving out your personal or account information

NEVER give out Social Security, credit card or bank account numbers to unsolicited emails or calls

“Pharming”

Unsolicited emails that encourage you to visit a website or click on suspicious links

Make sure your inbox spam filters are up to date

BE CAREFUL about giving out your contact information or email address

Reporting Scams

National Fraud Information Center (NFIC)
File an online complaint at www.fraud.org

Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
File an online complaint at www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams, call 202-326-222, or write to:
Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center
600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20580

State Attorney General's Office
File your complaint with the Consumer Protection Division in your state.
Visit www.naag.org to find your state Attorney General's Office

US Postal Inspection Service (USPIS)
File an online complaint involving mail fraud at postalinspectors.uspis.gov, call the Crime Hotline at 877-876-2455 or write to:
Criminal Investigations Service Center
222 S. Riverside Plaza, Ste. 1250
Chicago, IL 60606-6100

Better Business Bureau (BBB)
File an online complaint about a business at www.bbb.org or call 703-276-0100

2018–2019 Calendar

July 2018

27-SAT Registration Deadline for 8/25 Test

August 2018

- 10-ACT Registration Deadline for 9/8 Test
- 15-SAT Late Registration Deadline for 8/25 Test
- 25-SAT & Subject Tests
- 26-ACT Late Registration Deadline for 9/8 Test

September 2018

- 7-SAT Registration Deadline for 10/6 Test
- 8-ACT Test
- 26-SAT Late Registration Deadline for 10/6 Test
- 28-ACT Registration Deadline for 10/27 Test

October 2018

- FAFSA application period begins, submit ASAP to maximize chances for aid
- 5-SAT Registration Deadline for 11/3 Test
- 6-SAT & Subject Tests
- 10-PSAT/NMSQT (Primary)
- 13-PSAT/NMSQT (Saturday)
- 14-ACT Late Registration Deadline for 10/27 Test
- 24-SAT Late Registration Deadline for 11/3 Test
- 24-PSAT/NMSQT (Alternate)
- 27-ACT Test

November 2018

- 2-SAT Registration Deadline for 12/1 Test
- 2-ACT Registration Deadline for 12/8 Test
- 3-SAT & Subject Tests
- 19-ACT Late Registration Deadline for 12/8 Test
- 20-SAT Late Registration Deadline for 12/1 Test

December 2018

- 1-SAT & Subject Tests
- 8-ACT Test

January 2019

- Complete FAFSA and submit
- 11-ACT Registration Deadline for 2/9 Test
- 18-ACT Late Registration Deadline for 2/9 Test

February 2019

- 8-SAT Registration Deadline for 3/9 Test
- 9-ACT Test (except in NY)
- 27-SAT Late Registration Deadline for 3/9 Test

March 2019

- 8-ACT Registration Deadline for 4/13 Test
- 9-SAT Test (only)
- 25-ACT Late Registration Deadline for 4/13 Test

April 2019

- 5-SAT Registration Deadline for 5/4 Test
- 13-ACT Test
- 24-SAT Late Registration Deadline for 5/4 Test

May 2019

- 1-National Candidate's Reply Date
- 3-SAT Registration Deadline for 6/1 Test
- 3-ACT Registration Deadline for 6/8 Test
- 4-SAT & Subject Tests
- 6-10-AP Exams – Week 1
- 13-17-AP Exams – Week 2
- 20-ACT Late Registration Deadline for 6/8 Test
- 22-SAT Late Registration Deadline for 6/1 Test

June 2019

- 1-SAT & Subject Tests
- 8-ACT Test
- 30-Last day to submit 2018–19 FAFSA

Web Resources

Sources of Aid

Scholarship Search
www.fastweb.com

AmeriCorps
www.americorps.gov

City Year
www.cityyear.org

CSS PROFILE
<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.com>

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
www.fafsa.ed.gov

FSA ID Management
<https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>

FAFSA 4Caster
www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov

Student Loans
www.studentloans.gov

College Admissions

College Search
www.fastweb.com/college-search

Common Application
www.commonapp.org

Educational Opportunity Centers Program
www2.ed.gov/programs/trioeoc

Job Corps
www.jobcorps.gov

NACAC College Fairs
www.nacacfairs.org

Choosing a Career

Monster Career Advice
www.monster.com/career-advice/career-levels/entry-level

MonsterCollege
www.monstercollege.com

Career Planning
www.fastweb.com/career-planning

Bureau of Labor Statistics
www.bls.gov

Occupational Outlook Handbook
www.bls.gov/oco

Higher Ed News & Views

Chronicle of Higher Education
www.chronicle.com

Higher Education Watch
www.higheredwatch.org

Inside Higher Ed
www.insidehighered.com

Have a question or
comment?

memberservices@fastweb.com

fastweb
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College Visit Checklist

To help you find the right college, fill out one of these forms each time you visit a school.

College Name

City

State

Size

Tuition

Room & Board

Financial Aid Options

Admissions Contact

Name

Email

Phone

To-Do Checklist

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Talk to professors | <input type="checkbox"/> Talk to students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visit the library | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit student housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tour campus | <input type="checkbox"/> Read bulletin boards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sit in on a class | <input type="checkbox"/> Check out recreational facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eat at a cafeteria | <input type="checkbox"/> Check out student activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Talk to admissions office | <input type="checkbox"/> Tour the city around campus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Read the college newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Eat at an off-campus student hang-out |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check out computer labs | <input type="checkbox"/> Picture yourself living here |

Rate It

On a scale of 1-5, five being the best, rate the following:

People _____

Social life _____

Classrooms _____

Residence Halls _____

Town _____

Campus _____

Food _____

Ask a Student

What is the best part about this college?

What is the worst part?

What is a typical day like?

What do the students do on the weekends?

How are classes structured?

Why did you choose this college?

The best part about my visit

The worst part about my visit



College Application Planner

College	Application Deadline	Essay	Teacher Recommendation	Counselor Recommendation	Transcript Requested	ACT/SAT Scores Sent	Application Sent	Done

Important:

- Make sure you apply to more than one college. It is a general rule to apply to three schools: a dream school, a school you would like to attend, and a school where you feel sure you will be admitted.
- Not all colleges require essays, teacher recommendations, and/or counselor recommendations. Check each school's requirements carefully.
- Each school's records clerk handles transcript requests. You can pick up a form from her. Final high school transcripts are not available until you have graduated from high school. Final high school transcript request forms are filled out at graduation practice. These transcripts are typically mailed during the second week of June.
- Even if your ACT/SAT scores are on your transcript, most colleges do not consider those scores to be official. Most colleges across Georgia and the nation require your test scores to be sent directly from the testing center. It is up to you to request those scores to be sent to each college where you plan to apply.
- Make sure you fill out a FAFSA form. Each college in the state of Georgia sets its own financial aid deadline, so be sure to meet your school's deadline. The FAFSA form is the application for federal grants, federal student loans, the federal work study program, and Georgia's HOPE scholarship program.
- Once you have mailed your applications, each college will send you information about whether you have been accepted, financial aid, housing fees, orientation sessions, and any other details that should be taken care of before you enroll.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



Divisions I and II Initial-Eligibility Requirements

Core Courses

- **NCAA Divisions I and II require 16 core courses.** See the charts below.
- **Beginning August 1, 2016, NCAA Division I will require 10 core courses** to be completed prior to the seventh semester (seven of the 10 must be a combination of English, math or natural or physical science that meet the distribution requirements below). These 10 courses become "locked in" at the start of the seventh semester and cannot be retaken for grade improvement.
 - *Beginning August 1, 2016, it will be possible for a Division I college-bound student-athlete to still receive athletics aid and the ability to practice with the team if he or she fails to meet the 10 course requirement, but would not be able to compete.*

Test Scores

- **Division I** uses a sliding scale to match test scores and core grade-point averages (GPA). The sliding scale for those requirements is shown on Page No. 2 of this sheet.
- **Division II** requires a minimum SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.
- The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes **only** the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used.
- The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a **sum** of the following four sections: English, mathematics, reading and science.
- **When you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of 9999 to ensure all SAT and ACT scores are reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used.**

Grade-Point Average

- **Be sure** to look at your high school's List of NCAA Courses on the NCAA Eligibility Center's website (www.eligibilitycenter.org). Only courses that appear on your school's List of NCAA Courses will be used in the calculation of the core GPA. Use the list as a guide.
- **Division I** students enrolling full time **before August 1, 2016**, should use Sliding Scale A to determine eligibility to receive athletics aid, practice and competition during the first year.
- **Division I** GPA required to receive **athletics aid and practice on or after August 1, 2016**, is 2.000-2.299 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B on Page No. 2 of this sheet).
- **Division I** GPA required to be eligible for **competition on or after August 1, 2016**, is 2.300 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B on Page No. 2 of this sheet).
- **The Division II** core GPA requirement is a minimum of 2.000.
- Remember, the NCAA GPA is calculated using NCAA core courses only.

DIVISION I 16 Core Courses

- 4 years of English.
- 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

DIVISION II 16 Core Courses

- 3 years of English.
- 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 3 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

Sliding Scale A		
<i>Use for Division I prior to August 1, 2016</i>		
NCAA DIVISION I SLIDING SCALE		
Grade Point Average	Minimum	Maximum
3.550 & above	400	37
3.525	410	38
3.500	420	39
3.475	430	40
3.450	440	41
3.425	450	41
3.400	460	42
3.375	470	42
3.350	480	43
3.325	490	44
3.300	500	44
3.275	510	45
3.250	520	46
3.225	530	46
3.200	540	47
3.175	550	47
3.150	560	48
3.125	570	49
3.100	580	49
3.075	590	50
3.050	600	50
3.025	610	51
3.000	620	52
2.975	630	52
2.950	640	53
2.925	650	53
2.900	660	54
2.875	670	55
2.850	680	56
2.825	690	56
2.800	700	57
2.775	710	58
2.750	720	59
2.725	730	59
2.700	730	60
2.675	740-750	61
2.650	760	62
2.625	770	63
2.600	780	64
2.575	790	65
2.550	800	66
2.525	810	67
2.500	820	68
2.475	830	69
2.450	840-850	70
2.425	860	70
2.400	860	71
2.375	870	72
2.350	880	73
2.325	890	74
2.300	900	75
2.275	910	76
2.250	920	77
2.225	930	78
2.200	940	79
2.175	950	80
2.150	960	80
2.125	960	81
2.100	970	82
2.075	980	83
2.050	990	84
2.025	1000	85
2.000	1010	86

Sliding Scale B		
<i>Use for Division I beginning August 1, 2016</i>		
NCAA DIVISION I SLIDING SCALE		
Grade Point Average	Minimum	Maximum
3.550	400	37
3.525	410	38
3.500	420	39
3.475	430	40
3.450	440	41
3.425	450	41
3.400	460	42
3.375	470	42
3.350	480	43
3.325	490	44
3.300	500	44
3.275	510	45
3.250	520	46
3.225	530	46
3.200	540	47
3.175	550	47
3.150	560	48
3.125	570	49
3.100	580	49
3.075	590	50
3.050	600	50
3.025	610	51
3.000	620	52
2.975	630	52
2.950	640	53
2.925	650	53
2.900	660	54
2.875	670	55
2.850	680	56
2.825	690	56
2.800	700	57
2.775	710	58
2.750	720	59
2.725	730	60
2.700	740	61
2.675	750	61
2.650	760	62
2.625	770	63
2.600	780	64
2.575	790	65
2.550	800	66
2.525	810	67
2.500	820	68
2.475	830	69
2.450	840	70
2.425	850	70
2.400	860	71
2.375	870	72
2.350	880	73
2.325	890	74
2.300	900	75
2.299	910	76
2.275	910	76
2.250	920	77
2.225	930	78
2.200	940	79
2.175	950	80
2.150	960	81
2.125	970	82
2.100	980	83
2.075	990	84
2.050	1000	85
2.025	1010	86
2.000	1020	86

For more information, visit the NCAA Eligibility Center website at www.eligibilitycenter.org.