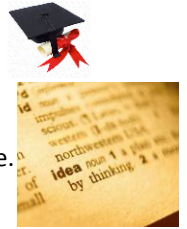


Important Terms to Understand



Acceptance

Candidate is in; most colleges notify students by April/May. Student needs to reply if he or she will not attend college.

Accreditation

Recognition of a college or university by any of the regional or national accrediting bodies indicating that the institution is meeting its objectives.

ACT

<http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act.html>

A college entrance achievement examination that is a predictor for college success. It is required or recommended by many colleges as part of the admission process. The ACT measures educational development in English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science.

Advanced Placement

Granting of credit and/or assignment to an advanced course on the basis of evidence that the student has mastered the equivalent of an introductory course. High schools implement the courses and administer the exams. Check with admissions office regarding acceptance for college credit.

Apprenticeship Programs

During this process, the worker (apprentice) learns an occupation in a structured program sponsored jointly by employers and labor unions or operated by employers and employer associations.

Associate Degree

A degree granted after the satisfactory completion of a two-year full time program of study or its part time equivalent. In general, the Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree is granted after completing a program of study similar to the first two years of a four-year college curriculum. In Georgia most of the CORE curriculum can be earned at a two year school and transferred to a four year school. Check with admissions office.

ASVAB

This test shows your skills or various strong points that you may have in order for you to have a more successful life. This test is also given to determine people's ability to learn certain skills needed for every day life. This test is required for a career in the military. It is administered in high schools at no charge. Results of the test are discussed with students.

Bachelor's Degree

A degree received after the satisfactory completion of a four or five year full-time program of study at a college or university.

Career-Oriented Program

A group of courses, which prepares students primarily for employment, often in a specific occupation. Such a program, which can last a few months or more than two years, may lead to a certificate, diploma, or associate degree.

College Entrance Exams

Tests that are used by colleges and universities for evaluation of applicants for admission or for placement in courses. Tests used most frequently are the ACT and the SAT I & II. Note: There is now a SAT writing test that must be taken.

College Transfer Courses

Courses that transfer as college credit to bachelor's degree programs elsewhere. Most times in the state of Georgia, these are referred to as CORE courses.

Cooperative Work-Study Education

A program through which some colleges grant course credit based on results of ACT scores or SAT Achievement scores, the ACT Proficiency Examination Program (PEP), the College Entry Examination Board (CEEB), the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), or other examinations.

**Credit Hour**

A unit of measure for course work. An average college class is 3 or 4 credit hours. To receive credits usually the student would attend about 15 weeks and therefore, would attend class for approximately 45 clock hours. An average semester load is 14-18 hours with 4-6 courses. Twelve hours is considered to be a full time student.

Deferred Admission

The practice of some colleges of allowing an accepted student to postpone enrollment for one year.

Early Action

Students usually submit applications by December 1st and receive notification by February 1st.

Early Decision

Under early action, you follow an accelerated application process and apply by early October. Students are notified of a decision by mid-December; if accepted, students do not have to inform the institution of their decision until May 1. An example is UGA.

Federal Pell Grant

Financial assistance, awarded by the federal government to undergraduate students on the basis of need. The grant may be used toward tuition, room and board, books or other educational costs. This money does not have to be repaid.

Federal Work Study

A federal financial aid program providing on and off campus work for college students.

Financial Aid Form (FAF)

A form, which is required by some colleges as a supplement to the FAFSA. This is to be completed by the student and his/her parents.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The starting point in applying for financial aid in which information about the students total family income, assets and expenses, and analysis of the family's potential contribution toward college expenses is collected.

GAfutures.org

www.gafutures.org

A website giving information regarding 104 postsecondary schools in Georgia that are eligible for state-funded student financial aid - a network of public and private universities and colleges, public technical colleges, and special purpose schools located throughout the state. A website that is used for HOPE as well as Move on When Ready processing. This website is also used to send transcripts to colleges and technical colleges within the state of Georgia.

GCIS-Georgia Career Information System

www.gici.peachnet.edu

The Georgia Career Information Center operates the Georgia Career Information System (GICS). Working with educational and labor market professionals, GCIS contains assessments, explorations, and search strategies as well as the most comprehensive and accurate state and national occupational and educational information. GCIS provides Georgia's students vital career information.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

An indicator of the student's overall scholastic performance. The Paulding County School District reports GPA on a numeric basis. For example a student may have a 92.2 overall GPA. Colleges often compute the GPA totaling the number of grade points earned in each course (generally, A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0) and then dividing the sum by the total number of credit courses carried. For HOPE, only CORE courses count when calculating the GPA for college entrance.

Honors Program

Any program offering opportunity for superior students to enrich their educational experience through independent advanced or accelerated study. Most major four year colleges and universities offer honors programs.

**Independent Study (College Level)**

An arrangement which allows the student to earn college credit through individual study, usually planned with and supervised by a faculty advisor.

Internships

Opportunities for "hands on" experience. Some for pay or as a volunteer.

Job Shadowing

A process whereby students are taken to a place of business and allowed to observe the employees going about their daily work. Shadowing is a relatively short unpaid experience. It can be only a few hours in length or it can extend over a few days.

Letters of Recommendation

Letters that student's request of teachers, parents, friends, counselors, employers, etc. to support their applications for college admission and/or scholarships and employment. Most out-of-state colleges and universities require some form of recommendation (either a letter or a rating sheet.) Be considerate. Give the person at least two weeks to write a letter for you.

Loans

Monies borrowed that must be repaid along with interest.

Major

The subject of study in which the student chooses to specialize and pursue in college; a series of related courses, taken primarily in the junior or senior years of college. This may be in any number of subject areas or fields. Scholarships are often associated with majors.

Master of Arts or Science Degree

A degree awarded after completion of a BA or BS degree, usually needs 30-45 college hours beyond the bachelor's degree.

Mentorship

Working with a student on a one-to-one basis. Mentors typically dedicate a few hours each month to familiarize their student with the workplace, offer insight on basic skills needed, or assist with school projects and personnel issues.

Minor

A secondary subject of study the student chooses to specialize and pursue in college.

NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association)

If you are planning to enroll in college as a freshman and you wish to participate in Division I or II intercollegiate athletics, your initial eligibility status must be determined by the NCAA Clearinghouse. You should apply for certification after your junior year in high school. Information is on this link: http://web3.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA_EMS.html#

NCAA Student Release Form

This form authorizes high schools to release student transcripts - including grades, proof of graduation, and other academic information to the Clearinghouse. It also authorizes the Clearinghouse to release this information to the colleges that request it.

Non-Traditional Career

Occupations that require working in a field that has been traditionally dominated by 70% of the other gender. These jobs usually require post-secondary vocational or technical training. These jobs break the stereotypes of "men's work" and "women's work".

Open Admissions

The policy of some colleges of admitting virtually all high school graduates, regardless of academic qualifications such as high school grades and admission test scores. Many two year colleges have open admissions.

**Orientation**

During the summer college and technical schools typically provide an orientation program. You and your parents will be invited on campus to learn the layout of the campus and pre-register for your courses. Be certain to take advantage of this opportunity.

Portfolio

A collection of work that documents a student's educational performance and employment experiences over a range of time. Portfolio files are a collection of the best examples of a student's work.

Oftentimes students who major in areas like graphic design have a portfolio of their work.

Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT)

A program designed to provide a practice test for juniors as a warm-up and preparation for the SAT. In the state of Georgia, students take this test their sophomore year and may take the test again during their junior year. This test is given in October.

Rank

A student's standing in his/her high school graduating class. Rank is based on grade point average and is expressed in percentiles or rank order.

Requirements

For a university, you must meet three requirements for graduation: one for the university, one for the college and one for the department. Always seek guidance from the college catalog and your advisor.

Resident Advisor

An older student who lives on your floor or hall in the dorm and helps with any living situation or problems that might arise.

Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC)

Air Force, Army and Navy programs on certain campuses which combine military education with baccalaureate degree study.

Resume (Also called Profile)

An outline of your life from grades 9-12. It should contain important information about you, which will paint a picture for admissions and scholarship committees as well as for employers. Resumes are also created for the world of work when you are getting ready to apply and interview for a job.

SAT

<https://www.collegeboard.org/>

Achievement test of verbal, mathematical skills and writing skills, which are given at specified test centers throughout the year. Required or recommended by colleges as part of the admission process as it is considered a predictor of college success.

Scholarship

A merit-based award for students with outstanding achievements; students with high grades and ACT or SAT scores; athletes; musicians; artists, etc. Many scholarships are available from corporations, community agencies, civic and military associations, and more. The competition for them is rigorous.

Study Time

As a general rule in college courses, for every one hour in class you will need to spend two hours outside of class studying.

Syllabus

Comprehensive information given out by college professors and includes assignments, grading policy, attendance, policy, course objectives, etc.

Two Year Colleges

Regionally accredited, post-secondary institutions at which the associate degree is the highest credential awarded. They offer comprehensive, technical, transfer, and continuing education or specialized curriculums.

Transcript

Official record of high school or college courses, GPA and class rank. Required as part of the college application process.



Work Experience Program

Offers all students and Special Education students the opportunity to receive on-the-job training during the school day.

Always ask your school counselor for assistance!