

**Classroom Guidance Presentation for Seniors  
Class of 2019**



	<p><b>GET ORGANIZED!</b> Create a filing system to organize your profile/resume, college, university, and/or technical school information, applications, letters of request for references, etc. Please use GAfutures to gather information about postsecondary schools. You can also use the Georgia Career Information System.</p>
	<p><b>Deadlines</b> <b>Ten school days</b> in advance of any deadline whether it be application or letter of recommendation, you must have all information and documents to the counselor. Remember you will be requesting transcripts for University System of Georgia colleges, universities, and technical colleges via your MyGAfutures account on GAfutures</p>
	<p>SAT Testing Dates <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a></p>
	<p>ACT Testing Dates <a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a></p>
	<p>Review Senior Advisement Checklist/Timeline (Last Pages of This Document)</p>
	<p>HOPE Questions and Answers Important: All academic core courses are HOPE eligible courses. A numeric grade point average of 83% does not guarantee that a student is HOPE eligible. <b>Middle school academic core courses do not count!</b> Carefully, review your HOPE eligible GPA (Grade Point Average) on GAfutures.</p>
	<p><b>Do</b>   Use <a href="http://www.gafutures.org">www.gafutures.org</a> (GAfutures) for applications to schools in the state of Georgia.   Realize that school counselors will be routing transcripts via GAfutures beginning in August.   Always read applications and directions carefully before you begin.   If making applications online, print out a copy for your records.   Double check that everything that is supposed to be included is enclosed.   Be honest about your accomplishments.</p>
	<p>Review NCAA Clearinghouse Registration Information</p>
	<p>Utilize Youscience Assessment Information and discuss with school counselor.</p>
	<p>Letter of Recommendation from Teacher and/or Counselor Required <b>TEN DAYS in advance of deadline</b>, you must request from teacher of your choice. Provide teacher with addressed/stamped envelop unless counselor is going to send for you. Let counselor know immediately if you need letter sent in packet. Counselor will provide a school profile, an official transcript, and a counselor recommendation, if needed. Remember that the official transcript will be requested by you via GAfutures for in-state schools. Only for out-of-state schools will there be a request for a transcript to be printed copy or routed via the Scribborder process.</p>
	<p>Surviving the Senior Year Handbook-See district High School Counseling website link.</p>
	<p>Always thank counselors and teachers who help you!!!!</p>



## SAT and ACT Exam Information

All colleges/universities require some type of entrance or placement examination. Most colleges and universities in the U.S. will accept either the ACT (American College Test) or the SAT I (Scholastic Aptitude Test). You may take either or both tests several times to improve your score. Please consult with the college or university of your choice for specific requirements. Most schools in the south accept either test! Always double check with the admissions office.



Some colleges/universities require the SAT II (subject tests.) Check with the College Board or your selected college/university to see if they require the SAT II for admission.



Go to SAT/ACT link on the district website for information and then click on **SAT**.

Link for SAT: <https://www.paulding.k12.ga.us/Page/23919>

Main SAT link from The College Board site: <https://sat.collegeboard.org/home>

**ACT** information is below the SAT information on the district link above.

Main ACT link is: <http://www.act.org/>

**Test scores must be sent directly from the College Board for SAT or from ACT. The high school transcript will not have test scores for college admissions offices or the NCAA Clearinghouse.**

## NCAA Clearinghouse Registration and Athletic Information/NCAA Eligibility Center

[http://web3.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA\\_EMS/NCAA\\_EMS.html#](http://web3.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA_EMS.html#)

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), an organization that has established rules of eligibility, recruiting and financial aid, regulates most college athletic programs. If you are planning to enroll in college as a freshman and you wish to participate in Division I or II athletics, you must be certified and cleared by the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse.

Students who plan to participate in Division I or II college sports should go to the NCAA website for all pertinent information: (1) fill out NCAA Clearinghouse Release Form, (2) check with their counselor, (3) mail the part of the form requested, (4) give part of the form with a transcript request to the registrar for him/her to mail to the Clearinghouse.

This form authorizes high schools to release your transcripts including grades, proof of graduation and other academic information to the Clearinghouse. Start the process early, preferable by the beginning of your senior year. The Clearinghouse requires 6 (six) semesters of course and grade information along with your ACT or SAT score reports.

Students must request SAT or ACT scores be sent directly to individual colleges. Students should have score reports sent directly to the Clearinghouse by entering a special code on their ACT or SAT registration form.



**NCAA** Eligibility Center  
WELCOME!

Click [here](#) to view important reminders for 2015 grads.



**NCAA COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENT-ATHLETES**

ENTER HERE

**HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS**

ENTER HERE

Click [here](#) to view the technical requirements for this website.

# GAfutures

Explore. Plan. Succeed.

GAfutures Home Page Link: <https://www.gafutures.org/>



Explore. Plan. Succeed.

[Create an Account](#)
[Sign In](#)
[Help ?](#)

HOPE & State Aid Programs

Federal Aid & Scholarships

College Planning

Career Exploration

Resources

About Us

My GAfutures



**Bridge the Gap in your College Finances with SAL**

Need additional financial aid to help bridge the gap and pay for college? You may be eligible for the Student Access Loan (SAL) Program.

Learn more



**Bridge the Gap in your College Finances with SAL**  
Need additional financial aid to help br...



**Get Financially Fit For College**  
College Money Matters has the tips, tool...



**College STEM Courses**  
Starting fall 2017, if you are taking el...



**HOPE Programs**  
HOPE is Georgia's unique scholarship and...

**AWARD RECIPIENTS: THEIR STORIES**

**NEWS YOU CAN USE**

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## Account Creation on GAfutures

All accounts whether existing or created as a new account must have a working email.

<https://www.gafutures.org/media/113397/final-gg-quick-guide-user-create-account.pdf>

Account Creation



Quick Guide  
Student

### Step 1:

Select the **Create an Account** option at the top of the **GAfutures** homepage.



### Step 2:

Complete the form. Information marked with a red asterisk is required.

**Create new account?**

Please complete all fields below to create a new account in the system. Fields marked with \* are required.

<b>First Name *</b> <input type="text" value="Enter first name"/>	<b>Middle Name</b> <input type="text" value="Middle name"/>	<b>Last Name *</b> <input type="text" value="Enter last name"/>
<b>Account Type *</b> <input type="text" value="Select"/>	<b>School</b> <input type="text" value="None"/>	
<b>Email *</b> <input type="text" value="primary_email@example.com"/>	<b>Confirm Email *</b> <input type="text" value="primary_email@example.com"/>	
<b>Alternate Email</b> <input type="text" value="alternate_email@example.com"/>	<b>Confirm Alternate Email</b> <input type="text" value="alternate_email@example.com"/>	
<b>Username *</b> <input type="text" value="enter_username"/>		
<small>If you have comments from a former web site, please click <a href="#">this FAQ</a></small>		
<b>Password *</b> <input type="text" value="Enter password"/>	<b>Confirm Password *</b> <input type="text" value="Enter confirm password"/>	

(New accounts should be at least 8 characters long and contain 7 numbers, 1 special character, 1 upper case character and 1 lower case character. Ex: Password123!@)



**Step 3:**

After completing the *Account Creation Form*, make sure you check the box acknowledging acceptance of the *Terms of Use* and *Privacy Policy*.

Note: You are able to view the *Terms of Use* and *Privacy Policy* by selecting the appropriate links.

After everything is complete, select **Create Account**.

**Step 4:**

Congratulations, you have successfully created an account on **GAfutures**.





## Sending Transcripts via GAfutures Informational Link about Requesting and Track Your Transcript

<https://www.gafutures.org/media/113401/final-gg-quick-guide-user-requesting-transcript-through-gafutures.pdf>

Requesting Your Transcript  
through GAfutures

**GAfutures**  
Explore. Plan. Succeed.

Quick Guide  
Student

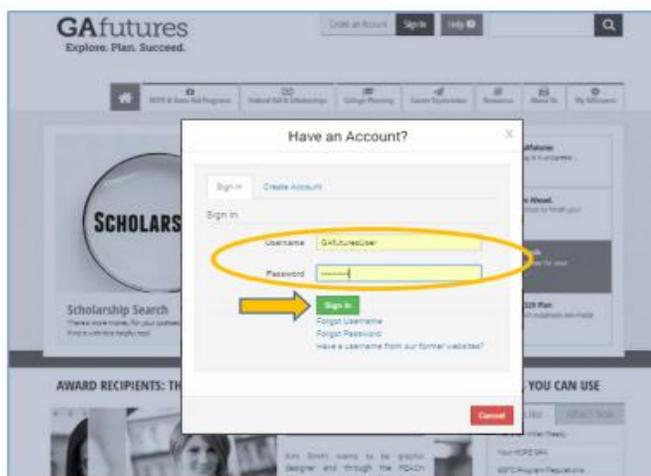
### Step 1:

Select the **Sign In** option at the top of the GAfutures homepage.



### Step 2:

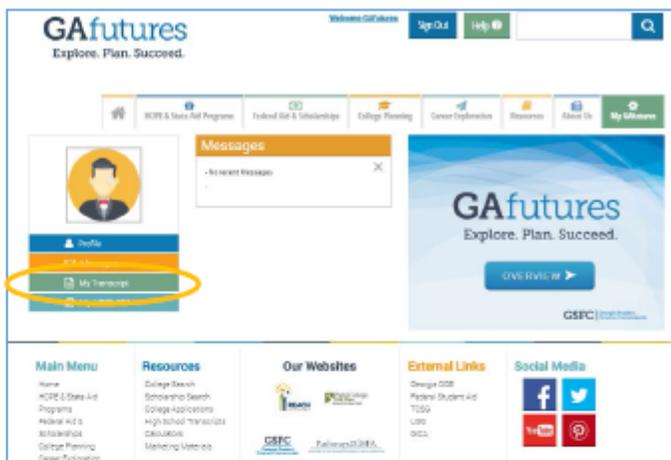
Enter your **Username** and **Password** information, then select **Sign In**.





**Step 3:**

Select the My Transcript option.

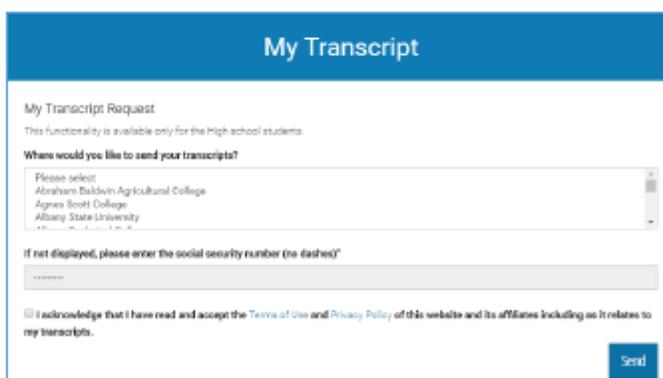


**Step 4:**

Electronic Transcript Requests can only be made if your high school allows you to request them through GAfutures.

To complete the request, select the eligible colleges in Georgia where you want your transcript to be sent, complete remaining fields, select Send.

Note: Make sure all information is entered in order for your request to be processed.





## HOPE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

<https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/hope-zell-miller-scholarships/>

# HOPE & Zell Miller Scholarships

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## HOPE & ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIPS

HOPE Scholarship

Zell Miller Scholarship



Eligibility

Award Amounts

Eligible Colleges and Universities

Application Procedure and Deadline

Maintaining Eligibility for the HOPE Scholarship

Administrative Reviews and Exceptions

Frequently Asked Questions

### HOPE Scholarship

Georgia's HOPE Scholarship is available to Georgia residents who have demonstrated academic achievement. The scholarship provides money to assist students with the educational costs of attending a [HOPE eligible postsecondary institution](#) located in Georgia.

[Frequently Asked Questions about the HOPE Scholarship](#)



**Link regarding courses that count for academic rigor requirements to be eligible for the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships:**

<https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/hope-zell-miller-scholarships/hope-scholarship/eligibility/academic-rigor-requirements/>

# Academic Rigor Requirements

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## HOPE & ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIPS

HOPE Scholarship	Zell Miller Scholarship
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<a href="#">Eligibility</a>
<a href="#">Award Amounts</a>
<a href="#">Eligible Colleges and Universities</a>
<a href="#">Application Procedure and Deadline</a>
<a href="#">Maintaining Eligibility for the HOPE Scholarship</a>
<a href="#">Administrative Reviews and Exceptions</a>
<a href="#">Frequently Asked Questions</a>

### Academic Rigor Requirements

1. Beginning with the High School Graduating Class of 2015, a student meeting the requirements to be a HOPE Scholar at the time of high school graduation must earn a minimum of two full credits from the academic rigor course categories listed below prior to graduating from high school.
2. For the High School Graduating Class of 2016, a student meeting the requirements to be a HOPE Scholar at the time of high school graduation must earn a minimum of three full credits from the academic rigor course categories listed below prior to graduating from high school.
3. For the High School Graduating Class of 2017, a student meeting the requirements to be a HOPE Scholar at the time of high school graduation must earn a minimum of four full credits from the academic rigor course categories listed below prior to graduating from high school.

Credits received for academic rigor courses must be selected from the categories below:

1. Advanced math, such as advanced algebra and trigonometry, math III, taken at the high school, or an equivalent or higher course taken for degree level credit at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution;
2. Advanced science, such as chemistry, physics, biology II, taken at the high school, or an equivalent or higher course taken for degree level credit at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution;
3. Foreign language courses taken at the high school, or taken for degree level credit at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution; or
4. Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Dual Credit Enrollment courses in Core subjects.



**Zell Miller Scholarship Link:** <https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/hope-zell-miller-scholarships/zell-miller-scholarship/>

**Important: ACT and/or SAT results must be from tests taken prior to the student's graduation date. Test score results must go directly to Georgia Student Finance Commission from the testing service (ACT or The College Board).**

## Zell Miller Scholarship

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### HOPE & ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIPS

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[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

#### Zell Miller Scholarship

Georgia's Zell Miller Scholarship is available to Georgia residents who have demonstrated academic achievement. The scholarship provides money to assist students with the educational costs of attending a Zell Miller Scholarship eligible college located in Georgia.

[Frequently Asked Questions about the Zell Miller Scholarship](#)



Explore Financial Aid 101 on GAfutures site:  
<https://www.gafutures.org/federal-aid-scholarships/>

# Federal Aid & Scholarships

Home / Federal Aid & Scholarships

## FEDERAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS



### Financial Aid Basics

Financial aid is money from various sources to help students pay for college. View some of the basics.



### FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) determines eligibility for all federal financial aid programs and must be completed each year when applying for financial aid.



### Federal Student Loans

Take a look at the various types of loans available through Federal Student Aid and the repayment options.



### Federal Student Grants

Learn about the federal grant programs available to assist with students paying for college or career school.



### Scholarship Search

There's more money for your postsecondary education than you think. Use this tool to find what scholarships you may be eligible for.



## NEWS YOU CAN USE

Trending

Shortcuts

GAfutures Quick Guides and FAQs

2016-2017 Award Amounts

Georgia National Guard SCL

Move On When Ready

SIWDG Provides High-Demand Careers

PROBE College Fairs

Go Back. Move Ahead.

### LifeSense



LifeSense is a fun place where students can learn about money and what it means to them.

[Learn more](#)



## College or Technical College Choice Factors

Deciding which colleges to apply to, much less which to attend, is a significant life choice that will affect you for years. What are your values? What kind of environment do you want to live in? These and other questions will help guide you to select the proper school. So ask yourself about:

### Location

How far away from home would you like to go to school? 10 miles/1,000 miles.

### Size of College

Would you prefer to attend a school with a large enrollment (30,000 or more students), or a small one (around 2,000 students), or something in the middle? How large would you like the physical size of the campus to be?

### Environment

Would you rather attend a 2-year institution or a 4-year college or university?

An urban, suburban, or a rural school? Is the location and size of the nearest city important to you? Do you prefer a co-ed or single-gender school? Does the school's religious affiliation make a difference to you?

### Academics/Sports/Other Interests

Does the school have academic majors that you are interested in? If you wish to play a sport, does this school offer the sport? Are there intramural teams? If you are interested in an organization/activity, is it offered? At what schools do you have a high enough GPA, class ranking, and SAT and/or ACT test score to be admitted? What kind of student-faculty ratio and typical class size are you looking for, and which schools offer them?

### College Expenses/Financial Aid

Does your college choice match your financial ability? Are you qualified to receive HOPE, if you go to school in Georgia? How expensive a school can you afford to attend with or without HOPE? Consider tuition, room and board, and other expenses including the application fee, deposits, parking fees etc. How many students receive financial aid at the schools you are considering?

### Housing/Facilities

Would you rather live on campus, in a dorm, or commute to school from home? What type of academic, medical and recreational facilities should your college have? If working out is important to you, is there a place to do this?

### Special Programs

Do you need a school with services or programs for the learning disabled?

Is there tutoring available and under what conditions can you take advantage of tutoring?

Would you like to study abroad during one of your summers?

Do you plan to continue your ESL studies in college?

Are you looking for an honors program?



## Comparison Worksheet/Choosing a Campus

Go to [www.GAfutures.org](http://www.GAfutures.org) or to the Georgia Career Information Center site: [www.gcic.peachnet.edu](http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu)

This site gives information regarding undergraduate enrollment, student to faculty ratio, % receiving financial aid package, and in-state cost to attend.

Category	Description Name of school	Choice #1	Choice #2	Choice #3	Choice #4	Choice #5
Location	Distance from home					
Size	Student enrollment Physical size					
Environment	2 year, 4 year, technical, specialized rural, urban, suburban nearest city co-ed, male, female religious affiliation					
Admission Requirements	Deadlines/Tests required Average test Scores GPA (numeric)/Rank in class					
Academics	Majors offered Special requirements Class size					
College Majors	Liberal arts Interdisciplinary Pre-professional Specialized					
Expenses	Tuition, room and Board of Education Estimated total budget Fees and deposits					
Financial Aid	Deadline/% receiving aid Scholarships/Work study					
Housing	Dorm hall requirement Off-campus housing Food plan					
Facilities	Academic/Recreational/Other					
Activities	Clubs/Greek life/Athletics					
Campus Visits	Dates/Contact person					
Choice	Mine/Mine and parents Primarily parents					



EXAMPLE OF A HIGH SCHOOL **PROFILE** TO BE GIVEN TO TEACHERS AND/OR COUNSELORS WHO ARE WRITING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FOR YOU.

IMA GRADUATE  
555 Hardee Street  
Dallas, GA 30132  
Telephone: 770.289.6663  
Email: [IMAGraduate@paulding.k12.ga.us](mailto:IMAGraduate@paulding.k12.ga.us)

**OBJECTIVE:** Graduate from Paulding County High School with diploma and enter a four year university majoring in Computer Science

**EDUCATION:** Paulding County High School 2014 - present. **GPA** 97.0%, **Class Rank** 15 Of 300

**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND HONORS**

**Athletic** JV Basketball 9 & 10; Varsity Basketball 11 & 12  
Tennis 9, 10 & 11

**Scholastic** ACT Composite 26  
SAT Verbal 618, SAT Math 595  
AP US History, Honors American Literature

**Extracurricular** Drama Club 9 & 10  
Marching Band 9 – 12, Section leader 12  
Beta Club 10, 11 & 12  
Sophomore Class Officer 10

**AWARDS/HONORS**

Superintendent’s Scholar 9  
“Kids Who Care Award” 9  
GA Certificate of Merit (top 5% of class) 11  
Spanish I Award 11  
Varsity Basketball Letter

**COMMUNITY/CHURCH INVOLEMENT**

Adopt-A-Grandparent 9 & 10  
Relay for Life 10 & 11  
Church Youth Drama Group 9-12; Group Leader 12th

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

Internship at Target, 2017-present



## Website Information

For Georgia Universities, colleges and technical schools go to [www.Gafutures.org](http://www.Gafutures.org) to link to all individual school websites.

### College Resources

ACT	<a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a>
Colleges by State	<a href="http://www.mit.edu:8001/people/cdemello/univ.htm">www.mit.edu:8001/people/cdemello/univ.htm</a> .
College Board	<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>
Campus Tours	<a href="http://www.campustours.com">www.campustours.com</a>
COLLEGENET	<a href="http://www.collegenet.com">www.collegenet.com</a>
College Parents of America	<a href="http://www.collegeparents.org">www.collegeparents.org</a>
CollegeXpress	<a href="http://www.collegeexpress.com">www.collegeexpress.com</a>
College Search	<a href="http://apps.collegeboard.com/search/index.jsp">http://apps.collegeboard.com/search/index.jsp</a>
GAfutures	<a href="http://www.GAfutures.org">www.GAfutures.org</a>
NACAC for parents and students	<a href="http://www.nacac.cACAom/p&amp;s.html">www.nacac.cACAom/p&amp;s.html</a>
NCAA Eligibility Guide	<a href="http://www.ncaa.org/eligibility/cbsa">www.ncaa.org/eligibility/cbsa</a>
Peterson's Guide to Colleges and Universities	<a href="http://www.peterson.com">www.peterson.com</a>

### Career Information

America's Job Bank	<a href="http://www.ajb.dni.us">www.ajb.dni.us</a>
Career Browser	<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>
Career Interest Game	<a href="http://career.missouri.edu/holland">http://career.missouri.edu/holland</a>
Career Paths	<a href="http://www.careerpathsonline.com">www.careerpathsonline.com</a>
Fedworld.gov	<a href="http://www.fedworld.gov">www.fedworld.gov</a>
Georgia Career Information System	<a href="http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu">www.gcic.peachnet.edu</a>
Job Board	<a href="http://www.collegeJobBoard.com">www.collegeJobBoard.com</a>
Job Hunter's Bible	<a href="http://www.jobhuntersbible.com">www.jobhuntersbible.com</a>
Military Career Center	<a href="http://www.militarycareers.com">www.militarycareers.com</a>
Occupational Outlook Handbook	<a href="http://www.umsl.edu/services/govdocs/oooh200022001/1.htm">www.umsl.edu/services/govdocs/oooh200022001/1.htm</a>
Planning a Career	<a href="http://www.adventruesineducaton.org">www.adventruesineducaton.org</a>
Resumania	<a href="http://www.resumania.com">www.resumania.com</a>
The Career Key	<a href="http://www.careerkey.org">www.careerkey.org</a>
The Keirsej Temperment Sorter	<a href="http://www.keirsej.com/frame.html">www.keirsej.com/frame.html</a>
University Career Centers	<a href="http://www.careerresource.net">www.careerresource.net</a>

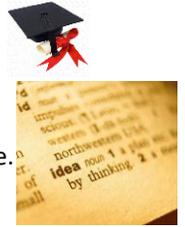
### Scholarship/Financial Aid Information

College Aid	<a href="http://www.collegeaid.net">www.collegeaid.net</a>
Direct Loan (Gov)	<a href="http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/DirectLoan">www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/DirectLoan</a>
E-HOPE APPLICATION	<a href="https://www.gsfc.org/Hope/Secure/dsp_eapp_login.cfm?act=pb">https://www.gsfc.org/Hope/Secure/dsp_eapp_login.cfm?act=pb</a>
FAFSA	<a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a>
FAFSA Express	<a href="http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/students/apply/fexpress">www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/students/apply/fexpress</a>
FastWeb	<a href="http://www.fastweb.com">www.fastweb.com</a>
Financial Aide (Georgia Student Finance Commission)	<a href="http://www.gsfc.org">www.gsfc.org</a>
Financial Aid Estimator	<a href="http://www.finaid.org/calculators/finaidestimate.phtml">www.finaid.org/calculators/finaidestimate.phtml</a>
Financial Aid Tips from NASFAA	<a href="http://www.nasfaa.org/Home.asp">www.nasfaa.org/Home.asp</a>
HOPE Scholarship	<a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> and <a href="http://www.gsfc.org">www.gsfc.org</a>
Horace Mann Scholarships	<a href="http://www.horacemann.com">www.horacemann.com</a>

### Study Skills and Testing

ACT	<a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a>
AP Exam Review	<a href="http://www.apexlearning.com">www.apexlearning.com</a>
Calculus@internet	<a href="http://www.calculus">www.calculus</a>
College Admission Testing	<a href="http://www.kaplan.com/precoll">www.kaplan.com/precoll</a>
College Board Online	<a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a>
Study Skill Sites	<a href="http://www.ucc.vt.edu">www.ucc.vt.edu</a>
	<a href="http://www.studyweb.com">www.studyweb.com</a>
	<a href="http://www.dartmouth.edu/admin/acsills/index.html">www.dartmouth.edu/admin/acsills/index.html</a>

## 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. Schools such as UGA and GA Tech have October 15<sup>th</sup> deadlines for Early Action. Students must always check admissions websites for deadlines.

**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. The FAFSA may now be completed in the Fall Term of the Senior Year.

**GAfutures.org**

[www.gafutures.org](http://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](http://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#](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 can be called a 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.



## Senior Advisement Checklist for Students

With the right grades, right planning and right steps, you will be college and career ready. For you, college and career ready could mean college/university, technical college, specialty school, military or a skilled job. You can make sure being career ready happens! Two valuable resources are [www.GAfutures.org](http://www.GAfutures.org) and The College Board's Big Future [www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org) websites. Another valuable site is the Georgia Career Information System site: <http://www.gci.peachnet.edu/>  
Below is a checklist to make certain that you take the right steps and make the right choices for your postsecondary decision:

Month	Senior Advisement To Do List:
August	<p><b>Think Future!</b> Think about and discuss any college or work setting visits as well as military staff discussions that may be valuable for your career decisions after high school graduation. Use the district <a href="#">Surviving the Senior Year</a> guide. Most importantly use your YouScience results from the ability and interest assessment that you completed last school year. Use these links to research information:</p> <p>GAfutures: <a href="http://www.GAfutures.org">www.GAfutures.org</a>            Campus Tours: <a href="http://www.campustours.com">www.campustours.com</a>            College Board: <a href="http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org">www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org</a>            College Express: <a href="http://www.collegeexpress.com">www.collegeexpress.com</a>            CollegeNet: <a href="http://www.collegenet.com">www.collegenet.com</a>            Georgia Skilled Trades: <a href="http://www.qobuildgeorgia.com/">http://www.qobuildgeorgia.com/</a>            Military Careers: <a href="http://www.militarycareers.com">www.militarycareers.com</a>            Occupational Outlook Handbook: <a href="http://www.bls.gov/ooh/">http://www.bls.gov/ooh/</a></p>
September	<p>Review your grade point average. First semester admissions documents use the grade point average through the junior year. The high school transcript has both a numeric as well as a 4.0 grade point average. Class rank uses the numeric grade point average.  <i>Link for HOPE GPA is under My GAfutures on <a href="http://www.GAfutures.org">www.GAfutures.org</a> site.</i></p> <p><b>Motivate Yourself!</b> Continue to be sure that you are enrolled in challenging courses. Keep up and do well in these courses. Remember your parent/guardian may use IC Parent Portal for schedule and grade information.</p> <p>Check the HOPE GPA on GAfutures on your My GAfutures account. Remember all academic courses count both required and elective courses including an academic work-based learning course(s). Also remember no middle school academic courses count.            General HOPE Scholarship information may be found on this link:  <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/">https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/</a>            Rigorous course information may be found on this link:  <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/media/113414/rigor-course-list-july-2016.pdf">https://www.gafutures.org/media/113414/rigor-course-list-july-2016.pdf</a>            All core courses taken in grades 9-12 are calculated in the HOPE GPA. Again, no middle school courses taken for high school credit are calculated in the HOPE GPA.</p> <p>Meet with your professional school counselor about Dual Enrollment Move on When Ready documents. Seniors involved in Dual Enrollment courses under the Move on When Ready Program must have an advisement conference completed at the beginning of each semester and the appropriate documents completed by the professional school counselor.</p> <p><b>Narrow the List!</b> Review a list of target post-secondary options and discuss the finalized list of choices based on research completed during junior year. Use GAfutures to compare and contrast Georgia schools both public and private.  <i>Resources:</i>  <a href="#">Surviving the Senior Year district guide</a></p> <p><b>Focus on a Career!</b> Think about and discuss the <i>Senior Capstone Project</i>, a career-focused research project with a presentation and career mentor component. Narrow your career choice. Use your YouScience results! Make sure that all applicable information and documents are completed. This project is required in the 16-17 school year at all high schools.</p> <p>Obtain testing schedule for SAT and/or ACT and consider your time line is for test preparation s well as registration.            Link for SAT: <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a>            Link of ACT: <a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a>            Test preparation link on GAfutures: <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/">https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/</a></p> <p>Participate in BRIDGE (Building Resourceful Individuals to Develop Georgia's Economy) Senior Advisement and Letter opportunities during Classroom Guidance with your school counselor.</p> <p>Remember, the counselors in the counseling office are available to help YOU! Always contact the counselor regarding any of your questions or concerns.</p> <p><b>Go to the Fair!</b> Plan to attend PROBE Fair (<i>Explore the Possibilities</i>) in October. Talk with military, technical school and college representatives. Most representatives will be from in-state schools. However, there are also some out-of-state postsecondary institutions represented. Typically, there are 60+ representatives at this valuable event.            Again think about registering for the SAT and/or ACT.            Link for SAT: <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a>            Link of ACT: <a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a></p>



	Test preparation link on GAFutures: <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/">https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/</a>
October	Attend the PROBE Fair held in early October at one of the district high schools. Location is announced during August.
	<b>Take a Trip!</b> Make plans to attend a campus or campuses that you were not able to attend last year or last summer. Oftentimes, this visit provides you with valuable information to make a final decision.
	Attend along with your parent/guardian the mandated by Georgia law, BRIDGE Advisement session at the high school. Your <i>Senior Letter</i> is finalized during this event. Page 2 of the <i>Senior Letter</i> lists all graduation requirements that are still outstanding. Valuable information is presented during this opportunity and is the second part of the Senior Seminar experience with the first opportunity being classroom guidance by the school counselor with seniors.
	<b>Stay Calendar Coordinated!</b> Be organized and put together a calendar of important “things to do”. This calendar should include SAT/ACT testing dates as well as early admission, application, scholarship, and financial aid information deadlines.
	Identify colleges, universities, and/or technical schools in which you are interested. Use GAFutures information to compare and contrast at least 3 different postsecondary options, if this process was not finalized in August.
	Check on the identification of a specialty school, work or the military if you are not interested in attending a post-secondary institution. Georgia Skilled Trades Link: <a href="http://www.gobuildgeorgia.com/">http://www.gobuildgeorgia.com/</a> Military Careers Link: <a href="http://www.militarycareers.com">www.militarycareers.com</a> Occupational Outlook Handbook Link: <a href="http://www.bls.gov/ooh/">http://www.bls.gov/ooh/</a>
	Use the <a href="http://www.GAFutures.org">www.GAFutures.org</a> website for online application in the state of Georgia. Make certain you obtain additional application and admission procedures via online websites for individual postsecondary institution(s) both in and out-of-state.
	Think about the "Senior Survival" presentation during classroom guidance. Be sure to review the <i>Surviving the Senior Year</i> guide. This guide has important information as well as a glossary of terms. It is linked to the district counseling department website.
	Explore scholarship, grant and financial aid options. Website resources are listed toward the back of the <i>Surviving the Senior Year</i> guide. Begin this process early as scholarship deadlines are staggered throughout the senior year.
	<b>Think Scholarships!</b> Make sure you have a good grasp on local scholarships as well as researching a possible list of scholarships that you will apply for this school year. Research scholarships that are unique to the postsecondary institution you may attend. School counselors have local scholarship information. Helpful links are: GAFutures Financial Aid and Scholarships: <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/federal-aid-scholarships/">https://www.gafutures.org/federal-aid-scholarships/</a> FastWeb - <a href="http://www.fastweb.com">www.fastweb.com</a>
	Double check NCAA Clearinghouse certification applications, if you intend to participate in college athletics. Remember the only online courses approved by NCAA are those completed via Georgia Virtual School. Link for NCAA Eligibility Center: <a href="http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp">http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp</a>
	Register for the SAT and/or ACT. Use test preparation materials. Link for SAT: <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> Link of ACT: <a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a> Test preparation link on GAFutures: <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/">https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/</a>
	November
<b>Keep Talking!</b> See your counselor and discuss applying to schools with early admission application deadlines. Some of these deadlines occur this month and may have already occurred for some schools earlier in the fall semester. If a letter or letters of recommendation by teachers or counselors is a requirement, make sure you are asking about these being completed well ahead of the deadline, 3 weeks ahead is recommended.	
Check on the mailing of ROTC and military academy applications, if applicable.	
Consider registering for and taking COMPASS, if applicable. This test is needed for technical schools.	
Take the SAT and/or ACT, if needed. Use test preparation materials as needed. Link for SAT: <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> Link of ACT: <a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a> Test preparation link on GAFutures: <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/">https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/</a>	
December	
	Participate in Apply to College Week/Month at the high school. Counselors guide you through this process.
	Think about the ASVAB test. This is an optional test provided at the high school. The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery is a very widely used multiple-aptitude test battery. As an aptitude test, the ASVAB measures your strengths, weaknesses, and potential for future success. The ASVAB also provides valuable career information for various civilian and military occupations and is an indicator for success in future endeavors whether you choose to go to college, technical college, or a military career. Link: <a href="http://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/asvab">http://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/asvab</a>
	Keep a file of all information and correspondence--emails and/or regular mail to postsecondary institutions.
	Participate in the College and Career Fair held at Paulding County High School. This is an additional opportunity after the PROBE Fair that was held in the fall to meet with college, university and technical college admissions representatives.



	<p>Military representatives are also present.</p> <p>Meet with the professional school counselor in early December about Dual Enrollment/College Credit Now documents. If you are involved with Dual Enrollment courses you must have an advisement conference completed at the beginning of each semester and the appropriate documents completed.</p> <p>Make plans to attend the Financial Aid night held in January at the high school.</p>
January	<p>Attend Financial Aid night with your parent/guardian. At this event you and your parent/guardian will learn more about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This document must be completed for all students and their parents who apply for federal student aid to help pay for college. It is important to submit the FAFSA as soon after January as possible. The FAFSA completion is also a requirement to be awarded the HOPE Scholarship.</p> <p>Website is: <a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a></p> <p>Review SAR (Student Aid Report) after the completion of the FAFSA.</p> <p><u>Additional resources:</u></p> <p><u>GAfutures</u> - <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/federal-aid-scholarships/">https://www.gafutures.org/federal-aid-scholarships/</a></p> <p><u>College Aid</u> - <a href="http://www.collegeaid.net">www.collegeaid.net</a></p> <p><u>Direct Loan</u> - <a href="http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/DirectLoan">www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/DirectLoan</a></p> <p><u>FastWeb</u> - <a href="http://www.fastweb.com">www.fastweb.com</a></p> <p><u>Georgia Student Finance Commission Financial Aid</u> - <a href="http://www.gsfc.org">www.gsfc.org</a></p> <p><u>Financial Aid Estimator</u> - <a href="http://www.nasfaa.org/Home.asp">www.nasfaa.org/Home.asp</a></p> <p>Monitor your HOPE GPA via your My GAfutures account. Continue to work hard and take challenging courses. Both final admissions and scholarship eligibility are dependent on final, second semester grades.</p> <p>General HOPE Scholarship information may be found on this link: <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/">https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/</a></p> <p>Rigorous course information may be found on this link: <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/media/113414/rigor-course-list-july-2016.pdf">https://www.gafutures.org/media/113414/rigor-course-list-july-2016.pdf</a></p> <p>All core courses taken in grades 9-12 are calculated in the HOPE GPA. No middle school courses taken for high school credit are calculated in the HOPE GPA.</p> <p>How is your progress on your <i>Capstone Project</i>.</p>
February	<p>Double check NCAA Clearinghouse certification applications, if you intends to participate in college athletics. Remember the only online courses approved by NCAA for district students are via Georgia Virtual School courses.</p> <p>Link for NCAA Eligibility Center: <a href="https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/">https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/</a></p>
March	<p><b>Make a Decision!</b> You may still be undecided about the future. For additional assistance make an appointment with the school counselor.</p> <p>Georgia Skilled Trades Link: <a href="http://www.gobuildgeorgia.com/">http://www.gobuildgeorgia.com/</a></p> <p>Military Careers Link: <a href="http://www.militarycareers.com">www.militarycareers.com</a></p> <p>Occupational Outlook Handbook Link: <a href="http://www.bls.gov/ooh/">http://www.bls.gov/ooh/</a></p> <p><b>Talk Finances!</b> Think about looking for summer employment and talk about a budget for summer and for next year with parent/guardian.</p>
April	<p>Remember if you are taking Advanced Placement courses, prepare for the AP exam.</p> <p>Follow through with the finalization of your <i>Senior Capstone</i> project, if applicable for your high school.</p> <p>Make sure that required deposit(s) are paid by the deadlines, if you are attending an institution that requires deposits for enrollment and/or room and board.</p>
May/June	<p>Ask any questions that you still have about Advanced Placement exams, if applicable.</p> <p>Attend awards night and of course, graduation.</p> <p>Remember to thank the school personnel who have helped you.</p> <p>Make certain you request that a final high school transcript be sent to the university, college, or technical school. This request is completed through your GAfutures via your My GAfutures account for in state institutions. Procedures are provided by professional school counselors.</p> <p>Check with the admissions and/or financial aid offices at the college, university or technical college to make certain that the staff has everything that is needed.</p> <p>Monitor your final HOPE GPA in mid-June via the My GAfutures account. The final, verified GPA with the Georgia Student Finance Commission is used for HOPE Scholarship eligibility as well as Zell Miller Scholarship eligibility.</p> <p>General HOPE Scholarship information may be found on this link: <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/">https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/</a></p> <p>Rigorous course information may be found on this link: <a href="https://www.gafutures.org/media/113414/rigor-course-list-july-2016.pdf">https://www.gafutures.org/media/113414/rigor-course-list-july-2016.pdf</a></p> <p>All core courses taken in grades 9-12 are calculated in the HOPE GPA. No middle school courses taken for high school credit are calculated in the HOPE GPA.</p> <p><b>Look to the Future!</b> Have you registered for summer orientation programs at the technical college, college or university that you will attend in the Fall. For some post secondary schools there is also a parent orientation session on the campus, so that your parent/guardian may learn more about the institution.</p>



*What support do you need?  
Always ask your school counselor for assistance!*