



Class of 2019
Guidebook

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nahscollege.org

North Atlanta High School

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LOOKING FORWARD TO GRADUATION DAY...

Senior Portraits Happen Earlier Than You Think...

Senior portraits are used in the yearbook and in the senior slide show at graduation. Students may set up appointments with the photography studio as early as the summer before senior year. They may have their pictures taken at the photography studio, or they may wait and take them at North Atlanta in the fall. If students do not have their portraits taken by this studio, their picture will not be in the yearbook or in the senior slide show! There is a \$25 sitting fee for the basic session option. Waivers are available. Details will be distributed in the spring of junior year.

In your **senior year**, the month of May is a whirlwind! Detailed instructions will be available in the fall of senior year, but here are some facts that will help you prepare for the storm!

The date of graduation is set by APS and will be announced in mid-fall of your senior year. North Atlanta High School has NO CONTROL over when graduation is set or where it takes place. It is usually scheduled on the Friday, Saturday or Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend, so make plans to stay in town! Tickets are required! Each student will be given a specified number of tickets determined about a week before graduation by the size of the graduating class.

Graduation Attire: Ladies are required to wear white dresses and white, close-toed shoes. Gentlemen are required to wear black dress pants and shoes, a white shirt and a silver tie, which is available for purchase from the senior coordinator for \$10. Each graduate will be measured for his/her cap and gown during the fall semester of senior year. Ladies' caps & gowns are white, and gentlemen's are black. Students keep their cap & gown after graduation.

Visions of the Future Program:

"Visions" is basically a public school version of the traditional Baccalaureate Service. This program allows each senior to consider how far they have come and to envision what they can be in the future. The focus is not on individual accomplishments. Instead, the focus is on all the many possibilities for life after high school. While graduation is on a big stage, "Visions" is a more intimate opportunity to celebrate with classmates, teachers, and parents. The program includes a guest speaker (often a North Atlanta alumnus) and several student speakers (try-outs are in the Spring.) A reception, hosted by the PTSA, follows the program.

May Schedule: Senior classwork and regular class attendance ends in mid-May. After this, students will report to the gym for graduation practice every morning and usually are released at noon. "Graduation practice" is a catch-all term not only for practice, but also all the fun events and activities planned for the seniors. Seniors will get a detailed schedule in mid-spring. Students are excused from practice for IB and AP tests, which are set by the International Baccalaureate Organization and the AP Program. All other students must remain onsite at all practice times, and they must leave immediately after practice is dismissed.

Senior Fees are around \$200 and cover your student's cap & gown, diploma cover, 10 announcements, yearbook, (inscribed with the student's name if dues are paid by December deadline), Senior shirt, bag and other memorabilia, and events during Senior Week.

State of Georgia Graduation Requirements

Area of Study	Units Required (1 unit = 2 semesters)
English/Language Arts 4 units	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit Ninth Grade Literature/Composition <input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit American Literature/Composition <input type="checkbox"/> 2 units English/Language Arts Core, including AP/IB courses
Math 4 units	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit Math 1, GSE Algebra or equivalent <input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit Math 2, GSE Geometry or equivalent <input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit Math 3, GSE Advanced Algebra or equivalent <input type="checkbox"/> 1 additional unit Math Core, including AP/IB courses * see requirements for students with disabilities below
Social Studies 3 units	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit US History <input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit World History <input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 unit Economics / Business / Free Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 unit American Government/Civics
Science 4 units	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit Biology 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit Physical Science or Physics 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit Chemistry 1, Earth Systems, or Environmental Science or an AP/IB course <input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit Science Core, including AP/IB courses
Modern Language 2 units	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 units of the same modern language
Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) Modern Language or Fine Arts	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 unit
Physical Education	<input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 unit of Personal Fitness <input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 unit of Physical Education Elective (can be substituted with: two years of a Varsity sport, 3 semesters of JROTC, or 1 year of Advanced Band)
Health	<input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 unit of Health
Community Service	<input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 unit (75 hours): mygivingpoint.org
Electives	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 units 3 units related to the same state-defined thematic pathway recommended
Total	<input type="checkbox"/> 24

How to Figure Your GPA

There are many different definitions of GPA. It is best to refer to each individual college/scholarship to understand how they calculate GPA. Here are some general definitions:

Weighted and Unweighted GPA: APS calculates grade point averages for students by adding up all grades in all classes and dividing by the total number of classes taken. This numeric average is on a 100 point scale. Failed grades, summer school grades and online grades are all included—all courses listed on the transcript are averaged together. For your weighted GPA, 10 points are added to the final numeric grade for each AP, IB and Dual Enrollment course that is passed with a grade of 70 or above. Unweighted GPAs do not include these additional points.

Academic GPA (4.0 scale): It is best to contact each college to find out how they calculate GPAs. Some will include all courses taken, others will include academic courses only. Some will use your weighted grades, others will remove the additional points before calculating GPA. To calculate GPA, most schools use the following conversion scale: A=4.0; B=3.0; C=2.0; and F=0. For academic GPA, assign a 4, 3, 2, or 0 for each academic course (each semester in Math, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies and World Language), add them together and divide by the total number of academic courses (each semester of a class counts as one course). This produces an estimated academic GPA. The College and Career Center uses a conversion scale from the Princeton Review (princetonreview.com) if you would like to know an estimate.

HOPE & Zell Miller Scholarship GPA:

The GPA for the HOPE Scholarship is calculated by averaging all academic courses (Math, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies, World Language) taken in high school, including failed courses. Be aware that non “academic” IB and AP elective courses are not included in HOPE calculations (ie: AP Art, IB Business, IB Film). Grades from high school classes taken in middle school are not calculated in the HOPE GPA. All courses are averaged together and students need to earn a 3.0 GPA to be eligible*. Please be aware that all honors points are removed before the calculation and .5 weighting is added back in for AP and IB courses (not honors classes). A = 4.0; B=3.0; C=2.0 and F =0. For AP and IB courses, remove the 10 points before converting to the 4.0 scale and then add back .5 (ie: an 85 in an AP class is an unweighted 75 = 2.0. Because it is an AP class, it becomes a 2.5; the max is a 4.0). Please note: A 2.99 GPA does not qualify you for HOPE. In addition, you must have completed at least 4 of the rigor requirements (classes involving rigorous curriculum). A list of rigor requirements can be found at www.gafutures.org. Final eligibility for HOPE is not determined until the day you graduate, as second semester senior grades are included. All calculations are done by the GA Student Finance Commission. To apply for HOPE, you must begin the GSFAPPS application process by March of your senior year at www.gafutures.org.

You can easily find out what your HOPE GPA is by going to www.gafutures.org.

*for the HOPE Scholarship or a minimum of 3.75 GPA for the Zell Miller Scholarship using a 4.0 scale.

Transcripts

Parchment.com is the website that North Atlanta students use to request transcripts at no cost to students. When transcripts are sent, they are accompanied by our School Profile that outlines North Atlanta's grading scale, average test scores, required courses and other background information about the school.

Your Parchment transcripts are free. If the receiving college does not accept electronic transcripts, The College and Career Center will print, sign and seal a paper transcript.

Follow these steps to set up your Parchment account:

STEP 1: Go to www.parchment.com and click on the "create account" button. Follow the instructions! Your account should be in the student's name, and the name should match the name shown in Infinite Campus. Parents may also have their own account linked to the student's account. Remember to store your log in information in a safe, convenient place (like the back inside cover of this book).

STEP 2: Click "Start by adding a school you've attended" and add your high school to your profile.

STEP 3: Provide Consent. Complete the waiver form and Transcript Authorization Form by entering a registration code or eSigning the form.

Follow these steps to order a transcript:

STEP 1: Go to www.parchment.com and sign in by clicking "log in" upper left of the home page. Put in your username and password. Click on the blue "Order" icon.

STEP 2: On the "Select School" page, search North Atlanta

STEP 3: On the page "Select Destinations" you will choose where you want your transcript to be sent. There are 5 options:

- **Academic Destinations:** Use this to send your transcript to a college or university. Type in the name and location of the college using the full name, such as University of Georgia, not an abbreviation. Click "Search".
- **NCAA:** Use this if you are an athlete who intends to play a sport at the Division I or Division II level. Your transcript will go to the NCAA Eligibility Center (eligibilitycenter.org).
- **Common Application:** If you are applying to colleges who use the Common Application, your transcript will go out to all your Common App colleges automatically when you invite your counselor on your CommonApp Profile. Do not send request for Common App schools.
- **Myself:** Use this to have an electronic transcript sent to you, or a paper transcript mailed to you.
- **Other Destinations:** Use this to send your transcript to a scholarship organization or an employer.

STEP 4: Action by school counselor. Your counselor will approve your order and release the document for transmission. All of the counselors have the authority to approve documents. Usually, transcripts are approved within one day of the request.

STEP 5: Track your order using the Status/History button. This button tells you the exact status of all your transcript requests such as what you ordered when, destinations, and if the request has been processed. Check this to see if a college has received your transcript.

If you have questions or problems, please contact your counselor or the College Advisers.

Choices After High School

Colleges and Universities

These institutions offer degree programs that are from two years long at a community college (associate degree) to four or more years long (bachelor degree) at a traditional college or university. Some offer graduate programs as well where master and doctorate degrees can be earned. See page 31-32 for more information.

Art & Design Schools

Programs offered at fine arts schools vary considerably. Some require exceptional talent and skills and may lead to direct job placement. Some of the programs offered are writing, film, dance, music, musical theater, theater, and the visual arts. Majoring in one of the arts will teach students how to pursue a specific interest they enjoy with discipline and dedication. Be sure to thoroughly research the school to be sure you will be getting the experience you expect.

Career and Technical Schools

These types of schools offer programs from a few months to two years long and emphasize career-related education, technical skills and hands-on training. Some fields in which you can receive training are: medical assistant, automotive technology, air conditioning & refrigeration, travel & tourism, electronics engineering technology, dental assistant, and business data processing. Programs vary a great deal in quality, so parents and students should check carefully into the school's accreditation, employer recognition, and costs. See page 33-34 for more information.

The Military

Enlistment in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard is at least a two-year commitment. On-the-job training is available in a wide variety of careers, including computer programmers, aircraft mechanics, medical service technicians, etc. In addition, the leadership and management training you receive prepares you for your future career. Financially, the military helps pay for your education in several ways and, in return, you fulfill your obligation. See page 19 & 35 for more information.

Apprenticeships

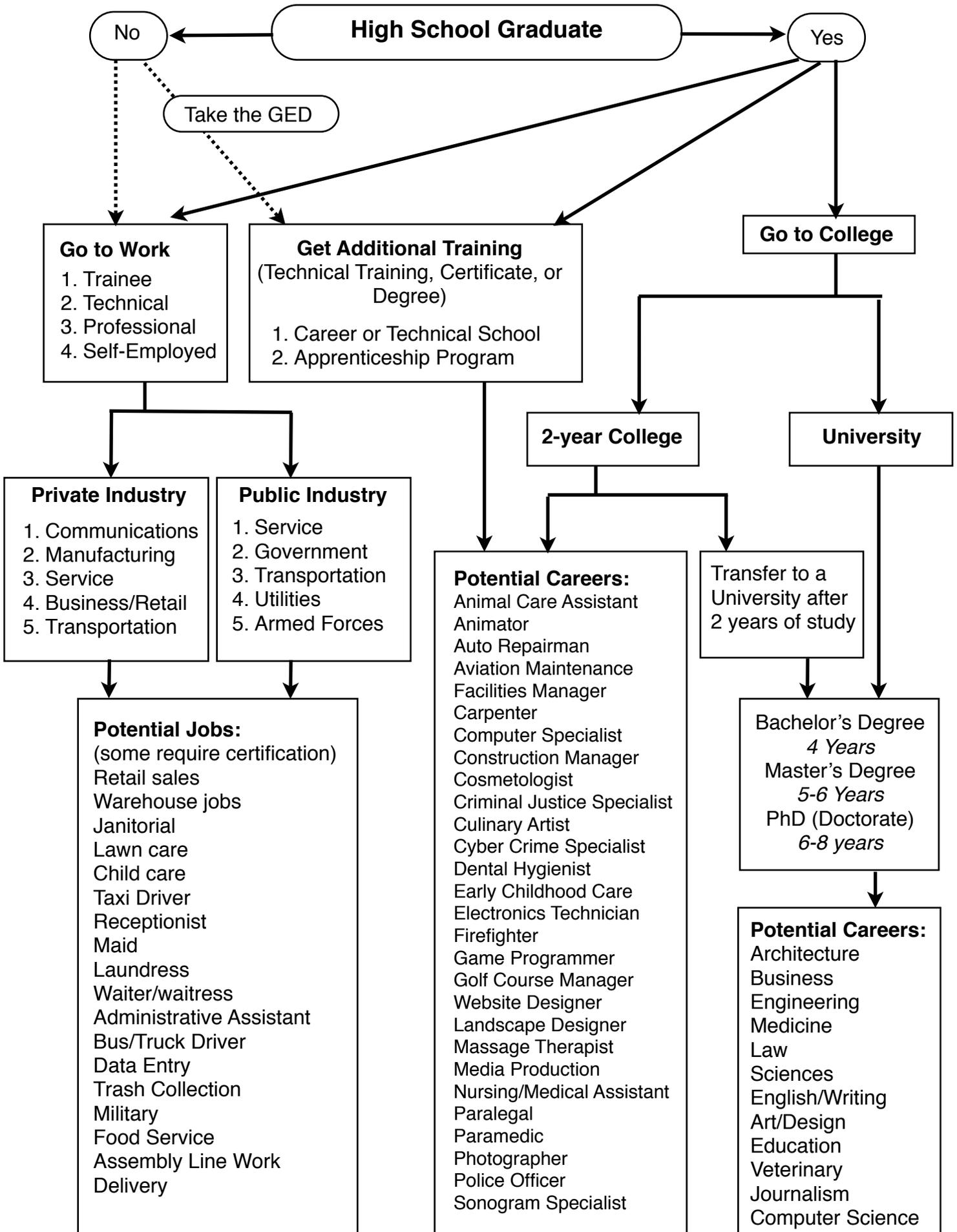
On-the-job training is provided and you are hired as a trainee to learn a craft or trade from an experienced craftsperson. It is for students whose personal preferences lie in working with both their heads and their hands. You will receive real-world training and experience, as well as entry into difficult-to-break-into trades, such as plumbing or electrical work. In an apprenticeship program, you literally earn while you learn. Sometimes previous training from a trade school or the military may be helpful in becoming a good candidate for an apprenticeship. See page 20 for more information.

Employment

Employment is an appropriate option for some high school graduates. Students who choose employment as their post high school option should have a three to five year plan. This will help ensure that they do not get trapped in a dead-end job. Students should realize that they can go back to school anytime, even if it is only to take a course or two.

Gap Year

There are many opportunities for taking a gap year between graduation and college! See page 21 for more information.



International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

WEBSITE: www.ibo.org

IB DP/CP Specialist: Ms. Costarides dcostarides@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Why take IB in High School?

- Admissions officers take the IB Programme seriously. At the University of Georgia, the acceptance rate for all students is around 65%. The acceptance rate for IB students is 93%. (2012 Data)
- The content of the classes is not what sets IB apart. Rather, IB teaches students how to organize their time, how to write, and how to think about problems in creative ways. The earlier they struggle through these lessons, the better they will be prepared for college. The IB experience is what makes the student marketable to admissions officers.

Transcripts/Grades

- IB classes are designated with an IB on the transcript and have 10 points added to the final grade as long as the final grade is passing.
- These additional points are seen in the weighted versus un-weighted GPAs shown on your transcript.

The Tests

IB tests are an expectation. There is a registration fee and a fee for each test taken. Estimated fees for the next few years are \$870 to \$950, which may or not be covered by APS, depending on the yearly budget. If APS does cover the cost of the exams and the student does not take the exams, the student will be held responsible for the fees. Registration forms and payments are due during early October of senior year. Students eligible for free and reduced lunch should talk to Mrs. Stewart about reduced fees if APS doesn't cover them.

IB tests have several parts that are completed over junior and senior years and are finished in May of the senior year. Students will complete orals, labs, presentations and other written papers in addition to taking a traditional written test in May.

The dates of the written tests are determined by the International Baccalaureate Organization, and all students all over the world take the tests on the same day.

To earn the diploma, students must take 6 tests, three HL (High Level) and three SL (Standard Level). Usually they are in English, Social Studies, Math, Science, World Language and an elective like Film, Art, Dance, or Business Management.

Tests are graded on a scale of 1 to 7, 7 being the best. So, 6 tests x 7 points = 42 possible points from tests. 3 additional bonus points may be awarded for the extended essay and the TOK paper/presentation. Out of a total of 45 possible points, a student must get 24 points to earn the diploma. 12 points must be earned on HL tests, and no score of 2 will be accepted in the point tally.

Testing accommodations are available and must be requested through the IB Coordinator and approved by the IBO. See the IB Coordinator for details.

Additional requirements:

- **Extended Essay:** 4,000 word max, independent work beginning in junior year and due the senior year. Graded on a letter grade scale.
- **Theory of Knowledge Paper & Presentation**, done in TOK class, graded on a letter grade scale.
- **CAS (Creativity-Activity-Service):** 150 hours divided roughly equally between the three areas measured over two years starting **August of the junior year**. Note that 75 hours of community service are required for standard graduation (measured over four years).

Creativity includes any arts class (music, drama, visual art), yearbook, film, debate, robotics, and so forth or any outside activities that require creative thinking as long as the class is NOT an official IB class.

Activity includes sports teams inside or outside of school, Yoga Club, scout campouts, bicycling, etc. The events can't be just "I ran 5 miles today." They must be organized in such a way that participation can be formally recorded.

Service is just that. Hours must be formally recorded, such as with a letter from the organization stating the number of hours served and the nature of the service.

College Credit

Some colleges give credit for IB tests. It depends upon the college. For example, at the University of Georgia, an HL English score of 4-6 gives you credit in English 1101, a 7 gets you 1101 and 1102. HL

International Baccalaureate Career-Related Programme

What is the IB Career-related Program (IB CP)?

IB CP is a rigorous two-year program of study for students in grades 11 and 12 that combines 2 or more college-level IB Diploma Program courses with a deep dive into a career-related pathway of study and centered around core components of language developments, service learning, a reflective project and a Personal and Professional Skills class.

Language Development Requirement:

Requires 50 hours of portfolio work over the 2 years of the program. This may be satisfied through any level of our 4 world languages, through any ESOL course, through any AVA world language course or through any MOWR college world language course. If a student takes an IB language class, the student must ADD 50 hours of portfolio work that is different from the work that is assessed by the IB exam. A student may propose a plan of study outside of the school day (not for high school credit) for approval by the IBCP Corrdinator and/or the Language Development Coordinator.

Service Learning Requirement:

Requires 50 hours of community service over the 2 years with a research-based approach. Some research time may count toward the 50 hours. Students must learn about an issue or need before determining an appropriate service activity. Regular reflection is required.

Reflective Project Requirement:

Requires a minimum of 50 hours focused on an ethical dilemma of an issue directly linked to the student's career-related study. The reflective project is intended to promote high-level research, writing and extended communication skills, intellectual discovery and creativity through a variety of different approaches. Students are assessed both on the process and product. It is very similar to the MYP Personal Project in this regard. The students must write a 3000 word essay or a 1500-2000 word essay with an additional format (film, display, play, presentation, etc.)

Personal and Professional Skills Course:

Taken both semesters of junior AND senior year. Studentts learn a range of interpersonal, intercultural and professional skills plus study applied ethics. The reflective project will be completed through this course as well.

Completion of a Career-related Pathway:

Students must complete a recognized, externally validated and assessed career pathway. Since the Georgia Department of Education has created pathways that are industry certified and externally assessed, students must complete one of these pathways currently offered at North Atlanta. We are planning to develop and add an additional pathway for coaching/officiating. This pathway is not recognized by the state but will be acceptable to the IB provided there is an external assessment.

See page 17 for NAHS Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) course offerings.

Audio-Video Technology and Film

9th Grade	Audio-Video Technology and Film (AVTF) I
10th Grade	Audio-Video Technology and Film II or AVTF I
11th Grade/CP year 1	Audio-Video Technology and Film III or AVTF II
12th Grade / CP year 2	Work Based Learning or AVTF III

JROTC-Army

9th Grade	JROTC Army Leadership Education 1
10th Grade	JROTC Army Leadership Education 2
11th Grade/CP year 1	JROTC Army Leadership Education 3 or JROTC Army Leadership Education 1
12th Grade / CP year 2	JROTC Army Leadership Education 4 or JROTC Army Leadership Education 2

Graphic Design

9th Grade	Introduction to Graphic Design
10th Grade	Graphic Design and Production OR Introduction to Graphic Design
11th Grade/CP year 1	Advanced Graphic Design OR Graphic Design and Production
12th Grade / CP year 2	Work-based Learning AND/OR Advanced Graphic Design

Business and Technology

9th Grade	Introduction to Business Technology
10th Grade	Business and Technology OR Introduction to Business Technology
11th Grade/CP year 1	Business Communications OR Business and Technology
12th Grade / CP year 2	Work-based Learning AND/OR Business Communications

Information Technology - Web and Digital Design

9th Grade	Introduction to Digital Technology
10th Grade	Digital Design OR Introduction to Digital Technology
11th Grade/CP year 1	Web Design OR Digital Design
12th Grade / CP year 2	Work-based Learning AND/OR Web Design

Information Technology - Programming

9th Grade	Introduction to Digital Technology
10th Grade	Computer Science Principles OR Introduction to Digital Technology
11th Grade/CP year 1	Programming, Games, Apps, and Society OR Computer Science Principles
12th Grade / CP year 2	Work-based Learning AND/OR Programming, Games, Apps and Society

Officiating / Coaching

9th Grade	Personal Fitness and Health
10th Grade	Health OR Team Sports
11th Grade/CP year 1	Psychology (.5) and Directed Study (.5) (and Team Sports if not taken in 10th)
12th Grade / CP year 2	Directed Study-to include the GHSA Online Rules Clinic (.5) and Mentorship (.5)

Advanced Placement Program

The College Board's mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity. They are a not-for-profit membership organization committed to excellence and equity in education.

WEBSITE: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org>

Why Take AP Classes in High School?

Prepare for the challenge of college. Students who participate in AP courses develop skills and content knowledge that prepare them for success in college and their chosen careers. They are far more likely to graduate from college in four years than their peers who do not take AP courses.

Stand out in college admissions. AP courses signal that you've undertaken the most rigorous classes your high school has to offer. They offer admissions officers a consistent measure of course rigor across high schools, so when they see "AP" on your transcript, they have a good understanding of what you experienced in a particular class and how well it prepared you for the increased challenges of college.

Earn college credit. Students who achieve a 3 or higher on AP Exams are eligible to receive college credit and can begin studies in their college majors sooner. This can save you thousands of dollars in college tuition, fees and textbook costs!

Skip introductory classes. Taking an AP course and earning a qualifying score on the AP exam can help you gain advanced placement out of introductory courses. This means that you can possibly place out of crowded required courses and focus on classes that interest you most.

Prerequisites for AP Courses

Student enrollment in Advanced Placement courses will be considered according to the student's ability to meet the outlined pre-requisites which are available from your AP Coordinator.

For Advanced Placement virtual opportunities, visit:

<http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/cms/lib/GA01000924/Centricity/domain/7414/ava/AVA.html>

Typical AP Classes offered at North Atlanta

Language & Composition	Human Geography	Biology	Statistics	Macroeconomics
Literature & Composition	World History	Chemistry	Spanish	Studio: Drawing Portfolio
Language & Culture Government	Computer Science Principles	Psychology	French	Studio: 2D Design Portfolio
Government & Politics	Calculus AB	Physics 1	Music Theory	Studio: 3D Design Portfolio
US History	Calculus BC	Environmental Science		

Transcripts/AP Grades

- AP classes are designated with an AP on the transcript and have 10 points added to the final grade as long as the grade is passing.
- These additional points are seen in the weighted versus un-weighted GPAs on your transcript.

The Tests

AP exams are administered in May of each year according to the exam schedule published by the College Board, and students should be prepared to take their exams on the designated dates. Late exams are not permitted unless the extenuating circumstance qualifies for one of the College Board's outlined exceptions. Here are some rules you need to know before signing up for exams:

- You may take as many AP Exams as you want; in fact, the AP Program doesn't require you to take an AP course before taking an AP Exam. However, NAHS strongly discourages taking an AP exam without having taken the course.
- Repeating exams: You may repeat an exam in a subsequent year. If you do, both scores will be reported unless you request that one be withheld or canceled.
- Exam conflicts: If two of the exams you want to take are scheduled for the same time, ask your AP Coordinator for information about taking one of the exams during the late-testing period.
- Studio Art portfolios: You may submit more than one portfolio, but each must be a different type. You may not duplicate works among the portfolios, and portfolios may not be combined.
- Testing accommodations must be requested directly and approved by the College Board. Questions concerning the process for requesting accommodations may be directed to Avis Eichelberger, the Testing Coordinator at aeichelberger@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

Exam Fees

- Exam fees are determined each year by the College Board. Check the website!
- If you are approved to take an alternate exam during the late-testing period, you may be required to pay an additional \$45 per exam late-testing fee.
- **Fee Waivers:** If you are on free and reduced lunch, you may be eligible for a fee reduction per AP Exam. Check with your AP Coordinator for details.

College Credit: More than 90% of colleges offer college credit, advanced placement, or both, for qualifying AP Exam scores. (Usually a 3 is the lowest. A 4 or 5 earns more credit.) You can see specific colleges' guidelines on accepting AP scores for credit and placement at the following website:

apstudent.collegeboard.org/creditandplacement/search-credit-policies

Getting the Most Out of High School

Concentrate on making good grades!!! Take the most difficult classes you can pass. These are the final grades the admissions officers will see. Make them better than ever!

Focus on a few **extracurricular activities** that really interest you. Be a full participant and a leader in those activities.

Participate in high school life! Dress up on spirit days and go to the PROM!

Continue to **serve** in your community.

Find a job or internship in an area you can see yourself working in later, or find a job that relates to a current passion like refereeing a sport or working with animals in a shelter.

Do something worthwhile over the summer. Consider a foreign exchange program. Ask your counselor about opportunities.

Go out and do fun things with friends and family. Try NEW things so you can figure out what you like.

Preparing for College

FALL

Create (or add to) a “college stuff” file box with:

- A **“Resume”** folder for each year in high school with awards, clubs, report cards, sports teams, programs, etc. for writing your resume.
- A **“Community Service Hours”** folder.
- A **“Test Scores”** folder for test results.
- A **“Toolkit”** folder including your resume, your transcript, a list of ACT & SAT scores/dates taken, and a log of usernames and passwords, used for filling out applications.
- A folder for **each college** you are considering.
- A **“Timeline”** folder for lists of submission deadlines for college & scholarship applications and a to-do list.
- A **“Junk Mail”** folder for all the college brochures you might want to look at later.

Take the PSAT It is administered at North Atlanta in mid-October to all Juniors. This time counts for National Merit Scholarships. Take it seriously!

All Juniors will take the SAT during school hours on March 7, 2017.

Register for the SAT and ACT for the Spring.

Attend college fairs and college rep visits in the College & Career Center to learn about different colleges. Events are posted outside of the CCC and at www.nahscollege.org.

SPRING

Take the SAT and ACT. Yes, take both this spring between January and July.

Take SAT Subject Tests, such as World History, Biology, or Chemistry as soon as possible after completing the course in the subject if required or recommended by your top choices.

Research careers, colleges, and scholarships using resources in this book, the CCC and online.

Write your resume.

Visit college campuses. Try to visit many different kinds to see which you prefer.

Decide what attributes you want in a college or university. (see page 26)

Discuss how you will pay for college with your parents. Be brutally honest!

Consider which teachers you'd like to write your **recommendations**. Choose teachers who know your strengths and write well.

Begin applying for private scholarships.

Athletes should apply for initial eligibility to the NCAA and/or NAIA Clearinghouse.

Review your YouScience report with your counselor, CCC advisers & parents.

Senior Timeline: FALL

August

Before the year starts, narrow your list of colleges to no more than 10 schools! Your list should have approximately 1-3 reach schools, at least 4 good target schools, and 3 safety schools.

Decide whether to re-take the SAT/ACT and register. Register for Subject Tests, if needed.

Compile a list of submission deadlines for the colleges you will be applying to. (makemeafreshamn.com)

Begin your college essays. Most college applications (and their essay questions) are available the first week of August.

Have your senior portraits taken.

September

Attend college recruitment events in the CCC for colleges you are considering. These admissions reps will be reading your application! Come meet them!

Fill out and turn in bragsheets (in appendix) and your resume to your counselor the first week of September for early admissions and in early October for regular admissions.

Request letters of recommendation from teachers at least FOUR weeks in advance of the submission deadline. See page 39 for details.

Many Early Action and Early Decision deadlines are in mid-October. Keep up with your deadlines! Make sure to get transcripts and test scores sent and recommendations requested!

October

Pay attention to those Early Action and Early Decision and Scholarship Priority deadlines!

FAFSA!!! Now is the time to start that process! (October 1st) Money is first come, first serve! (page 49)

Many private scholarship deadlines are November 1. Keep searching for scholarships and keep up with these deadlines, too! (page 52)

Get serious about your essays. See "Essays" on page 40 for tips!

Homecoming at North Atlanta! PARTICIPATE IN STUDENT LIFE!

November

November 15 and December 1 are other common deadlines. Be aware of deadlines, and meet them!

Some college acceptance letters or scholarship offers will come this month. Give copies to your counselor and submit online at nahscollege.org.

Finish your essays. Perfect them. These essays must SHINE!

December

January 1 & 15 are common deadlines. Request transcripts, test scores and recommendations well before the holidays!

Study! Study! Study! These grades still count!!!

Finish your FAFSA application if you haven't already!

Senior fees are due. Consult your Senior Coordinators for details.

Senior Timeline: SPRING

January

All college applications, transcripts, test scores, and recommendations should be submitted by Jan. 15. Some scholarships are still up for grabs. Keep looking!

Submit the FAFSA as soon as possible!

Apply for the HOPE Scholarship via the FAFSA or gafutures.org

Keep in mind that all senior year grades count in the admissions process and for the HOPE scholarship. Avoid senioritis by staying involved in school, taking your schoolwork seriously, and continuing to give your best effort.

February/March

If you submitted a FAFSA, you will be getting your Student Aid Report (SAR). Review this carefully and check for any inaccuracies and submit to the CCC.

Spend some time learning some life skills you might need in college:

- Get a checking account and learn how to balance your checkbook each month. You might want to get a credit card, too. (See the last item on this list.)
- Learn how to cook some simple things. Pancakes and quesadillas are a logical step up from cereal and toaster waffles.
- Learn the difference between laundry detergent, fabric softener, and stain removers. Learn how to sort laundry and how to start the machines.
- Browse through the cleaning supplies aisle at the grocery store and discover how many products there are to clean the bathroom. Learn how to replace a shower curtain liner.
- Browse through the tool section at your local hardware store. Discover how many tools there are to help fix all those things that will break! Consider buying a set of screwdrivers, a hammer, and measuring tape for starters.
- And the most important one of all... Learn how to order pizza online with a credit card. Absolutely essential for college survival.

April

All colleges should respond with an offer of admission or regret by the middle of April. Decision time! Please inform your counselor of your decision and provide copies of ALL acceptance letters and merit scholarships (not need-based financial aid). Also submit online at nahscollege.org.

Mail in your deposit to ONE college by May 1st, which is National Candidate Reply Day. Sign and return the school's financial award letter also, if you received one, in order to claim your acceptance.

Once you have made your decision, write to all colleges who accepted you and tell them

May

Read and respond to information from your college promptly. You will be sent information about orientation, advising, housing, and/or registration programs at your school. You want to be on the front end of this. Do not put this off! Check your email regularly!!!

Request a final transcript to be sent to your college.

Send thank you notes to the teachers who wrote your letters of recommendation and any teachers you feel have impacted your education in a meaningful way.

Attend Visions of the Future and your Graduation Ceremony to celebrate your success!

Career Exploration

Many students try to make decisions about college or careers before they have really spent time thinking about themselves. Clarifying what is important to you, what you like and what you dislike will help you to better assess which occupations have the most potential for you to enjoy doing the work every day. There are many websites that have career exploration surveys that students can take to find out where their aptitude and interests overlap with potential careers. Here are a few to try:

<http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/> ~ Go to "Get Started", "Know Yourself"

<http://gacollege411.org/> ~ Go to "Career Planning", "Learn About Yourself", "Explore Careers"

<http://www.mynextmove.org>

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program: www.asvabprogram.com

North Atlanta offers a FREE extensive career exploration program through the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) Test. **We recommend that all juniors take this test!**

The ASVAB is administered at North Atlanta once or twice a year. Watch the announcements to see when, where and how to sign-up!

The test consists of eight short multiple choice tests that help students identify their skills in a variety of areas. After taking the ASVAB, students will receive three Career Exploration Scores. These scores tell them their current strengths in verbal, math, and science and technical skills. The eight ASVAB Test areas are:

- **General Science:** measures knowledge of life science, earth and space science, and physical science
- **Arithmetic Reasoning:** measures ability to solve basic arithmetic word problems
- **Word Knowledge:** measures ability to understand the meaning of words through synonyms
- **Paragraph Comprehension:** measures ability to obtain information from written material
- **Mathematics Knowledge:** measures knowledge of mathematical concepts & applications
- **Electronics Information:** measures knowledge of electrical current, circuits, devices, and electronic systems
- **Auto and Shop Information:** measures knowledge of automotive maintenance and repair, and wood and metal shop practices
- **Mechanical Comprehension:** measures knowledge of the principles of mechanical devices, structural support, and properties of materials

Then, students take the FYI (Find Your Interests) Test online that ties into their ASVAB test scores to help determine which careers match their aptitude and interests most closely. It outlines six interest areas - realistic, investigative, artistic, social, enterprising, conventional - and tells which careers are best matched to the students' primary interests.

A junior or senior **can** use their scores from the ASVAB to enlist in the Military after graduation; however, no one is under any obligation to the Military as a result of taking the ASVAB. Many students take the ASVAB for career exploration and have no interest in military occupations.

Welcome to YouScience

YouScience helps our students chart their path from 'I don't know' to post-secondary pursuits and career confidence and success. By completing a series of fun and engaging 'brain-games', students learn where their natural strengths are, and how they can leverage their strengths in post-secondary pursuits and beyond. YouScience combines decades of rigorous scientific research and cutting-edge matching algorithms to uniquely identify the intersections of your students' strengths, passions, and future opportunities.

Our school has partnered with YouScience to bring your students data-driven insights about themselves and their future.

What YouScience Provides Students

- **Aptitude assessments that use engaging exercises rather than self-reported surveys**
- **Personalized feedback on natural abilities including self-language, tips, and aptitude descriptions**
- **Up to date information on approximately 500 careers including job forecasts, education investments, and a personalized FIT profile to specific careers**
- **Engaging results interface that guides students to build a comprehensive education and career readiness plan**
- **Downloadable reports making it easy to share information with counselors and parents**
- **Easy to use self-language to improve college application essays, resumes, interviews and recommendation letters**
- **100% online so that students have access 24x7**
- **Continued access to the YouScience Profile for the next 10 years**

Career Interest Survey: Just to Get You Started...

1. What interests, conditions, or rewards do you think will be most important to you in a career? Using the list below as a starting point, choose your top five.

Status	Income	Power
Geographic location	Working inside/outside	Working with people/alone
Helping people/animals	Flexibility	Each day is the same/different
Live to work?	Work to live?	Prestige
Ability to be creative	_____	_____

2. Which academic subjects interest you the most? List your two favorite high school subjects (including elective classes). (Don't restrict your answers to subjects you excel in. That comes later!)

1. _____ 2. _____

3. What are your five greatest personal or social strengths? If you're unsure, ask your friends, parents, or teachers what they think. Choose your top five strengths.

Teamwork	Communication	Work ethic
Positive attitude	Time management	Creativity
Computer skills	Empathy	Curiosity
Working alone	Task-oriented	Building relationships
Learning new things	Persistence	Leadership
Problem-solving skills	_____	_____

4. What are your two greatest academic strengths? List the two subjects in which you perform the best academically. English, social studies, computer science, chemistry, algebra, calculus, dance, film, art?

1. _____ 2. _____

5. Which general career areas most interest you? Choose at least two.

Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources	Architecture and Construction
Arts: Visual & Design	Arts: Dance, Drama, Music
A/V Technology & Communications	Business, Management, and Administration
Education and Training	Finance
Government and Public Administration	Health Science
Hospitality and Tourism	Human Services
Information Technology	Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security
Manufacturing	Marketing
Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math	Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

The Armed Forces

Each of the five branches of the military has a unique mission within the overall mission of U.S. security and peace. Here they are in a nutshell:

Air Force and Air Force Reserve: www.airforce.com

The nation's source of air and space power. The primary mission of the USAF is to fly planes, helicopters, and satellites.

Air National Guard: The Air National Guard as we know it today is a separate reserve component of the United States Air Force.

Army and Army Reserve: www.goarmy.com

The dominant land power. The Army generally moves in to an area, secures it, and instills order and values before it leaves. It also guards U.S. installations and properties throughout the world.

Army National Guard: The Army National Guard is an elite group of warriors who dedicate a portion of their time to serving their nation. Each state has its own Guard, as required by the Constitution.

Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve: www.gocoastguard.com

The Coast Guard's mission is primarily with domestic waterways. The Coast Guard does rescues, law enforcement, drug prevention, and clears waterways.

Marine Corps and Marine Corps Reserve: www.marines.com

The Marine Corps is known as the U.S.'s rapid-reaction force. They are trained to fight by sea and land, and usually are the first "boots on the ground." Marines are known as the world's fiercest warriors.

Navy and Navy Reserve: www.navy.com

The Navy accomplishes its missions primarily by sea, but also by air and land. It secures and protects the oceans around the world to create peace and stability, making the seas safe for travel and trade.

Qualifications to Enlist

Before you visit your local recruiter, be sure you meet the minimum qualifications for serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. These qualifications are required by all five services:

- You must be a U.S. citizen or resident alien.
- You must be at least 17 years old (17-year old applicants require parental consent).
- You must (with very few exceptions) have a high school diploma.
- You must pass a physical medical exam.

For each branch, there are slightly different additional enlistment requirements, which can be found at www.military.com under "Are You Eligible to Join the Military?".

For More Information

Go to www.military.com for in-depth details on each branch and how to enlist.

Contact our JROTC Officers:

Lt. Col. Minnick, lminnick@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Major Sergeant Benton, tbenton@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Sergeant Major Jackson, corey.jackson@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Apprenticeships / Trades

If you like to work with your hands **and** your mind, you might want to consider an apprenticeship after high school. An apprenticeship prepares you for a career through on-the-job learning with classroom instruction, while you work and earn a salary. The programs can last from one to six years, most lasting four years. The most common apprenticeships are in construction and manufacturing.

Most apprenticeships are registered through the U.S. Department of Labor, ensuring the program meets government standards for fairness, safety and training. With a registered apprenticeship you receive:

- A paycheck: From day one, you will earn a paycheck guaranteed to increase over time as you learn new skills.
- Hands-on career training: You'll receive practical on-the-job training in a wide selection of programs, such as health care, construction, information technology and geospatial careers.
- An education: You'll receive hands-on training and have the potential to earn college credit, even an associate or bachelor's degree, in many cases paid for by your employer.
- A career: Once you complete your apprenticeship, you will be on your way to a successful long-term career with a competitive salary, and little or no educational debt.
- National industry certification: When you graduate from a career training program, you'll be certified and can take your certification anywhere in the U.S.
- Recognizable partners: Many of the nation's most recognizable companies, such as CVS/pharmacy and UPS, have Registered Apprenticeship programs.

The Registered Apprenticeship program offers access to 1,000 career areas, including the following top occupations:

Able seaman	Carpenter	Chef
Child care development specialist	Construction craft laborer	Dental assistant
Electrician	Elevator constructor	Fire medic
Law enforcement agent	Over-the-road truck driver	Pipefitter

Eligibility and Requirements

Registered apprenticeship program sponsors identify the minimum qualifications to apply into their program. The eligible starting age can be no less than 16 years of age; however, individuals must usually be 18 to be an apprentice in hazardous occupations. Program sponsors may require additional minimum qualifications and credentials such as the ability to physically perform the essential functions of the occupation and proof of age. Based on the selection method utilized by the sponsor, additional qualification standards, such as fair aptitude tests and interviews, school grades, and previous work experience may be identified.

For more information on apprenticeships, visit:

doleta.gov/oa/apprentices_new.cfm

You also can call America's Workforce Network toll-free at (877) US2-JOBS (872-5672).

The Gap Year

A growing trend of late has made the choice of “taking a year off” in between graduating from high school and the freshman year in college an intriguing option. The gap year can be either a semester or a full year away from traditional classroom studies as well as a constructive time to explore in-between life stages. It usually involves traveling, volunteering or working abroad or can include all three!

Long a tradition in Europe, there is a growing number of gap year options for American students. They include participating in organized gap year programs abroad or domestically, working in a field of interest, civil service in the military or a national service organization like AmeriCorps, pursuing athletics, or traveling the world as a tourist. Many universities are beginning to support, if not encourage the trend, such as Tufts University’s 1 + 4 program. It allows an admitted student to choose to participate in national or international service projects for a year prior to beginning classes. It should be noted that many programs exist at a cost almost as high as tuition, so students should have a financial plan in place.

Real world life experience gives gap year students a greater sense of personal direction and specific academic goals. The reason for all of this interest is that much evidence has shown that students who take a gap year can bring more to their college experiences and derive more from them as well. What often happens is that students end up ‘reinventing’ themselves during their gap year, discovering where their true interests and talents lie, and helping them bring a more mature outlook to their education in the future.

Students participate in gap year programs for a variety of reasons: a desire to serve communities in need, immerse in a new culture, address global issues, acquire professional skills or perform meaningful work before embarking on their college career.

Make the Most of Your Gap Year Experience:

- ~Keep an open mind and expect the unexpected – you will most likely be challenged and stretched. Use these as opportunities to learn more about yourself and to see the world in an entirely new way.
- ~Try to learn as much as possible about the population with whom you work, including culture, history, geography, customs, language, and beliefs.
- ~Take advantage of opportunities to learn new skills and keep a record of what you’ve accomplished and learned. This can be very helpful in the future as you consider career paths.

Resources:

nationalservice.gov

cityyear.org

americangap.org

goabroad.com

ciee.org

woofusa.org

USAgapyearfairs.org

thinkingbeyondborders.org

gapsemester.uncollege.org

Gap Year Fair

A Gap Year Fair will be held at Pace Academy on February 13, 2018 from 6-8pm. All students and parents are welcome to attend. Contact Pace Academy for more information.

First Generation Students

Being the first member in your family to attend college may seem like a daunting task, but one important thing to keep in mind is that colleges seek to enroll students who are actively engaged in pursuing postsecondary education, regardless of family circumstances or other socioeconomic factors. Having said that, first-generation students have a unique perspective to bring to the college campus, and colleges and universities are aware of the challenges that being “the first” may entail.

On college applications, first-generation students should highlight this status! Why? Many colleges track this nonacademic statistic. Admissions officers seek a diverse student body and want to hear about the forces that have shaped a student’s life, including if you are the first in your family to attend college. In fact, thirty percent of entering freshmen in the United States are first-generation college students, so you are not alone.

The most important thing first-generation students can do to ensure a successful college application process is to seek the help of their teachers, counselors and college adviser. Here are some additional tips:

1. Start early! This includes taking the SAT and ACT tests during the Spring semester of junior year, researching college admissions requirements and other important information by visiting the CCC and using websites like bigfuture.collegeboard.org, and financial aid information on the FAFSA website (tools like the FAFSA4caster are especially helpful for families).
2. Engage your family. The application process is one that requires the support of everyone involved in the student’s life – be sure to discuss academics, future goals, and finances with counselors and parents so as to make informed and realistic decisions.
3. Use the guidebook. Within this guidebook is a comprehensive manual for all things related to the admissions process. Important tools to refine the college list are the college comparison worksheet and career assessment.
4. Pay attention to deadlines. SAT/ACT registration, scholarships/financial aid, and college application will all have deadlines.
5. The college adviser is here to help you! The University of Georgia and the College Advising Corps have made an investment in North Atlanta High School students to raise the enrollment rates of first-generation students at colleges and universities across the country.

Check out this website for detailed information, including a section on 29 elite colleges which give preference to first generation students and have extensive resources for financial aid:

imfirst.org

First Things First: Basic College Terms

College: Generally, any institution for the education of undergraduate students.

Undergraduates: College students as opposed to high school students or graduate students who have already graduated from college and are working toward a further degree.

Liberal Arts College: An institution specializing in the higher education of undergraduates using a traditional core curriculum of literature, language, history, philosophy, math, psychology, and science.

University: An institution of higher education and research that provides both undergraduate and graduate education. A collection of colleges. They award a bachelor's degree for completing 4 years of prescribed course work.

Private Colleges: Run by non-profit organizations, not the government. Usually much more expensive than attending a state school in the state where you live.

Public Colleges: Also called state schools, mainly funded by the state government. Two different tuition prices – a lower price for in-state students and a higher price for out-of-state students.

For-Profit Colleges: Run as businesses, their main goal is to make money for the owners. They usually have much lower graduation rates than public and private colleges. (Avoid these!)

Community/Technical Colleges: Primarily two-year schools that offer an associate degree. After getting an associate degree, some students continue to complete a bachelor's degree at a 4-year school by studying for 2-3 additional years. Some are private, and some are public.

Reach School: A college that you have a chance of getting into, but your test scores and grades are below the average on the school's profile.

Target School: A college where you fit the profile of the middle 50% of students.

Safety School: A school you will almost certainly be admitted to because your scores are above the average in the school's profile.

Early Decision: Binding. A good plan for students who know exactly which college they want to attend and think they will be accepted. This option allows students to apply early in their senior year, but the student must agree to attend if accepted.

Early Action: Not binding. An option that allows students to apply early in their senior year to their top college choices without the commitment to attend if accepted.

Regular Decision: Usually the last deadline available for admittance into an institution.

Rolling Admissions: Some schools consider your application as soon as they have all the necessary documents and will let you know if you have been accepted right away.

Scholarship Priority Deadline: Deadline by which an application must be submitted in order to be considered for institutional merit scholarships. May be the same or different than the actual application deadline.

Common Application: A standardized, online college application form that is accepted by over 400 colleges and universities. Some require a supplement to the standard form.

Secondary School Profile: A form created by each high school that provides information to colleges about the student body and opportunities offered at that specific high school.

NCAA: National Collegiate Athletic Association. Athletic governing body for over 800 colleges that belong in Divisions 1, 2 or 3. Required to follow the NCAA policies on recruitment and scholarships that have been established for their division.

NAIA: National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. Athletic governing body for over 500 small four-year schools. Required to follow the NAIA policies on recruitment and scholarships.

Developing Your College List: Best Match & Best Fit

Best Match

“Where can I realistically be admitted with my grades, test scores, strength of class schedule?”
(See “What Colleges Are Looking For” on page 25 and the College Comparison Charts in the Appendix)

Best Fit

Everything else – size of institution, geographic location, cost, student life, academic offerings.
(See “What Are You Looking For in a College?” on page 26)

The six-semester end of junior year transcript will be the transcript evaluated by college admissions offices. While some colleges will also ask for a mid-year senior report and a class schedule, it is safe to say that by June of 2018, your GPA will be locked-in as far as college admissions is concerned. There are moving parts, however, to what colleges refer to as the “strength of academic record”, including the SAT and ACT, which are offered a combined seven times in the spring of 2018 (including two June dates and one July date). Additionally, North Atlanta offers both AP and IB courses, so it is expected that students challenge themselves by enrolling in a rigorous senior year schedule. These three factors can be used to determine college choices that represent a numerical match, which can be determined using entering class statistics from college admissions websites and the College Board. As there are thousands of schools in each tier of selectivity, finding a best-fit college is oftentimes even more important.

Here are some tips to refine dozens of “best match” colleges into a final list of **six-to-eight schools**, which should include one or two “reach” schools, up to three “target” schools, and up to three “safety” schools. There is a college comparison worksheet in the appendix to help you record your choices.

1. **Introspection** – There is a certain degree of self-discovery that is significant to the college search process. Students should look inward and consider their academic and personality strengths, goals for the future, and even a general worldview when considering college choices.
2. **Environment** – From the physical to the cultural, the college campus environment should play a serious role in determining college fit. The University of Southern California and Dartmouth College in New Hampshire may not have much in common geographically, but they may be more similar culturally than USC and Caltech. The best way to get the environmental feel of a college is to **visit in person** when school is in session.
3. **Cost** – A key determination in forming a realistic college list is the matter of the full cost of attendance, which includes tuition, housing, and various other monetary commitments like transportation, books, and club dues. Some colleges have net-price calculators that estimate the cost of attendance after expected financial aid and parental contributions that can be completed without applying. The government also offers the FAFSA4caster tool.
4. **Institutional characteristics** – do you want to actively participate in a freshman history seminar or sit in the back of a 250-person lecture hall? From student size, majors offered, and campus life offerings, quantifiable statistics about different colleges are important to consider in finding the right fit.

What Colleges Are Looking For

Factors Influencing Admissions Decisions

The College Board and National Association of College Admission Counseling (NACAC) survey of colleges discovered the most important factors influencing college admissions decisions include the following in order of importance: (Note: all colleges do not require all of these!)

1. Courses taken and grades
2. Standardized test scores
3. Admissions essays
4. Recommendations
5. Extracurricular activities

Courses and Grades

A student's grades in college-preparatory classes remain the most significant factor in college admission decisions. Admissions look at the breadth, diversity and difficulty of the courses on your transcript. Colleges would rather see you get a lower grade in a more challenging course than go for the "Easy A"; however, good grades in challenging courses are noted by admissions.

Standardized Test Scores

Standardized test scores (ACT or SAT) remain important at many colleges and most look at ranges of scores instead of a minimum score.

Application Essays

Personal statements and essays are both a measure of writing ability and a window into each student's background, as well as how you think and how you write. Admission officers want to hear an original voice in the student's own words. For a successful essay, students should fully answer the question or topic, respect the parameters set forth (ie: 500 words, don't submit 300 or 700) and personalize their writing through specific examples.

Recommendations

At some colleges, recommendations from counselors and faculty members have become very important. These recommendations should be highly specific, describing not just the student's love of learning, but the ways in which the student has demonstrated that they add to the classroom experience.

Extracurricular activities

Passionate involvement in a few activities — and a demonstration of leadership and initiative in those activities — help a student the most. Depth, not breadth, of experience is most important.

Other Special Attributes or Awards

Many colleges set aside spaces for students who may not meet traditional criteria but will add to the class diversity. Geographic location, racial or ethnic background, extenuating or unusual life circumstances and experience living or studying overseas may all be influential. Evidence suggests that in some cases applying early decision may also increase the chances of admission.

What Are You Looking For In a College?

Please feel free to highlight your choices on this page. Talk to your parents about their expectations as well.

Location

Setting

Rural
Small Town
Small City
City
Major Urban Area
Doesn't matter

Climate

always warm
four distinct seasons
don't mind some snow/cold
love cold and snow
Doesn't matter

Geographically

Northeast
Southeast
East Coast
Mid-West
Southwest
Northwest
West Coast
Beach
Mountain
Doesn't matter

Proximity to home

In same town
Easily Driven (within 1-3 hours)
Drivable (3-6 hours)
Day-long car ride (6-12 hours)
Across country
In another country

Academics

Type of College

Four-year college/university
Two-year community college
Technical college

Religious affiliation

Yes No
Doesn't matter

Student/Faculty Ratio

Don't mind big lecture halls
Prefer larger classes
Prefer smaller classes
Prefer individual help
Doesn't matter

Admissions Requirements

Highly selective/competitive
Selective/competitive
Not competitive
Doesn't matter

Special Programs

Study abroad
Honors
Mentoring/Tutoring

Fields of Study

List your top major choices:

Student Life

Size of college

Large (UGA has 34,000)
Mid-sized (over 10,000)
Smaller school (over 2,000)
Intimate
Doesn't matter

Coed or single gender

Housing

Dorm (as freshman)
Dorm (available all years)
Honors Dorm
Near Campus
Commute from home

Athletics

Big sports program
Some ranked sports
Walk-on sports teams
No sports teams
Doesn't matter

Clubs/Organizations

Academic
Service
Greek
Religious
Student Government
Intramural Sports
Exercise Classes
Newspaper
Radio Station
Theater
Marching Band

Financing School

How much can you spend on school (including tuition, room, board, books, etc)?

What can your parents contribute?

How much scholarship money do you need?

Questions to Ask Potential Schools

Always take notes during college presentations/tours and ask a lot of intelligent questions. Remember that you represent not only yourself, but also North Atlanta High School in every contact/conversation you have with colleges and universities.

Academics

- What are the most popular majors?
- How can I double major if I chose to?
- What is your typical class size?
- How easily can freshman and sophomores enroll in classes they want?
- Do professors or TAs (teacher assistants) typically teach freshman and sophomore classes?
- How available are faculty members to support me?
- Besides faculty, what other academic support does the school offer?
- Tell me about your student advisors.

Admissions

- What are the average SAT, ACT and GPAs of incoming freshman?
- What are your admission deadlines?
- How about Early Decision, Early Action or Rolling Admissions?
- What is your admittance rate?
- What qualities are you looking for in a student?
- What type of student is most successful at your school?
- What AP scores are required for college credit?
- Is earning the IB Diploma required to get credit for IB tests?

Financing

- What is the cost of attendance?
- Does your school meet full financial need? Does that include loans?
- What percent of students receive merit-based scholarships?
- What is the average scholarship amount given?
- What percentage of students receive need-based aid or grants?

Campus Life

- What volunteer/community service opportunities are available?
- What activities are most popular with students?
- Do you offer campus work opportunities?
- What kind of internships are available?
- How do students get around campus (bike, shuttle, on foot)?
- Tell me about Greek life.

Safety

- Tell me about campus security. Crime rate?
- What is the surrounding neighborhood like?

Campus Visits

You really cannot get a true sense of a college by driving by, or even by just taking the scheduled admissions tour for prospective students. Here are things to do when visiting a campus to get the real sense of what the college and student life are like.

For Starters

- Take a formal campus tour. (PLEASE do not text or make calls during the tour!)
- Collect business cards and names of people you meet for future contacts.
- Participate in an admissions information session at the admissions office.
- Pick up the college's financial aid forms, if available.

Academics

- Sit in on a class of a subject that interests you.
- Talk to a professor in a major that interests you. Set this up in advance of your visit.
- Talk to coaches of sports in which you might participate. Coordinate this in advance.
- Talk to a student or counselor in the career center.
- Read for a little while in the library and see what it is like.

Campus Life

- Spend a night in a dorm.
- Try to see a dorm you didn't see on the "tour."
- Eat in the cafeteria.
- Browse in the college bookstore.
- Go to the campus fitness facility to see what types of activities are offered.
- Check out the campus transit system (if there is one).
- Wander around the campus by yourself. Imagine yourself attending this college.
- Sit and observe life on campus. Do students greet each other warmly? Do you see professors and students greeting each other and talking together? What is the general level of openness based on the interactions you see?
- Scan the bulletin boards in the Student Union, Student Center and dorms.
- Listen to the college's radio station.
- Take home a copy of the student newspaper.

Student's Perspective

- Ask students why they chose the college.
- Ask what they love about the college.
- Ask what they dislike. What would they change?
- Ask students what they do on the weekends.

Surrounding Environment

- Walk or drive around the neighborhoods surrounding the campus.
- If you are interested in Greek life, find the Greek houses/area of campus.
- Eat in a restaurant near campus (ask a student for a recommendation!).
- Note where the nearest grocery store or department store (like Target) is.

Intriguing College Majors

The Arts

Bag-Piping: Carnegie Mellon University (PA)
Music Technology: Duquesne U (PA)
Puppet Theater: Evergreen State College (WA)
Toy Design: Fashion Institute of Technology (NY) & Otis College of Art & Design (CA)
Musical Instrument Repair: Keyano College (Canada) & Renton Technical College (WA)
Comic Book Art: Kubert School for Cartooning & Animation (NJ)
Folklore: Evergreen State College (WA)
Medical and Biological Illustration: Johns Hopkins U. (MD)
Biomedical Photography & Medical Illustration: Rochester Institute of Technology (NY)
Bookbinding, Furniture Making, Jewelry Making, Violin Making: North Bennet Street School (MA)
Irish Dance and Music: Univ. of Limerick (Ireland)
Blacksmith Crew: Warren Wilson College (NC)
Historic Preservation: Univ. of Mary Washington (VA)
Gunsmithing: Lassen College (CA)

Health Sciences

Music Therapy: California State U. & U. of Iowa
Dance/Movement Therapy: Drexel Univ. (PA) & Lesley Univ. (MA)
Legal Nurse Consultant: Bergen Community College (NJ)
Aging Studies: St. Bonaventure Univ. (NY)
Mental Health Counseling: Lesley Univ. (MA)

Entertainment

Entertainment Engineering & Design; Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas
Circus Arts: San Francisco School of Circus Arts
Rodeo Clowning: Sankey Rodeo School (MO)
Sideshow Performance: Sideshow School (NY)
Skydiving Instructor: Skydive University (FL)
Stunts (driving, weaponry, stair falls, wire work): United Stuntment's Assoc. Stunt School (WA)
Broadcast Meteorology: Mississippi State U.
Sport Media: Ithaca College (NY)
Special Make-up Effects/Fantasy Art: Douglas Education Center (PA)
International Hospitality Management: Northern Arizona Univ.
Wedding Planning: George Mason Univ. (VA)

Mechanical Trades

Bicycle Mechanics: Barnett Bicycle Institute (CO) & United Bicycle Institute (OR)
Motorsport Engineering: Colorado State Univ. & State Univ. of New York (Alfred)
Automotive Restoration Technology: McPherson College (KS)
Underwater Welding: National Polytechnic College of Science (CA)

Intelligence/Security

Homeland Security: Embry-Riddle Aeronautical U. (AZ, FL)
Military Leadership/National Security: Hampton-Sydney College (VA)
Peace Studies: Goshen College (IN)
Strategic Intelligence: Joint Military Intelligence College (DC)
Intelligence Studies (FBI & CIA): Mercyhurst College (PA)
Forensic Chemistry and Toxicology: Mercyhurst College (PA)
Computer Security and Cyberforensics: St. John's U. (NY)

Transportation/Marine Studies

Navel Architecture, Marine Engineering, Ship Design: Web Institute (NY)
Marine Transportation, Marine Engineering Tech: Californai Maritime Academy (CA)
Seamanship: Evergreen State College (WA)
Air Transportation Management: Arizona State U.
Railroad Operations: St. Philip's College (TX) & Modoc Railroad Academy (CA)

Sports Management

Golf Course Management: Arizona State U. & Colorado Mountain College
Ski Resort Management: Colorado Mountain College & Lyndon State College (VT)
Professional Fly-Fishing Guide: Colorado Mountain College
Bowling Industry Management: Vincennes Univ. (IN)

Environment/Agriculture

Citrus Studies: Florida Southern College
Agroecology/Sustainable Agriculture: Ft. Lewis College (CO) & Sterling College (VT)
Parks and Rec Management: Northern Arizona U.
Ranch Management: Texas Christian Univ.
Environmental & Water Resource Management: Univ. of Arizona
Surf Science Technology: Univ. of Plymouth (United Kingdom)

Social

Animal Shelter Management: Colorado Mountain College
Leadership & Change Management: Duquesne Univ. (PA)
Deaf Education: Flagler College (FL)
Philanthropic Studies: Indiana University
For Students with Learning Disabilities: Landmark College (VT)
Human Rights Studies: Univ. of Dayton (OH)
Hawaiian Studies: University of Hawaii
Growth and Structure of Cities: Bryn Mawr College (PA)
Non-profit Leadership: Arizona State U.

Honors Programs in Georgia

All schools listed below offer separate classes for students in the honors program, and they require that students take a certain number of honors classes to remain in the program. Schools vary on how many honors classes are required. Please verify this information on the school's website as policies sometimes change! *Based on fall 2017 admitted freshman class.

Georgia College and State University

Eligibility: Minimum SAT 1270 or ACT 26; minimum GPA 3.50
Requirements: Online Honors Program application with essays & counselor or teacher recommendation
Housing: Honors residence hall is an option, but not required
Class Registration: No priority registration for non-honors courses
Deadline: Rolling: Nov.15-April 1 Early Action: Dec. 15

Georgia Institute of Technology

Eligibility: Must be accepted for admission Early Action; SAT 1800, ACT 26; GPA 3.50
Requirements: One additional online essay
Housing: First year honors program students must live in honors residence hall
Class Registration: No priority registration for non-honors classes
Deadline: October 15

Georgia Perimeter College

Eligibility: Minimum SAT 1800 on 2400 scale/ACT 26; minimum GPA 3.5
Requirements: Contact the Honors Program office
Housing: No student housing at GPC
Class Registration: Priority registration available
Deadline: None specified; freshman application deadline July 1

Georgia Southern University

Eligibility: Minimum SAT 1200 on 1600 scale/ ACT 27; minimum GPA 3.5
Requirements: Online Honors Program application; personal interview
Housing: Honors community living is an option, but not required
Class Registration: Priority registration available
Deadline: November 1; February 1

Georgia State University

Eligibility: Average SAT 1360 on 1600 scale/ ACT 30/31; average GPA 3.85
Requirements: None beyond admission to Georgia State; Honors College will review
Housing: Honors residence hall is an option, but not required
Class Registration: Priority registration available after first semester
Deadline: Apply by Nov. 15

Kennesaw State University

Eligibility: Minimum SAT 1220 on 1600 scale/ ACT 25; minimum GPA 3.5
Requirements: Must call to schedule an interview
Housing: Eligible to live in Honors Residence, but not required
Class Registration: Priority registration time for each term after initial enrollment
Deadline: None specified; freshman application deadline March 26

University of Georgia

Eligibility: Average SAT 1490 on 1600 scale/ ACT 33 ; average GPA 4.12
Requirements: Paper application; essay; transcript; teacher recommendation
Housing: Honors residence hall is an option, but not required
Class Registration: Priority registration for all classes taught at the University
Deadline: Must be mailed and received by the university by Jan 15

Four-Year Colleges and Universities

There are over 7,000 colleges and universities in the United States. Here are a few “lists” that might help your search.

The Most Selective Colleges

(highest rejection rate)

Stanford (CA)
Harvard (MA)
Yale (CT)
Princeton (NJ)
Columbia (NY)
MIT (MA)
Univ. of Chicago (IL)
Brown University (RI)
Cal Tech (CA)
Pomona College (CA)
Univ. of Pennsylvania
Claremont McKenna College (CA)
Dartmouth College (NH)
Duke University (NC)

The Top Twelve Women’s Colleges

(in alphabetical order)

Agnes Scott College (GA)
Barnard U. (NY)
Bryn Mawr College (PA)
Mills College (CA)
Mount Holyoke College (MA)
Scripps College (CA)
Simmons College (MA)
Smith College (MA)
Spelman College (GA)
Wellesley College (MA)
Saint Mary’s College (IN)
Hollins University (VA)

Top Public Universities

University of California – Berkeley
University of California – Los Angeles
University of Virginia
University of Michigan
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
College of William & Mary
Georgia Tech
University of California - Santa Barbara
University of California - Irvine
University of California - San Diego

The Top Liberal Arts Colleges

Williams College (MA)
Amherst College (MA)
Bowdoin College (ME)
Swarthmore College (PA)
Wellesley College (MA)
Pomona College (CA)
Middlebury College (VT)
Carleton College (MN)
Claremont-McKenna
College (CA)
Davidson (NC)
Washington & Lee (VA)

The Ivy League

(which is actually an athletic conference)

Brown (RI)
Columbia (NY)
Cornell (NY)
Dartmouth (NH)
Harvard (MA)
Princeton (NJ)
U. of Pennsylvania
Yale (CT)

The Top HBCU’s

(Historically Black Colleges and Universities)

Spelman College
Hampton University
Howard University
Morehouse College
Xavier University
Tuskegee University
Florida A&M University
North Carolina A&T
Fisk University
Clafin University

**Other Top Colleges & Universities
in the Southeast**

Davidson College
Vanderbilt University
Emory University
Tulane University
University of Florida
University of Georgia
Clemson University
Sewanee: University of the South
College of William & Mary
University of Richmond

Top Music Conservatories

Yale School of Music (CT)
University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance
Indiana University Jacobs School of Music
Julliard School (NY)
Curtis Institute of Music (PA)
Berklee College of Music (MA)
Manhattan School of Music (NY)
New England Conservatory (MA)
The Colburn School (CA)

Top Engineering Schools

MIT
Stanford
UC – Berkeley
Caltech
Carnegie Mellon University
University of Michigan
Georgia Tech
Purdue University
University of Illinois
University of Texas at Austin
Texas A&M University

Top Art Schools

Rhode Island School of Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
California Institute of the Arts
Maryland Institute College of Art
Virginia Commonwealth University
Bard College

SEC Schools

Auburn University
University of Arkansas
Louisiana State University
Mississippi State University
Ole Miss
University of Tennessee – Knoxville
University of South Carolina
University of Georgia
University of Florida
University of Missouri
Texas A&M University
Vanderbilt University

Top Law Schools

Yale University
Stanford University
Harvard University
University of Chicago
Columbia University
New York University
University of Pennsylvania
University of Virginia
University of Michigan
Duke University
Northwestern University
University of California - Berkeley
Cornell University

Top Medical Schools

Harvard University
Stanford University
Johns Hopkins University
UC– San Francisco
University of Pennsylvania
Columbia University
Washington University in St. Louis
Duke University
Yale University
University of Michigan

Technical & Community Colleges

Not all careers require a 4-year college degree. Community colleges, known as technical colleges in Georgia, offer training in many different vocations that can provide all you need to be successful in your chosen field.

Some reasons you might want to try a community college:

1. Time! Your career choice may only require a one or two year program.

Cheaper, quicker, and highly vocational, two-year schools offer students the chance to start their careers sooner and with less (or no) debt. A two year associate degree can be a launching point to start earning your bachelor's degree.

2. Money is a concern.

Since most two-year colleges are designed for commuters, students are responsible for finding their own housing to avoid the high costs of room and board. Tuition at technical college is typically about one-third of state college tuition; financial aid and scholarships are available. Some students simply want to save money on their general education courses before transferring to a more costly four-year institution.

3. You are unsure about your college major.

Since a technical college offers a wide range of courses, you can explore various subjects and interests regarding particular fields of work.

4. You can improve your transcripts.

If you did poorly grade-wise in high school, achieving straight A's in a technical college can help you earn scholarships that previously would not have been available to you. You also have a second opportunity to improve your transcript, as well as a better chance to be accepted as a junior rather than as a freshman, since there is less competition.

The Technical College System of Georgia www.tcsg.edu

The State of Georgia's 22 public technical schools are supervised by the The Technical College System of Georgia. And you can use the HOPE Grant to attend many of these! See page 56 for more information on the HOPE Grant. The following schools are within 20 miles of North Atlanta High School and accessible by bus. Check each school's website or www.tcgs.edu for the programs offered, admissions details and how to get to each campus.

Greater Atlanta Area Technical Schools

Atlanta Technical College	atlantatech.edu	Atlanta
Chattahoochee Technical College	chattahoocheetech.edu	Marietta
Georgia Piedmont Technical College	gptc.edu	Clarkston
Southern Crescent Technical College	sctech.edu	Griffin
Gwinnett Technical College	gwinnettech.edu	Lawrenceville

The University System of Georgia (usg.edu)
Four-Year Colleges Offering Two-Year Associate's Degrees

	Website	Location	Dorms?
Albany State University	asurams.edu	Albany	yes
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	abac.edu	Tifton	yes
Atlanta Metropolitan State College	atlm.edu	Atlanta	no
Bainbridge State College	bainbridge.edu	Bainbridge	no
College of Coastal Georgia	ccga.edu	Brunswick	yes
Dalton State College	daltonstate.edu	Dalton	yes
East Georgia State College	ega.edu	Swainsboro	yes
Georgia Gwinnett College	ggc.edu	Lawrenceville	yes
Georgia Highlands College	highlands.edu	Rome	no
Georgia Perimeter College	gpc.edu	Decatur	no
Gordon State College	gordonstate.edu	Barnesville	yes
Middle Georgia State College	mga.edu	Macon	yes
South Georgia State College	sgsc.edu	Douglas	yes

A Sample of Programs Offered

Accounting	Environmental Technology
Air Conditioning	Fire Science Technology
Applied Technical Management	Forensic Science Technology
Automotive Collision Repair & Technology	Game Development
Aviation	Horticulture
Biomedical Engineering Technology	Hotel, Restaurant & Tourism Management
Bioscience	Industrial & Electrical Technology
Building & Facilities Maintenance Technology	Information Security Specialist
Business Management	Interiors
Cardiovascular Technology	Internet Specialist – Web Site Design
Clinical Research Professional	Logistics and Supply Chain Management
Construction Management	Motorcycle Service Technology
Commercial Truck Driving	Networking Specialist
Computer Information Systems Technology	Nursing
Computer Programming	Orthopaedic Technology
Cosmetology	Paralegal/Pre-Law
Criminal Justice	Paramedicine
Culinary Arts	PC Repair Technician
Cyber Crime Specialist	Pharmacy Technology
Dental Assisting	Photography
Design and Media Production Technology	Polysomnographic Technology
Diagnostic Medical Sonography	Radiologic Technology
Diesel Equipment Technology	Respiratory Care
Drafting	Surgical Technology
Early Childhood Care & Education	Television Production Technology
Electrical & Computer Engineering Technology	Veterinary Technology
Emergency Services/EMT	Welding & Joining Technology

The Armed Forces and The Academies

There are three paths into the armed forces, all of which provide opportunities for financial assistance with college.

1. Enlisted Personnel: All five branches of the armed forces offer college-credit courses on base. Enlisted personnel can also take college courses at colleges while on active duty, if near a college.

Military Career Guide	militarycareers.com
National Guard	ngb.army.mil
U.S. Air Force	airforce.com
U.S. Army	goarmy.com
U.S. Coast Guard	gocoastguard.com
U.S. Marine Corps	marines.com
U.S. Navy	navy.com

2. ROTC: A program offered at over 1,700 colleges and universities across the United States that prepares young adults to become officers in the U.S. Military. (ROTC). Two-, three-, and four-year ROTC scholarships are available. ROTC graduates are required to serve in the military for a set period of time, either full-time on active duty or part-time on the Reserve or National Guard. Qualifying graduates can delay their service to go to graduate or professional school first.

Branch	Website	Deadline to apply	Approx. # of Scholarships
Army ROTC	goarmy.com/rotc	Feb. 4	over 575
Navy/Marines ROTC	nrotc.navy.mil	Jan. 31	over 130
Air Force ROTC	afrotc.com	Dec. 1	over 300

3. Military Academies: U.S. service academies are highly selective and are seeking strong leaders with an outstanding academic record, unquestionable integrity, demonstrated leadership skills and physical fitness. Entrance into an academy is typically by political appointment.

The most important thing to know about the military academies is that you MUST begin the application process in the spring of junior year. The application is complex and takes time to get together. There are five academies:

U.S. Military Academy at West Point (Army) NY	usma.edu
U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland	usna.edu
U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO	asafa.af.mil
U.S. Coast Guard Academy, CT	cga.edu
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, NY	usmma.edu

All branches of the military use the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) as a selection tool at no cost to the student. The ASVAB takes about three hours to administer and provides scores in math, verbal, academic ability and a host of sub-areas such as general science, mechanical comprehension, electronics and reasoning. Any student can take the ASVAB regardless of their interest in military service. It is administered at North Atlanta High School each February. Watch the Warrior Weekly and listen to announcements at school for details on how to sign up.

Application Nuts & Bolts

Each college has its own system for admissions. The online “Admissions” page for each college is the most reliable source for what exactly must be submitted and what the deadlines are. Read them carefully, and then follow the instructions to the letter and submit on time! There are no do-overs!

TYPES OF ADMISSION

Early Decision: Binding. A good plan for students who know exactly which college they want to attend and think they will be accepted. This option allows students to apply early in their senior year, but the student must agree to attend if accepted.

Early Action: Not binding. An option that allows students to apply early in their senior year to their top college choices without the commitment to attend if accepted.

Regular Decision: The traditional style of decision. Applications are usually due in December or early January and students are notified of acceptance decisions in April.

Rolling Admissions: Some schools consider your application as soon as they have all the necessary documents and will let you know if you have been accepted right away.

THE PARTS OF A COLLEGE APPLICATION

In general, the majority of colleges require:

- ❑ **The actual application**, usually available online on each college’s “Admissions” page. Some will accept the Common Application. See a full list at commonapp.org.
- ❑ **Your current transcript**. In many cases, your junior grades are the latest grades reported before college applications are due. **KEEP UP YOUR GRADES YOUR JUNIOR YEAR!**
- ❑ **Test Scores**. For SAT and/or ACT. Some colleges also require Subject Tests (College Board). See each school’s admissions requirements to make sure you are taking the right tests! All scores must be sent directly from the official test websites.
- ❑ **An Application Fee**. This varies by college. Students on free and reduced lunch qualify for fee waivers at most institutions. Ask your college adviser or check on the college’s website.

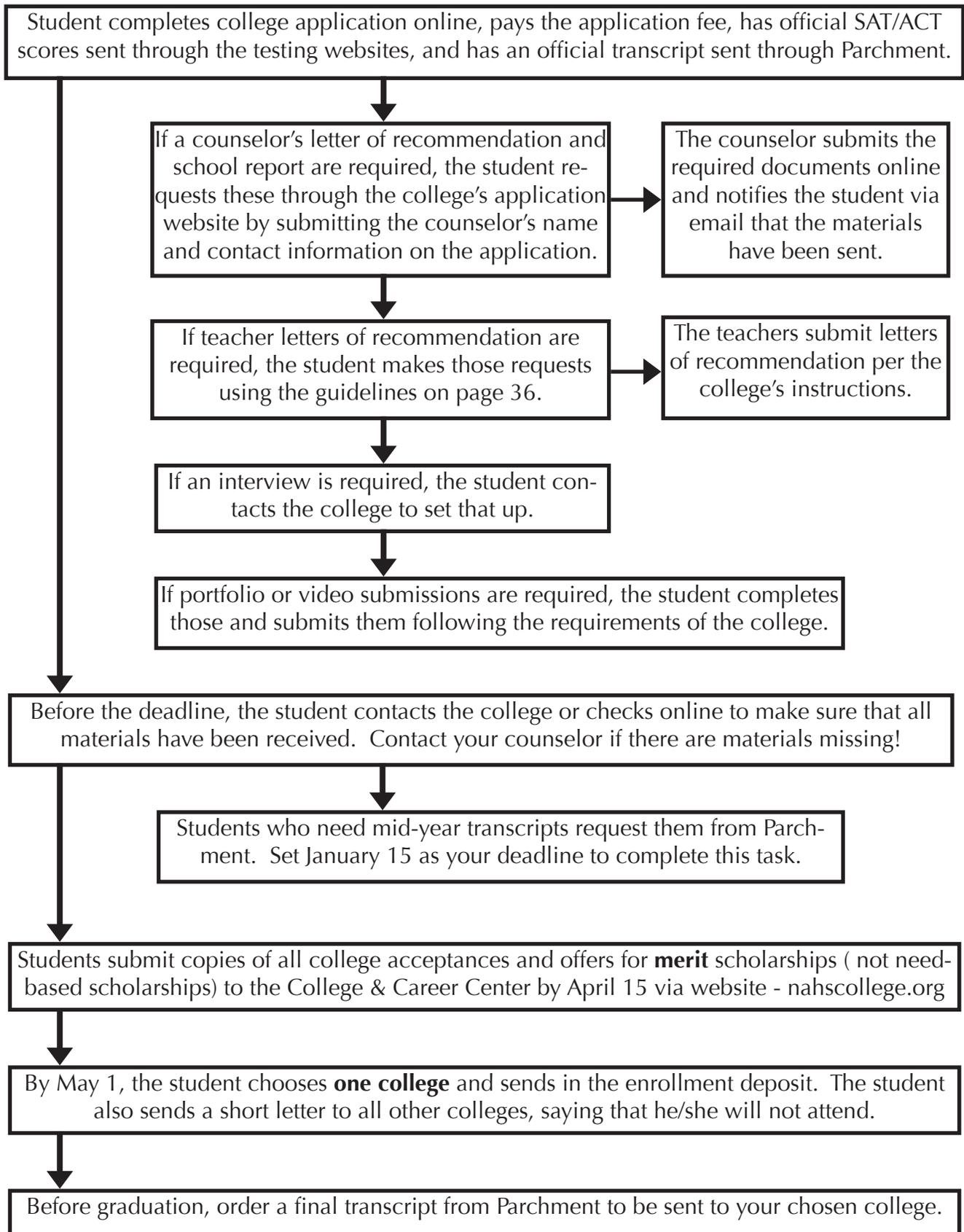
Some colleges also require:

- ❑ **Counselor recommendation and/or a Secondary School Profile**. Submit your counselor’s name and contact information on the college’s online application, and the college will contact the counselor to submit these documents.
- ❑ **Teacher letters of recommendation**. See page 42 for details.
- ❑ **Essays**. See page 43 for the basics, and pick up a *Writing Your College Essays Guide* in the CCC for additional help.
- ❑ **Interviews, portfolios or videos**. These are only required for the most competitive colleges or specialty colleges for art, music, drama or dance. See each college’s website for their requirements.

Tips to Keep in Mind

- ❑ Neatness is important! Triple check spelling, grammar, and punctuation!
- ❑ Be thorough. Rather than leave a question blank, write “Not Applicable.”
- ❑ Honesty is indeed a virtue. Don’t pretend to be something you are not.
- ❑ Be proud of your accomplishments! Present yourself and your activities openly. Do not exaggerate or minimize. Let your uniqueness shine through.
- ❑ Make a copy of EVERYTHING before mailing it or submitting it online!

Flowchart for College Admissions Paperwork



Writing Your Resume

You will use your resume to fill out college applications, and you will submit it to your counselor and teachers for letters of recommendation. Look in the Appendix (page 61) for a sample resume.

- Student resumes should be one page and one page only!
- Be honest, but not modest. While you should never lie or even embellish on a resume, you should draw attention to your accomplishments.
- Use a simple, easy to read font such as Arial (clean and professional), Times New Roman (traditional) or Lucida Bright (bigger)
- Set margins at 1" all the way around
- Use consistent punctuation and structure.
- Pay attention to verb tenses.
- No misspelled words! Do not rely on spell check. Proofread!
- Be descriptive of clubs or positions that are not obvious, but keep descriptions concise.
- Never use the word "I". Start descriptions with an action word.
- Use action words like: selected, led, organized, awarded, created, achieved, coordinated, elected, participated, directed, wrote, published, designed.

Organization

- Use indents or bullets to link references to similar activities together.
- Use bold print and italics to guide the reader to the most important information.
- Start with the most current information and work backwards, 9th -12th grades only.
- After the heading, list "Education" or "Academics" first. Order additional sections based on strength and importance to you.
- Include sections for extracurricular activities (school, community, enrichment), sports (school and club), leadership, volunteer work, and work experience (employment and internships).

Heading: Name, address, phone number(s), email address (professional style, not cutesy), high school name, date of birth, and expected graduation date, centered at the top of the page.

Education or Academics: List high school attended, and academic honors and awards

- International Baccalaureate Programme or AP classes taken.
- Key Stats: Class rank (e.g. 15/267) or percentile (top 10%), GPA, SAT, ACT
- Honors and Awards: List along with grade (e.g. Debate Finalist: 9, 10)

Extracurricular Activities: List activities and grade (e.g. Art Club: 9, 10, 11)

- Include clubs, class activities, performing groups, sports, religious groups, scouts, and volunteering/service. If any section is very important to you separate it into its own section.
- Note leadership roles and special recognition with the activity.
- Include relevant enrichment programs, special projects, travel experiences, musical accomplishments, fluency in a foreign language, mastery of a software program (Adobe, Final Cut, etc.).

Work Experience: Starting with the most recent, list each work experience or internship (paid, unpaid, your own business) including job title; business name & location, dates of your employment.

Other: (optional) Special circumstances; additional details about "hook" or "wow factor".

Teacher Recommendations

NEVER request a recommendation by email. **NEVER.**

It is North Atlanta's policy to keep letters of recommendation confidential. Do not ask for a copy for yourself.

Don't assume the teacher or counselor will automatically say "Yes". Recommendations take time, and teachers don't have much time to spare! Understand that if a teacher declines, there is a good reason, and don't take it personally.

Ask in person! Go to your teacher or counselor's room, knock on the door politely and ask if the teacher has time to speak with you.

Use "please" and "thank you". The recommendation this teacher will give you is a GIFT, not a privilege.

Ask at least two weeks in advance of your deadline. If a two week notice is not given, you should be prepared to write your own letter.

Have a copy of your bragsheet and resume to give to the teacher or counselor.

Have the names and addresses of the school(s) listed on a separate page. List the deadline for submitting the recommendation under the school's name and address.

Have a copy of the recommendation form(s), or information on where to find the form online listed on the page under each college.

Have an envelope, addressed and stamped, for each college unless the teacher can submit the recommendation online.

Examples:

University of Georgia

Office of Undergraduate Admissions

Terrell Hall

210 South Jackson Street

Athens, Georgia 30602-1633

Submission Deadline: October 15, 2015

Online submission: www.admissions.uga.edu/teacherrec.html

Essays ~ The Basics

This is just the basics to get you started. For detailed information on essay writing, please pick up the ***Writing Your College Essays Guide*** in the College & Career Center.

Getting Started: What to Write About

Choosing your topic might be the toughest part of the whole essay writing process! Just remember, your essays should reveal something important about you that your grades and test scores can't—your personality. It should give admission officers a sense of **who** you are, as well as showcasing your writing skills, not recap what they can already see on your transcript.

First and foremost, **be yourself**. Write in your own voice. It should sound like you are talking, not writing an essay for lit class. Write what you feel, not what you think the admissions committee wants to hear. Many students try to sound smart rather than sounding like themselves. Others write about a subject that they don't care about, but that they think will impress admissions officers. And note that admission officers will be able to tell if your essay was heavily edited by an adult.

Choose a topic that is meaningful to you and **highlights your strengths**. It could be an experience, a person, a book—anything that has had an impact on your life. Share your personal story and thoughts. Highlight areas that aren't covered in other parts of the application. This isn't the place to list your awards or discuss your grades or test scores. Consider these questions: Is there something else about me that this college should know about that there wasn't a blank for? Who am I now and who do I want to become?

Find a creative angle. Try to come up with something different. Remember that the people reviewing your essay have read hundreds — if not thousands — of essays.

Snoozer Topics to Avoid

The Trip or The Mission Trip

My Favorite Things

The Teacher Who Influenced Me Most

The Jock (I'm an awesome athlete and made the winning play of the game.)

Tales of my Success

Without X Activity, I am Nothing

Pet Death

Community Service (I've seen poverty and realize how lucky I am and how much I have.)

Soapbox Issues (Drinking and Driving Is Bad)

Use the active voice. This is a challenge for all writers. As a matter of style, writing in an active voice energizes an essay.

Avoid clichés. They usually sneak in when you are trying to be descriptive. Sadly, they dilute your distinctive voice. Don't rely on phrases or ideas that people have used many times before like, "There is so much suffering in the world that I feel I have to help people."

And lastly, (and obviously) although humor is good, avoid one-liners and anything off-color.

The Common Application

Over 700 colleges accept the Common Application (go to www.commonapp.org for a complete list). Many have supplements, so check with the college to make sure you submit everything required.

Tips and Best Practices

Getting Started

- Create your account using an email address you check often
- Use your legal name when filling out your registration information
- Make note of your Common App ID (CAID)
- Use the most up-to-date version of your web browser
- Bookmark apply.commonapp.org
- Download the Common App onTrack mobile app to stay organized

Filling out the Common App

- Gather the materials you'll need (such as your transcript and list of activities)
- Make sure you enter your high school information correctly
- See your counselor if you need help answering questions
- Answer all required questions (marked with a red asterisk)
- Preview each sections of the applications as you go along

Answering College-Specific Questions

- Understand each college's requirements (such as testing policy and writing requirements)
- Select a start term and admission plan in order to set deadlines
- Keep track of deadlines

The Recommendation Process

- Complete the FERPA Release Authorization
- Double check each college's recommendation requirements
- Ask your counselor how your school submits recommendation forms
- Talk with your recommenders before inviting and assigning them
- Make sure you enter the correct names and email addresses for your recommenders
- Communicate with your recommenders regularly

Along the Way

- Save your work
- Don't be afraid to ask for help
- Proofread and review your information for accuracy
- Look for green check marks to indicate all required questions in a section are answered
- Carefully review your application PDF prior to submitting

Where to go for More

- Visit the Solutions Center (appsupport.commonapp.org) for questions regarding
- your application or email us at: appsupport@commonapp.net
- Check with your counselor for process-related questions
- Contact the colleges to which you are applying for college-specific questions

The Coalition Application

The Coalition has signed up over 130 schools so far, and more partners continue to join. Members of the Coalition include a diverse group of public and private universities. Coalition schools provide substantial support to lower-resourced and under represented students, offer responsible student financial aid support, and demonstrate a commitment to student graduation.

To get started go to: coalitionforcollegeaccess.org

There are two testing agencies you should know:

The College Board (collegeboard.org)

Administers the PSAT, the SAT, and Subject Tests for college admissions plus AP tests for college credit. In addition to registration and test preparation tools, the College Board website offers tools for college planning, college search, scholarship search and major & career search.

The ACT (act.org)

Administers the ACT Test. Registration and test preparation tools are offered on the ACT website as well as tools for career & college searches and financial aid information.

Every American college and university accepts both the SAT Test and the ACT with Writing.

All juniors should take BOTH the SAT and ACT at least once between January and July of junior year.

Once you see which test suits you better, re-take that test later in the spring or next fall to get your maximum score. You may take each test as many times as you wish.

ACT and SAT Test Score Comparison

These are rough equivalencies between the ACT Composite Score and the SAT Test.

36 = 1600	30 = 1410-1390	24 = 1190-1160	18 = 970-940
35 = 1560-1590	29 = 1380-1350	23 = 1150-1130	17 = 930-900
34 = 1550-1520	28 = 1340-1310	22 = 1120-1100	16 = 890-860
33 = 1510-1490	27 = 1300-1280	21 = 1090-1060	15 = 850-810
32 = 1480-1450	26 = 1270-1240	20 = 1050-1020	14 = 800-760
31 = 1440-1420	25 = 1230-1200	19 = 1010-980	13 = 750-720

The College Board: More Details

The PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test)

The PSAT is administered to all sophomores and juniors at North Atlanta High School in mid-October free of charge. Freshman may opt to take the test for a fee. It is a practice test for the SAT and does not impact the college admissions process. However, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) uses the PSAT test taken your **junior year only** as an initial screen of candidates for the **National Merit Scholarship Program**. NMSC automatically identifies semifinalists based on PSAT scores (the top 50,000) and sends scholarship application materials to them through their high schools in September of senior year. Semifinalists who meet academic and other standards will advance to the “finalist” level to compete for scholarships. See www.nationalmerit.org for more information.

The PSAT National Hispanic Recognition Program

The College Board's National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) identifies academically outstanding Hispanic/Latino high school students honoring about 5,000 of the highest-scoring students each year. In order to be eligible, students must meet these requirements:

- Take the PSAT/NMSQT in October of their junior year in high school
- Be of at least one-quarter Hispanic/Latino descent
- Achieve the minimum required PSAT/NMSQT cutoff score
- Achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher by the middle of junior year

In February-March, The NHRP invites eligible students online. Before the application period closes June 30, students also submit a paper form that verifies their ethnicity designation and GPA. It must be signed by a school official.

The SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test)

The new SAT beginning in March, 2016, has two sections: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and Math. The maximum score for each section is 800 for a total of 1600. Scores for the SAT Essay are reported separately and are not part of the SAT score. On the score report, several different scores are reported including three separate scores for Reading, Writing & Language, and Math, and these each are subscored as well, highlighting proficiency in different areas. There are also scores that measure analytical reasoning skills. Although it seems rather complicated, the new scores are intended to give an enhanced profile of students' skills and understandings.

Test Preparation: You can take test prep courses from Princeton Review or hire a tutor, but these are expensive. There are many free options online at the collegeboard website, though. In any case, knowing the types of questions is helpful. The SAT is considered to be tricky, especially for the harder, later questions in each section, so check out the test taking tips on the website and in this guide.

The SAT Essay: The SAT Essay is a lot like a typical college writing assignment in which you're asked to analyze a text. You will read a passage, explain how the author builds an argument to persuade an audience, and support your explanation with evidence from the passage. You have 50 minutes to complete your essay. Many schools don't require you to write the SAT Essay, but some do, so check with each school you intend to apply to!

Registration: Online at collegeboard.org. Be prepared! You must choose a testing site (North Atlanta High School is one, but spots fill up quickly, so register early) and you must upload a photograph for your admissions ticket.

Registration Fee: \$46 for SAT only or \$60 for SAT with Writing. The fee includes sending score reports to four colleges which must be listed during registration. After your first four reports, you're charged a \$12 fee per each additional score report.

Fee Waivers: Up to two fee waivers are available for students on free and reduced lunch from the College Advisor in the CCC. When registering, indicate that you are paying with a fee waiver and enter the entire 12-digit code from your fee-waiver card. You will also be asked to provide your counselor's name and eligibility criteria (marked on the front of the fee-waiver card.)

Accommodations: College Board approval is required for every student — even those who receive accommodations at school. The College Board’s request process can take up to seven weeks, so start early. Documentation of the student’s disability and need for specific accommodations is always required and must sometimes be submitted for College Board review. Visit www.collegeboard.org/students-with-disabilities for information about the approval process. For more information, contact NAHS’s Testing Coordinator listed on the front inside cover of this book.

Scores: Scores are available online approximately three weeks after the test date. Check website for dates. An email will be sent to advise you when they are ready.

SAT Subject Tests

Some of the most selective colleges require that you take SAT Subject Tests for admission in addition to the SAT. Check each college’s admissions requirements! Take the Subject Tests when the material is fresh in your mind, so take the test as soon after you complete the class as possible. You may take up to three subject tests on the same day, but not on the same day as the SAT.

Subject Tests Offered:

Literature	Biology E/M	Chemistry
Physics	U.S. History	World History
Mathematics (Level 1)	Mathematics (Level 2)	Latin
German with or w/o listening	Spanish with or w/o listening	French with or w/o listening
Italian	Modern Hebrew	Chinese with listening
Japanese with listening	Korean with listening	

Test Preparation: Free online at the college board website or buy a prep book!

Registration: Online at www.collegeboard.org

Registration Fee: \$26 registration Fee + \$21 each subject test (up to 3 only) or + \$26 each Language Test with Listening

Fee Waivers: Up to two fee waivers per student are available.

Accommodations: The same as for the SAT Test. See above!

SAT and SUBJECT TEST DATES (through Summer 2017)

Test Date	Subject Tests Offered?	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline (Mail)	Late Registration Deadline (Online)
May 5 2018	yes	April 6 2018	April 17 2018	April 25
June 2 2018	yes	Feb 10 2018	Feb 21 2018	May 23
Aug 25 2018	yes	July 27 2018	July 27	Aug 10

The ACT: More Details

The ACT has four sections (English, Mathematics, Reading and Science) plus the choice to take the Writing Test. The maximum score for each of the four main sections is 36. Your Composite Score is the average of your four test scores rounded to the nearest whole number. The Writing Test is scored on a scale from 2 to 12. It is reported in a combined English/Writing score on a 1-36 scale (two-thirds English and one-third Writing).

The ACT is more “knowledge based” than the SAT, so there is no benefit to taking this test earlier than the spring of junior year. The more classwork the student has taken, the better!

Test Preparation: Test prep courses are available online or through private tutors. There are free and pay options online at the ACT website, or you can buy a test prep book, such as The Real ACT Prep Guide for around \$22. Google it!

Registration: Online at www.actstudent.org. You must choose a testing site (North Atlanta High School is one, but spots fill up quickly, so register early).

Registration Fee: ACT (no writing) \$38 or ACT with Writing \$54.50. The fee includes sending score reports to four colleges which must be listed during registration.

Fee Waivers: Up to two fee waivers are available for students on free and reduced lunch from Ms. Thomas & Ms. Vilfort

Accommodations: If you are requesting extended time or other accommodations for the first time, sign up online by creating or logging in to your ACT Web account or register by mail in addition to completing the application request and submitting required documentation. At NAHS, Ms. Avis Eichelberger (aeichelberger@atlanta.k12.ga.us) is the coordinator for testing accommodations.

Scores: Most scores are available online within 2 weeks of the test date. The actual reports are released 3 to 8 weeks after the test depending on the writing test scoring. So, what is a good score? See the College Comparison Charts in the appendix for median scores for many schools. Here is a sample:

Middle 50 % of Admitted First-Year Students in 2014

(from <http://collegeapps.about.com/od/theact/f/goodactscore.htm>)

- University of Georgia and Georgia Institute of Technology: 28-32
- Georgia College and State University: 23-27
- The Ivy League Schools: 32-35
- ACT Composite National Average for 2014: 21
- Composite Georgia State Average for 2014: 20.8

ACT TEST DATES (through Summer 2017)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
February 10	Jan. 6	Jan. 7-20
April 14	March 3	March 4-17
June 9	May 5	May 6-19

SAT & ACT Test Taking Tips

Be Equipped

On the night before the test you should gather everything you'll need: the admission ticket, a valid form of photo identification, several #2 pencils, a calculator with fresh batteries, a watch, and a high-energy snack.

Don't Cram

You've worked hard. The best thing to do the evening before the test is to get a good night's sleep. You've covered the content and you've perfected the skills. Now it's time to get in test mode — calm, rested, confident, and ready.

Dress in Layers

The climate in test centers can vary from sauna-like to frigid. Be prepared for both extremes and everything in-between. You need to be comfortable to do your best.

Arrive Early

You may want to scope out your test location before test day to ensure that you know where you're going. Getting to the test should be the least of your concerns.

Don't Spend Too Much Time on One Question

Each question is worth the same number of points. If a question is confusing or too time-consuming, don't lose your cool. Instead, move on to greener pastures. You can come back to hard questions if you have time at the end of a section.

Don't Look for Unscored Questions/Sections

The experimental section on the SAT is well-camouflaged. Sometimes the ACT contains experimental questions that are scattered throughout the sections. Do your best on every question — that way, you're covered. On the SAT if you miss a question it is 1/4 point wrong so try to answer questions you know best first, don't guess.

Keep Track of Where You Are in a Section

On the SAT, obvious answer choices early in a set may be correct. Obvious choices near the end of a set are often booby traps.

Guess Aggressively

If you don't know an answer, don't leave the question blank or guess randomly. Eliminate the choices you know are wrong, then make an educated guess from the remaining options. Only the correct answers count toward their score, so it is better to guess than leave a blank.

Be Careful Filling in the Answer Grid

Make sure you're filling in answers next to the right numbers.

Relax

Your attitude and outlook are crucial to your test-day performance. Be confident!

Read more on FamilyEducation: <http://school.familyeducation.com/college-tests/college-tests/37684.html#ixzz2geRTGj11>

Athletics In College

The advantages of competing in college sports are both immediate and lifelong. Participating in college sports provides opportunities to learn, compete and succeed. Student-athletes receive top-notch academic support, quality medical care and regular access to outstanding coaching, facilities and equipment.

Playing Sports in College: Your Options

- The NCAA, NJCAA, and NAIA offer students the chance to play competitive sports at the varsity level.
- Some varsity athletes are eligible for sports scholarships through their colleges.
- Varsity athletes must meet academic requirements to win and keep sports scholarships.
- Every student has an opportunity to play sports — thanks to clubs and intramural leagues.
- All college athletes need strong time-management skills to balance classes and homework with practices and games.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) www.ncaa.org

The NCAA is the largest and most well-known of the college sports associations. When you watch college sports on TV, you're usually watching NCAA athletes. The NCAA oversees three levels of play:

- Division I is the biggest and most competitive NCAA division. Colleges that compete in Division I must offer scholarships — many of them full — to their student-athletes.
- Division II athletic programs are smaller and less competitive than those in Division I. Most student-athletes don't get full-ride scholarships, but many do get some financial aid for playing.
- Division III programs are the least competitive. Division III colleges do not offer sports-related financial aid. Still, these schools recruit athletes, and being one can help you get into a college that wants you in its program.

College-bound student athletes preparing to enroll in an NCAA Division I or Division II school **must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center (at www.eligibilitycenter.org) the summer after junior year** to ensure they have met amateurism standards and are academically prepared for college coursework. Playing sports at a Division III school does not require registration.

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) www.njcaa.org

Basically, the NJCAA is the NCAA for two-year colleges and have similar divisions and rules. There are strict rules about transferring from a junior college to an NCAA Division I or II school.

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) www.naia.org

The NAIA is “a governing body of small athletics programs that are dedicated to character-driven intercollegiate athletics.” **Registration with the NAIA Eligibility Center (at www.playnaia.org) is required** and gives students the chance to let NAIA coaches know they are interested in playing in college. Their Connections service allows students to check out which schools offer the sport, major and size that fits their interests. Check out their website for more information.

For more information:

Contact our NCAA/NAIA Eligibility Coach (listed on the inside front cover) who is available to walk students through the eligibility process and give advice on playing athletics in college.

Financing Your Education

FINANCIAL AID ~ Basic Terms

Tuition: How much your college classes cost.

Room and Board: How much your college dorm room and meals cost.

Fees, Books, and Transportation: Additional costs of attending college not included in tuition and room and board.

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The form filed with the federal government detailing your parents' income, used to determine your eligibility for financial aid. File starting in October of your senior year and every year in college. The application is available at fafsa.ed.gov.

CSS Financial Aid Profile: College Scholarship Service Profile. A financial reporting form required by some colleges in addition to the FAFSA. Each CSS Profile costs a fee, which varies from year to year. Yale, Harvard, Columbia, and most other prestigious schools require the CSS Profile (see <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf.index.jsp> for a complete list). The application is available at <https://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>.

EFC: Expected Family Contribution. Determined and reported to the student by FAFSA. The total amount the federal government expects you and your family to pay towards your college expenses each year.

SAR: Student Aid Report. Created by FAFSA for the student. Summarizes the data from your FAFSA and indicates your EFC. This is what FAFSA sends to colleges to determine your financial aid package.

Financial Aid Package: Created by individual colleges for the student. A combination of scholarships, loans and work-study that the specific college is able to offer to help students attend. Loans must be paid back.

Work-study: Student employment on campus, eligibility for which is determined by the college based on the student's FAFSA.

Pell Grant: Need-based grants of up to \$5,290 a year given to low-income students by the federal government based on their FAFSA. Does not need to be repaid.

Merit Scholarships: Financial assistance that is based on the expectation of the student's distinction in academics, sports, or other areas. Does not need to be repaid.

Need-based Scholarships: Also called financial aid. Financial assistance that is based on need. Does not need to be repaid.

Government Loans or Private Loans: Money for college that must be repaid.

Fee Waiver: Permits students on free or reduced lunch to submit a limited number of college applications and test registration forms without a fee. (see your college advisers)

nextgenvest.com

FAFSA

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the primary means through which need-based financial aid is determined. Your FAFSA will be evaluated using a standard formula that takes into account your family's financial income, assets and special circumstances.

The FAFSA uses the student and parent's tax information from two years prior based on 2018 freshman start (so the Class of 2019 will use tax forms from 2017). You cannot file the FAFSA until October of your senior year. The application must be submitted online at:

fafsa.ed.gov

Both student and parents will need to request an FSA ID for the FAFSA at www.fsaaid.ed.gov.

IMPORTANT NOTE! Any website that has the word FAFSA and ends in “.com” is a fee-based service that claims to help you complete the FAFSA. Don't use them! You don't need them!

When you file the FAFSA online, your EFC is calculated immediately. If you are curious about your level of possible need, you can use a need-estimator at www.finaid.org. In case of divorce, the FAFSA uses the financial status of the primary custodial parent (the parent with whom the child lives most of the time).

In addition to the FAFSA, some colleges use their own financial aid applications, or the one created by the College Board called the CSS Profile. These schools are listed at <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf.index.jsp>. The CSS Profile application can be found at <https://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>.

FAFSA Timeline

1. Parents of juniors should estimate their FAFSA information just to see where they stand. An excellent website with several kinds of calculators is www.finaid.org/calculators/.
2. After the beginning of October of senior year: Parents and students complete the FAFSA and submit it electronically using tax return information for tax year two years prior at fafsa.gov.
3. December 1: Your deadline to submit the FAFSA for best chances at financial aid!
4. The federal government determines your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which is the dollar amount your family is expected to be able to pay towards college expenses.
5. The FAFSA electronically sends your EFC to each of the colleges and universities that you list. Based on the EFC, each college decides how much aid they can offer.
6. Colleges will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) detailing the types and amount of aid for which you are eligible. You can accept or refuse any part of the Financial Aid Package. (Just because a college offers you a loan does not mean you have to accept it, however, You **MUST** give a response to the college!)

Money for College Comes from Five Sources:

~Student & parent contributions

~Work Study

~Grants & scholarships based on need

~Private scholarships

~Grants & scholarships based on merit

1. Student and Parent Contributions (savings and loans). Family contributions come in the form of parent & student savings and parent & student loans, either government or private. It is usually best to have college savings in the parents' name rather than the student's name because a smaller percentage of parental income/assets is expected to be used for college than student income and savings.

SAVINGS PLAN: The State of Georgia 529 Plan - Path2College.com

The Path2College 529 Plan is a college savings plan offered by the State of Georgia and managed by TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc. It provides the opportunity to save for a child's education with tax-deferred savings. **529 plan savings are not considered assets for the FAFSA if in the student's name.** Some of the benefits are:

1. It's easy to open an account with the Path2College 529 Plan. You have many ways to contribute and convenient ways to enroll.
2. All Georgia taxpayers may now contribute and deduct up to \$2,000 each year on behalf of any beneficiary regardless of their annual income.
3. Parents, grandparents, relatives and friends who are U.S. citizens or resident aliens and at least 18 years of age may open an account and contribute to the Path2College 529 Plan on behalf of a beneficiary.
4. Whether your beneficiary decides to go to a private or public college or university, in-state or out-of-state, trade or graduate school, funds in the account may be used at any eligible higher educational institution in the nation and many abroad.
5. Funds can be used for tuition, mandatory fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for enrollment or attendance; certain room and board costs, certain expenses for "special needs" students.

GOVERNMENT LOANS

Direct Loan Program: Students borrow directly from the US Dept. of Education. Repayment begins six months after a student graduates, drops out or drops below half-time status. Most allow you to choose a repayment plan. Complete the FAFSA to apply.

~**Federal Stafford Loan** (the most common student loan):

Subsidized

- Based on need, as determined by federal regulations.
- Government pays the borrower's interest while the student is in school at least half-time, during the grace period, and during deferment periods.
- Interest rate is fixed over the life of the loan, set annually.

Unsubsidized

- Not based on financial need

- Interest is charged during all periods, even during the time a student is in school and during grace and deferment periods.
- Amount ranges from \$5,500 to \$12,000 per year

~PLUS

- Unsubsidized loans for the parents of dependent students.
- Fixed rate 7% plus 4.204% origination fee
- Maximum loan amount is the student's cost of attendance (determined by the school) minus any other financial aid received.
- Interest is charged during all periods.

~Consolidation Eligible federal student loans combined into one Direct Consolidation Loan

Federal Perkins Loan Program

- Based on need
- Repaid directly to the school that made the loan
- 1,700 participating postsecondary institutions
- Fixed interest rate of 5%
- Amount: up to \$5,500 per year with cap at \$27,500
- Contact participating school for application requirements, usually through FAFSA

PRIVATE LOANS

Offered directly from a bank or other non-government lending institution.

Student is responsible for the interest throughout the life of the loan.

Interest rate can change (decrease or increase) over the life of the loan.

Not offered as part of a financial aid package from a college.

Avoid these if at all possible!

2. Grants and scholarships based on financial need. Grants are free aid that does not have to be repaid. Complete the FAFSA to apply for these grants.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Pell Grant

- Based on need
- Federally sponsored program
- Cannot exceed \$5,500 per year (2011)
- The amount depends on your financial need

FSEOG: Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant

- Pell recipients take priority
- Funds depend on availability at school
- Ranges from \$100-\$4000
- 3,800 participating postsecondary institutions

3. Grants and scholarships based on merit (academic, athletic, musical, artistic, community service, etc.)

These are given directly by the college or university, who will usually automatically consider a student when the student applies for admissions. Academic scholarships are based on grades, SAT and ACT scores, and the number & caliber of academic courses the student took in high

school. Other merit scholarships are based on excellence in the chosen field. Consult each college for these types of scholarships.

Nextgenvest.com Money mentor that will help students search for scholarships and analyze financial award letters.

4. Work Study

Colleges allow student to work on campus to “earn” money for college. Some programs are partially subsidized by the federal government, granted through the FAFSA. Un-subsidized on-campus jobs require an application available from the college. Work study jobs are a great choice because they allow a student to organize his/her schedule around exams or classes and often they allow students to work in a particular department of interest.

5. Private Scholarships

These come from community, religious, professional and ethnic groups, corporations, private businesses and organizations. Here are some ways to find scholarships that match your profile:

- Search for local or interest-specific scholarships in several large binders of scholarships in the College and Career Center. Scholarships for just about everything are available in these binders. All require applications and some require essays.
- Each week, the Warrior Weekly publishes one scholarship that could match your profile. Check it each week.
- School clubs can also be a source for scholarships. Ask your sponsor if they know of any!
- Ask your parents about scholarships that might be associated with their employment or your own employer about scholarships your work experience might provide. Many employers have educational support programs that can bring you money.
- You can also search online, but do not pay for a scholarship search! Often, these are scams! And beware of the obvious ones (like scholarships.com). They have lots of pop-up ads. For reputable online sites, typically you fill out your profile information, and then the site searches its database for scholarships that match you. This is not a perfect system, but it is a good way to learn about possible sources of funding. Set up an email account to use only for scholarship searching. Here are a few reputable search sites:

finaid.org
wiredscholar.com
studentscholarshipsearch.com
meritaid.com: For merit scholarships
scholarshippoints.com
collegeboard.org

gacollege411.org
latinocollegedollars.org
princetonreview.com
zinch.com
cappex.com
scholarships.com
Scholarship Phone App – *Scholly*

The HOPE Scholarship and Grant Program

HOPE - Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally - is Georgia's unique scholarship and grant program that rewards students with financial assistance in degree, diploma, and certificate programs at eligible public and private colleges and universities and public technical colleges in Georgia.

Detailed information is available at GAFutures.org.

The HOPE Scholarship: for students that have demonstrated academic achievement and are seeking a college degree. Students may become eligible either by graduating from high school as a HOPE Scholar (earning a 3.0 using the HOPE grade point average calculation) or by earning it while in college. For the Class of 2017, a student must earn a minimum of four full credits from AP, IB or advanced math, science, english or foreign language to be eligible.

The Zell Miller Scholarship: Basically, the HOPE Scholarship with a minimum 3.70 GPA and a minimum score of 1200 on the SAT (critical reading and math only) and/or 26 on the ACT.

The HOPE Grant: for students seeking a technical certificate or diploma, regardless of the student's high school grade point average or graduation date.

The Zell Miller Grant: Basically, the Hope Grant but a student must earn and maintain a minimum 3.5 cumulative postsecondary GPA.

Award Amounts

HOPE pays a certain amount for tuition depending on the type of school the student is attending, the number of credit hours the student is enrolled, and the specific tuition rate for the college. The best way to find details is to visit the GAFutures.org website, as this changes yearly.

General Eligibility Requirements for Freshmen (in addition to academic requirements)

- Meet HOPE's U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements.
- Meet HOPE's Georgia residency requirements.
- Be in compliance with Selective Service registration requirements.
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the college.
- Not be in default or owe a refund on a student financial aid program.
- Be in compliance with the Georgia Drug-Free Post-secondary Education Act of 1990.

Applying for HOPE

Students have two options when applying for the HOPE Scholarship:

1. File the FAFSA at fafsa.ed.gov (you can access the FAFSA from your GAFutures account also).
2. Go to your GAFutures account and fill out the GSFAPPS (click on GSFAPPS in the right side bar of the home page).

Application Deadline

While you have until the last day of classes or exams, whichever occurs later, to submit your application in order to receive HOPE funds for that semester or quarter, we highly recommend submitting it as early as possible. The earlier you apply, the earlier the funds are disbursed to your school. There may be additional college-specific application and deadline requirements, so check each college's website, too.

HOPE Eligible Schools

Public Colleges

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Albany State University
Armstrong Atlantic State University
Atlanta Metropolitan State College
Bainbridge College
Clayton State University
College of Coastal Georgia
Columbus State University
Dalton State College
Darton 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 Perimeter College
Georgia Regents University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia Southwestern State University
Georgia State University
Gordon State College
Kennesaw State University
Middle Georgia State College
Savannah State University
South Georgia State College
Southern Polytechnic State University
University of Georgia
University of North Georgia
University of West Georgia
Valdosta State University

Private Colleges

Agnes Scott College
American InterContinental Univ.
Andrew College
Argosy University
Art Institute of Atlanta
Bauder College
Berry College
Brenau University
Brewton-Parker College
Clark Atlanta University
Covenant College
DeVry University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical Univ.

Emmanuel College
Emory University
Georgia Military College
Herzing University
LaGrange College
Life University
Mercer University
Morehouse College
Oglethorpe University
Oxford College of Emory Univ.
Paine College
Piedmont College

Point University
Reinhardt University
Saint Leo University
Savannah College of Art & Design
Shorter University
South University
Spelman University
Thomas University
Toccoa Falls College
Truett-McConnell College
Wesleyan College
Young Harris College

Technical Colleges

Albany Technical College
Altamaha Technical College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Lanier Technical College
Moultrie Technical College

North Georgia Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Okefenokee Technical College
Savannah Technical College
South Georgia Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southwest Georgia Technical College
West Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

The POSSE Scholarship

www.possefoundation.org

The Posse Foundation identifies public high school students with extraordinary academic and leadership potential who may be overlooked by traditional college selection processes. The Foundation extends to these students the opportunity to pursue personal and academic excellence by placing them in supportive, multicultural teams—Posses—of 10 students, who attend college together. The Foundation's partner colleges award Posse Scholars four-year, full-tuition leadership scholarships.

Partner Colleges for Posse Atlanta

Bard College
Boston University
Brandeis University
The College of Wooster
George Washington University in DC
Texas A&M University
Syracuse University

The Selection Process at North Atlanta

In the spring, juniors are invited to attend a Posse interest meeting during school lead by a Posse Foundation representative and the junior counselor. Those students interested in pursuing the Posse Scholarship will submit an application to the counselor, who will, with input from teachers, select 15 students to represent NAHS in the first round of interviews which take place in August of senior year. Around 60% of these students will move forward to the second round, which entails a one-on-one interview and the selection of two schools the student is most interested in attending. The third round is divided by students interested in a particular school. From these candidates, 10 Posse Scholars are selected to form each partner college's Posse. Selections are announced in mid-December of senior year. NOTE: If you are not nominated by NAHS, check the Posse website for other ways to be nominated.

Posse seeks students who are:

Leaders in their high schools and communities
Committed to their education and demonstrate academic potential
Interested in teamwork and diversity
Positive, motivated, talented, ambitious young people

Important Facts:

- Selection as a Posse Scholar is binding after the third interview!
- The partner college covers tuition only, not room & board or other expenses.
- After becoming a Posse Scholar, there is a time commitment during Spring semester! From January to August, Posse Scholars meet weekly with staff trainers and their Posse peers for two-hour workshops. The training program consists of workshops that address four areas:

Team building and group support
Cross-cultural communication
Leadership and becoming an active agent of change on campus
Academic excellence

- Your Posse and mentoring staff will continue to meet throughout your time in college. Contact your counselor or college advisor for more information or to apply.

The Academic Common Market

The Academic Common Market (administered by the Southern Regional Education Board) runs the most extensive program available to Georgia high school graduates for reciprocal programs. For full details go to: http://www.sreb.org/page/1304/academic_common_market.html

- The State of Georgia has reciprocal programs with these institutions:

Alabama A & M University	Mississippi Univ. for Women	Univ. of Louisiana: Lafayette
Alabama State University	Murray State University	Univ. of Louisiana: Monroe
Auburn University	Nicholls State University	University of Louisville
Austin Peay State Univ.	Norfolk State University	University of Memphis
Clemson University	Oklahoma State University	University of Mississippi
Coastal Carolina University	Radford University	University of New Orleans
Delta State University	South Carolina State University	University of Oklahoma
East Tennessee State Univ.	Tennessee State University	University of South Alabama
Eastern Kentucky Univ.	Tennessee Tech University	University of South Carolina
Jackson State University	University of Alabama	Univ. of Southern Mississippi
Louisiana State University	Univ. of Alabama: Birmingham	Univ. of Tennessee: Knoxville
Medical Univ. of South Carolina	Univ. of Alabama: Huntsville	West Virginia University
Middle Tennessee State Univ.	University of Central Oklahoma	Western Kentucky University
Mississippi State University	University of Kentucky	Winthrop University

- There are currently 157 undergraduate programs offered. Search online or get a complete list in the CCC for which programs are offered at particular colleges. Degree programs include:

Bachelor of Arts	Bachelor of Science
Bachelor of Biosystems Engineering	Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Bachelor of Commercial Aviation	Bachelor of Science in Atmospheric Sciences
Bachelor of Fine Arts	Bachelor of Science in Education
Bachelor of Health Science	Bachelor of Science in Metallurgical Engineering
Bachelor of Interior Architecture	Bachelor of Science in Mining Engineering
Bachelor of Music	Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering

Be careful! Some universities have very strict rules on residency, so know the exact protocol for each college – for example switching majors can automatically cause you to lose in-state privileges in universities which participate in the common market.

Awards Based on Parents' Service, Alumni Status, and Merit

- o Military and other service exceptions. At some schools, out-of-state fees are reduced or waived if your parents are in the military or serve as policemen, firemen, or teachers.
- o Alumni. Some schools waive non-resident fees for children of alumni.
- o Strong Academic Credentials. Some colleges offer in-state tuition and additional scholarships for students that meet certain SAT or ACT scores. Examples: University of South Carolina, University of Missouri. Always ask!

Excerpt from Facebook Post : Leah Jackman-Wheatner. September 8, 2015, Columbus, IN

Here's my best list of what to do to succeed in college:

1. Go to class. Regardless of whether the prof says you have to be there every day, just go. You will learn so much more by being in the actual classroom. It's a good habit. It's a good mindset to have for all classes.

2. First day of every class, get two people's phone numbers. You will have questions over something at some point in the class. Get contact info for two people so you can compare your memory of what was said.

3. Take notes in class by hand. Yes, I know the excuses - I'll just type them then I'll be able to read them better. I learn better when I just listen. I'm telling you - write notes, by hand, during class, with your phone in your pocket on silent. That's how our brains encode information most effectively. There's research about it.

4. Now - if you really want to get good grades, rewrite your notes. Yes. I know you're busy. But you have to decide if you want to be successful or not. After class or the next day, rewrite your notes. You can outline the info, highlight, note what page number the topic is covered on, make a list of questions.

5. Next thing - this is huge. Actually, even if you ignore all my other advice and only do this, you'd probably be ok. College is your job. Your job is to be a student. It is a full-time job. So, do it 40 hr/wk. If you're in class for 15 hr of class time, then you study for 25 hrs a week. If you want to have every weekend and evening free, spend 8 am - 5 pm every day studying. If you have 3 hours between classes, find a quiet place, sit, review your notes, rewrite your notes, study, read the reading for the next class session while the topic is fresh in your mind. If you start your college career doing this, you'll get a good habit going and you'll be better able to gauge the amount of time you need to study in the future.

6. Go see each professor during office hours. Get to know them as individuals. Professors want to know you care about their class. Just say, "Hi, I'm in your Chem 100, and I wanted to introduce myself." If they know you are making an effort to connect with them, then they'll start looking at you during lecture and trying to see if you get it or not. If you get that scrunched-up, confused look on your face, they'll notice. They'll either explain again right then or they'll know that you're going to come talk to them after class.

7. Do the reading before the class. I know you can usually get away without doing this. But profs don't want to just teach the material in the reading. They want to have interesting discussions about the material. Remember, they have made an entire career out of imparting knowledge, helping people learn to think, and creating knowledge in their field through research. They love when students participate and want to learn. You may not care about that particular class, but if you show some interest, it becomes much more interesting. If you do the reading in advance and ask meaningful, relevant questions, your professors will appreciate you and will go out of their way to make sure you're understanding the course.

Glossary

Common Application: A standardized, online college application form that is accepted by over 400 colleges and universities. Some require a supplement to the standard form.

College: Generally, any institution for the education of undergraduate students.

Community/Technical Colleges: Primarily two-year schools that offer an Associate Degree. After getting an associate degree, some students continue to complete a bachelor's degree at a 4-year school by studying for 2-3 additional years. Some are private, and some are public.

CSS Financial Aid Profile: College Scholarship Service Profile. A financial reporting form required by some colleges in addition to the FAFSA. Each CSS Profile costs a fee, which varies from year to year. Yale, Harvard, Columbia, and most other prestigious schools require the CSS Profile (see <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf.index.jsp> for a complete list). The application is available at <https://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>.

Early Decision: Binding. A good plan for students who know exactly which college they want to attend and think they will be accepted. This option allows students to apply early in their senior year, but the student must agree to attend if accepted.

Early Action: Not binding. An option that allows students to apply early in their senior year to their top college choices without the commitment to attend if accepted.

EFC: Expected Family Contribution. Determined and reported to the student by FAFSA. The total amount the federal government expects you and your family to pay towards your college expenses each year.

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The form filed with the federal government detailing your parents' income, used to determine your eligibility for financial aid. File in January or February of your senior year and every year in college. The application is available at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Fees, Books, and Transportation: Additional costs of attending college not included in tuition and room and board.

Fee Waiver: Permits students on free or reduced lunch to submit college applications and test registration forms without a fee. (see your counselor)

Financial Aid Package: Created by individual colleges for the student. A combination of scholarships, loans and work-study that the specific college is able to offer to help students attend.

For-Profit Colleges: Run as businesses, their main goal is to make money for the owners. They usually have much lower graduation rates than public and private colleges.

Graduate Student: A student who has earned an undergraduate degree and is pursuing a Master's Degree or other post-secondary education.

Liberal Arts College: An institution specializing in the higher education of undergraduates using a traditional core curriculum of literature, language, history, philosophy, math, psychology, and science.

Loans (Government or Private): Money for college that must be repaid.

Merit Scholarships: Financial assistance that is based on the expectation of the student's distinction in academics, sports, or other areas. Does not need to be repaid.

NAIA: National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. Athletic governing body for over 500 small four-year schools.

NCAA: National Collegiate Athletic Association. Athletic governing body for over 800 colleges that belong in Divisions 1, 2 or 3.

Need-based Scholarships: Also called financial aid. Financial assistance that is based on need. Does not need to be repaid.

Pell Grant: Need-based grants of up to \$5,500 a year given to low-income students by the federal government based on their FAFSA. Does not need to be repaid.

Private Colleges: Run by non-profit organizations, not the government. Usually much more expensive than attending a state school in the state where you live.

Public Colleges: Also called state schools, mainly funded by the state government. Two different tuition prices – a lower price for in-state students and a higher price for out-of-state students.

Reach School: A college that you have a chance of getting into, but your test scores and grades are below the average on the school's profile.

Rolling Admissions: Some schools consider your application as soon as they have all the necessary documents and will let you know if you have been accepted right away.

Room and Board: How much your college dorm room and meals cost.

SAR: Student Aid Report. Created by FAFSA for the student. Summarizes the data from your FAFSA and indicates your EFC. This is what FAFSA sends to colleges to determine your financial aid package.

Safety School: A school you will almost certainly be admitted to because your scores are above the average in the school's profile.

Secondary School Profile: A form created by each high school that provides information to colleges about the student body and opportunities offered at that specific high school.

Target School: A college where you fit the profile of the middle 50% of students.

Tuition: How much your college classes cost.

Undergraduates: College students as opposed to high school students or graduate students who have already graduated from college and are working toward a further degree.

University: An institution of higher education and research that provides both undergraduate and graduate education. A collection of colleges. They award a bachelor's degree for completing 4 years of prescribed course work.

Work-study: Student employment on campus, eligibility for which is determined by the college based on the student's FAFSA.

College Comparison Worksheet

	1	2	3	4
School and Location				
Public or Private				
Size (student enrollment)				
City/State (distance from home)				
Urban or Rural				
Academics				
Majors				
Study Abroad				
Student to faculty ratio %				
% Classes under 20 students				
% Classes with 50+ students				
% Graduation				
Campus Life				
Athletic Teams				
Frats/Sororities				
Clubs				
Dorms				
Cars on campus				
Cost				
Tuition and Fees				
Room/Board				
Scholastic Strength				
Average High School GPA				
Average SAT Math				
Average SAT Reasoning				
Average ACT				
Honors Program?				

Public Colleges in Georgia

Schools – listed by size	SAT- mid 50% range	ACT- mid 50% range	Avg HS GPA	Admissions Selectivenss	Undergrad Enrollment	**Tuition & Fees/YR	**Apps Due
University of Georgia Athens, GA	1150-1330	26-30	3.82	more	26200	\$10,800	1 Jan
Georgia State University Atlanta, GA	960-1170	20-24	3.36	selective	24800	\$10,200	01 Mar
Kennesaw State University Kennesaw, GA	990-1170	21-24	3.21	selective	24200	\$6,900	08 May
Georgia Southern University Statesboro, GA	1040-1180	21-25	3.24	selective	17900	\$9,100	01 May
Georgia Institute of Technology Atlanta, GA	1290-1480	29-33	3.95	most	14600	\$11,400	10 Jan
Georgia Gwinnett College Lawrenceville, GA	820-1055	17-21	2.72	less	9800	\$5,300	01 June
Valdosta State University Valdosta, GA	950-1120	20-24	3.15	selective	9700	\$7,200	15 June
Columbus State University Columbus, GA	880-1100	17-23	3.15	selective	7000	\$6,900	30 June
Clayton State University Morrow, GA	860-1030	18-21	3.09	selective	6900	\$6,200	rolling
Georgia College & State University Milledgeville, GA	1050-1230	22-26	3.40	selective	6600	\$9,000	01 Apr
Armstrong Atlantic State University Savannah, GA	920-1090	19-23	3.24	selective	6400	\$5,300	15 July
Georgia Regents University Augusta, GA	1024 Avg	not avail	not avail	not avail	6200	\$9,900	01 June
Dalton State College Dalton, GA	953 Avg	18-23	2.98	not avail	5050	\$4,000	01 July
University of West Georgia Carrollton, GA	870-1030	18-22	3.11	less	5000	\$7,000	01 June
University of North Georgia Dahlonega, GA	1110-1190	18-24	3.20	more	4800	\$6,900	15 Feb
Albany State University (<i>hist. Black</i>) Albany, GA	820-950	16-19	2.94	less	4200	\$6,100	01 June
Savannah State University (<i>hist. Black</i>) Savannah, GA	770-910	16-19	2.81	less	3900	\$6,500	15 July
Middle Georgia State College Cochran, GA	780-1030	not avail	2.68	not avail	3600	\$4,100	rolling
College of Coastal Georgia Brunswick, GA	953 Avg	not avail	2.30	not avail	3000	\$4,400	rolling
Fort Valley State University (<i>hist. Black</i>) Fort Valley, GA	750-910	16-19	2.71	less	2900	\$6,400	19 July
Georgia Southwestern State University Americus, GA	860-1050	18-22	3.17	selective	2800	\$6,100	21 July
South Georgia State College Douglas, GA	not Avail	not avail	not avail	not avail	2600	\$3,700	25 July
Southern Polytechnic State University Marietta, GA (Merging w/Kennesaw)							
Georgia Perimeter College (2 YR) Decatur, GA	765-1000	15-20	2.65	least	21100	\$3,700	01 July
Darton College (2 YR) Albany, GA	909 Avg	18 Avg	2.70	least	6200	\$3,800	rolling
Georgia Highlands College (2 YR) Rome, GA	900 Avg	18 Avg	2.81	less	5500	\$3,600	rolling
Gordon State College (2YR) Barnesville, GA	740-1020	17 Avg	2.74	selective	4200	\$4,100	rolling
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (2 YR) Tifton, GA	1000 Avg	not avail	2.87	less	3800	\$4,000	01 Aug
Atlanta Metropolitan State College (2YR) Atlanta, GA	670 Avg	15 Avg	2.40	least	2900	\$3,600	15 July
East Georgia State College (2YR) Swainsboro, GA	not Avail	not avail	not avail	less	2900	\$3,500	rolling
Bainbridge College (2 YR) Bainbridge, GA	800 Avg	not avail	2.00	least	2500	\$3,700	10 Aug

** contact specific institutions to confirm deadlines and tuition information

Private Colleges in Georgia

Schools – listed by size	SAT – mid 50% range	ACT – mid 50% range	Avg HS GPA	Admissions Selectiveness	Undergrad Enrollment	**Tuition & Fees/YR	**Apps Due
SCAD (<i>Savannah College of Art and Design</i>) Atlanta and Savannah, GA	940-1180	21-27	3.42	n/a	9300	\$33,800	rolling
Emory University Atlanta, GA	1260-1470	29-32	3.75	most	7800	\$45,000	15 Jan
Brenau University (<i>women</i>) Gainesville, GA	890-1010	19-21	not avail	less	2900	\$24,800	rolling
Clark Atlanta University Atlanta, GA	770-940	17-21	3.00	less	2600	\$21,300	01 June
Mercer University Macon, GA	1080-1270	23-29	3.71	more	2500	\$33,800	01 Apr
Morehouse College (<i>hist. Black, men</i>) Atlanta, GA	1000-1110	18-24	3.24	selective	2200	\$25,500	01ar
Spelman College (<i>hist. Black, women</i>) Atlanta, GA	850-1215	18-21	3.55	selective	2200	\$25,500	01 Feb
Berry College Mount Berry, GA	1060-1270	24-29	3.73	more	2200	\$30,500	rolling
Shorter University Rome, GA	850-1100	18-24	3.32	n/a	1600	\$20,300	rolling
Truett-McConnell College Cleveland, GA	840-1050	17-22	3.24	less	1600	\$17,200	01 Aug
Point University West Point, GA	840-1040	20-25	3.27	selective	1400	\$17,700	rolling
Piedmont College Demorest, GA	920-1150	20-25	3.04	selective	1300	\$21,400	rolling
Covenant College Lookout Mountain, GA	1060-1280	23-29	3.50	more	1100	\$30,200	rolling
Young Harris College Young Harris, GA	910-1100	18-23	3.20	n/a	1100	\$26,400	rolling
Oglethorpe University Atlanta, GA	1050-1240	20-27	3.70	selective	1100	\$32,000	rolling
Reinhardt University Waleska, GA	860-1120	17-22	3.61	less	1000	\$19,200	rolling
Oxford College of Emory Univ (<i>2 year</i>) Oxford, GA	1820-2050	28 Avg	3.59	most	900	\$52,700	15 Jan
Agnes Scott College Decatur, GA	1110-1310	22-28	3.60	more	900	\$36,000	01 Mar
Thomas University Thomasville, GA	810-1060	17 Avg	not avail	less	900	\$15,800	rolling
LaGrange College LaGrange, GA	910-1090	19-23	3.34	selective	900	\$26,600	rolling
Paine College (<i>hist. Black</i>) Augusta, GA	720-840	14-18	2.95	less	900	\$12,800	15 July
Emmanuel College Franklin Springs, GA	830-1030	not avail	3.22	less	800	\$18,000	01 Aug
Toccoa Falls College Toccoa Falls, GA	880-1130	18-24	3.37	selective	800	\$19,700	rolling
Wesleyan College Macon, GA	880-1130	17-22	3.49	selective	600	\$20,000	15 Feb
Brewton Parker College Mount Vernon, GA	790-1010	15-21	3.04	n/a	600	\$14,200	rolling

** contact specific institutions to confirm deadlines and tuition information

Sources: collegedata.org, collegeboard.org, 2015 January US News and World Report

Popular Colleges in the Southeast

State	SAT – mid 50% range	ACT – mid 50% range	Avg HS GPA	Admissions Selectiveness	Undergrad Enrollment	**Tuition & Fees/YR	**Apps Due
TENNESSEE							
University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN	1050-1290	24-29	3.89	more	19800	\$29,700	01 Dec
Lee University (<i>pvt</i>) Cleveland, TN	950-1180	21-27	3.53	selective	3800	\$14,300	Rolling
Vanderbilt University (<i>pvt</i>) Nashville, TN	1400-1560	32-34	3.75	most	6800	\$43,900	01 Jan
Tennessee State University Nashville, TN	840-1000	16-20	2.84	less	5400	\$20,200	01 July
NORTH CAROLINA							
North Carolina State University Raleigh, NC	1150-1320	26-30	4.37	more	21500	\$23,600	15 Jan
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, NC	1200-1410	26-31	4.53	most	17600	\$33,600	10 Jan
Appalachian State University Boone, NC	1050-1220	24-28	3.99	selective	15100	\$19,700	15 Mar
NC A&T State University (<i>hist. Black</i>) Greensboro, NC	830-990	16-20	3.13	less	8100	\$16,500	Rolling
Western Carolina University Cullowhee, NC	940-1120	20-24	3.63	selective	7100	\$16,900	01 Mar
SOUTH CAROLINA							
University of South Carolina Columbia, SC	1110-1300	24-29	4.00	more	23400	\$29,400	01 Dec
Clemson University Clemson, SC	1150-1340	26-31	4.23	more	16600	\$30,800	01 May
College of Charleston Charleston, SC	1070-1250	23-27	3.90	selective	10500	\$28,000	01 Apr
Furman University (<i>pvt</i>) Greenville, SC	1130-1340	25-29	not avail	more	2800	\$44,700	15 Jan
Presbyterian College (<i>pvt</i>) Clinton, SC	1000-1210	22-28	3.47	selective	1200	\$33,700	30 June
FLORIDA							
Florida State University Tallahassee, FL	1110-1280	25-29	3.85	more	29000	\$21,700	15 Jan
University of N. Florida Jacksonville, FL	1080-1230	23-26	3.73	more	10100	\$20,100	Rolling
Florida A&M University (<i>hist. Black</i>) Tallahassee, FL	850-1030	18-22	3.20	selective	8000	\$17,700	15 May
ALABAMA							
Samford University (<i>pvt</i>) Birmingham, AL	1010-1240	23-28	3.67	more	2900	\$27,300	01 July
Auburn University Auburn, AL	1060-1270	24-30	3.78	more	18000	\$27,400	01 June
University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, AL	990-1260	22-30	3.57	more	26500	\$25,000	Rolling
Tuskegee University (<i>pvt. Hist. Black</i>) Tuskegee, AL	790-1000	17-22	3.10	selective	2500	\$20,000	15 Mar
OTHER STATES							
Howard University (<i>pvt Hist. Black</i>) Washington, DC	980-1190	19-29	3.20	selective	7000	\$22,700	15 Feb
University of Mississippi Oxford, MS	960-1200	21-27	not avail	more	16000	\$17,700	Rolling
Brigham Young University (<i>pvt</i>) Provo, UT	1170-1380	26-31	3.79	more	31000	\$4,800	01 Feb
Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA	1020-1250	23-28	3.40	more	24600	\$25,800	15 Apr

** contact specific institutions to confirm deadlines and tuition information

Sources: collegedata.com, Georgia State Post Secondary Enrollment Study 2012/National Student Clearing House Data 2008, 2015 January US News & World Report

Sample Resume

Jane/John Doe

Address

Atlanta, Georgia 30342

404-555-1234

jstudent@bellsouth.net

Academics

International Baccalareate Diploma Programme Candidate

GPA - Unweighted: 3.37 Weighted: 3.56

Honors and Awards

National Merit Semi-Finalist (11)

Lamp of Learning Academic Achievement Award (9, 10, 11)

Missouri All State Choir (10, 11)

High School Activities - The Best High School

Pioneer Yearbook Staff (10, 11, 12)

-Editor in Chief (12)

TBHS Swim Team (10, 11, 12)

-Varsity Letter (11, 12)

-Varsity Team Captain (12)

TBHS Choir (9, 10, 11, 12)

Spanish Club (9, 10, 11)

-Vice President (11)

Community Activities

Meals on Wheels Volunteer (Summers, 2009-Present)

-Deliver 3-5 meals to senior citizens every Saturday throughout the year.

Church Youth Group (9, 10, 11, 12)

-Coordinated over 100 youth members for a 2-week mission trip.

Work Experience

Kirkwood YMCA Summer Gymnastics Camp Instructor (2009-Present)

-20 hours per week during the school year and 45 hours per week in the summer.

Kirkwood Library (2007-2008)

-Approximately 10 hours per week during the school year.

Interests

Diving - Greenbriar Pool Dive Team (6 years)

Dancing - Ballet, tap, jazz (10 years)

Websites

North Atlanta College & Career Center (CCC)

www.nahscollege.org/ ~ CCC Calendar, the latest news, helpful documents, scholarships, college fair, appointments and more.

Testing Sites

SAT collegeboard.org

ACT act.org

ACT/SAT Test Prep free number2.com, free.testprep.com, kaptest.com, prepfactory.com,
sparknotes.com/testprep, sat.collegeboard.org,
actstudent.org/testprep, limited supply of study books in CCC

General College Information

College Rankings ~ usnews.com/best-colleges, collegeexpress.com, niche.com

What the College Rankings Won't Tell You ~ whatwilltheylearn.com

College Confidential: the world's largest college forum ~ [collegeconfidential](http://collegeconfidential.com)

College Parents of America: assists in successful college transition process ~ collegeparents.org

College Search Sites - finding the right college for you

Cappex.com

Chegg.com

Fastweb.com

Niche.com

Collegeconfidential.com

Petersons.com

College board's big future: bigfuture.collegeboard.org

College Insight: college-insight.org

Unigo.com

College Navigator: nces.ed.gov

Collegedata.com

mykidscollegechoice.com

collegemoneysearch.com

collegesolution14.leadpagee.co

Interest, Talent, and Personality Inventories]

<http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/> ~ Go to "Make a Plan" and then "Select your grade"

<http://gafutures.org/> ~ Go to "Exploartion" and then "Learn About Yourself" and "Career Planning"

<http://www.mynextmove.org>

YouScience.com

asvabprogram.com

Information for Students with Learning Disabilities

ldaamerica.org ~ The Learning Disabilities Association

www.ncld.org ~The National Center for Learning Disabilities

First Generation

firstgenerationstudents.com

firstinthefamily.org/

thechoice.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/02/11/tips-for-first-generation-college-applicants/?_r=0

imfirst.org/colleges/

Undocumented Students

bestcolleges.com/resources/undocumented-students-guide/

bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/for-undocumented_students/

Applications

Common Application: commonapp.org

Common Historically Black College Application: commonblackcollegeapp.com

(apply to 35 HBCUs at once)

Universal College Application: universalcollegeapp.com/

Coalition Application: coalitionforcollegeaccess.org

University of Georgia: admissions.uga.edu/

Georgia Institute of Technology: gatech.edu/admissions/

Writing College Essays

bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays

princetonreview.com/college-advice/college-essay

Financial Aid and Scholarships

scholarships.com

fastweb.com

chegg.com

cappex.com

JLVcollegecounseling.com

bigfuture.collegeboard.org

niche.com

nahscollege.org

college websites where you apply fafsa.ed.gov (Use only this official government site!)

studentaid.ed.gov

possefoundation.org

scholly.com

Athletics

NCAA Eligibility Center ~ <http://www.eligibilitycenter.org>

NAIA Eligibility Center ~ <http://www.playnaia.org>

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) ~ www.ncaa.org

National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) ~ www.naia.org

National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) ~ www.njcaa.org

College News

news.collegemedianetwork.com

nytimes.com/pages/education/index.html

www.chronicle.com

Student Information

Website	Username	Password	Other info
SAT: collegeboard.org			
ACT: act.org			
gafutures.org			
Parchment.com			
Infinite Campus			
Commonapp.org			
Coalitionforcollegeaccess.org			

SAT Scores

Date Taken	Reading	Math	Writing & Language

SAT Subject Tests

Subject	Date Taken	Score

ACT Scores

Date Taken	English	Mathmatics	Reading	Science	Writing

AP Scores

Year Taken	Name of Exam	Score

PARENT "BRAG SHEET" FOR COLLEGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Student's Name _____

Please take a few moments to answer the following questions about your son/daughter as thoroughly as possible. This information will be used by the guidance counselor when writing college recommendations on the student's behalf. Please feel free to use an additional sheet of paper if your comments do not fit in the space provided. Thank you for your assistance.

1. What do you consider to be your son/daughter's outstanding accomplishments during high school? Why did you select these as the most important?

2. In what areas has your son/daughter shown the most development and growth during high school?

3. What do you consider to be your son/daughter's most outstanding quality?

4. If you had to describe your son/daughter in five adjectives, what would they be?

5. Do you wish to share any special circumstances or additional information that has positively or negatively affected your child's performance in school?

Parent's Signature _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!

(Please return to the Counselor's Office)

“BRAG SHEET” FOR COLLEGE RECOMMENDATIONS

NAHS Student Questionnaire (Brag Sheet)

For a QUALITY recommendation letter, please give your recommender at least two weeks' notice.

NAME (First, Middle, Last) _____

ACADEMICS

Answer the questions that follow as thorough as possible. The more detailed you are, the better.

Tell me about your academic experience at North Atlanta High that has been the most meaningful to you (teacher, class, project, etc.).

What is your greatest academic strength? Give an example.

What subject(s) have you had the most difficulty? What were the reasons? Do you feel there is anything on your academic transcript that needs to be clarified? Do you have a reason to justify any low grades?

PERSONAL/SOCIAL

Answer the questions that follow as thorough as possible. The more detailed you are, the better.

What is your greatest personal strength or asset?



What has been your greatest challenge in life or while in high school? (Be descriptive) What have you learned from your experience?

Tell me about an area of yourself that you wish to develop or further improve upon.

List three words or phrases to describe yourself. Give specific examples of each description and how you have demonstrated these qualities.

CAREER

Answer the questions that follow as thorough as possible. The more detailed you are, the better.

What are your career goals?

What are your immediate plans after high school?

- College/University
- Technical School
- Work
- Military

Where do you see yourself in 10 years? (Describe)



ACTIVITIES

Please list any activities you have been involved with at North Atlanta or elsewhere. Include leadership positions.

Athletics

Extracurricular

Community Service

Fine Arts (Band, Music, Chorus, Theater, Art)

RECOGNITION

Please list any honors or awards that you have received since 9th grade at NAHS or elsewhere.

Honors/Awards

I give permission to allow my recommender to quote from this document.

- Yes
- No



