



Class of 2020

Guidebook

College & Career Center
North Atlanta High School
404-802-4720
nahscollege.org

North Atlanta High School

4111 Northside Parkway

Atlanta, GA 30327

404-802-8700

School Code: 110205

2018-2019 Contacts (may change for 2019-20)

GCAC College Advisers
Ms. Thomas & Ms. Vilfort
nahscollege@gmail.com
404-802-4720
Room 8141

College & Career Coordinator
Dr. Rodney Mason
nahsccc@gmail.com
404-802-4720
Room 8141

IB DP/CP Specialist
Ms. Danielle Costarides
dcostarides@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4728
Room 8179

AP Coordinator
Dr. Luster
aluster@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4718
Room 7153

Registrar
Mr. Albert Thomas
aathomas@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4733
Room 1143

12th Grade Assistant Principal
Ms. Jill Stewart
jbstewart@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4737
Room 10143

Guidance Counselors

Ms. Dionne Williams 9th
dlwilliams@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4734
Room 6182

Ms. Shellie Marino 10th
shellie.marino@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4723
Room 7172

Mr. Darryl Robinson 11th
darryl.robinson@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4751
Room 6172

Ms. Kaye Boykin 12th (Primary)
kboykin@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4715
Room 7174

Mr. Marc Genwright 12th
mgenwright@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4712
Room 6180

Bilingual Community Liaison
Mr. David Galban
david.galban@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4731

Principal
Mr. Curtis Douglass
cwdouglass@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4700
Main Office

Graduation Coach
Ms. Mechelle Jones
camjones@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4711
Room 10151

NCAA/NAIA Eligibility Coach
Mr. Andre Regan
aregan@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4762
Room 11159

JROTC
Lt. Col. Minnick
lminnick@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4756
Room 1161

SAT/ACT Testing Coordinator /
Work Based Learning / CTAE
Avis Eichelberger
aeichelberger@atlanta.k12.ga.us
Room 10151
404-802-4741

Graduation Coordinator for
Class of 2020
Ms. Nan Hunter
nhunter@atlanta.k12.ga.us
404-802-4719
Room 5113

Table of Contents

3

A. Graduating from High School	4	Public Colleges in Georgia	43
Looking Forward to Graduation Day	4	Private Colleges in Georgia	44
Who Can Help?	5	Popular Colleges in Southeast	45
Graduation Requirements	6	Honors Programs in Georgia	46
Graduation Flowchart	7	Campus Visits	47
Choices after High School	8	Questions to Ask Potential Schools	48
Transcripts - Parchment	9	H. Application Nuts and Bolts	49
How to Figure Your GPA	10	Flowchart for College Admissions Paperwork	50
Community Service Hours	11	Writing Your Resume	51
B. High School Graduation Options	12	Teacher Recommendations	52
IB Diploma Programme	13	Essays - The Basics	53
IB Career-Related Programme	15	Application Platforms	56
Advanced Placement (AP) Program	17	Tips from College Counselors	57
Dual Enrollment	19	I. Testing Nuts & Bolts	58
Atlanta College & Career Academy	20	PSAT, SAT & SAT Subject Tests	58
Work Based Learning	21	ACT	61
Pathway Completion	22	Test Taking Tips	62
Minimum Day	22	J. Athletes, Artists and Performers in College	64
Atlanta Virtual Academy	23	K. Financing Your Education	66
C. Timelines	24	FAFSA	69
Junior Year	24	The HOPE Scholarship	70
Senior Year - Spring & Fall	25	The POSSE Scholarship	72
D. Career Exploration	27	The Academic Common Market	73
Career Interest Survey	27	Scholarship Application Tips	74
Career Exploration Platforms	28	L. The Best Advice for College	75
E. Non-College Options	30	M. Glossary	76
The Armed Forces	30	N. Appendix	
Apprenticeships / Trades	31	A - IB DP Sample Schedule	78
Gap Year	32	B - IB CP Sample Schedule	79
F. First Generation Students	33	C - IB CP / CTAE Pathways	80
G. College Exploration	34	D - Dual Enrollement Partners	81
Four-Year Colleges and Universities	34	E - College Comparison Worksheet	82
Technical and Community Colleges	36	F - NAHS School Profile	83
Armed Forces and The Acadamies	38	G - Sample Resume	85
Developing Your College List	39	H - Parent Brag Sheet	86
What Are You Looking For?	40	I - Student Brag Sheet	87
What Colleges Are Looking For	41	J - Student Information	91
Intriguing College Majors	42		

Thanks to the NAHS PTSA for their support to the College & Career Center by providing funding for these Guidebooks and to the CCC Advisers, Counselors, volunteers and administrators.

A. Graduating from High School

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 often 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.

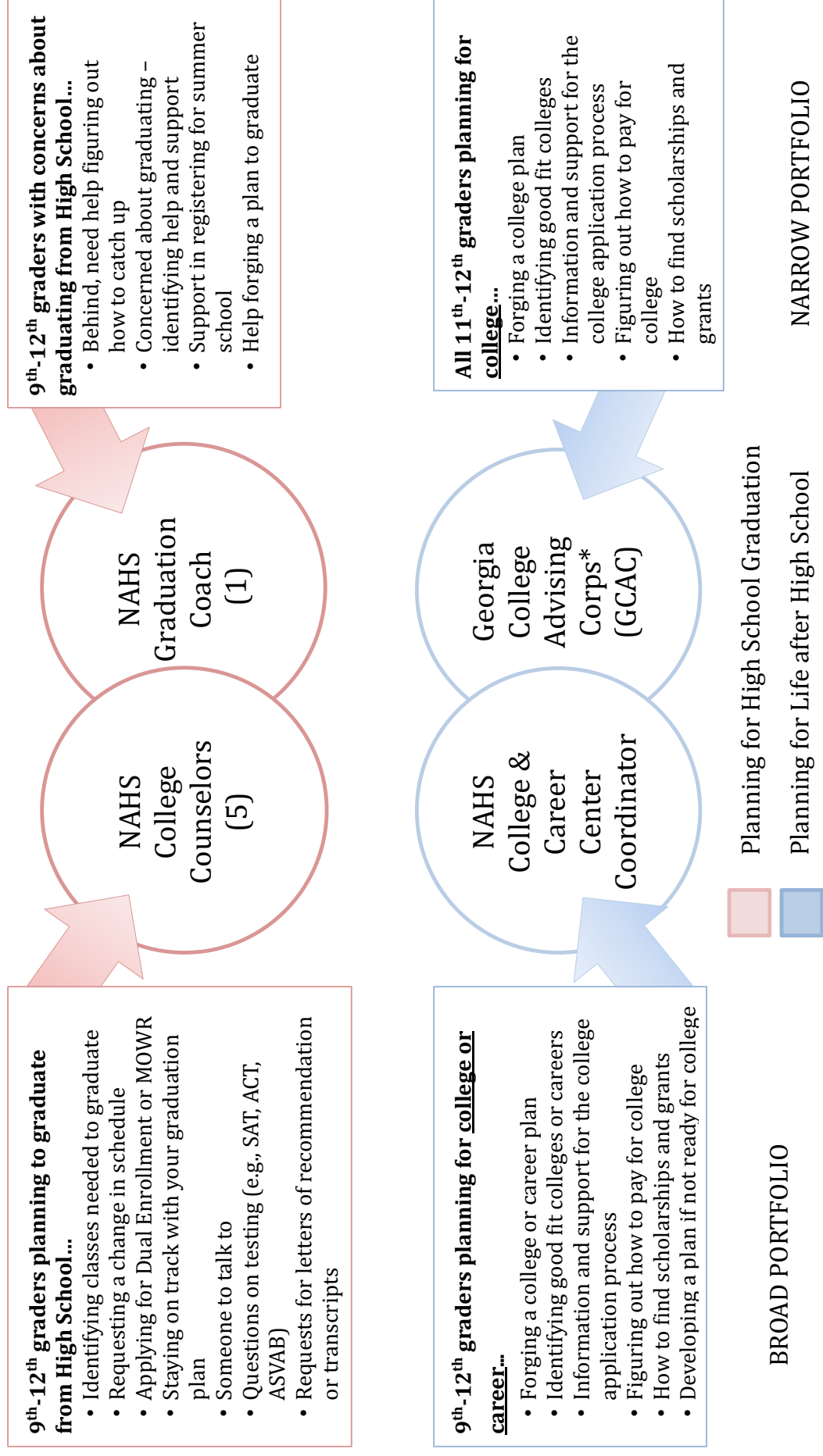
Visions of the Future Program:

"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.

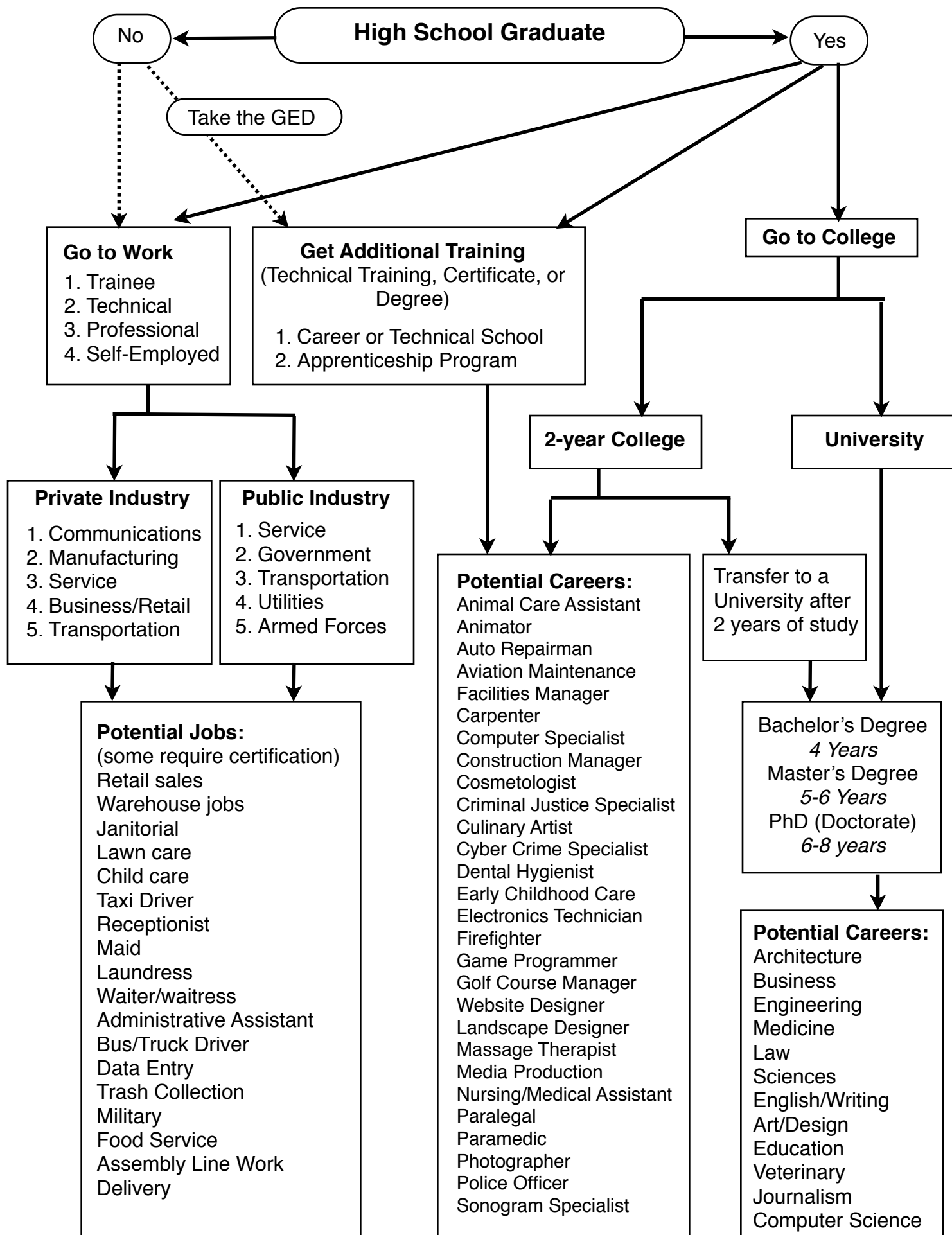
Senior Fees are around \$240 and cover your student's cap & gown, diploma cover, 10 announcements, yearbook, (inscribed with the student's name if dues are paid by December deadline), Senior shirt, bag and other memorabilia, and events during Senior Week.

Who can help with my questions or concerns?



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



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 Sections G & H 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 pages 31 & 36 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 30 & 38 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 craftsman. 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 31 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. 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 32 for more information.

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, called a School Profile. See page 83 Appendix F for the NAHS school profile.

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 **parchment.com** and click on the "create account" button. Follow the instructions! Your account should be in the student's name, and the name you enter should match the name shown exactly as it appears 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: Complete your "profile".

STEP 3: Start by adding entering "North Atlanta High School" for school or organization you have attended. Then select "Advanced Search" and enter the city, state and select "ADD". Verify all your information is correct. Enter the earliest year you entered NAHS and your expected graduation year. Finally, read the "FERPA Privacy Rights", select appropriate choice and then select "CONSENT AND REQUEST". Complete same for any other HS you have attended.

Follow these steps to order a Transcript:

STEP 1: Select "order" then where you would like to send your credentials - Academic Organization or Yourself.

STEP 2: Enter the delivery method - email or mail, then select "Save and Continue".

STEP 3: 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 two days of the request.

STEP 4: Track your order using the "Track" 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.

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 core 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 for the Hope Scholarship or a minimum of 3.75 GPA for the Zell Miller Scholarship using a 4.0 scale. 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. See page 70 for more information on the HOPE Scholarship and how to apply.

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

Community Service Hours

Students are required to complete seventy-five (75) clock hours of volunteer service to the community during non-school time.

The volunteer service must be completed with a non-profit organization approved by the Atlanta Public Schools and to take place during non-school time.

The volunteer service is to be completed over a recommended period of time between the end of the eighth and eleventh grades with the following progression:

9th Grade Year = 25 hours

10th Grade Year = 25 hours

11th Grade Year = 25 hours

Students, who need additional time in the senior year to complete required hours, should see the grade-level counselor to devise a plan for completion.

Students who are interested in receiving a service cord at graduation for community service will need to log service hours into "My Giving Point."

100 community service hours = service cord (must be logged in at www.mygivingpoint.org)

For questions about the IB Diploma Programme CAS (Creativity, Activity and Service) hours, please see the IB DP Guide.

B. High School Graduation Options

	IB DP	IB CP	AP Classes	Dual Enrollment through Partner School	Dual Enrollment through ACCA
Number of IB Courses Required	6-7 per school year	2 over the course of 2 years	0	0	0
Number of Credits Of World Language Required	4 Years	2 Years for graduation plus Language Development Requirement			
Community Service Hours Required	150 CAS Hours as well as 75 hours for graduation	50 hours of Service Learning as well as 75 hours for graduation	2 Years for graduation	2 Years for graduation	2 Years for graduation
	85 average in core classes including world language in grades 9 and 10 Minimum Lexile 1150 (recommended for Class of 2019; required for Class of 2020 and beyond) Successful completion of the MYP Personal Project (recommended grade ≥ 4 of 7 scale) Two years of the same world language in grades 9 and 10	85 average in core classes including world language in grades 9 and 10 Minimum Lexile 1150 (recommended for Class of 2019; required for Class of 2020 and beyond) Successful completion of the MYP Personal Project (recommended grade ≥ 4 of 7 scale) On track for CTAE pathway completion	75 hours for graduation	75 hours for graduation	75 hours for graduation
Acceptance Requirements			90+ in prerequisite class Other requirements as defined by subject	Accepted to the college attending	Accuplacer
Additional Requirements for Completion	150 CAS Hours Extended Essay Theory of Knowledge Class	Personal and Professional Skills Course Reflective Project 50 hours of Language Development 50 hours of Service Learning	Complete Contract Earn a grade above a 70		
Benefits	Earn Quality Points toward GPA Potential College Credit based on Exam performance and chosen college Possibly earn IB Diploma	Earn Quality Points toward GPA Potential College Credit based on Exam performance and chosen college	Earn Quality Points toward GPA Potential College Credit based on Exam performance and chosen college	Earn Quality Points toward GPA Potential College Credit based on passing classes	Earn Quality Points toward GPA Graduate with Technical Experience

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB DP)

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. Although as rigorous as AP classes, 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, completely or partially depending on the yearly budget. If APS does cover the cost or a portion of 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 Ms. Costarides 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 History score of 4-5 gives you credit in one 2000 level history class, a 6-7 gets you two. At some colleges, you get nothing. So check each college's website!

Be sure to research colleges outside of Georgia that **love** to give money and credit for IB! These scholarships and credits have matched or exceeded HOPE funds in the past.

See page 78 (Appendix A) for IB Diploma Programme sample schedule.

International Baccalaureate Career-Related Programme (IB CP)

What is the IB Career-related Program?

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.

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.

Admissions Criteria

- 85 average in core classes including career-related pathway courses in grades 9 and 10
- Minimum Lexile 1150 required (Class of 2020 and beyond)
- Successful completion of the MYP Personal Project
- On track to complete a career pathway

IB DP course options for IB CP students

IB CP students must take at least TWO IB DP courses and one of those two must span the two-year period. Students can take any two they wish but should consider their career-related study when choosing. For instance, if a student's career-related study is Business and Technology, students might consider IB Math and IB Economics as the best options for them. Below is a list of all IB DP courses offered at NAHS to choose from.

The 6 subject groups & the courses in each group offered at NAHS are: Please note that some SL courses are only offered during senior year & some can be either.

		Junior Year	Senior Year	Special notes
GROUP 1	Studies in language and literature	IB Literature HL Year I	IB Literature Year II	
GROUP 2	Language acquisition	IB Spanish HL Year I IB French HL Year I IB Chinese SL Year I IB Arabic SL Year I	IB Spanish HL Year II IB French HL Year II IB Chinese SL Year II IB Arabic SL Year II	
GROUP 3	Individuals & societies	IB History HL Year I IB Business/Mgmt SL - can be 11 th or 12 th grade	IB History HL Year II IB Economics SL - offered only senior year	
GROUP 4	Sciences	IB Physics SL Year I IB Biology SL Year I IB Chemistry SL Yr I	IB Physics SL Year II IB Biology SL Year II IB Chemistry SL Yr II	Biology & Chemistry can be taken in HL depending on student Language or interest.
GROUP 5	Mathematics	IB Mathematics SL Yr I	IB Mathematics SL Yr II IB Math Studies SL – offered senior year only	
GROUP 6	The arts	IB Film Year I IB Dance Year I IB Visual Arts Year I IB Music Year I	IB Film Year II IB Dance Year II IB Visual Arts Year II IB Music Year II	All arts courses may be taken as either SL or HL except Music.

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 Coordinator 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. Students 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.

See page 79 (Appendix B) for an IB CP sample schedule and page 80 (Appendix C) for the IB CP career pathways available at North Atlanta. Pathways and course sequences are subject to change and are based upon district and state requirements.

Advanced Placement Program

Who should enroll in AP classes?

The College Board suggests that successful AP students possess the following skills:

- Are able to read, understand, and interpret college-level information.
- Can apply critical thinking skills to solve problems.
- Possess excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Have good time-management tools to meet the demands of rigorous coursework.
- Demonstrate good attendance to school.
- Be self-disciplined, highly motivated and persistent.
- In addition, NAHS sets minimum pre-requisites for enrolling in certain AP Courses.

Why take an AP course?

One advantage of taking an AP course is that it allows the student to experience the rigors of a college level course in the more supportive high school environment. Students take their courses in the high school setting rather than commuting to a college campus. AP courses offer students courses that are rigorous instead of taking courses that are lacking in challenge (which is important to college admissions offices). Credits achieved through the AP program will also be less expensive than typical college tuition. AP classes also provide students with an opportunity to build advanced study skills necessary for success at the college level. Any student who is planning on attending a two or four year university should consider taking at least one AP course in high school.

Expectation for Taking the AP Exam

Part of the fulfillment and the culmination of taking an AP course is the AP Exam. It is expected that all students in an AP course take the AP exam in May. Students in AP courses are held to a higher level of academic expectations due to the nature of the courses and the weighted class grades. Students become eligible to receive college credit only if the examination is taken, with credit determined by individual college departments. Most colleges and universities in the United States and Canada, and other institutions in more than 40 other countries, grant student credit, placement, or both for qualifying AP Exam grades.

What is an AP score and what does it mean?

Your AP score shows how well you did on the AP Exam. It's also a measure of your achievement in your college-level AP course. This score will be used by colleges and universities to determine if they will grant you credit for what you've already learned, or allow you to skip the equivalent course once you get to college (this is known as advanced placement). Your score is a weighted combination of your scores on the multiple-choice section and on the free-response section. The final score is reported on a 5-point scale as follows:

- 5 = extremely well qualified
- 4 = well qualified
- 3 = qualified
- 2 = possibly qualified
- 1 = no recommendation

"Qualified" means that you have proven yourself capable of doing the work of an introductory- level course in a particular subject at college. Many colleges and universities grant credit and placement for scores of 3, 4 or 5; however, each college decides which scores it will accept.

In order to be considered for credit or placement, you must send your official AP score report to the college you're planning to attend. NAHS awards high school level credit for passing AP coursework.

How are AP grades weighted?

AP semester grades are weighted to reflect the increased levels of rigor, work load, and expectations as compared to traditional high school classes. This means that the value of the letter grade on a student's transcript is increased by 10 points in calculating the student's GPA, if the student earns a non-weighted grade of 70 or above. GPAs are calculated at the end of each semester.

What AP courses are offered at North Atlanta High School?

The following courses are available for the 2018-19 school year at NAHS. There are certain prerequisites for enrollment in courses. Please read the AP Parent/Student Contract and Course Descriptions for additional information regarding AP Courses.

AP Music Theory	AP Macroeconomics
AP Studio Art 2-D Design	AP Statistics
AP Studio Art 3-D Design	AP United States Government & Politics
AP Studio Art Drawing	AP United States History
AP English Language & Composition	AP World History
AP English Literature & Composition	AP Biology
AP French Language and Culture	AP Physics 1
AP Spanish Language and Culture	AP Calculus AB
AP Human Geography	AP Calculus BC

AP Exam Fees

Students taking AP courses are expected to participate in the AP exam for that course in May. The cost of the AP exam is \$93 and payment will be due to North Atlanta High School no later than January 31st. Students eligible for free and reduced lunch may be eligible for a reduced cost of \$53.

If you register for an AP exam and are unable to take the exam on the exam day, you will be required to pay the \$13 unused exam return fee. If the student still wants to sit for the test on an alternate day approved by college board, you will be required to pay the \$13 unused exam return fee in addition to the \$45 late exam fee for a total of \$58. Remember that all fees paid for AP exams are non-refundable.

Dual Enrollment

Dual Enrollment, formerly known as Move on When Ready (MOWR) allows high school students (9th-12th) to earn college credits, or even a certificate, diploma or associate degree, while working on their high school diploma. Dual Enrollment is designed to make it easier for students to take advantage of all the options in college courses while still in high school.

Requirements to Participate in Dual Enrollment

- All students are subject to the admissions requirements as set forth by the respective college to which they seek acceptance.
- All students must apply to the respective college as well as submit an application on www.gafutures.org.
- All students and parents must sign the Dual Enrollment Participation Agreement.
- Students accepted into a program enjoy the same privileges and opportunities as those enrolled as college freshmen.
- Accepted students earn both college credits and 1 unit of high school credit per class.
- For all students accepted into the program, course tuition and books are paid by the Georgia Student Finance Commission.
- All students must meet Georgia residency requirements as well as U.S. citizenship or U.S. national/permanent residential status.

Course Options

Students must select eligible courses from the Dual Enrollment Course Directory on GAFutures.org. The Course Directory includes comparable required courses such as degree and non-degree level core courses (English, math, science, social studies, foreign language), career, technical and agricultural education courses, as well as electives. Course selections must be approved by your counselor to receive high school credit.

Benefits of Dual Enrollment for Students

- Earning college credits while still in high school may enable students to graduate early and/or possibly even earn an associate degree, diploma or certificate.
- Dual Enrollment can help students adjust to certain aspects of the college experience (e.g., classes, course work, instruction, being on a college campus) so the transition from high school to college may be easier.
- Students who participate in a Dual Enrollment program are more likely to go to college and earn a degree.
- Students may be able to take classes that are not offered at their high school, especially in subject areas they are interested in for a potential career.
- Taking college-level classes while still in high school may build confidence and encourage those students who may not be thinking about college to reconsider.

See page 81 (Appendix D) for North Atlanta's Dual Enrollment partners.

Atlanta College and Career Academy (ACCA)

Atlanta Public Schools and Atlanta Technical College have partnered to create the Atlanta College and Career Academy to prepare high school students for high demand, highly skilled technical careers, which will also address the economic and workforce demands of Atlanta and across Georgia. As a 21st century technical center, the Atlanta College and Career Academy opens new opportunities for APS students to register for dual enrollment courses offered by Atlanta Technical College and gain exposure to career pathways not available in their high schools. Students who earn their diploma through the ACCA will have simultaneously completed the majority of the college credits required to earn a two-year degree, as well as technical certificates of study and an industrial certification. Students are encouraged to take any course they qualify for, including core college courses.

Some of the career pathways that are offered include:

Automotive Collision Repair	Early Childhood Care and Education
Avionics	Electronics
Barbering	Health Information Management
Carpentry	Pharmacy Technology
Computer Information Systems (CISCO Networking)	Plumbing/Pipe-Fitting Technology
Construction	Supply Chain Management
Cosmetology	Design and Media Production Technology
Drafting	Welding

Further program/pathway listings can be found at: www.atlantatech.edu/academics/programs/

“We are excited to have this additional option for our students,” said Atlanta Public Schools Superintendent Meria J. Carstarphen, Ed.D. “The Atlanta College and Career Academy aligns with our mission that every student will graduate ready for college and career, and enhances our efforts to expose our high school students to a college preparatory, career and technical curriculum.”

Under APS’ new charter system model, representatives from Atlanta Technical College, Achieve Atlanta, Metro Atlanta Chamber, Kauffman Tire, Inc. and Holder Construction Company have been named to serve on the ACCA board. Lt. Governor Casey Cagle praised the new APS/Atlanta Technical College partnership. “I am excited that the Technical College System of Georgia approved Atlanta College and Career as one of Georgia’s newest College and Career Academies,” said Lt. Governor Cagle. “As Lt. Governor, I am committed to providing every student in Georgia access to a college and career academy. Their proven success at providing our children the relevant job-related skills they need is more important than ever in the 21st Century economy.”

Work-Based Learning (WBL)

Work-Based Learning is a program within the Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) Department that provides students with the opportunity to learn a variety of skills by expanding the classroom into the community and narrowing the gap between theory and practice through rigorous academic preparation with hands-on career development experiences. Through WBL experiences, students are afforded the opportunity to connect classroom instruction to the world of work and future career opportunities. Work-Based Learning placements represent the pinnacle of the Career-Related Education experience. There are several opportunities for students to participate in work-based learning. These opportunities include employability skill development, Internships and Youth Apprenticeships.

Requirements to Participate in WBL

- Parental approval
- Successful completion of the WBL application process
- Enrollment in or successful completion of at least two CTAE courses
- Defined Career Goal
- 11th or 12th grade (at least 16 years old)
- Teacher recommendation
- Satisfactory attendance, academic and discipline records
- On track for graduation
- Reliable transportation to and from work

Work-Based Learning Categories

Based on occupational goals and CTAE course enrollment, WBL students are placed in one of the following categories:

- Youth Apprenticeship (paid and non-paid): Apprenticeships are intended to begin preparing for a career while they are still in high school. Youth Apprenticeship students are provided the opportunity to concurrently earn a high school diploma, a postsecondary credential or diploma, and industry recognized certification in their chosen area of study. Post-secondary education and/or training is required.
- Internship (paid or non-paid): Internships can be either a short or long-term placement that is directly related to a student's pathway and occur after a student has completed the relevant course work.
- Employability Skills Development (paid): Designed for students who desire to experience entry level work and understand the culture of the workplace although their career goal, coursework and placement are not aligned. Employability Skills Development students must be candidates for another category by the end of their WBL enrollment.

Benefits of Work Based Learning

- Exposure to various career opportunities
- Earn high school credit
- Connection between educational and work experiences
- Promotion of self-confidence at school and work
- Expansion and refinement of their technical skills
- Development and practice of positive work-related habits and attitudes such as responsibility, critical thinking, problem-solving and team work

Pathway Completion

Each student is encouraged to complete one of the following pathways:

Advanced Academic Pathway: An Advanced Academic Pathway may be followed in any of the following content areas: English, mathematics, science or social studies. Students complete an Advanced Academic Pathway when they have completed the required courses for graduation and when one of the courses listed in the student's course history is AP, IB DP or dual enrollment. Additionally, students must earn credits in two sequential courses in one world language.

Fine Arts Pathway: Students complete a Fine Arts Pathway when they have completed three courses in Visual Arts, Band, Chorus, Guitar, Orchestra, Theater, Dance, or Journalism.

World Language Pathway: Students complete a World Language Pathway when they have completed three courses in the same World Language.

Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) Pathway: Students complete a CTAE Pathway when they complete a series of three or four specific courses in a CTAE-approved pathway. Opportunities for Work Based Learning in these pathways are available to seniors who have completed at least 2 units in the pathway. North Atlanta High School offers complete pathways in the following areas:

- Audio Video Technology and Film
- JROTC-Army
- Graphic Design
- Business and Technology
- Information Technology – Web and Digital Design
- Information Technology - Programming

See page 80 (Appendix C) for more detailed information on CTAE pathways; + = CTAE Pathways others are only for IB CP students.

Minimum Day

Minimum Day is an opportunity whereby seniors who are “on-track” may use one period a day to pursue academic enrichment opportunities (i.e., internship, tutorial, college/career transition activities, work, etc.) as they are making the transition from being dependent to independent. They may choose to participate during the first or last block of the school day. Students will receive a modified schedule and no grades/credits are earned.

Atlanta Virtual Academy (AVA)

What is AVA?

The Atlanta Virtual Academy is a free fully accredited online learning environment that is available to middle and high school students in the Atlanta Public Schools system. AVA is an NCAA approved program that is ideal for today's student athlete. Students can choose courses from the four core subjects (English, Social Science, Math, Social Science), Foreign Language, AP, and Honor Courses.

AVA is made up of four full time teachers representing each of the core subjects, as well as a team of fully certified part-time teachers, all ready to provide a world class education for the 21st century learner. Students enrolled in AVA will face a rigorous and relevant curriculum that will prepare them for post-secondary life, including, but not limited to college.

AVA courses are accessible 24 hours a day via internet connected computers and/or mobile devices providing the flexibility that is not available in a face-to-face setting. This exposes learners to distance learning, which is the fastest growing form of formal education in both corporate America and within domestic universities.

What Does AVA Offer?

AVA offers rigorous online courses aligned to state standards that are taught by Highly Qualified, Atlanta Public Schools certified teachers. AVA provides a teacher led, virtual classroom environment and has over 75 course offerings in the core content areas, world languages, electives, and a selection of AP courses. We are not an online high school or a diploma-granting institution but are a resource for supplementing education for students.

AVA Courses

AVA courses work like face-to-face classes. Students complete lesson activities, homework, class discussions, and tests. Teachers are available to students throughout the entire length of the course. The primary difference in the courses is that the course activities happen over the Internet. Students must log in to class daily. This requires students have access to a working computer and an Internet connection. If courses are taken during the school day at school, the school will provide a lab and computer. If courses are taken outside of the school day in addition to the regular schedule, the student is responsible for their own technology.

Why Take AVA Courses

- Certified and experienced subject specific instructors that are focused on student success.
- Students can work at their own pace as long as they meet minimum pace requirements.
- Real-time teacher interaction with 1-1 teacher sessions available to student.
- 24-hour/7 day a week course access, using any device.
- Flexible scheduling that works best for the student.
- Accelerate graduation

Free SAT/ACT Test Prep

AVA's test preparation courses prepare students for the SAT and ACT. Their programs offer prescriptive learning paths for an individualized experience within the course. All 9th-12th grade students have access to free web-based test prep courses, which will allow them to complete lessons at their own pace. The courses offer students the flexibility to prepare for college entrance exams anytime, any place, any device. For additional information go to www.atlantapublicschools.us/AVA.

C. Junior Timeline

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!

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.

Remind 101 Sign up to receive reminders and notices from the CCC. text @war2020 to 81010 for parents and students

All juniors will take the official SAT exam (without writing) during school hours, paid for by APS; date TBD.

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 40)

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. (makemeafreshman.com)
- ❑ Begin your college essays. Most college applications (and their essay questions) are available the first week of August.
- ❑ Clean up your online image. Create professional sounding email accounts, Do you have potentially embarrassing photos or angry rants on social media? Delete them now.
- ❑ Have your senior portraits taken.
- ❑ Sign up to receive reminders and notices from the CCC. Text @war2020 to 81010 for parents and students

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 52 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!
- ❑ Create a Parchment account at parchment.com (see page 9) and check for accuracy.

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 69)
- ❑ Many private scholarship deadlines are November 1. Keep searching for scholarships and keep up with these deadlines, too! (page 74)
- ❑ Get serious about your essays. See "Essays" on page 53 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 about your decision. THIS IS IMPORTANT!

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!

D. Career Exploration

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

Career Exploration Platforms

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:

gafutures.org - go to "Career Exploration", "Learn About Yourself"

bigfuture.collegeboard.org - go to "Get Started", "Know Yourself"

mynextmove.org

YouScience.com

asvabprogram.com

Welcome to YouScience

North Atlanta has partnered with YouScience to bring our students data-driven insights about themselves and their future. All North Atlanta students will be taking the YouScience assessment and if you have not taken it, please see your adviser.

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.

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**

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.

E. Non-college Options

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 are interested in exploring apprenticeship as the next step in your career, there are many ways to find opportunities in your area. Many businesses advertise their apprenticeship openings in local media and commercial job search sites. You can also access apprenticeships through your local American Job Center; often, American Job Centers partner with local businesses to match job-seekers with available opportunities. You can find the telephone number and location of the nearest American Job Center by typing in your ZIP code using the search tool at **careeronestop.org/site/american-job-center.aspx**.

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, guaranteed to increase over time as you learn new skills.
- Hands-on career training in a wide selection of programs, such as health care, construction, information technology and geospatial careers.
- An education and 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 upon graduation from a career training program, and can take your certification anywhere in the U.S.
- Recognizable partners including many of the nation's most recognizable companies, such as CVS/pharmacy and UPS, have Registered Apprenticeship programs.

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).

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

Pace Academy typically hosts a USA Gap Year Fair every year sometime between January and March. Go to usagapyearfairs.org or contact Pace Academy for more information.

F. 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

G. College Exploration

Types of Institutions 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)
Hollins University (VA)
Mills College (CA)
Mount Holyoke College (MA)
Saint Mary’s College (IN)
Scripps College (CA)
Simmons College (MA)
Smith College (MA)
Spelman College (GA)
Wellesley College (MA)

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
Clayton 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 and 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 70 for more information on the HOPE Grant. The following schools are within 20 miles of North Atlanta High School and are 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 State Perimeter College	perimeter.gsu.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

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. 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 October. Watch the Warrior Weekly and listen to announcements at school for details on how to sign up.

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 41 and the College Comparison Worksheet (Appendix E))

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 40)

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 to help you record your choices. (Appendix E)

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 and also Gafutures.org.
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 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?

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. Rigor of 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.

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 Stuntmen'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.

Public Colleges in Georgia

Schools – alphabetical	SAT- mid 50% range	ACT- mid 50% range	Avg HS GPA	Admissions Selectiv- enss	Under- grad En- rollment	**Tuition & Fees/ YR	**Apps Due
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (2 YR) Tifton, GA	N/A	N/A	N/A	less	N/A	\$3,453	01 Aug
Albany State University (hist. Black) Albany, GA	918	20	2.90	less	2,594	\$6,726	01 July
Armstrong Atlantic State University Savannah, GA	992	21	3.20	selective	6,397	\$5,360	01 July
Atlanta Metropolitan State College (2YR) Atlanta, GA	N/A	19	2.60	least	2,783	\$3,250	rolling
August University Augusta, GA	N/A	N/A	N/A	less	5,133	\$8,634	N/A
Clayton State University Morrow, GA	950	20	3.00	selective	6,555	\$6,410	01 July
College of Coastal Georgia Brunswick, GA	903	19	3.00	less	3,529	\$4,648	rolling
Columbus State University Columbus, GA	981	21	3.10	selective	6,789	\$7,200	30 June
Dalton State College Dalton, GA	N/A	N/A	N/A	less	N/A	\$3,503	N/A
East Georgia State College (2YR) Swainsboro, GA	N/A	N/A	N/A	less	N/A	\$3,067	15 Aug
Fort Valley State University (hist. Black) Fort Valley, GA	855	18	2.80	less	2,252	\$6,664	19 July
Georgia College & State University Milledgeville, GA	1128	24	3.50	selective	6,047	\$9,346	01 Apr
Georgia Gwinnett College Lawrenceville, GA	922	19	2.80	less	12,052	\$5,634	01 June
Georgia Institute of Technology Atlanta, GA	1401	32	3.00	most	15,489	\$12,418	01 Jan
Georgia Southern University Statesboro, GA	1113	24	3.30	selective	18,005	\$6,796	01 May
Georgia Southwestern State University Americus, GA	978	21	3.30	selective	2,558	\$6,332	21 July
Georgia State University Atlanta, GA	1073	23	3.40	selective	25,455	\$10,858	01 Mar
Gordon State College (2YR) Barnesville, GA	N/A	N/A	N/A	less	3,901	\$4,164	rolling
Kennesaw State University Kennesaw, GA	1102	23	3.30	selective	32,166	\$7,432	05 May
Middle Georgia State College Cochran, GA	N/A	N/A	N/A	less	7,642	\$3,890	16 July
Savannah State University (hist. Black) Savannah, GA	822	17	N/A	less	4,772	\$3,367	15 July
University of Georgia Athens, GA	1258	29	4.00	more	27,951	\$11,818	15 Jan
University of North Georgia Dahlonega, GA	1102	24	3.60	selective	17,704	\$7,336	15 Feb
University of West Georgia Carrollton, GA	954	20	3.20	less	11,115	\$7,188	01 June
Valdosta State University Valdosta, GA	1004	22	3.20	selective	8,780	\$6,410	15 June

** contact specific institutions to confirm deadlines
and tuition information

Private Colleges in Georgia

Schools – alphabetical	SAT – mid 50% range	ACT – mid 50% range	Avg HS GPA	Admissions Selectiveness	Undergrad Enrollment	**Tuition & Fees/ YR	**Apps Due
Agnes Scott College Decatur, GA	1194	27	3.80	more	927	\$33,960	01 May
Berry College Mount Berry, GA	1157	26	3.70	selective	2,073	\$35,176	21 July
Brenau University (women) Gainesville, GA	972	21	N/A	less	1,653	\$28,510	rolling
Brewton Parker College Mount Vernon, GA	N/A	N/A	N/A	less	N/A	\$16,960	rolling
Clark Atlanta University Atlanta, GA	903	20	3.20	less	3,093	\$23,082	01 June
Covenant College Lookout Mountain, GA	1175	26	3.70	more	1,005	\$33,170	01 Feb
Emmanuel College Franklin Springs, GA	N/A	N/A	3.30	less	920	\$19,710	01 Aug
Emory University Atlanta, GA	1390	31	3.70	most	6,861	\$49,392	01 Jan
LaGrange College LaGrange, GA	1016	22	3.40	selective	906	\$29,450	rolling
Life University Marietta GA	944	19	2.80	N/A	718	\$11,220	rolling
Mercer University Macon, GA	1205	27	3.80	more	4,706	\$36,000	01 July
Morehouse College (hist. Black, men) Atlanta, GA	982	22	3.20	selective	2,108	\$27,278	15 Feb
Oglethorpe University Atlanta, GA	N/A	N/A	N/A	selective	N/A	\$35,280	rolling
Paine College (hist. Black) Augusta, GA	N/A	N/A	N/A	least	N/A	\$14,244	15 July
Piedmont College Demorest, GA	983	21	3.40	selective	1,295	\$24,468	01 July
Point University West Point, GA	915	19	3.20	selective	1,954	\$20,600	01 Aug
Reinhardt University Waleska, GA	963	21	N/A	less	1,374	\$22,422	15 Aug
SCAD (Savannah College of Art and Design) Atlanta and Savannah, GA	1065	24	3.50	selective	10,573	\$35,910	rolling
Shorter University Rome, GA	N/A	21	3.10	less	1,419	\$21,730	N/A
Spelman College (hist. Black, women) Atlanta, GA	1073	23	3.50	more	2,125	\$28,181	01 Feb
Thomas University Thomasville, GA	N/A	N/A	N/A	less	769	\$16,940	rolling
Toccoa Falls College Toccoa Falls, GA	964	21	3.40	selective	1,252	\$22,104	rolling
Truett-McConnell College Cleveland, GA	965	20	3.40	less	2,152	\$19,480	01 Aug
Wesleyan College Macon, GA	1027	22	3.30	selective	630	\$22,370	01 July
Young Harris College Young Harris, GA	998	22	3.20	n/a	1,200	\$29,012	rolling

** contact specific institutions to confirm deadlines and tuition information

** 2018 US News and World Report Best College Rankings

Popular Colleges in Southeast

State (alphabetical by state)	SAT – mid 50% range	ACT – mid 50% range	Avg HS GPA	Admissions Selectiveness	Undergrad Enrollment	**Tuition & Fees/YR	**Apps Due
TENNESSEE							
Bellmont (pvt) Nashville, TN	1145	26	3.7	more	6,293	\$32,820	01 Aug
Sewanee - University of the South (pvt) Sewanee, TN	1249	29	3.7	more	1,731	\$45,120	01 Feb
Tennessee State University Nashville, TN	N/A	17	2.9	less	7,007	\$20,178	01 July
University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN	1142	27	3.9	more	22,139	\$31,160	01 Dec
Vanderbilt University (pvt) Nashville, TN	N/A	N/A	3.8	most	6,871	\$47,664	01 Jan
NORTH CAROLINA							
Appalachian State University Boone, NC	1134	25	3.6	selective	16,595	\$21,652	15 Mar
Elon University (pvt) Elon, NC	1192	29	N/A	more	6,008	\$34,273	10 Jan
High Point University (pvt) High Point, NC	1096	24	3.3	selective	4,546	\$34,005	01 July
NC A&T State University (hist. Black) Greensboro, NC	933	19	3.5	less	9,668	\$19,416	30 June
North Carolina State University Raleigh, NC	1263	29	3.7	more	23,847	\$27,406	15 Jan
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, NC	1200	29	4.0	most	18,523	\$34,588	15 Jan
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Clemson University Clemson, SC	1243	28	4.0	more	18,599	\$35,654	01 May
College of Charleston Charleston, SC	1096	24	3.9	selective	10,375	\$30,706	01 Apr
Furman University (pvt) Greenville, SC	1232	28	N/A	more	2,797	\$48,348	15 Jan
University of South Carolina Columbia, SC	1215	27	N/A	more	25,556	\$32,362	01 Dec
FLORIDA							
Florida A&M University (hist. Black) Tallahassee, FL	1018	23	3.5	selective	7,769	\$17,725	15 May
Florida State University Tallahassee, FL	1212	27	N/A	more	32,929	\$21,673	07 Feb
University of Florida Gainesville, FL	1275	29	4.0	more	34,554	\$28,658	01 Nov
University of N. Florida Jacksonville, FL	1135	24	3.8	selective	13,846	\$20,112	Rolling
ALABAMA							
Alabama State University Montgomery AL	845	17	2.8	less	4,727	\$16,156	30 July
Auburn University Auburn, AL	1166	27	3.9	more	22,658	\$29,640	01 June
Samford University (pvt) Birmingham, AL	1120	26	3.6	more	3,341	\$30,490	N/A
University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, AL	1114	27	3.7	more	32,563	\$28,100	Rolling
OTHER STATES							
Howard University (pvt Hist. Black) Washington, DC	1140	25	3.5	selective	5,899	\$25,697	15 Feb
Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA	1129	26	3.4	more	26,118	\$28,051	15 Apr
New York University (pvt) New York, NY	1351	31	3.6	most	26,135	\$50,464	01 Jan
University of Mississippi Oxford, MS	1126	25	3.6	more	19,213	\$23,554	Rolling

** contact specific institutions to confirm deadlines and tuition information

Source: 2018 US News & World Report Best College Rankings US News & World Report

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 1390-1530, ACT 32-35; By invitation only and limited to 202 students (102 women and 100 men)
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 State Perimeter College

Eligibility:	Minimum SAT 1200/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/ ACT 25; 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/ 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 1150/ ACT 25; minimum GPA 3.5
Requirements:	Online Honors Program application and required essay.
Housing:	Eligible to live in Honors Residence, but not required
Class Registration:	Priority registration time for each term after initial enrollment
Deadline:	November 1; March 1

University of Georgia

Eligibility:	Average SAT 1490/ ACT 33 ; average GPA 4.12
Requirements:	Online Honors Program application, transcript, recommendation letter, all scores.
Housing:	Honors residence hall is an option, but not required
Class Registration:	Priority registration for all classes taught at the University
Deadline:	10-15% of Early Action (October 15) receive automatic admission; others January 15.

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.

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 choose 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?

H. 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 or other platforms.
- ❑ **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.
- ❑ **High School Profile.** See page 83 (Appendix F)

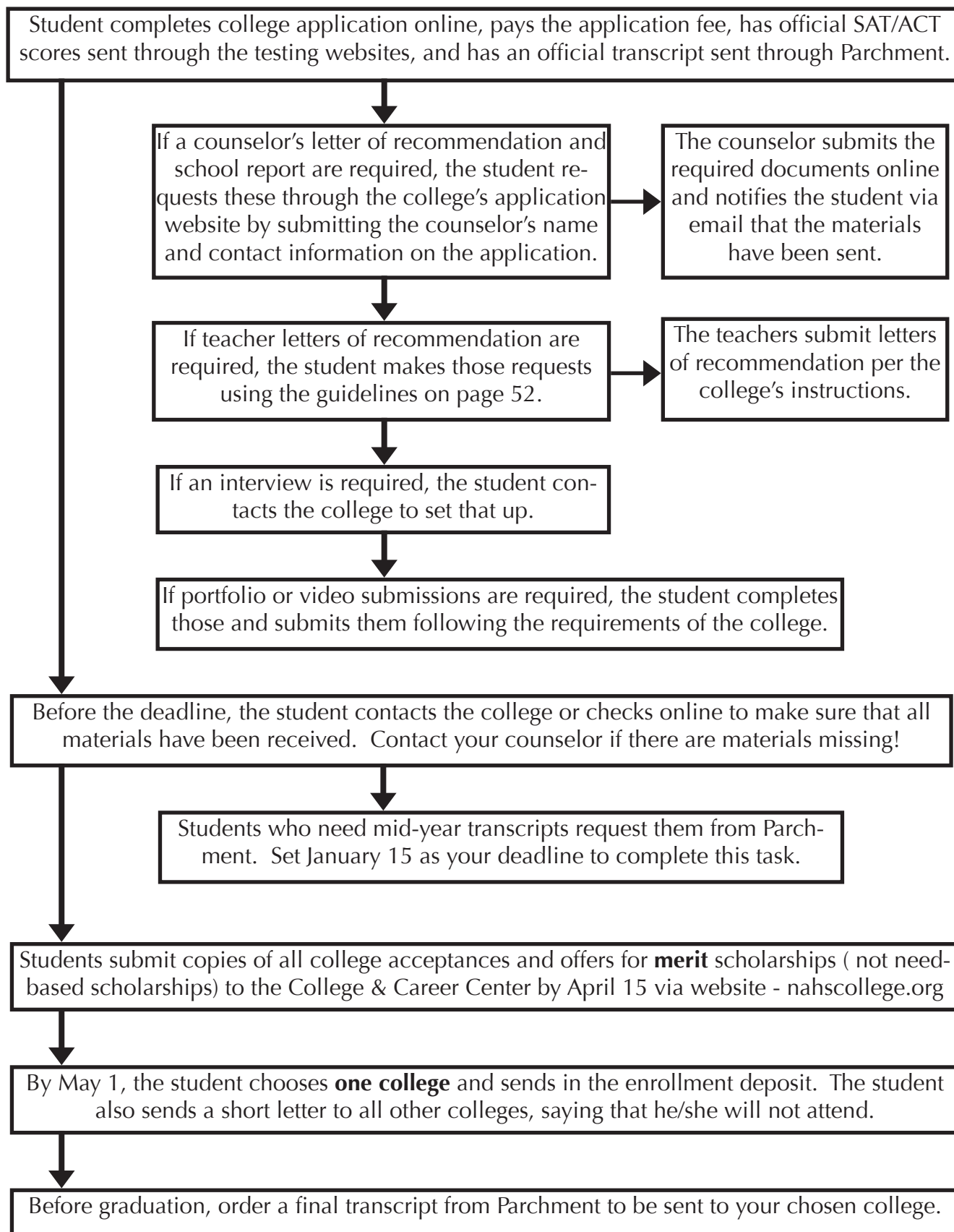
Some colleges also require:

- ❑ **Counselor recommendation and/or a Secondary School Profile.** See page 83 (Appendix F) 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 52 for details.
- ❑ **Essays.** See page 53 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!
- ❑ Use log in the back of this guidebook, page 91 (Appendix J), to record passwords and scores.

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 on page 85 (Appendix G)) 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 bragsheets and resume to give to the teacher or counselor. See Appendix H (Parent Brag Sheet) page 86 and Appendix I (Student Brag Sheet) page 87.

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, 2018

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

How to Write A Killer College Admissions Essay

~ The Basics ~

Your essay 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.

First and foremost, be yourself. Write in your own voice. 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 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. Take a creative approach and 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?

Answer the question being asked. Don't recycle an answer to a similar question from another application. Nothing will land your essay in the circular file faster than an obviously recycled or “near match” essay.

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. Don't give them one more “The Teacher Who Influenced Me Most” or “Drinking and Driving is Bad” essay to wade through.

Be specific. Keep your focus narrow and personal by figuring out how the question relates to your personal qualities and then taking a specific angle. Make sure everything you write supports that viewpoint. But don't adopt a preachy tone. College admission officers don't want to be lectured on rainforest destruction. Instead, tell them how you became interested in environmentalism.

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 the passive voice. Word processing programs often provide assistance with converting passive sentences to the active tense.

Avoid clichés. Clichés 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.” Avoid overly formal or business-like language, and don't use unnecessary words. Although humor is good, avoid one-liners, limericks and anything off-color.

~The Process~

1. Start Early

Starting early buys you the luxury of revising and rewriting the essay. You can write it, put it away for a few days, then take a fresh look at it later. Walking away and then coming back brings a fresh perspective to the work -- without the pressure and stress that comes with a time crunch.

2. Brainstorm.

Starting the essay can be the hardest part. Brainstorming about your personality traits and defining your strengths is a good place to begin. Your goal is to reflect about who you are as a person. Don't think of it as bragging. Think about it as a self-commercial. No one will see it except the admissions officer who will probably never meet you in person. Be honest and generous with yourself!

Then list a bunch of essay topics and add some key points for each one. Decide which topic has the most potential; it should be something that you feel strongly about so that it really comes alive when you write about it. Make a list of all the ideas you want to include--don't rule anything out. List everything you can think of. Then go back over the list and check off or circle the major points you want to cover.

3. Organize your thoughts. After you've gathered your notes, create an outline to organize your essay and decide where you want examples to appear.

4. Let your first draft flow. Don't worry about making it perfect. Just get your ideas flowing and your thoughts down on paper. You'll fix mistakes and improve the writing in later drafts. Be personal and, if it comes naturally, add humor. Imagine that you're talking to a close friend when writing your essay. This technique should help the real you shine through. Remember, a rough draft doesn't have to be perfect. It just has to be a start.

5. Develop three essay parts

Introduction: One paragraph that introduces your essay. Start with a catchy first sentence. If it grabs the reader's attention, he or she will be encouraged to read on. You might use a meaningful quote or start with a rhetorical question that fits your situation. You might open with a detailed description of the setting of an important experience you've had so that readers feel they were really there. You might start with a mystery that will be revealed later in the essay or double-entendre. If you are experiencing writer's block, skip this first sentence, and work on the rest of your essay. Explore your theme and brainstorm examples. Then, go back to the beginning and nail it.

Body: Several paragraphs explaining the main idea. Concentrate on content, use descriptive language, and give clear examples. Don't just recount--reflect! Anyone can write about how they won the big game or the time they spent in Rome or on a mission trip. When recalling these events, you need to give more than the play-by-play or itinerary or the trite "This experience changed my life forever"! Describe **what** you learned from the experience and how it changed you. Write as if you are talking to a friend, not like you are writing an essay for British Literature class.

Conclusion: Your conclusion should leave a lasting statement that reminds the reader of your essay's key points. Reiterate the main themes of your essay, but say it in a different way than you did before. Make sure that you do not bring up new ideas in your conclusion.

6. Review What You've Written. Get Feedback.

This time use a more critical eye. Is the essay interesting and well organized? Does it give a good picture of who you are? If it isn't as interesting as you'd like, add more examples and details. Read your essay out loud to see if the essay flows. Make sure you're writing about yourself in your own voice--not the person you imagine the admissions counselor will find interesting. If at some point you read over your essay and you hear your mother's voice, something is wrong! Ask for input. Teachers, counselors, friends, parents, siblings – ask people you respect for some candid feedback. “What do you think I’m trying to say?” “Does it sound confusing?” “Is it boring?” “Do I come across well?” Other people can often tell if there isn't enough being revealed, whether the essay rambles, or if the humor is falling flat.

7. Rewrite Your Essay

Writing the essay the first time is hard enough, but taking time to write another draft is well worth the effort. Revise, rewrite, reword. Revision is the key to all good writing including college application essays. Read it aloud. Your ears can pick up problems that your eyes may miss.

8. Edit Your Final Draft

This time really look at the mechanics of the essay. Grammar, spelling, sentence structure, style, and tone all count. Double check everything so that nothing detracts from the finished product.

9. Take a Last Look for Details. Pursue perfection. No essay needs to be error-free more than this one. Have your English teacher look it over. Quadruple-check the spelling. Perfect the format. When applying online, your essay will automatically be formatted to fit standard guidelines. However, if you decide not to send the application electronically, follow these guidelines:

Use single space.

Use Times New Roman in a 12-point font.

Make sure that each page has your name, high school and date of birth.

Print on only one side of the page.

Application Platforms

The Common Application

Over 750 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. The benefits of using the Common App include an easy to use interface to organize all the schools you plan on applying to, the opportunity to submit applications early and of course, only having to write a single version of your personal statement that will be used for every school.

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**

The Universal Application

This application platform is the most modest compared to the previous two. It is very similar to the Common Application, with the only distinction being that the schools available have to uphold the Statement of Principles of Good Practice. This is why the number of schools available to apply to through this portal is minimal.

The Common Black College Application

Although you will be asked to list your top four college choices when completing this app, your application is made available to all 53 Member Institutions for only \$35.

Tips From College Guidance Counselors

It's not easy being a College Guidance counselor. They are caught in the cross winds between helping hundreds of kids find the right spot for the next stage in their lives, keeping their parents calm and trying to stay current with the ever-changing college admissions landscape. We gathered some advice and listed the most helpful reminders below.

1. When an application indicates a word limit, stick to it.
2. This is your life and yours alone. The adults surrounding you are not going to college. They may have useful information and counsel to provide, but in the end the college decision needs to be yours.
3. Try not to set your heart on a single school, but find a range of schools where you could be happy. Picking schools is stressful and getting rejected from a school you have come to love can be painful.
4. Deadlines are deadlines, not suggestions, so plan your time well.
5. Keep an open mind. This is a voyage of discovery. At the end of this process you should have learned a great deal about colleges and yourself.
6. Writing college recommendations is not a job requirement for most teachers but something they do to support and help their students. Students should show their gratitude for this time-consuming task with a thank you in the form of an email or handwritten note.
7. If you have a problem with your applications, tests or recommendations do not wait until the last-minute to seek help. Counselors are there for you.
8. Find a school that fits you, not your friends and family. Finding that fit will mean going beyond "what everyone says" and finding out what a school is really like. WARNING: many parents and other adults have impressions of universities that are 25 years out of date.
9. Remember your manners. In every email you write and every contact you have with interviewers, admissions officers and anyone at a college remember that you are making a first impression.
10. You have never been to college so assume you know nothing and explore your options. Don't get your mind set on a certain type of college. Don't just look at one type of school, expand your search.
11. You do not need to discuss the college process with anyone other than your parents and counselor. If handling the barrage of questions from friends or the adults in your life is just increasing the pressure: don't answer. Your scores, school list and anything else relating to admissions, is your private business and you can keep quiet about it as long as you wish.
12. One day you will get good news, please think about how this will feel to your classmates if you go shouting it from the rooftops. Try not to check your admissions status during the school day but rather privately at home.
13. Students need to research, research, research the schools in which they are interested. This does not mean simply going to a single information session or reading an online ranking. Rather it means digging deep and finding all of the available information on a school.
14. Try not to dash from campus to campus on a whirlwind college tour seeing little more than the information session and official tour. Most college campuses are fairly open places and it is worth exploring a bit on your own. Be sure to write down a few impressions, as it will all start to blur.
15. You got this... colleges are not asking you to do anything you not capable of doing.
16. Don't pick a college for a single major. Research suggests that up to 80% of graduates have changed their major from what they envisioned in high school.
17. Colleges are interested in authenticity, in knowing who a student really is, not who the student thinks the college wants them to be. You do not need to have participated in community service, sports, the arts and worked at a job to be accepted to the college of your choice. You do need to have put effort into something that matters in your life and be able to convey that on your application.
18. Enjoy your senior year. This is one of life's special years, a time when memories are made. Don't let college admissions ruin that.

I. Testing Nuts and Bolts

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 SAT 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.

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. Very few schools require you to take the SAT Essay, 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; for late registration add \$28. 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. **NOTE:** All subject test are not made available on every testing date, check CollegeBoard website.

Subject Tests Offered:

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

Test Preparation: Free online at the CollegeBoard 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

Test Date	Registration Dead-line	Late Registration Dead-line (Mail)	Score Release
Aug 25, 2018	July 27	Aug 10	Sept 13
Oct 6, 2018	Sept 7	Sept 21	Oct 25
Nov 3, 2018	Oct 5	Oct 19	Nov 22
Dec 1, 2018	Nov 2	Nov 16	Dec 20

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; for late registration add \$29.50. 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 on pages 43-45 for median scores for many schools.

ACT TEST DATES

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Deadline	Score Release*
July 14	June 15	June 29	July 24; Aug 27
Sept 8	Aug 3	Aug 17	Sept 18; Oct 2
Oct 27	Sept 21	Oct 5	Nov 6; Nov 20
Dec 8	Nov 2	Nov 16	Dec 18, Jan 1

* Refers to online score release. The first date is when multiple choice scores come out, and the second is when complete scores are available.

SAT & ACT Test Taking Tips

Many students take the SAT or the ACT more than once. Most colleges will look at your best score and will even “superscore” the results; using the best subscore (math, reading, etc.) from each time you took the test. Always check with the college you are applying to first.

There’s an App For That

There are many options out there, look at them all and use the one that works best for you.

Free (mostly) Test Prep

Atlanta Virtual Academy: Free test prep online. Courses can be completed any time, any place, on any device. Visit their website (www.atlanta.learn.edgenuity.com) and login using your Network ID and Lunch Number. To view course descriptions - www.atlantapublicschools.us/ava

Kahn Academy: Partnering with the College Board to create free test prep - www.kahnapcademy.org/sat or www.sat.collegeboard.org/practice

March 2 Success: Offers practice tests and study materials, including for the ASVAB, the military entrance exam. Developed by the Army in collaboration with Petersons - www.march2success.com

Mometrix: Free practice tests - www.mometrix.com/academy

Peterson’s: Low cost practice tests and prep courses online - www.petersons.com

Atlanta-Fulton Public Library: Free test prep resources, with a library card, on the eCampus page of their website - www.afpls.org/ecampus

Paid Test Prep

All Pencils Down: Online prep classes (mainly ACT) - www.allpencilsdown.com

Applerouth: Test prep and tutoring - www.applerouth.com

Atlanta Tutors: In-home services for test prep and tutoring www.atlantatutors.net

Beth Bristow Tuturoial Services: Test prep, tutoring and college planning - bethbristow.com

C2 Education: Test prep and tutoring – www.c2educate.com

Dogwood: Test prep and tutoring – www.dogwoodtutoring.com

Edison Prep: Test prep and tutoring – www.edisonprep.com

BFF Tutoring: Test prep and tutoring - www.bfftutoring.com

Kaplan: Online or group test prep - www.kaptest.com

My Ivy Experience: Test prep and tutoring – www.myivyexperience.com

Success Prep: Test prep and tutoring - www.successprep.com

The Princeton Review: Online and in person test prep and tutoring - www.princetonreview.com

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 Unsourced 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.

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!

J. Athletes, Artists and Performers 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.

Artists and Performing Arts Students

If your child wants to major in musical theater or some other performing art, go ahead and blame it on Glee, American Idol or America's Got Talent. Television shows make performing look fun, but the process of applying to colleges as a prospective visual or performing arts major is anything but. For these students, the admission process can be even more nerve wracking and time consuming because of requirements for auditions or portfolios.

1. Don't apply where everybody else is. Ambitious students who are aiming for the same elite schools that are on everyone's short list will usually be disappointed. These schools are overrun with applications and will reject most students. In musical theater, for instance, applicants tend to flock to the University of Michigan, New York University, Boston Conservatory, Carnegie Mellon University, and the College-Conservatory of Music, which is part of the University of Cincinnati. Other wonderful schools in musical theater, include Syracuse University, University of the Arts, Elon University, Otterbein College, Point Park University, Millikin University, Montclair State University, and Florida State University.
2. Solicit opinions from experts. It's a reality that many stage parents believe their teenagers are far more talented than they are. Families should ask outside experts to critique their students' talent and seek professional coaching if necessary.
3. Look for joint auditions. Going to auditions can be expensive, which is why some schools in the art fields hold joint auditions. Some schools that offer a bachelor of fine arts program in theatre get together every year to hold a "National Unified Audition." The auditions will likely be held on different dates in January and February in New York, Chicago, Las Vegas, and Los Angeles. For visual art and design majors, there is "National Portfolio Day." Representatives of schools will review artwork and offer feedback for the students who attend.
4. Consider traditional universities or colleges. For lots of students, art schools and conservatories are going to be unaffordable. Many of these institutions are expensive and yet the financial aid students receive is often modest compared to traditional colleges and universities that offer a broader array of majors. The Savannah College of Art and Design, for instance, only meets 20 percent of the typical student's financial need, according to College Board statistics.
5. Be prepared for the audition. When you are at an audition, don't wear a T-shirt and jeans. You should also not wear anything that would draw attention away from your performance. You don't need to buy a suit, but consider choosing an outfit that you would wear on a first date. You should also perform appropriate material during an audition. A 17-year-old, for instance, shouldn't perform a piece that requires her to pretend to be a middle-aged woman.
6. Parents, take a chill pill. More parents than ever seem to be hoping that their children major in something practical like business or engineering. But art majors end up with many desirable skills such as being able to present in front of a group, taking constructive criticism, and being equipped with excellent speaking skills. Remember, what's most important is that students graduate with a degree!

K. Financing Your Education

~Student & parent contributions
~Grants & scholarships based on need
~Grants & scholarships based on merit

~Work Study
~Private scholarships

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 - Path2College529.com

The Path2College 529 Plan is a college savings plan offered by the State of Georgia and other 529 plans are offered by other states, do your research. 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.

Find more tips on scholarship searches on page 74.

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.fsaidth.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!)

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.

HOPE Scholarship is a merit-based award available to Georgia residents who have demonstrated academic achievement. A Hope Scholarship recipient must graduate from high school with a minimum 3.0 grade point average and maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative postsecondary grade point average to remain eligible. The scholarship provides tuition assistance to students pursuing an undergraduate degree at a HOPE Scholarship eligible college or university in Georgia. A seven-year limit exists for students first receiving the HOPE Scholarship during the 2011-2012 academic year (FY12) or later.

HOPE Grant is available to Georgia residents who are pursuing a certificate or diploma. A HOPE Grant recipient must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative postsecondary grade point average to remain eligible. The grant provides tuition assistance to students enrolled at a HOPE Grant eligible college or university in Georgia.

Zell Miller Scholarship is a merit-based award available to Georgia residents, similar to the HOPE Scholarship, but with more stringent academic requirements and a higher level of tuition assistance. Students must graduate high school with a minimum 3.7 grade point average combined with a minimum SAT score of 1200 on the math and reading portions of the test or a minimum composite score of 26 on a single national or state/district administration of the ACT. Students must maintain a minimum 3.3 cumulative postsecondary grade point average to remain eligible for the scholarship. There is a seven-year eligibility limit for students receiving the scholarship, beginning with the 2011-2012 academic year.

Zell Miller Grant is a merit-based program available to Georgia residents pursuing a certificate or diploma. To remain eligible, a Zell Miller Grant recipient must maintain a minimum 3.5 cumulative postsecondary grade point average (GPA). Grant recipients are awarded full-standard tuition assistance while enrolled at an eligible college or university in Georgia.

HOPE GED Grant is available to Georgia residents who earn a General Education Development (GED) diploma after June 30, 1993. The GED must be awarded by the Technical College System of Georgia. HOPE GED Grant provides a one-time \$500 award that can be used toward tuition, books, or other educational costs at an eligible college or university in Georgia. Full-time enrollment is not required. Students must use their HOPE GED Grant within 24 months of the GED diploma date.

HOPE Career Grant, formerly known as the Strategic Industries Workforce Development Grant (SIWDG), is available to Georgia residents. Students must pursue a certificate or diploma and receive HOPE or Zell Miller Grant funding. The grant provides assistance for educational costs in an approved designated program of study.

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.

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
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 led 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 interviewees 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

Is the degree program you'd like to pursue not available in Georgia? Then you can take advantage of The Academic Common Market and get in-state tuition at a participating out of state college and universities. 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: sreb.org

The State of Georgia has reciprocal programs with institutions in the following states:

Alabama	Mississippi
Arkansas	Oklahoma
Delaware	South Carolina
Florida	Tennessee
Kentucky	Texas
Louisiana	Virginia
Maryland	West Virginia

Go to sreb.org to explore each states participating institutions.

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 loose in-state privileges in universities which participate in the common market.

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

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ Alumni. Some schools waive non-resident fees for children of alumni.
- ☐ Strong Academic Credentials. Some colleges offer in-state tuition and additional scholarships for students who meet certain SAT or ACT scores. Examples: University of South Carolina, University of Missouri. Always ask!

Scholarship Application Tips

Create outstanding scholarship apps!

Applying for scholarships is like applying to college. You match your strengths to the sponsor's needs and make the case for why you should be selected. Follow these pointers to get started.

- **Develop a list of your accomplishments and create a resume.** Refer to it as you complete your applications and give it to people writing your letters of recommendation.
- **Brainstorm how you might qualify. Think about what makes you unique.** Don't forget your parents. Their residency, heritage, employment, memberships, etc. call all lead to scholarship opportunities.
- **Study application requirements.** What the scholarship sponsor is looking for is usually spelled out in the application package and eligibility rules.
- **Plan to spend time on your essay.** Many scholarships ask for a short piece of writing. Often this is your only chance to highlight your unique strengths.

Get organized before you apply.

Like college apps, scholarship applications contain a lot of moving pieces – from recommendation letters to financial aid forms. So developing a way to stay on top of the details is crucial. Go to Reviews.com for more on what you should know about scholarships, what to do before you start your search and a guide to applying for scholarships.

Ready to get started?

BAD NEWS: The cost of college gets more expensive every year with increases of 3.2% and 2.4% in the public and private sectors respectively over the past decade. The average undergraduate now finishes their degree with over \$26,700 in student debt nationally. In Georgia, that number climbs to \$27,754 with 61% leaving with student loan debt.

GOOD NEWS: Scholarships are one of the best ways to reduce these growing costs and scholarship search platforms exist to help students find the most relevant ones. Below is a list of the best scholarship platforms for 2018 (all free) based on functionality, scholarship availability, ease of use, application tools and additional helpful resources. This is by no means a comprehensive list, but gives you a great start to paying your way through college.

Fastweb.com

Cappex.com

Unigo.com

Studentscholarshipsearch.com

Scholarships.com

Salliemae.com

Bigfuture.collegeboard.com

Goodcall.com

Collegedata.com

Chegg.com

Scholarships.startclass.com

Petersons.com

Brokescholar.com

Niche.com

Careeronestop.org

Scholarshipportal.com

MORE NEWS: Also explore our CCC website www.nahscollege.org for a link to individual scholarships available. And finally, check out a new way of matching students to scholarship dollars – Raiseme.com

L. The Best Advice for College!

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.

M. 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. (Avoid these!)

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, unless you qualify for financial assists.

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.

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.

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 probably be admitted to because your scores are above the average in the school's profile.

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.

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.

APPENDIX A IB Diploma Programme Sample Scheduling

IB DP students must take 6 IB DP Subject Courses in addition to Theory of Knowledge. They must take at least 3 SL group courses and 3 HL group courses (see DP groups below).

Non-arts students must take another DP course to fill in for the 6th required subject group. Most NAHS DP students take either IB Economics (one-year course) or IB Business/Management (one-year course) to fill in for the arts course.

Students can double up in either science or language if that is their preference. Each DP student schedule is individualized to meet the student's needs and preferences.

8 courses each year	Ninth Grade		Tenth Grade		DP GROUPS	Eleventh Grade	Twelfth Grade	
1.	9 th Grade Lit./Comp.		AP Language (optional but recommended)		IB DP GROUP 1 LITERATURE	IB Literature HL (Y1)	IB Literature HL (Y2)	
			10 th grade Literature					
2.	Chinese 1 or 2		Chinese 2 or 3		IB DP GROUP 2 LANGUAGE	IB Chinese SL (Y1)	IB Chinese SL (Y2)	
	Arabic 1		Arabic 2			IB Arabic SL (Y1)	IB Arabic SL (Y2)	
	French 1, 2, 3 or 4		French 2, 3 or 4 or AP French			IB French HL (Y1)	IB French HL (Y2)	
	Spanish 1, 2, 3 or 4		Spanish 2, 3 or 4 or AP Spanish			IB Spanish HL (Y1)	IB Spanish HL (Y2)	
3.	Am. Govt/Civics	US & World Affairs	AP World History (optional but recommended)		IB DP GROUP 3 INDIVIDUALS & SOCIETIES	IB History of the Americas HL (Y1)	IB History: 20 th Century World Topics HL (Y2)	
			World History					
4.	Biology		Chemistry		IB DP GROUP 4 SCIENCES	IB Biology SL or HL (Y1)	IB Biology SL or HL (Y2)	
						IB Physics SL (Y1)	IB Physics SL (Y2)	
						IB Chemistry SL or HL (Y1)	IB Chemistry SL or HL (Y2)	
5.	Algebra I		Geometry		IB DP GROUP 5 MATH	Algebra II	IB Math Studies SL	
	Algebra I		Geometry H	Algebra II H		IB Mathematics SL Y1	IB Mathematics SL Y2	
	Geometry H	Algebra II H	Pre-calculus H	Calculus		AP Calculus BC	IB Mathematics SL	
	Algebra I	Geometry H	Algebra II H			IB Mathematics SL Y1	IB Mathematics SL Y2	
	Geometry		Algebra II			IB Mathematics SL Y1	IB Mathematics SL Y2	
	Geometry H	Algebra II H	Pre-Calculus H			AP Calculus AB	IB Mathematics SL	
6.	Ballet 1		Ballet 2		IB DP GROUP 6 ARTS***	IB Dance SL or HL (Y1)	IB Dance SL or HL (Y2)	
	Audio-Video Tech 1		Audio-Video Tech 2			IB Film SL or HL (Y1)	IB Film SL or HL (Y2)	
	Art/Draw/Paint 1		Art/Draw/Paint 1			IB Visual Art SL or HL (Y1)	IB Visual Art SL or HL (Y2)	
	Level 1 or higher of any Band, Chorus, or Orchestra class		Level 2 or higher of any Band, Chorus, or Orchestra class			AP Music Theory	IB Music SL	
6.					***if not arts student, DP student must take another IB science OR another IB language OR IB economics OR IB Bus/Management	IB Business Mgmt SL (can be taken in 11 th or 12 th grade)	IB Economics SL (12 th grade only)	
						2 nd IB Science Y1	2 nd IB Science Y2	
						2 nd IB World Language Y1 (must have taken in 9 th & 10 th grades as well)	2 nd IB World Language Y2	
7.	P.E./Health		P.E.		TOK (mandatory)	Theory of Knowledge (TOK)	Theory of Knowledge (TOK)	
8.	AP Human Geography (optional but recommended)		Physics			Physics (if has not taken)	Economics	elective
							AP Calculus AB (if room in schedule)	

APPENDIX B IB Career-Related Programme Sample Scheduling

IB CP students must take at least 2 IB DP Subject Courses in addition to Personal and Professional Skills. One of the two DP courses must be a 2-year course.

IB CP students should consider their chosen career-related study (pathway) when choosing their DP courses. For instance, a CP student whose pathway is Business and Technology might want to take IB Literature and IB Economics.

8 courses each year	Ninth Grade		Tenth Grade		Eleventh Grade	Twelfth Grade	
1.	9 th Grade Lit./Comp.		AP Language (optional but recommended))		IB Literature HL (Y1)	IB Literature HL (Y2)	
			10 th grade Literature		AP Lit/Composition	British Literature	
					American Literature		
2.	Chinese 1 or 2		Chinese 2 or 3		IB Chinese SL (Y1)	IB Chinese SL (Y2)	
	Arabic 1		Arabic 2		IB Arabic SL (Y1)	IB Arabic SL (Y2)	
	French 1, 2, 3 or 4		French 2, 3 or 4 or AP French		IB French HL (Y1)	IB French HL (Y2)	
	Spanish 1, 2, 3 or 4		Spanish 2, 3 or 4 or AP Spanish		IB Spanish HL (Y1)	IB Spanish HL (Y2)	
CP students don't have to take language class 11 th /12 th grade. This could be another DP class or an elective					CP students don't have to take language class 11 th /12 th grade. This could be another DP class or an elective		
3.	Am. Govt/Civics	US & World Affairs	AP World History (optional but recommended)		IB History of the Americas HL (Y1)	IB History: 20 th Century World Topics HL (Y2)	
			World History		AP US History	IB Economics (one-year course)	
					US History	IB Business/Management (one-year course)	
					IB Business/Management (one-year course)	Economics	AP Economics
						Economics	elective
4.	Biology		Chemistry		IB Biology SL or HL (Y1)	IB Biology SL or HL (Y2)	
					IB Physics SL (Y1)	IB Physics SL (Y2)	
					IB Chemistry SL or HL (Y1)	IB Chemistry SL or HL (Y2)	
					Physics	Environmental Science or Forensics or Earth Systems	
					AP Physics (can be taken in either 11 th or 12 th grade)	AP Physics (can be taken in either 11 th or 12 th grade)	
5.	Algebra I		Geometry		Algebra II	IB Math Studies SL	
	Algebra I		Geometry H	Algebra II H	IB Mathematics SL Y1	IB Mathematics SL Y2	
	Geometry H	Algebra II H	Pre-calculus H	Calculus	AP Calculus BC	IB Mathematics SL	
	Algebra I	Geometry H	Algebra II H		IB Mathematics SL Y1	IB Mathematics SL Y2	
	Geometry		Algebra II		IB Mathematics SL Y1	IB Mathematics SL Y2	
	Geometry H	Algebra II H	Pre-Calculus H		AP Calculus AB	IB Mathematics SL	
6.	Chosen Pathway year 1 course		Chosen Pathway Year 1 or 2 course		Chosen Pathway Year 2 or 3 course	Chosen Pathway Year 3 or 4 course or Work-Based Learning	
7.	P.E./Health		Elective		Personal and Professional Skills (PPS)	Personal and Professional Skills (PPS)	
8.	AP Human Geography (optional but recommended)		Elective		Elective or a 3 rd DP course of student choice	Elective or a 3 rd DP course of student choice	

APPENDIX C NAHS IB CP /CTAE Career Pathways

NAHS CP Pathways*

Audio-Video Technology and Film†

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

JROTC-Army†

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

Graphic Design†

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

Business and Technology†

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

Information Technology-Web and Digital Design†

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

Information Technology-Programming†

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

Visual Arts

9 th grade	Visual arts/comprehension I
10 th grade	Drawing/painting I or Ceramics I or Applied Design I
11 th grade/CP year 1	Drawing/painting II or Ceramics II or Applied Design II
12 th grade/CP year 2	AP Art/Draw or IB art SL or Sculpture I or ceramics/pottery III or AP Art/Draw or IB Art SL or Sculpture I or Applied Design III

Dance

9 th grade	Ballet I
10 th grade	Ballet 2, Ballet ¾ or Dance Composition
11 th grade/CP year 1	Dance Composition or IB Dance
12 th grade/CP year 2	Dance Composition or IB Dance

Orchestra

9 th grade	Beginning or Intermediate Orchestra
10 th grade	Intermediate or Advanced or Mastery Orchestra
11 th grade/CP year 1	Advanced or Mastery Orchestra or AP Music Theory
12 th grade/CP year 2	Mastery Orchestra or AP Music Theory or IB Music SL

*Pathways and course sequences are subject to change and are based upon district and state requirements.

† CTAE Pathways others are only for IB CP

APPENDIX D Dual Enrollment Partners

Atlanta Metropolitan College – Atlanta, GA (FALL Semester; July 15th)

www.atlm.edu

Cindy Balsam, Recruiter & Dual Enrollment Coordinator

Cbalsam@atlm.edu | 404-756-4401

GA Highland College (Marietta Campus) – Marietta, GA (FALL Semester; March 1st)

<https://www.highlands.edu/how-do-i-apply/dual-enrollment>

Contact: admitme@highlands.edu

Chattahoochee Technical College – Marietta, GA (FALL Semester; May 18)

<http://www.chattahoocheetech.edu/enrollment-for-current-high-school-students>

Contact: Dual.Enroll@chattahoocheetech.edu

Atlanta Technical College (ACCA) – Atlanta, GA (FALL Semester; see your NAHS Counselor)

ACCA website: www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/873

Angela Fortson, Academic Counselor

Atlanta College and Career Academy (ACCA) | Atlanta Public Schools (APS)

Atlanta Technical College (ATC), 1560 Metropolitan Parkway, SW,

Bldg. C, #1113 (Student Success Center), Atlanta, GA 30310

(404) 225-4080 (office) | afortson@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Kennesaw State University – Kennesaw GA (FALL Semester; March 16)

<http://admissions.kennesaw.edu/apply/dehp.php>

Hilary Battle, Academic Advisor, Dual Enrollment Honors Program

hgann@kennesaw.edu

Georgia State University- Atlanta, GA (FALL Semester; May 1)

<http://admissions.gsu.edu/how-do-i-apply/high-school-students/dual-enrollment-programs>

<http://perimeter.gsu.edu/admissions/dual-enrollment/>

Contacts: Bianca M. Lopez, Senior Admissions Counselor

Dual Enrollment Specialist (Atlanta Campus)

Office of Undergraduate Admissions

Georgia State University

P: 404.413.2515 | E: blopez@gsu.edu

Grant Jones, Customer Services Specialist

Georgia State University Perimeter College

Dunwoody Campus, NA 2120 / 770-274-5375

GA Tech (Distance Math) – Atlanta, GA (Applications available May 15 to June 15)

<http://admission.gatech.edu/dualenrollment/distance-math>

Young Harris College (Online) – Young Harris, GA (Rolling Admission) -

applying early is better. <https://www.yhc.edu/academics/distance-learning/mowr-program>

Zachariah Chamberlin, Admissions Counselor

Young Harris Early College/Move on When Ready Counselor

(706) 379-5234 Grant Jones, Customer Services Specialist II

Georgia State University Perimeter College

Dunwoody Campus, NA 2120 | 770-274-53

APPENDIX E

College Comparison Worksheet

School and Location	1	2	3	4
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?				
Average # AP/IB/DE Classes				

APPENDIX F

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Accreditation:

AdvancED/Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

CEEB School Code:

110-205

COMMUNITY

North Atlanta High School is one of the 18 high schools in the Atlanta Public Schools system, a district that serves over 49,000 students residing in the urban core of Atlanta, Georgia. A 1991 merger of the former North Fulton High School and Northside High School resulted in the creation of North Atlanta High School, currently located on Northside Parkway in the Buckhead neighborhood of Atlanta. Classes are held in a renovated modern office tower just west of the Buckhead business district, though the student population encompasses a vast socio-economic spectrum that mirrors the demographics of the city and of the state.

The student body of approximately 1900 students is abundantly diverse in race, culture and socio-economic backgrounds.

22% C/O 2018 Cohort
25% C/O 2019 Cohort
27% C/O 2020 Cohort
26% C/O 2021 Cohort

2% Asian
39% Black
21% Hispanic/Latino
4% Multi-Racial
33% White
<1% Amer Indian
<1% Pacific Islander
5% ESOL
31% Gifted
8% Special Needs
31% Economically Disadvantaged



North Atlanta High School School Profile

4111 Northside Parkway, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30324

404-802-4700

www.atlantapublicschools.us/Domain/3377

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

For students to obtain a high school diploma in the state of Georgia and the Atlanta Public School district, students must successfully complete specific courses in certain subject areas.

TOTAL: 24 Credits

Language Arts: 4 credits
Mathematics: 4 credits
Science: 4 credits
Social Studies: 3 credits
World Language: 2 credits
Fine Arts or Career Tech: 1.0 credit
Health and Physical Education: 1.5 credit
Electives: 4 credits
Community Service: .5 credit

CLASS SCHEDULE

North Atlanta High School operates on a two-semester system with each semester being approximately 18 weeks. Credit is established in units. There are a total of 8 courses a student takes in a year via a 4 x 8 schedule model. Each course meets every other day (an A/B day rotation) for approximately 90 minutes and carries .5 unit of credit upon successful completion of the semester. It is possible to earn four units of credit per semester, or a total of eight units per year, if all classes are success-

fully completed. During the 4 years (8 semesters) of high school, students may earn a total of 32 units of credit.

GRADING SCALE

Unweighted	Weighted
A = 90 – 100	A = 90 – 110
B = 80 – 89	B = 80 – 89
C = 70 – 79	C = 70 – 79
F = Below 70	F = Below 70
I = Incomplete	I = Incomplete
NG = No Grade	NG = No Grade
S = Satisfactory	S = Satisfactory

All Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) and Dual Enrollment level courses are given 10 honors point to all final passing semester grades.

Individual grades on the transcript do include the additional ten honors points.

GRADE POINT AVERAGES

Student grade point averages (GPA) are calculated on a 100 point scale using the final numerical grades from all attempted high school credit bearing courses. To recognize the additional rigor of Advanced Placement (AP) courses, International

al Baccalaureate (IB) courses, and college-level courses in core content areas and world languages taken, 10 points will be added to the final numeric grade for each AP, IB or core dual-enrollment course that is passed with a grade of 70 or above.

The weighted numeric grade-point average shall be calculated based on all numeric grades earned in grade levels nine (9) through 12, including grades for all college-level courses taken while dually enrolled at an accredited postsecondary institution. Grades earned for qualifying high school courses taken at the middle-school level will be included on the transcript, but will not be factored into the weighted numeric grade-point average for class-ranking purposes. Unweighted GPAs do not include the 10 honors points which are subtracted before the calculation.

CLASS RANK

Class rank is calculated using the cumulative numerical grade point average. The ten honors points awarded in all in AP, IB and Dual Enrollment courses are included in the calculation. Class rank is not final or official until a student completes all graduation requirements.

NAHS Class of 2017 Postsecondary Placement & Academic Achievement

4 Year Graduation Rate	Over 88%
Graduates matriculated to post- secondary institutions	90%
Graduates matriculated to 4 year colleges	75%
Graduates matriculated to 2 year colleges or technical schools	15%
Total Scholarship Awards	Over \$22,000,000
Average ACT composite	23
Average SATCombined Score	1083
Average SAT Evidence Based Reading/Writing	557
Average SAT Math	528



International Baccalaureate Level Course Offerings (26):

IB English A Literature HL
IB Math Studies SL
IB Mathematics SL
IB Math SL
IB Biology SL
IB Biology HL
IB Chemistry SL
IB Chemistry HL
IB Physics SL
IB History of the Americas HL
IB Economics SL
IB Arabic SL
IB French HL
IB Mandarin Chinese SL
IB Spanish HL
IB Business & Management SL
IB Business & Management HL
IB Visual Arts SL
IB Visual Arts HL
IB Dance SL
IB Dance HL
IB Film SL
IB Film HL
IB Music SL
IB PPS
IB Theory of Knowledge

Advanced Placement Course Offerings (20):

AP Language/Composition
AP Literature/Composition
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
AP Biology
AP Environmental Science
AP Physics 1
AP Macro Economics
AP Psychology
AP US History
AP World History
AP Human Geography
AP French Language
AP Spanish Language
AP Computer Science A
AP Music Theory
AP Studio Art-2D Design
AP Studio Art-3D Design
AP Studio Art-Drawing

ADMINISTRATION

Curtis Douglass - Principal
Jill Stewart - 12th Grade Asst. Principal
Angela Mitchell - 11th Grade Asst. Principal
Yvette Williams - 10th Grade Asst. Principal
Meredith Kaltman - 9th Grade Asst. Principal
Lakeicia Bonner, Asst. Principal

SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Kaye Boykin (A – C)
Dionne Williams (D – H)
Marc Genwright (I – M), Dept Chair
Darryl Robinson (N – Sr)
Shellie Marino (St – Z)
Casandra Jones, Graduation Coach

NORTH ATLANTA HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM

North Atlanta High School offers a diverse curriculum designed to meet the individual needs of students who are seeking a challenging college preparatory experience. North Atlanta's curriculum offerings prepare students for the challenges of post-secondary education beyond high school. Course offerings are determined by State of Georgia and Atlanta Public Schools Board of Education requirements, student selection, availability of staff, and cost effectiveness.

International Baccalaureate Programme

North Atlanta is an International Baccalaureate World School. We implement a fully authorized Middle Years Program, which all 9th and 10th graders are participants. We also have the Southeast's oldest IB Diploma Program. Starting with the 2017-18 school year we have been approved as an IB Career-Related Program school.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB DP)

The International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme (DP) is an assessed programme for students in their junior and senior years. It is respected by leading universities across the globe. Through the DP, schools are able to develop students who have excellent breadth and depth of knowledge; flourish physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically; study at least two languages; excel in traditional academic subjects; explore the nature of knowledge through the programme's unique theory of knowledge course. Students enter the IB Programme in their junior year and must take 6 IB classes, one English, one Foreign Language, one Social Science, one Science, one Mathematics, and a sixth as elective. Three of these must be Higher Level (HL) and three Standard Level (SL).

International Baccalaureate Career-Related Programme (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 development, service learning, a reflective project and a Personal and Professional Skills class. Admissions criteria include an 85 average in core classes including career-related pathway courses in grades 9 and 10; minimum Lexile 1150; successful completion of the MYP Personal Project; be on track to complete a career pathway.

Advanced Placement Program

North Atlanta High School offers Advanced Placement courses in many subjects. Juniors and seniors are advised to take no more than three AP courses in any given year. Students must apply and be accepted into an Advanced Placement course which is based on a combination of set criteria specific to each course.

AP examinations are evaluated and scored by the CollegeBoard on a five-point scale where a five is the highest score. Students scoring within the 3 to 5 score range are potentially eligible for college credit and are indicating their well-qualified college entrance performance.

Dual Enrollment/Move On When Ready Program

The dual enrollment program provides students the opportunity to take college courses at approved post-secondary institutions while still attending North Atlanta. Dual enrollment students can earn high school graduation credit for courses taken at post-secondary institutions. To participate in MOWR, a student must first apply with the admissions office at a college or university and be admitted into their program. Once accepted for dual enrollment by the college, the student will work with both their high school counselor and post-secondary college advisor to determine and complete course selection and registration.

Georgia's Pathways Program

Georgia's Pathway Program encourages students to pursue high school classes that match their career and post-secondary educational goals. Students are encouraged to choose a pathway related to a career cluster area of interest. Students become pathway completers by successfully completing a specified 3 course sequence with a concentration of study. Pathway offerings include Advanced Academics (English, mathematics, science or social studies), Fine Arts (Visual Arts, Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Drama, or Journalism), Career Technology/Engineering (Audio, Video, Technology & Film Career, Business & Technology, Graphic Communication, Graphic Design, JROTC Army Career, Programming, and Web and Digital Design) and/or World Languages (Arabic, French, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish). Opportunities for Work Based Learning in these pathways are available to seniors who have completed at least 2 units in the pathway.

Community Service

In order to meet graduation requirements, students must earn and submit 75 hours of volunteer service during non-school time in agencies approved by the Atlanta Public Schools. Students may begin serving their hours after eighth grade promotion. Documentation of these hours should be submitted to the counselor by the conclusion of their first semester of senior year.

Advisory/Social-Emotional Learning

Every Tuesday, after 1st period, we hold an hour long advisory session. We focus on social-emotional learning, as well as grade level specific lessons. Ninth grade lessons include time management, study skills and four-year planning. Tenth grade lessons include transcript review, college entrance exam information and working on the IB MYP Personal Project. Eleventh grade lessons include a focus on meeting graduation requirements and preparation for college and career options. Twelfth grade lessons are focused on post-graduation college and career planning.

North Atlanta High School

NAHS Mission Statement: *Through a nurturing culture that embraces diversity, promotes academic rigor, and fosters integrity, North Atlanta High School will develop inquiring, responsible, and caring young adults who will graduate ready for college and career.*

APPENDIX G

Sample Resume

Jane/John Doe

Address

Atlanta, Georgia 30342

404-555-1234

jstudent@bellsouth.net

Academics

North Atlanta High School

International Baccalaurate Diploma Programme Candidate

GPA - Unweighted: 3.37 Weighted: 3.56

Honors and Achievements

National Merit Semi-Finalist (11)

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

Missouri All State Choir (10, 11)

Leadership and Activities

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 Service

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)

APPENDIX H 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_____

APPENDIX I Student “Brag Sheet” for College Recommendations

For a QUALITY recommendation letter, please give at least two weeks’ notice. Answer the questions that follow as thoroughly as possible. The more detailed you are, the more detailed your recommendation will be. This information should not only help to write a quality recommendation for you, but it should also help you begin to think about why you will be a good candidate for a particular college. Please feel free to attach a separate sheet of paper if you need more room to answer any questions. Counselor must sign and date at time of delivery of this form. Do Not slide under the door.

NAME (First, Middle, Last) _____

DATE OF SUBMISSION _____ COUNSELOR SIGNATURE _____

ACADEMICS

Tell me about an academic experience at NAHS that has been the most meaningful to you (teacher, class, project, etc.).

What is your greatest academic strength? Give an example and explain why.

What subject(s) have been the most challenging? What were the circumstances and 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?

What subject/academic area have you enjoyed the most? Give an example and explain why.

Do you have a learning disability that has required special accommodations? If so, please describe. Do we have permission to discuss it with colleges as a way of providing content for your academic performance?

PERSONAL/SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

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.

Describe a risk you have taken either academically or in your personal life while in high school. What have you learned from your experience?

This section will assist me in getting to know you better.

- Hobbies/Interests:
- Favorite Book/Authors:
- Favorite Movie:

- Favorite Expression:
- Favorite Quotation:
- Favorite NAHS Teachers:
- A character in a book/movie that reminds you of yourself and why.
- What has been your greatest challenge?

COLLEGE AND CAREER PLANNING

What colleges are you applying to?

At the present time, what are your personal goals regarding:

- Higher Education and area of study (major)?
- Occupation after college?
- Where do you see yourself in 3-5 years?

What types of people populate your ideal college? Are you interested in a liberal or conservative student body? Does this matter to you?

Are there any specific activities and/or sports you wish to pursue while in college?

What limitations do you have regarding the cost of college?

Please list other factors that will be important for you during the college selection process (e.g. alumni affiliations, first generation college students, etc.)

ACTIVITIES

Please list any activities (athletics, jobs, community service, the arts, clubs, publications, hobbies, etc.) you have been involved while at NAHS or elsewhere. Include leadership (e.g. captain, editor, etc.) positions. Please also discuss meaningful activities you did during any of your summers (e.g. travel abroad, internships, etc.). Please list activity and grade levels (e.g. Football 9-11, FBLA 10, Treasurer, etc.).

RECOGNITION

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

I give permission to allow my recommender to quote from this document. ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPENDIX J 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

IB Scores

Year Taken	Name of Exam	Score

