



Senior Parent Night

**Tuesday, September 26, 2023
6:00 P.m.**

Presented by:

Dr. Delicia Fellers
Professional School Counselor

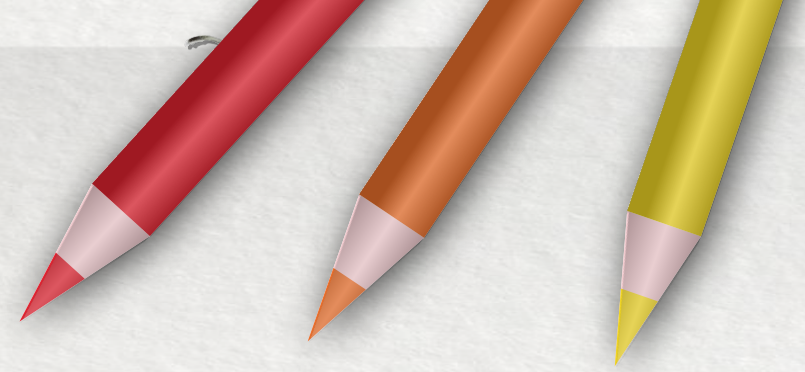
Mrs. Jennifer Ludewig
Professional School Counselor

Ms. Kimberly Geter
College & Career Specialist

Mrs. Elizabeth Umberger
Financial Aid Advocate
Georgia Gwinnett College

Agenda

- Graduation Requirements
- Senior Meetings
- Post-Secondary Options & College Admissions Process
- Financial Aid & Paying for College
- Questions





Ms. Hollingsworth
9th grade



Mr. Jackson
10th grade



Mr. Palmeri
11th grade
Last Names A-K



Ms. Lawrence
11th grade
Last Names L-Z



Ms. Geter
College & Career
Specialist



Dr. Fellers
12th grade
Last Names A-K



Mrs. Ludewig
12th grade
Last Names L-Z

Graduation Requirements

A student must have 23 credits in order to graduate from HS

Those credits must generally include the following:

- 4 Language Arts
- 4 Math (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2-or its content equivalent- and a fourth math)
- 4 Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics and a 4th Science)
- 1 Health/PE
- 3 Social Science (U.S. History and World History, Economics and Political Systems)
- 3 Electives (Pathway/Fine Art/Technology/World Language)
- 4 Additional electives

Senior Meetings

Senior Letters

1. **Check your address.** If it is incorrect, make sure your parent/guardian contacts the school! It **MUST** be formally changed.
2. If **student cell phone** is missing, please add your number.
3. Check if your **Social Security Number** is on file. This is very important to receive HOPE or Zell.
4. **Review your credits** for graduation.
5. Fill in your **Post-Secondary plan**.
6. **Sign and date** the letter at the bottom.
7. The counselor will collect these in class and mail them home.
8. Keep up with your credits on **StudentVue**.

This is **YOUR** application to graduate in May 2024!



Counselors will be coming into advisement classes in coming weeks to discuss senior letters!

Senior Graduation Application



GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SENIOR GRADUATION APPLICATION

Year: 2023-2024
Report: CHS202SGA

Anticipated Graduation: ____ December ____ May ____ Summer ____ Other	Graduation Ceremony: I plan to participate ____ YES ____ NO	Required Exams Gwinnett Gateway: ____ Taken (Passed) Science ____ Taken (Passed) Social Studies	Candidate for: ____ General Diploma ____ IEP Diploma ____ STRIVE/ADAPT Certificate
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Student Name: _____ SisNumber: _____ Student SSN On File: **YES**

Student Email: _____

Parent Name: _____	Parent/Guardian of: _____
Parent Email: _____	
Parent Phone: _____ Student Cell: _____	

UNIT REQUIREMENTS				
Subject	General Diploma	Earned	Needed	Courses Remaining
Language Arts	4.00	3.00	1.00	12th Gr LA(1.00)
Mathematics	4.00	3.00	1.00	Math(1.00)
Science	4.00	3.50	0.50	Bio(0.50)
World History	1.00	1.00	0.00	
US History	1.00	1.00	0.00	
Am. Gov't/Civics	0.50	0.00	0.50	American Government & Civics(0.50)
Economics	0.50	0.00	0.50	Economics(0.50)
Personal Fitness	0.50*	0.50	0.00	
Health	0.50*	0.50	0.00	
M/CL FA TC**	3.00**	3.00	0.00	
Electives	4.00	3.00	1.00	Electives(1.00)
TOTAL	23.0***	18.50	4.50	

* By completing 3 units of JROTC, a student can receive credit for the unit of required Health/Personal Fitness.

** Modern/Classical Language and/or Fine Arts and/or Technical Course - 2 credits of the same modern/classical language are required for university/college admissions in the State of Georgia.

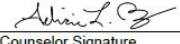
*** Minimum units required.

POSTSECONDARY PLANS:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-year College/University UGA	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment
<input type="checkbox"/> 2-year/Technical College	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
<input type="checkbox"/> Workforce Training/Apprenticeship	

COUNSELOR'S NOTES: Student is currently in classes needed to graduate in May 2024.

The school counselor and student have reviewed the information on this Application for Graduation. I, the student, understand that it is my responsibility to fulfill all requirements for graduation, including earning 23 credits in the designated areas and passing both Gateway Exams.

Student Signature _____ Date _____ Counselor Signature  Date _____ Parent Signature (Optional) _____ Date _____

Senior Graduation Application



GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SENIOR GRADUATION APPLICATION

Year: 2023-2024
Report: CHS202SGA

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Application for Graduation provides information about the graduation status of your senior. This form was completed using information from your student's transcript and test record.

Detailed graduation requirements can be found in the GCPS [Choice Book](https://gcpsk12.org) and the Gwinnett County Board of Education website (<https://gcpsk12.org>). To receive a high school diploma, current seniors must earn 23 units, demonstrate proficiency in the four core areas- language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies- by passing the required courses with the respective Georgia Milestone (if applicable) factored in to the final average as well as pass both sections of the Gateway Exam. Please note: GCPS policy regarding Awarding Units of Credit and Acceptance of Transfer Credits and/or Grades (P.JBCB). Please consult with your student's counselor prior to taking classes outside the district. Additionally, the school must receive official documentation of a course grade taken outside the district at least two weeks before the anticipated graduation date of the student.

Teachers, counselors, and administrators are available to assist in advising your student. It is the student's responsibility to fulfill all requirements for graduation.

Please note:

1. **All course requirements must be completed to participate in the graduation ceremony.**
2. A passing grade must be earned to receive course credit.
3. Attendance at graduation practice is required for those participating in the ceremony.
4. A fee is charged for printed transcripts. A written request for each transcript is required.
5. Each post-secondary school has its own set of requirements for admission. It is the student's responsibility to contact the school to determine the requirements, including which entrance examination is needed.
6. Application fees, filing deadlines, final transcripts and other required documents for post secondary schools are the responsibilities of the student.
7. Filing for financial aid, HOPE Scholarship, and other scholarships in a timely manner is the responsibility of the student and parent. Students who want to apply for federal student aid should visit <https://studentaid.gov> and begin applying on October 1st.
8. All seniors are expected to create an account on <http://www.gafutures.org> to check eligibility for state financial aid (including HOPE), explore college information and to release electronic transcripts from Georgia Student Finance.
9. The student's Social Security number is required for participation in the HOPE Scholarship Program. It is the student's responsibility to have his/her Social Security number added to the school transcript as well as their GA Futures profile, and to verify its accuracy. Omission or error may result in the student losing eligibility for the HOPE Grant or Scholarship.
10. Please encourage your student to take advantage of career, college and scholarship information available in the Counseling Office.

If you have any questions, please contact the school counseling office.

Counseling Staff
Gwinnett County Public Schools

Did you know?

Seniors...

- You can apply for scholarships only available to PTSA Members?
- PTSA will have a drawing towards the end of the year. The number of scholarships are determined by the number of 2022-2023 PTSA members.
- A parent/guardian and the student must be PTSA members with at least one email address to qualify.
- It is easy to join PTSA! Go to MyPaymentsPlus.com, Click Events & Activities, then click PTSA and pay \$20. That's it. You are entered into the PTSA Senior drawing.

College Admissions Process

Have a kid going to college?

Parenting Experts Share Top Tips for Success

- Make a communication plan - set a reasonable expectation
- Ditch the curfews before college starts - your child won't have a curfew in college
- Let them solve their own conundrums - Part of learning is figuring out how to solve them
- Normalize homesickness - it's normal! Encourage them to push through
- Trust yourself - your child has absorbed more of what you've tried to teach them than you may realize
- Expect mistakes - college students are human. They will make mistakes. Don't overreact when they make bad choices
- Get a hobby - it helps to stay busy!
- Develop an attitude of curiosity - ask questions to help your child figure out their own plan of action when faced with a problem
- Do not stalk your college student on social media
- Do not respond to frequent texts right away - Give your child a little space if they're texting frequently throughout the day
- Share stats on college drinking - college atmospheres often aren't like what's depicted in movies
- Practice patience - don't just check in simply because you are feeling anxious
- Don't minimize, criticize, or mobilize - don't minimize how your child feels when they call or text you stressed out. Also resist the urge to criticize in that moment or mobilize to rescue and fix. It tells your child you don't believe they can handle it on their own




Post-Secondary Options

College/University

- Four years (possibly more) in duration
- Can be very expensive
- Class size can potentially be very large depending on the school
- Many schools offer paid internship and co-op opportunities, giving job-related experience
- Having a 4-year degree may broaden career options & growth opportunities
- HOPE Scholarship/Zell Miller Scholarship
- Examples: GGC, UGA, Georgia State, Georgia Southern, Georgia Tech

Technical/Trade School

- A chance to focus on a career or specific trade
 - Shorter duration (typically 2 years or less depending on the program)
 - Often a more hands-on approach to education
 - Greater affordability
 - Generally smaller class sizes
 - Many in-demand careers
 - HOPE Grant & Hope Career Grant
 - Examples: Gwinnett Tech, Chattahoochee Tech, Lanier Tech
- 



Post-Secondary Options

Apprenticeship

- “Learn-while-you-earn” - combines on-the-job training with job-related instruction.
- Average apprenticeship wage is \$15/hr; with an average starting salary of \$70,000
- Healthcare coverage provided.
- In-demand industries that provide apprenticeships include:
 - Health Care Information Technology
 - Transportation & Logistics
 - Energy Electrician
 - Plumbing
 - Construction
 - Manufacturing

Military

- 5 branches: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard
- Potential for free college
- Job security
- Guaranteed paycheck
- Potential for free rent & utilities
- Free health care
- Potential for a lot of travel
- Time and freedom can be extremely structured
- Physically demanding
- Potential for a lot of moving

College Admission Components



Build College List



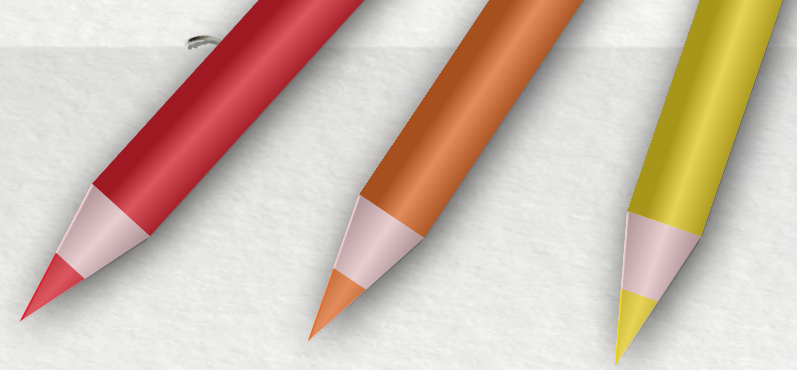
Submit College Applications

Including SAT/ACT
scores, Transcripts,
Letters of
Recommendations



**Research Financial
Aid Options**

College List



Safety

- Colleges to which students will almost certainly be admitted.
- Suggest having 1-2 back up schools

Match

- GPA/Test Scores/Other features look very similar to those of recent entering class.
- School Profiles often available on universities' websites.

Reach

- Colleges where they meet the criteria for admission but may not have stellar qualifications of most 1st year students.



College List Example

GPA: 3.5

SAT: 1250

ACT: 23

AP Classes: 3

- **Safety** : Georgia Gwinnett College, Georgia State Perimeter College
- **Match**: Georgia State University, Kennesaw State University, University of North Georgia
- **Reach** : Georgia Tech, UGA , Emory



Factors Colleges Consider

GPA/Grades

Rigor of
Curriculum

Test Scores

Letters of
Recommendation

Extracurricular
Activities

Class Rank

Contribution/
service to others

Character

Personal Essays

Institutional Fit

Interviews
(if applicable)

Factors for Students to Consider

- Size and diversity of student body
- Location
- Academic Programs
- Campus Life - Athletics, Activities, Housing
- Graduation and Retention Rates
- Job Placement Rates
- Financial Aid and Scholarship Opportunities
- Cost of attendance
- Services/Opportunities available to students (Study Abroad, Career Services, Academic Advising)

Make an Informed Decision

- Research individual colleges' websites, their admission requirements, and their admissions process.
- Visit campus
- Students, attend College Rep visits during lunch
- Attend in-person and/or virtual college fairs





Application Deadlines

Early Action

- Deadlines in Fall- between October & December.
- Typical deadline for merit-based scholarship consideration.

Early Decision

- Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted, they will enroll and withdraw all other applications. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.

Regular Decision

- Students submit an application by a specific date and receive a decision by a specific date.
- Deadlines typically in Spring- between January & July (college specific).

Rolling Admission

- Applications are evaluated as they are received.
- Relies on space available.

Accessing College Applications & Sending Transcripts

Where to Apply

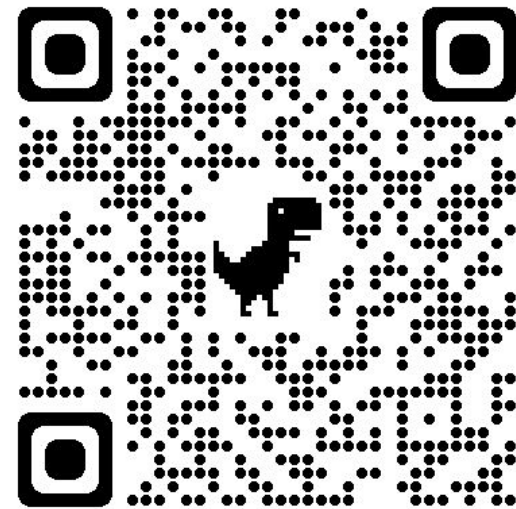
1. Common App-Access 900 institutions
2. Directly to College's Website
3. Common Black College Application- Access 35 Historically Black Colleges/Universities

Sending Transcripts

1. In State-Georgia Futures
2. My Payments Plus (\$5 fee)
3. For Common App, submit request through Naviance.

Naviance & Common App

Scan the QR Code for Naviance "How To Videos"



SAT & ACT-Test Optional

- Georgia System Schools are test optional except for UGA and Georgia Tech.
- Requirements for test optional: *recalculated gpa based on core classes
 - 3.4 gpa for Research Universities (ex. Augusta University, Georgia State University)
 - 3.2 gpa for State Universities and Comprehensive Universities (Ex. University of North Georgia, Columbus State, Savannah State University, Kennesaw State, Georgia Southern)
 - 3.0 gpa for State Colleges (ex. Georgia Gwinnett College, College of Coastal Georgia)
- If applying out of state, check the college's admissions website to see if test optional.

Retrieved from:

https://www.usg.edu/announcements/usg_to_extend_temporary_test_optional_admission_for_academic_year_2023_2024

SAT/ACT Information

- Students will need a SAT or ACT score for the Zell Miller Scholarship
- To register for SAT, visit [COLLEGEBOARD.ORG](https://collegeboard.org)
- To register for ACT, visit [ACTSTUDENT.ORG](https://actstudent.org)
- We strongly recommend for students to take both at least once.
- It's typical to take ACT or SAT 2-3 times; some colleges may super -score
- It is very important to study!
 - If you take the test again in hopes of receiving a higher score, be sure to prepare again.
You most likely will not receive a significantly higher score if you are not putting working into preparing!
- Colleges consider both ACT/SAT equally
- Free/Reduced lunch students are eligible for fee waivers to take each test twice. Students need to check their College Board Account to see if fee waivers are available in your account.
 - If SAT fee waivers are not posted in account, can see Ms. Geter or Mrs. Pena. For ACT fee waivers, see Mrs. Pena.

THE SAT **VS** THE ACT

- Fewer Geometry Questions
- More Time per Question
- No-calculator Math Section

KEY Differences

- Lots of Geometry
- Faster Paced
- Tough Science Section

Differences

Overall
Time

TIMING & SCORING

Overall
Time

Reading

65m

Writing

35m

200 - 800
points

Math
(No Calculator)

25m

200 - 800
points

Math
(Calculator)

55m

1-36

35m

Reading

1-36

45m

English

1-36

60m

Math

1-36

35m

Science

Total Points

400 - 1600

1 - 36

Total Points

Time per
Question

Reading

Writing

Math

Time per
Question

Reading

English

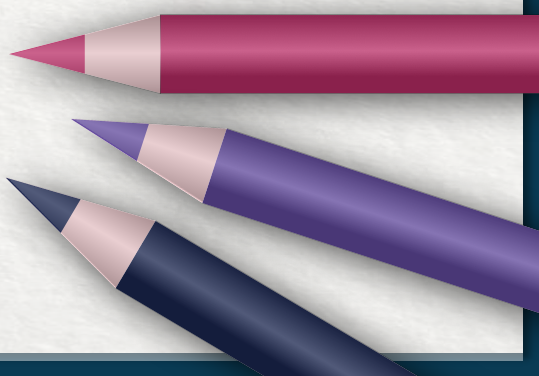
Math

SAT vs. ACT





Letters of Recommendation

- Suggest requesting letters from core teachers who taught students in 11th or 12th grade.
 - Provide counselor/teachers with a brag sheet (available in Naviance).
 - Give counselor/teachers at least a two weeks notice.
 - Only provide letters of recommendation if college requests them.
- 

The background of the slide is a light gray textured paper. In the top left corner, there are two pencils, one dark blue and one teal, pointing towards the center. In the top right corner, there are two small metal clips. On the right side, there is a large vertical teal pencil. The title 'Finding Money to Pay for College' is written in a large, bold, dark blue font with a slight shadow effect.

Finding Money to Pay for College

Collins Hill Counselor's Webpage

Links to Search Engines & Curated
list of Scholarships posted

Local Organizations

HOPE & Zell Miller
Scholarships and Grants

Colleges'/Universities'
Financial Aid Website

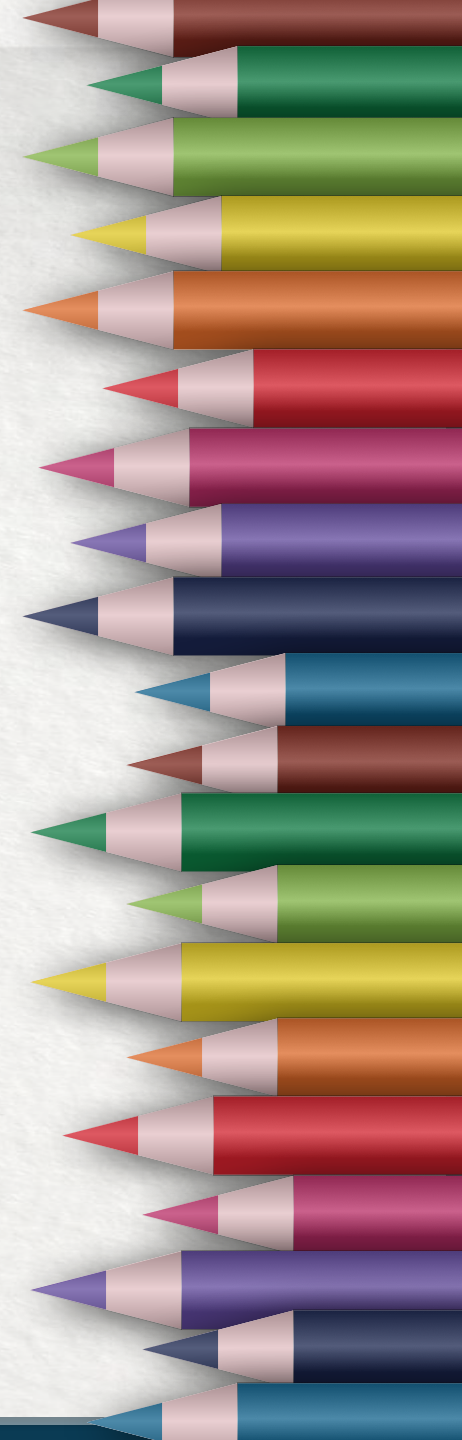
Naviance

Georgia Futures

Academic Common Market

<https://www.sreb.org/AcademicCommonMarket>

“The Academic Common Market is a tuition-savings program for college students in 15 SREB states who want to pursue degrees that are not offered by public institutions in their home state,”
(Southern Regional Education Board).



Financial Aid



Questions

Thank you!

