



Junior Classroom Guidance Presentation

September 22, 2026

CLASS OF 2028

Today's Agenda

- ▶ Introduction of Counselors
- ▶ Graduation Requirements & Promotion
- ▶ 3 E's and why
- ▶ Importance of the Junior Year
- ▶ College Entrance Exams
- ▶ HOPE Scholarship/Zell Miller Scholarship



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Graduation Requirements



Area of Study	Required Credits
English	4 credits
Math	4 credits
Science	4 credits
Social Science	3 credits
3 CTAE/Foreign Language/Fine Arts (Foreign language is not required for graduation but is required for entrance into a 4-year college or university.) 5 General Electives	8 credits
Personal Fitness/Health or 3 yrs. of JROTC	1 credit
Total Credits	24 credits

Your high school years are designed to have 28+ credits by graduation.



High School Promotion

5 or more credits-Sophomore

11 or more credits-Junior

17 or more credits- Senior

24-Graduate, minimum



WHAT IS YOUR E?



ENROLL

To enroll at a college, university, or technical school



ENLIST

To enlist in one of the six branches of the U.S. Military



EMPLOY

To become a part of the workforce

PLAN YOUR PATH

Where Do I Start?

- 1. Get to know your counselor
- 2. Ask questions - Do research
- 3. Take ACT and/or SAT
- 4. Discuss college/career planning with your Counselor/Parents
- 5. Accept the Google Classroom invitation for Class of 2028 and then invite your parent.
- 6. Begin to think and plan for your E in the 3 E's (Employment, Enlistment, Enrollment). Counselors will assist students with developing their plan in their senior year.



**KEEP
CALM
AND
BE
PREPARED**

- Prepare for senior year
- Acquire your class rank and GPA.
- Choose classes wisely.
- Confirm you have all graduation requirements.
- Look into scholarships.
- Visit colleges.
- Speak with your counselor.
- Speak with your parents.



SAT measures what you know and how well you can apply it. It's considered an aptitude test, measuring reasoning and verbal abilities.



Two sections:

1. Evidence-based Reading and Writing.
2. Math.



Length of the test is 2 hours and 14 minutes.



Scores range from 400-1600 for combined score.



Subject tests - test in one particular area. Science, math, history



▶ American College Test (ACT)

▶ www.act.org

▶ Scores 1-36

▶ 4 Subject areas. English, Math, Reading, Science.

▶ 2 hours 5 minutes without Science & Writing

Differences between SAT/ACT

SAT/ACT

1. Subject content
2. Equipment
3. Scoring
4. To essay or not to essay
5. Length
6. **Cost**-The cost of each test varies only slightly but may determine whether you decide to take both or whether you take one of them.

ACT	SAT
English: 35 mins Math: 50 mins Reading: 40 mins	Reading: 64 mins Break 10 mins Math : 70 mins
ACT	SAT
\$70.00 fee	\$68.00 fee



SAT WEEKEND

Fee Waiver: Student Self-Identification

Students who are eligible for fee waivers can request them directly from College Board. Here's how it works.



Request

After **confirming eligibility**, the student completes the SAT® Fee Waiver Request form at sat.org/waiverform at least 2 weeks before the registration deadline.

IMPORTANT: Only U.S. residents are eligible to request fee waivers using the SAT Fee Waiver Request form. U.S. citizens residing abroad can access fee waiver benefits by requesting a fee waiver code from their counselor.



Review

College Board reviews the student's request. An adult may be contacted to confirm the student's eligibility.



Decision

Student receives an email indicating if their request has been approved.

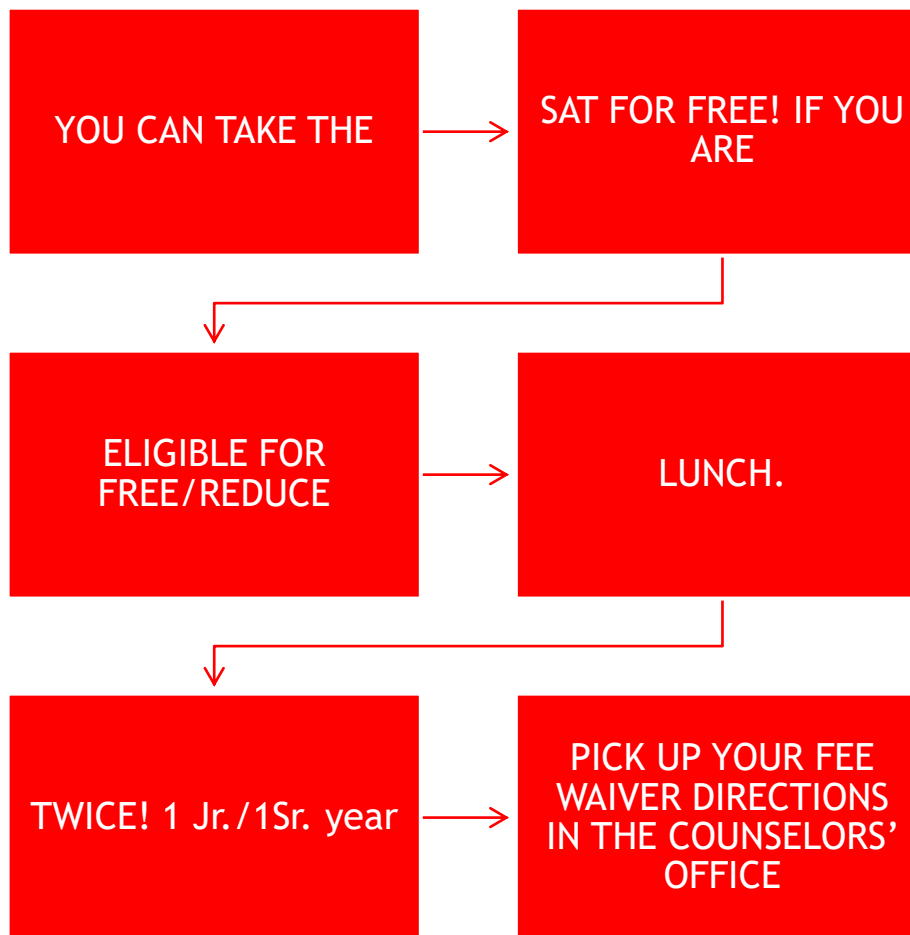


Next Steps

If approved, **fee waiver benefits** automatically appear in the student's My SAT account. If denied, the student should check with the adult verifier if they responded to College Board outreach. Then, the student can contact College Board to be reconsidered, or they can request a fee waiver code from their counselor.

NOTE: Once a student has been approved for fee waiver benefits through the SAT Fee Waiver Request form, they do not need to reapply!

Visit satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/registration/fee-waivers.



HOPE Scholarship & HOPE Grant

Ways to help pay for College!



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HOPE Grant is available to Georgia residents who are pursuing a certificate or diploma. A HOPE Grant recipient must maintain a minimum 2.00 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.

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 3.00 grade point average (as calculated by GSFC) and maintain a minimum 3.00 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.

Zell Miller Scholarship



- Zell Miller Scholarship is a merit-based award available to Georgia residents, similar to the HOPE Scholarship, but with more stringent academic requirements.
- Graduate as the Valedictorian or Salutatorian with a 3.0 and earned four full academic rigor credits, or
- Graduate with a 3.7 GPA, with four full academic rigor credits and in a single test administration score • 1200 on the math and reading portions of the SAT or • 26 composite ACT
- GSFC will determine the high school GPA and SAT/ACT scores

Understanding the High School HOPE GPA

- ▶ The high school HOPE GPA calculation is used for the purpose of determining academic eligibility for HOPE Scholarship and Zell Miller Scholarship. A student's high school HOPE GPA is not the same as his or her high school GPA.
- ▶ Accredited Georgia public and private high schools electronically submit transcript data and academic rigor to GSFC for the calculation for HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship GPA to determine students' initial academic eligibility.
- ▶ The high school HOPE GPA calculation includes core courses as defined by Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE).

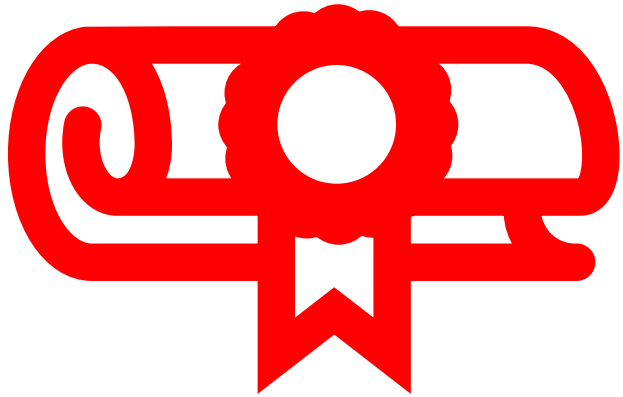
Grades and Weighting

- ▶ All grades earned (pass and fail) for attempted coursework in the core subjects during the student's 9th through 12th grade years that could be used to satisfy a core course graduation requirement, according to GaDOE, is equated to a grade on a traditional 4.0 scale to two decimal places, where an "A" equals 4.0, "B" equals 3.0, "C" equals 2.0, "D" equals 1.0, and "F" equals 0. Note: There is not a separate scale for grades that include a plus (+) or minus (-), example "B-" equals 3.0.
- ▶ Note: The high school HOPE GPA calculation will count all attempts of the same course, if taken more than once.
- ▶ From the eligible core courses, any weighting added by the high school is removed, then half a point (0.5) is added back to grades of "B", "C", "D", and "F" for Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Dual Enrollment (DE) degree-level core courses.
- ▶ Note: Honors coursework is not weighted.
- ▶ Note: The HOPE Scholarship GPA calculation does not allow for any rounding.

Academic Rigor Requirements

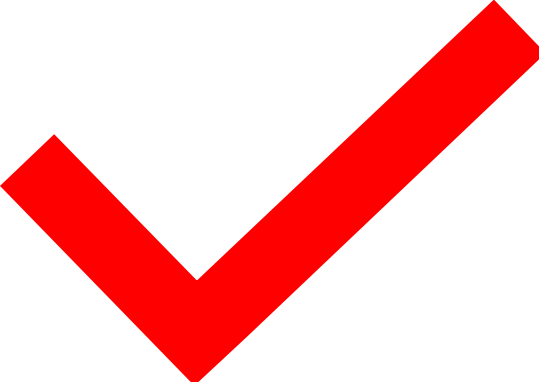
- ▶ A student meeting the requirements to be a HOPE Scholar at the time of high school graduation must earn a minimum of four full rigor credits from the Academic Rigor Course List prior to graduating from high school.
- ▶ Credits received for academic rigor courses must be from the categories below:
- ▶ Advanced math, such as advanced algebra and trigonometry, math III, taken at the high school, or an equivalent or higher course taken for degree level credit at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution;
- ▶ Advanced science, such as chemistry, physics, biology II, taken at the high school, or an equivalent or higher course taken for degree level credit at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution;
- ▶ Foreign language courses taken at the high school, or taken for degree level credit at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution; or
- ▶ Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Dual Enrollment degree-level core courses.
- ▶ My High School HOPE GPA
- ▶ Georgia public and private high school students may check their high school HOPE GPA calculation and status upon completion of the 9th grade and by signing into their GAfutures account and select My High School HOPE GPA.

HOPE Rigor Courses



- ▶ **ACADEMIC RIGOR REQUIREMENTS** - Credits received for academic rigor must be selected from the categories below:
- ▶ **Advanced math:** Such as advanced algebra, trigonometry, or math III. Taken at the high school, or an equivalent or higher course taken for degree level credit at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution
- ▶ **Advanced science** ▫ Such as chemistry, physics, or biology II. Taken at the high school, or an equivalent or higher course taken for degree level credit at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution
- ▶ **Foreign language courses** ▫ Taken at the high school, or taken for degree level credit at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution; or
- ▶ **Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Dual Credit Enrollment** courses in Core subjects

Dual Enrollment



What is Dual Enrollment? Georgia's Dual Enrollment Program provides funding for students who are dually enrolled at a participating eligible public or private high school, or home study program in Georgia, and a participating eligible postsecondary institution in Georgia. These students take postsecondary coursework for credit towards both high school graduation or home study completion and postsecondary degree, diploma, or certificate requirements. The program is offered during all terms of the school year: fall, spring and summer semester or fall, winter, spring and summer quarter.

***Students MUST schedule an appointment with your counselor prior to starting the DE process.

11th Grade Student Checklist

- Regularly review your GAfutures Dashboard. Start your year by looking over the **Plan&Pay4CollegeGA 11th grade** letter and check your HOPE GPA.
- Meet with your school counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate and meet all necessary requirements for graduation, academic rigor and college admissions and investigate dual enrollment options.
- Continue to explore career options, how much education you'll need and the earning potential.
- Continue to research colleges and what you should look for to make sure you find a good fit. Talk to your parents about your choices, and ask them to help you clarify goals and priorities.
- Go to a PROBE College Fair. If your school has a financial aid night, be sure to attend.
- Review your family's financial situation and make sure you're planning for the cost of college appropriately. Visit the College Money Matters section and net price calculators on [GAfutures.org](https://gafutures.org) for suggestions. The comparison tool at consumerfinance.gov is another helpful resource to compare college costs and financial aid offers.
- Consider opening a 529 College Saving Plan – it's never too late to begin saving for college.
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT to qualify for scholarships and programs associated with the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- Register for and take exams like the SAT and the ACT for college admission. Check for free test prep classes in your area.
- Start drafting essays to use for scholarships and college admissions applications.
- Search for scholarships you may be eligible for to help pay for college on GAfutures, as well as through your school counselor, community, family and friends. Ask your parents if their employer offers scholarships for the children of employees.
- Schedule campus visits or contact colleges you are interested in attending to request information about financial aid, admission requirements, applications and deadlines.



Vocabulary

When it comes to financial aid and planning for college, there are some key terms you should know to help you understand the process and make informed decisions.

- **529 Plan:** Tax-advantaged savings plan designed to encourage saving for future college expenses. Path2College is Georgia's 529 plan.
- **COA (Cost of Attendance):** Total cost of attending a college or university, including tuition, room and board, books, lab fees, transportation and basic living expenses.
- **Contributor:** Any individual required to provide signature and consent on the FAFSA form, including the student; the student's spouse; a biological or adoptive parent; or the parent's spouse (stepparent).
- **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid):** Filling out a FAFSA is the first step in the financial aid process. To be eligible to receive federal financial aid, a student must complete a FAFSA.
- **FSA ID:** Provides access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature. You must have an FSA ID to complete the FAFSA.
- **Grant:** Money given to students for their education that does not typically have to be repaid. Often based on need, grants may come from federal or state programs, or sometimes from private charitable organizations.
- **HOPE GPA:** Your HOPE GPA determines if you are academically eligible for the HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship. It includes only grades earned in core subjects – English, math, science, social studies and foreign language. You can check your HOPE GPA beginning in 10th grade through your My GAfutures account.
- **Merit-based:** Financial aid based on academic, athletic or some other type of achievement.
- **Need-based:** Need-based financial aid is reserved for low-income students.
- **Pell Grant:** Federal program that provides need-based educational grants for low-income students. Pell Grants do not typically have to be repaid.
- **SAI (Student Aid Index):** A calculation of the amount of need-based financial aid a student is eligible to receive.
- **SAR (Student Aid Report):** Your SAR summarizes the information entered on your FAFSA form and shows the amount of your EFC.

Visit the College Planning section of GAfutures
for additional information on preparing for college.

FINANCIAL AID AT A GLANCE

Financial aid is defined as any money used to help pay for college – that includes two- or four-year universities, technical colleges or career schools. Financial aid can cover tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation and other college-related expenses.

Financial aid comes in different forms and types...



...and from a number of different sources:



Many of these types of financial aid will be explained in this guide.
Keep reading to learn more!

HOPE AND OTHER STATE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

The state of Georgia has a number of financial aid programs that provide students with different ways to pay for their education beyond high school; GSFC administers over 20 of these programs. For detailed information and award amounts, visit GAfutures.org.

Program	Type of Aid	General Eligibility/Requirements
HOPE Scholarship	Merit-based scholarship	– Must be a high school graduate seeking a college degree. – Minimum 3.0 HOPE GPA as calculated by GSFC in core curriculum courses (English, math, science, foreign language, social science). – If enrolled in college-level coursework: Minimum 3.0 postsecondary GPA. – Eligible institutions: University System of Georgia (USG), Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) and approved private institutions in the state of Georgia.
Zell Miller Scholarship	Merit-based scholarship	– Must be a high school graduate seeking a college degree. – (1a) Total test score of 1200 SAT on a single national administration or composite test score of 26 ACT on a single national or state/district administration and (1b) minimum 3.7 HOPE GPA as calculated by GSFC in core curriculum courses, OR (2) graduate as valedictorian or salutatorian. – If enrolled in college-level coursework: Minimum 3.3 postsecondary cumulative GPA. – Eligible institutions: USG, TCSG and approved private institutions in the state of Georgia.
REACH Georgia Scholarship Program	Scholarship	– REACH Scholars are selected in middle school and sign a contract along with their parent/guardian to maintain a 2.5 HOPE-Calculated GPA, remain crime, drug, and behavior issue free, and meet with a volunteer mentor and academic coach until they graduate from high school. Visit GAfutures.org for the complete list of eligibility requirements.
HOPE Grant	Grant	– Must be enrolled in a certificate or diploma program at a participating USG or TCSG college. – If enrolled in certificate or diploma coursework: Minimum 2.0 postsecondary cumulative GPA. – Must not have exceeded the maximum award limits for any HOPE or Zell Miller program.
Georgia Tuition Equalization Grant Program (GTEG)	Grant	– Must be seeking a college degree at an eligible private college in Georgia.

HOPE Career Grant	Grant	– Must be enrolled in specific high-demand certificate or diploma programs at a participating USG or TCSG college. – Must be eligible for, and receiving, HOPE or Zell Miller Grant funding. – Must not have exceeded the maximum award limits for any HOPE or Zell Miller program.
Georgia College Completion Grant	Grant	– Enrolled at an eligible postsecondary institution and is experiencing a financial aid gap with their cost of education. – Must have completed at least eighty (80) percent of credit requirements for graduation from their enrolled certificate, diploma or undergraduate major or program of study. – Awards are based on program requirements and available allocated funds at the eligible institutions- University System of Georgia (USG), Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) or eligible Private non-profit postsecondary institutions in Georgia.
Zell Miller Grant	Grant	– Must be enrolled in a certificate or diploma program at a participating USG or TCSG college. – Minimum 3.5 cumulative calculated HOPE GPA at the end of each term required to maintain eligibility. – Must not have exceeded the maximum award limits for any HOPE or Zell Miller program.
Georgia Public Safety Memorial Grant	Grant	– Must be a dependent child of a Georgia Public Safety Officer permanently disabled or killed in the line of duty. – Must be enrolled in a Georgia public or private college, university or technical college as a full-time undergraduate student seeking a college degree or technical certificate/ diploma.
Inclusive Postsecondary Education Grant Program (IPSE)	Grant	– Must be enrolled in an approved IPSE program at an approved USG or TCSG Institution. – Assists students with qualifying intellectual and developmental disabilities. – Can assist with tuition, mandatory fees or program fees.

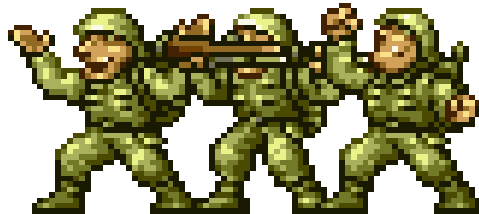
ASVAB – MILITARY TEST ENTRANCE

What's tested on the ASVAB?

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery is an aptitude test administered by the United States Military Entrance Processing Command.

Why take the ASVAB in high school?

The ASVAB serves as a useful tool to let a high school student and their families make an educated decision on how to proceed with formal education beyond the senior year.



WRHS Class of 2028



Dates to Remember

September 19, 2026 — ACT Test Day
October 3, 2026 — Homecoming Dance
October 3, 2026 — SAT Test Day
October 17, 2026 — ACT Test Day
October 28, 2026 — Club Pictures
November 7, 2026 — SAT Test Day
December 5, 2026 — SAT Test Day
December 12, 2026 — ACT Test Day
February 27, 2027 — ACT Test Day
March 6, 2027 — SAT Test Day
April 10, 2027 — ACT Test Day
April 17, 2027 — Prom
May 1, 2027 — SAT Test Day
June 5, 2027 — SAT Test Day
June 12, 2027 — ACT Test Day
July 10, 2027 — ACT Test Day

Registration & Planning:

1. To register for the SAT, visit www.collegeboard.com
2. To register for the ACT, visit www.act.org
3. For college and career planning, visit www.gafutures.org
4. Students need to visit the ACT and SAT websites for registration deadlines. Students must register in advance for college entrance exams.
5. For junior class updates, please go to [CANVAS:WRHSClassof2028](#)



Questions & Answers

Resources:

- www.act.org
- www.collegeboard.com
- www.gafutures.org
- www.hcbe.net

**Thank you for YOUR
attention!!**