



NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

November 2021

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The counselors have asked the juniors that instead of focusing on the question "**Where do I want to go to college?**", to focus on two different questions when thinking about college:

"Why do I want to go to college?" and ***"What do I want to do in college?"***.

To go along with these two questions, here is a recent post to the Georgia Tech Admission Blog that we encourage you to read: [Is That a Good School?](#)

It is a great blog to subscribe to - they have very helpful topics that will help you as a parent navigate through these next two years with your student.

The counselors met with the juniors twice at the start of 2nd quarter.

In the first meeting, the counselors introduced the juniors to ***The 5 P's - Person, Program, People, Place, and Price*** as a way to look at the many different options for college that are available to students.

In the second meeting, we talked about the ACT, SAT, Test Optional, and Test Prep. Considering that many colleges and universities are test optional, juniors are not sure what to do. Two questions that the counselors have heard frequently are "Should I take the ACT / SAT?" and "What should I do about test prep?".

For some good insight on these two questions, here is a great blog to read:

[Should You Take the SAT/ACT or Not?](#)

Test Optional Information

Many colleges and universities are already permanently test optional. This year, more than 1,700 schools were test optional.

For an up-to-date list of which schools will remain test optional for the Class of 2023, go to the Fair Test website: fairtest.org or check the admission website for an individual school.

Applicants to special programs should always check for testing policy details. Programs such as nursing and engineering majors, BS/MD dual-degree programs, and honors programs often have different testing requirements from the school overall and may require a test score.

Free Practice ACT

On Wednesday, January 12, all juniors will take a full-length practice ACT. When the results are available, each junior will receive an individualized test prep program. Juniors and parents will receive more information about this later.

In-person Prep Classes

Two classes will be offered at Marian in second semester: one from Excel Edge and one taught by Marian Faculty members.

The **Excel Edge** class will be on Thursday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Class will begin on Thursday, February 3 and end on Thursday March 24. The class will include a full length practice ACT. A letter from Excel Edge along with a flyer is attached to this newsletter.

To register, go to www.exceledegeinc.com Registration closes on

Testing Information

Students typically take an ACT and/or SAT for the first time in the second semester of junior year.

Students may decide whether they will report an ACT or SAT. All schools will accept a score from either test.

Marian encourages juniors to take either the ACT or SAT in junior year. There will be additional opportunities to take either test in the fall of senior year.

Test Dates / Registration

Test Dates	Registration	Late Deadline
February 12	January 7	January 21

April 2 @ MC February 25 March 11

June 11 May 6 May 20

July 16 June 10 June 24

Register for the ACT at www.act.org

Test Dates	Registration	Late D eadline
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Test Dates	Registration	Late Deadline
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March 12 February 11 March 1

May 7 April 8 April 26

June 4 May 5 May 25

Register for the SAT at:
collegeboard.org

December 31 or once sections are filled. Cost = \$350. If you have questions, contact Excel edge at 219-838-0740 or info@exceledgeinc.com.

The class that will be taught by **Marian Faculty** will begin in late February. Classes will be on Sunday afternoon. More details and registration information will be distributed to juniors and parents later in December.

Other Test Prep Possibilities

One-to-One Learning

Services (ONLINE) Classes for the April ACT will be on Sunday afternoons and start in late January. The cost is \$450. Course registration available online at www.one-to-onels.com or call Amy Berland at 847-501-3300

Jeanius Prep offers online classes for all test dates. Classes for the February ACT will start in December. For the complete schedule, go to www.jeaniusprep.com

Revolution Prep also offers online classes for all test dates. For more information, go to www.revolutionprep.com

FREE online test prep for ACT www.act.org - ACT Academy

FREE online test prep for the SAT www.satpractice.org or www.khanacademy.org/sat