



# DODGE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

## WELCOME TO PARENT NIGHT INFORMATION

### AGENDA

- Graduation/Honor Graduate Requirements
- What Colleges Consider
- SAT/ACT
- Exploring College Options
- College Applications
- Exploring Financial Aid
- HOPE GPA
- Upcoming Dates

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To receive a diploma, a student must have

1. accumulated the appropriate number of Carnegie units, (23)
2. met attendance guidelines, (7 allowed absences, <11 before BOE request)
3. met grade requirements, (70+ for credit)
4. maintained good conduct,
5. completed ALL financial obligations to DCHS, and
6. be in good standing with the school.

**To participate in the DCHS graduation ceremony, candidates MUST have completed ALL requirements by 8:00 a.m. on the FIRST day of official graduation practice.**

## HONOR GRADUATE REQUIREMENTS

An honor graduate will have earned

1. 2 units of the same foreign language,
2. 1 unit of Introduction to Business Tech/Computer Apps,
3. ½ unit of speech, and
4. earned an overall academic average of 94.

OR

1. maintained a 90 average and
2. scored 1185 or better on the verbal and math sections on the SAT, or
3. scored 26 or better on the ACT, and
4. has met all other graduation requirements.

# WHAT COLLEGES CONSIDER

## PRIMARY FACTORS

QUALITY/RIGOR OF  
ACADEMIC CLASSES

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE/  
GRADES

TEST SCORES

## Additional Factors

Extracurricular Activities

Essay(s)

Letters of Recommendation

Demonstrated Interest

## SAT/ACT

- **2-3 times is typical(\*Check the application deadline.)**
- **Fee waivers**  
**available in the Counseling Office**
- **Superscore-highest combined**
- **SAT - most schools.**
- **ACT - some schools.**

**\*Zell Miller does NOT superscore.**

# SAT

- If taking SAT –again or for the first time- the time is now!
- The SAT has undergone a complete redesign.
- **Conversion charts are available at [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com)**
- **SAT/ACT Prep course is offered at DCHS**

➔ **AT DCHS**



<u>SAT Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Online Scores Available</u>
March 14, 2020	February 14, 2020	March 27, 2020
May 2, 2020	April 3, 2020	May 15, 2020
June 6, 2020	May 8, 2020	July 15, 2020

\*The late registration deadline is one week earlier if you are registering by mail.

\*\*Regular SAT only.

**SAT Registration Fee**

**\$47.50, with Essay \$64.50**

# SAT Subject Tests

- Certain schools require or recommend them as part of the admission process.
- If your colleges require them, you must take **2-3** subject tests.
- Some colleges will accept ACT scores in lieu of SAT subject tests - check with school first.

Adapted from collegeboard.com



AT DCHS

Fee	Cost	Description
Registration —No Writing section	\$46	Includes reports for you, your high school, and up to 4 college choices
Registration —With Writing section	\$62.50	Includes reports for you, your high school, and up to 4 college choices

## Test Date

## Registration Deadline

## Estimated Score Release\*



February 8, 2020

January 10, 2020

February 18, 2020

April 4, 2020

Feb. 28, 2020

April 14, 2020

June 13, 2020

May 8, 2020

June 23, 2020

## **Sending Your SAT/ACT Scores**

- Can send scores to **4** schools for free if coded on registration before test day
- If you did not choose to have your scores sent at time of registration, you will need to log into your SAT and ACT account and go to **SEND SCORES** and select the schools you are applying to.

❖ Cost is \$11.25 per school.

Adapted from collegeboard.com

## **EXPLORE COLLEGE OPTIONS**

**Which colleges are right for you?**

**Now that you know what colleges are looking for, it's time to put them to the test.**

Adapted from collegeboard.com

# Creating a List of Colleges

- 1 or 2 safety colleges:
  - colleges to which students will almost certainly be admitted
- Some “matches”:
  - colleges where students’ GPA, test scores, and other features look very similar to those of recent entering classes
- A reach (or 2):
  - colleges where students meet the criteria for admission but may not have the stellar qualifications of most first-year students



- ☐ **Early Action** - *October 15<sup>th</sup>* (**Part 1** of the Application)
  - ☐ Counselor/ School Evaluation Form
  - ☐ Official High School Transcript
  - ☐ Official SAT/ACT scores
- ☐ **Regular Decision** - *January 1st* (**Part 1** and **Part 2** of the Application)
  - ☐ Part 2 of Application includes short essays
  - ☐ Counselor/School Evaluation Form
  - ☐ Official High School Transcript
  - ☐ Official SAT/ACT scores
  - ☐ Teacher Recommendation Form



- ❖ Early Action - October 15th
- ❖ Regular Decision - January 1st
- ❖ Financial Aid-January 31st
  
- ❖ Application Materials
- ❖ Online Application (Common App)
- ❖ Includes Personal Essays and Extracurricular Activities
  
- ❖ Official SAT/ACT scores
  
- ❖ Self Reported Academic Record (Not an Official Transcript)

## Factors to Consider

- ❖ Size and diversity of student body
- ❖ Location
- ❖ Academic programs
- ❖ Campus life –athletics, activities, housing
- ❖ Graduation and retention rates
- ❖ Financial aid and scholarship opportunities

Above all, think about where you will be the ***most happy and successful*** in your college life.



# Visit Campuses\*

Get a feel of the campus! It can help you determine whether that particular college is the right place for you.

**Take a** campus tour. (Register Online)

**Speak with** an admission counselor.

**Ask about** financial aid opportunities.

**Talk to** students and faculty.

**\*Seniors can speak about a college visit to Ms. Melvin in the Attendance Office:**

-1 visit excused

-excused absence with OFFICIAL documentation; others will be marked personal

## Other Factors to consider....

- ❑ In order to be considered for merit based, school-specific scholarships, most universities want you to apply for their early action deadlines.
  - ❑ Check with individual institution.
- ❑ Consider Honors College! Check requirements. Honors College deadlines are typically in the fall.

# If letters of recommendation are required...

Ask teachers who have taught you in **11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>** grade core *academic subjects* who can speak to your ability.

Provide your counselor or teacher with resume or senior information sheet (pick up form in the counseling office or online).

Be sure to give your counselors/teachers **at least 2** weeks notice.

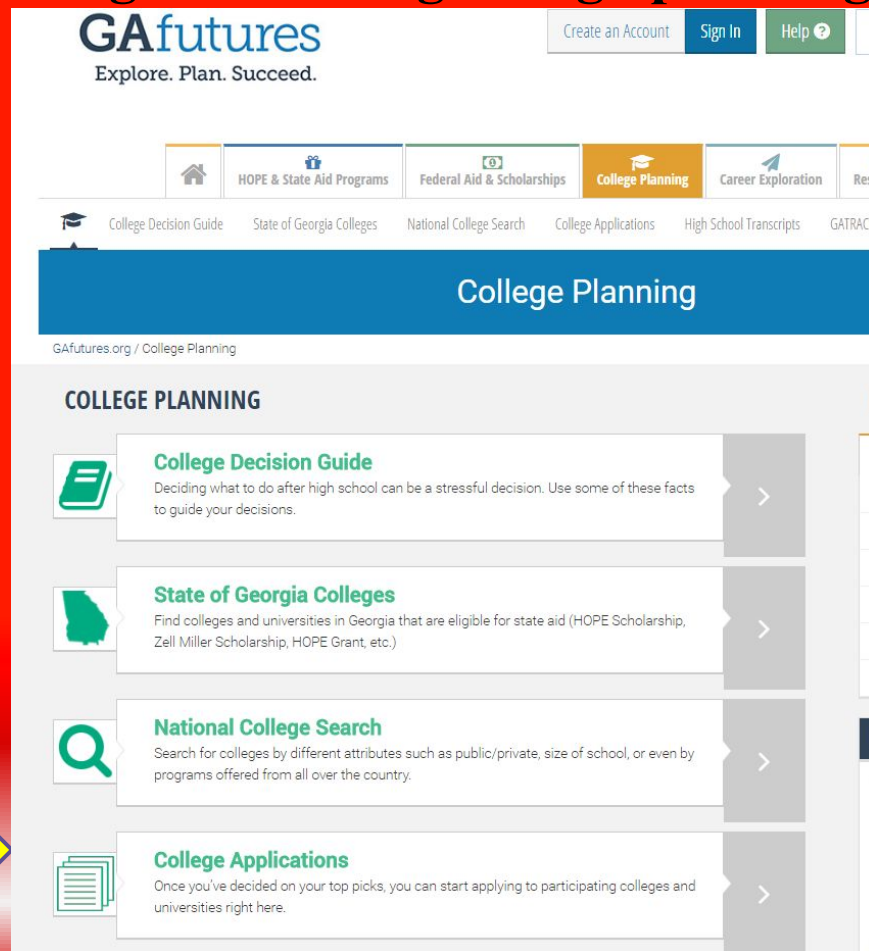
Only send letters if they are required.

Adapted from collegeboard.com

## College planning process

1. Have a clear understanding of career and education goals.
2. Research schools for academic, financial, and personal fit.
3. Take admissions tests.
4. Complete admissions applications.
5. Complete the Financial Aid process.

<https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/>



The screenshot shows the GAfutures website with the 'College Planning' section highlighted. The header includes the GAfutures logo and navigation links like 'Create an Account', 'Sign In', and 'Help'. Below the header, there's a secondary navigation bar with icons for Home, HOPE & State Aid Programs, Federal Aid & Scholarships, College Planning (highlighted), Career Exploration, and Resources. A third navigation bar lists specific topics: College Decision Guide, State of Georgia Colleges, National College Search, College Applications, High School Transcripts, and GATRACS. The main content area is titled 'College Planning' and lists four key resources with icons and brief descriptions:

- College Decision Guide**: Deciding what to do after high school can be a stressful decision. Use some of these facts to guide your decisions.
- State of Georgia Colleges**: Find colleges and universities in Georgia that are eligible for state aid (HOPE Scholarship, Zell Miller Scholarship, HOPE Grant, etc.)
- National College Search**: Search for colleges by different attributes such as public/private, size of school, or even by programs offered from all over the country.
- College Applications**: Once you've decided on your top picks, you can start applying to participating colleges and universities right here.

Click here

# Financial Aid Information

# Develop A Plan

- Determine all **college costs** —not just tuition.
- Calculate your college **savings** so far, and see if you're on track.
- Estimate your family's **expected contribution**.
- Search for **scholarships**

Remember to explore every opportunity!

Adapted from collegeboard.com

## *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*

**fafsa.ed.gov**

- ☐ The FAFSA enables you to apply for student financial aid.
- ☐ Schools use this information to determine if you're eligible to receive money from:
  - ☐ Hope or Zell Miller Scholarship
  - ☐ Federal grants
  - ☐ Loans
  - ☐ Work-study programs

Adapted from collegeboard.com

## Get help paying for college

Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



### New to the FAFSA?

**Start A New  
FAFSA**

### Returning User?

- Make a correction
- Add a school
- View your Student Aid Report (SAR), and more...

**Login**

#### College Scorecard

Information on college costs, graduation, and post-college earnings.

#### Deadlines

Information about your deadlines.

#### School Code Search

Find your college's school code. Also find detailed information about your college.

#### FAFSA Filing Options

Learn about the other options for filing your FAFSA.

#### Announcements

- FSA ID Reminder: Login to the FAFSA with your FSA ID only if you are the student. Parents: Refer to *Help, Trending Questions* if you're helping your child fill out the FAFSA.
- The new 2017-2018 FAFSA is here and earlier than ever!

#### Thinking About College?



Use **FAFSA4caster** to see how federal student aid can help you pay for college!



Check out how Federal Student Aid can put you on a path to success. [View Videos on YouTube](#) or [Download the Accessible Videos](#)

## HOPE Requirements

- **HOPE Scholarship (Covers about 80-90% of tuition)**
  - Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in core academic classes
  - There is a chart on [gacollege411.org](http://gacollege411.org) to see how much money students are receiving this year for each school.
- **Zell Miller Scholarship (Covers full tuition)**
  - 3.7 GPA or higher in core academic classes
  - SAT combined score of 1200 in math and reading in one setting or,
  - ACT score of 26 or higher
  - \*ZELL MILLER DOES not SUPERScore

**GEORGIA STUDENT  
FINANCE COMMISSION**

<https://gsfc.georgia.gov/hope>

- **WE MUST HAVE YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER ON FILE FOR YOUR STUDENT TO RECEIVE HOPE!**

<https://www.gafutures.org/>

Click here



## HOPE Programs

HOPE is Georgia's unique scholarship and grant program assisting students of all ages to make postsecondary dreams a reality.

[Learn more](#)

### College Goal Georgia

The FAFSA is now available! Get the facts...



### HOPE Programs

HOPE is Georgia's unique scholarship and...



### Scholarship Search

There's more money for your postsecondary...



### College Search

There's lots to consider when choosing a...

## My High School HOPE GPA

Your Georgia [high school HOPE GPA](#) starts calculating as soon as you begin 9th grade. Unlike your overall high school GPA, your HOPE GPA only includes your core curriculum courses:

- English
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Foreign Language

You can begin checking your HOPE GPA through your *My GAfutures* account starting in the 10th grade.\* Don't have an account? It's quick and easy to [create one!](#)

Your *My High School HOPE GPA* page includes your student information, your HOPE GPA as calculated by GSFC based on transcripts sent by your Georgia high school, rigor credits, ACT/SAT scores if you've taken them, and more information about the eligibility requirements of the [HOPE](#) and [Zell Miller Scholarships](#).

\*High schools must provide transcript data to GSFC in order for a student's HOPE GPA to be available through their GAfutures account.

[GAfutures.org / My GAfutures /](#)

Profile

Messages

My High School HOPE GPA

My High School Transcript

My College HOPE Profile

### Messages

21 hours ago - My High School HOPE GPA & My College HOPE Profile Now Available

Keep track of your academic eligibility for the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarship and Grant through high school and college.

High School Students

College students receiving  
HOPE/Zell Miller Funds



# Scholarships

## RESEARCH, RESEARCH, RESEARCH.

- College websites that you are applying to (many scholarship deadlines are in the Fall of senior year)
- Check your workplace or organizations to which you belong.
- Check websites:
  - [www.finaid.com](http://www.finaid.com)
  - [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
  - [www.gacollege.com](http://www.gacollege.com)
  - [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)
  - [Bigfuture.org](http://Bigfuture.org)
  - [www.nasfaa.org](http://www.nasfaa.org)

Adapted from collegeboard.com

## College-Bound Student Athletes

•If you are you planning on participating in intercollegiate athletics at an NCAA Division I or II institution, you must register with the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse.

\*\*\*NCAA will no longer accept College Readiness Math\*\*\*

•Prospective student athletes should:

- Access the registration materials by visiting their website at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)
- Submit the Parent Release Form to Ms. McRae in Counseling Dept.
- When taking the SAT/ACT, enter 9999 for scores to be sent to NCAA Clearinghouse.
- Review the NCAA requirements as they might differ from graduation requirements!

# Making a Decision

- Try to visit colleges where you've been accepted.
- Compare financial aid packages.
- Send your deposit.
- Get ready to graduate!
- Send your final transcript in June.

**Congratulations, you're off to college!**

Adapted from collegeboard.com

# Announcements

- College Day in Gym: DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>
- College Readiness w/ Mercer in advisement:
  - February 20
- FAFSA Completion w/ Mercer: April 26<sup>th</sup> (8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.)  
in English Lab at DCHS
- Senior Letters were given out in January
  - Check social security number (per social security card)
  - Check the name for the diploma (legal birth name, etc...)
- GradBash for Seniors to Universal/Islands: April 24<sup>th</sup>



# Dual Enrollment Dates

- March 23<sup>rd</sup> -MGSC Dual Enrollment Meeting
- March 24<sup>th</sup> -OFTC Dual Enrollment Meeting
- March 25<sup>th</sup> -GMC Dual Enrollment Meeting

(DCHS Dual Enrollment Guidelines are found in DCHS Student handbook)

All meeting will be held from 1-4 with parents/guardians, current students and prospective students in Media Center

## QUESTIONS?????

Thank you for coming!  
Our Doors are Always



**Ms. Tabitha McRae**  
11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor

DCHS Guidance Office  
350 Pearl Bates Rd.  
Eastman, GA 31023  
Office (478) 374-8262  
Fax (478-374-6987

**Ms. Tammie Lewis**  
9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor

**Ms. Angelia Bowen - Registrar**