

ACADEMICS

GPA

- Your MHS GPA is a cumulative weighted numerical average out of 100 points.
- 7 points are added for AP, Honors and Dual Enrollment courses when you pass with a 70% or higher.
- Your GPA is always available unofficially on your Infinite Campus. Under Menu → “Documents” → “Unofficial Transcript”
- Counselors cannot recalculate your GPA out of a 4.0 scale

POST-SECONDARY PLANNING

SchoolLinks

- Career & College Exploration platform.
- Students access through [Classlink](#).

University System of Georgia

- <https://www.usg.edu/institutions/>
- Learn about Georgia's public colleges and universities.

Georgia Degrees Pay

- <https://www.usg.edu/georgia-degrees-pay>
- Research academic programs, compare college costs, explore student outcomes and find the perfect fit at a USG school.

Technical Colleges in Georgia

- <https://www.tcsgeorgia.edu/>
- Explore programs and two-year colleges in Georgia.

Military

- www.careersinthemilitary.com

Gap Year

- <https://efgapyear.com/>

Academic Common Market

- <https://www.sreb.org/AcademicCommonMarket>
- Explore programs at out-of-state colleges that allow you to get in-state tuition.

College Visits

- Go during a regular school day to get most of the experience. Take a guided tour by a student/college employee. They know the school best!
- Send attendance clerk confirmation of Campus tour for attendance excusal AndertonJ@fultonschoools.org
- Don't know what to ask? Check out <https://www.princetonreview.com/college-advice/questions-to-ask-on-a-college-tour>

TESTING

Register for ACT

- <https://www.act.org>

Register for SAT

- <https://www.collegeboard.org/>

ACT vs SAT

- <https://www.appleroth.com/blog/digital-sat-vs-act-test>

Test Prep

- Counseling website → College and Career → [ACT/SAT](#)

FINANCIAL AID

HOPE/Zell Miller Scholarships

- **HOPE:** 3.0 HOPE GPA + 4 Credits HOPE Rigor, covers partial tuition at in-state schools.
- **Zell Miller:** 3.7 HOPE GPA + 4 Credits HOPE Rigor + 25 ACT/1200 SAT, covers 100% tuition at in-state public schools.
- Create an account with GaFutures.org to monitor GPA and learn more.

HOPE/Zell Miller Grants

- <https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/hope-zell-miller-grants/>
- No required GPA by graduation, but must meet minimum college GPA at checkpoints. Covers different tuition amounts for diploma and certificate programs at two-year schools.

FAFSA

- [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#). Used to determine eligibility for aid at Federal, State, Institutional levels, and Private Scholarships. **How you apply for HOPE/Zell.** Opens October 1st of Senior year.

Scholarships

- Counseling website → College and Career → [Financial Aid](#)

APPLICATION TERMS

Early Decision: Allows a student to apply in the Fall for an early determination of admission. IT IS BINDING.

Early Action: Invites early applications but DOES NOT require the student to attend if accepted.

Deferred Decision: Determination of the college or university that more information is needed to make a final decision about a candidate's application.

Regular Decision: Common, non-binding college application plan with later application deadline.

Rolling Admissions: Applications and decisions are released continuously, rather than on a single deadline.

Open Admissions: Students notified of acceptance upon application (typically community colleges)

Deferred Admissions: Permits the applicant, once accepted, to postpone matriculation for one year in order to pursue other plans.

Cumulative GPA: All grades on transcript are calculated.

Core GPA: Only English, Math, Science, Social Studies and World Language are calculated.

HOPE GPA: GPA calculated by GSFC, calculated from core classes taken in high school, weighted 0.5 for AP and DE classes up to 4.0

HOPE Rigor: Rigor courses as defined by GSFC, see list of [HOPE Rigor courses at MHS on Counseling Website](#)

MORE RESOURCES

Check out the [Counseling website](#) for additional resources, including:

- * NCAA Guide for Student Athletes
- * Personal Fitness Waiver
- * Dual Enrollment
- * Junior Year & Senior Year Checklists
- * Scholarships
- * List of MHS HOPE Rigor Courses
- * College Application FAQs

FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A COLLEGE

Academic Environment:

- Admission Requirements
- Class Sizes
- Academic Support Services
- Study Abroad Programs
- Graduation Rate
- Internship Opportunities

Majors:

- Do they offer what you're interested in?
- Strength of the program

Geographic Location:

- Distance from Home
- Weather
- School setting/Surrounding area (e.g., small town, big city, rural, etc.)

Affordability:

- Total cost (tuition, room and board, dining, fees, etc.)
- Cost of travel to/from home

Housing & Dining Options:

- Required to live on campus?
- Dining Plans and Options

Health & Other Services:

- Medical & Psychological Services
- Services for Students with Disabilities
- Career Centers

Student Life:

- Sports
- Greek Life
- Campus Facilities
- Student Organizations
- Liberal, conservative, homogeneous, diverse
- Attitude of students



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