

JUNIOR YEAR

- ☐ Meet with your Counselor for Junior Advisement. Counselors will schedule meeting and notify student of date/time.
- ☐ Maintain a competitive GPA
- ☐ Take the PSAT in October. High scores on this can qualify students for the National Merit Scholarship Competition.
- ☐ Join clubs and volunteer for activities related to your interests
- ☐ Attend local College Fairs and College rep visits at Milton, as well as in-person or virtual college tours.
- ☐ Take a mock SAT/ACT through our School Partner, Applerouth Testing , to help determine which test is a better fit
- ☐ Register for the SAT/ACT no later than Spring Semester
- ☐ Start or update a resume highlighting your academic achievements, awards, special skills, and talents.
- ☐ Create a list of the top 10 colleges you are interested in by Target, Reach, and Safety status
- ☐ Check admissions requirements for schools you are interested in and make sure your courses align with the requirements
- ☐ Explore summer activities related to your career goals
- ☐ Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center if pursuing an athletic scholarship for a Division I or II institution
Investigate scholarship opportunities
- ☐ Start thinking of what teacher you will ask for LORs.

SENIOR YEAR**Fall**

- ☐ Register to retake the SAT/ACT to improve scores (if necessary)
- ☐ Make a list of the colleges you are applying to and the deadlines
- ☐ Make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements
- ☐ Check your preliminary HOPE GPA and rigor credits status
- ☐ Keep working hard all year; senior grades can affect admissions and scholarship eligibility
- ☐ Request recommendations from Teachers, Counselors, or Employers at least 10 school days before deadline.
- ☐ Submit applications
- ☐ Apply for scholarships
- ☐ Complete the FAFSA after October 1st

Spring

- ☐ Continue to maintain your GPA
- ☐ Check you preliminary HOPE GPA and Rigor status
- ☐ Continue to look for scholarship opportunities
- ☐ Keep track of important financial aid and scholarship deadlines
- ☐ Compare financial aid packages from different schools
- ☐ Decide which college to attend, and notify the school of your decision
- ☐ All students must submit a final transcript to the college they decide to attend.
Prospective Division I or II athletes must also send final transcripts to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

How do I send a transcript?

Counselors will send official transcripts through your application platform (Common App, Coalition, GaFutures, Common Black App). If you apply direct to the institution (college website), you can request a transcript via [ScribOrder](#).

How do I request a letter of recommendation?

To request a Counselor LOR, we will have students complete the Senior Brag Sheet and a request form fall of senior year. To request a Teacher LOR, choose up to 2 teachers that know you well. We recommend asking the teacher in person to write a LOR for you. Be sure to request at least 10 school days before the application is due.

Should I take the ACT or SAT?

Students can take/submit scores for either exam. We recommend reviewing the [Applerouth comparison guide](#) and taking the one that best suits your strengths. Still can't decide? Register for a practice exam. Make sure you study for the exam(s)! We have several community partners that offer test prep resources listed on the Counseling website under "College and Career" → "[ACT/SAT](#)."

How do I send ACT or SAT scores?

Students will submit their scores themselves from their testing accounts (SAT = College Board, ACT = ACT.org).

How do I apply for the HOPE scholarship?

Students have [two options](#): 1) Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or 2) Complete the Georgia Student Finance Application. We recommend FAFSA or both.

I qualify for the HOPE scholarship. Can I use it at out-of-state colleges?

No. The HOPE and Zell Miller scholarships are only for in-state colleges.

When should I start applying?

Applications will open fall of your senior year. Choose the application window that makes most sense for your academic records and pay attention to deadlines.

Where do I find scholarships? When should I start applying?

Students can start looking at scholarships as early as 10th grade. We have a list of scholarships and search engines on the Counseling Website under "College and Career" → "[Financial Aid](#)."

How many clubs should I be in?

Quality over quantity when it comes to extracurriculars. There is no magic number. Be authentic and intentional with your involvement.

APPLICATION STEPS

1. **Research:** Make a list of potential colleges you're interested in. What factors are important to you? Review admission requirements.
2. **Create a testing plan** for SAT or ACT.
3. **Visit colleges** and meet with college reps. Many colleges have virtual visits and we have college reps visit MHS throughout the year.
4. **Narrow down list.** What are your safety/back up schools? What are your reach schools? Most schools should be in the "good fit" group - you meet the academic minimums and the college has the factors you are looking for.
5. **Request Letter(s) of Recommendation.**
6. **Request Transcript** through Common App. If you are applying through a different portal, you will request through scribborder.
7. **Submit Application.** Pay attention to deadlines!