Lawrence County High School

Class of 2027



Senior Handbook

Orientation April 21, 2026
Graduation Monday, May 24, 2027 @7:30pm



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SENIOR CONTACTS AND RESOURCES

Lawrence County High School

102 College Street Moulton, AL 35650
Phone 256-905-2440
Fax 256-905-2444

Administration

Whitney McGregory, Principal	wmcgregory@lawrenceal.org
Amanda Terry, Assistant Principal	aterry@lawrenceal.org
Josh Graham, Assistant Principal	joshgraham@lawrenceal.org

Guidance Office 256-905-2440 (ext 3 / 4)

Amy Martin, Guidance Counselor	amartin@lawrenceal.org
Jessi Welborn, Counselor/ Dual Enrollment	jwelborn@lawrenceal.org
Kaci Quails, Career Coach / FAFSA	kquails@lawrenceal.org
Tabitha Pace, Career Coach / FAFSA	tpace@lawrenceal.org

Senior Sponsors (as of April 2026):

Sasha Rogers (fees, shirts, prom, graduation)	srogers@lawrenceal.org
Callie Singleton (pic/yearbook, homecoming, grad)	csingleton@lawrenceal.org
Jill Woods (prom, graduation)	jwoods@lawrenceal.org

*JOIN THE **LCHS Class of 2027** Facebook Page (Melia Duncan) for info all year.
*Make sure you are receiving the school cast calls – if not, call and check on contact #'s.

Greg Brooks Photography: Senior Portrait for Yearbook: 256-476-4135 for an appointment

Balfour Graduation Supplies: 1-866-402-7464 (mrmgradsales.com)—orders start in Oct/Nov

www.parchment.com – transcript request site (students will create accounts in class in August)

School website: https://lchs.lawrenceal.org/

- Guidance page includes senior handouts (first week each month Sept – April)

Powerschool Home Access: lawrenceco.powerschool.com/public

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid: studentaid.gov or load the **myStudentAid** app on your phone. Save your account information! You'll use this account and reapply every year. Student and 1 parent must make an account. Class of 2027 FAFSA opens Oct 1.

Helpful College and Financial Aid Resources

***NOTE: These services are all free. Never pay for financial aid searches!!!!**

Kuder.com Career exploration /college match information
alabamatransfers.com prepares a credit transfer contract for students who will transfer after 2 years
studentscholarships.org provides scholarship lists year-round
www.fastweb.com creates a personalized student account to scholarship information
www.alstudentaid.com provides college / financial information for Alabama colleges
https://studentaid.gov official website to apply for financial aid (pell grant, work study, loans)
www.mymajors.com provide career exploration, college searches, and degree information

Senior Year Timeline OVERVIEW

Summer

- Senior tux/drape Portraits for Yearbook– Greg Brooks 256-476-4135 (or in the Fall)
- Schedule campus visits/tours with prospective colleges
- Register with eligibility center if pursuing college athletics – eligibilitycenter.org or play.mynaia.org
- Explore college website's information about size, location, cost of tuition, programs of study, admission requirements, scholarship opportunities, and deadlines for admission/scholarships

August – October

- School Starts August 12
- Take the ACT in September and /or October *
- College Fair at Northwest Shoals – late August field trip
- Complete admission applications to at least 2 colleges*
    - No application fee for 2-year colleges
- When you apply to colleges, request transcripts through www.parchment.com
    - Students will set up their parchment accounts in class with a unique code
    - Students who qualify for F/R lunch and Talent Search get 4 free (see Montgomery)
- Complete scholarship applications (for colleges to which you are applying for admission, and to other foundations/external scholarships) and your FAFSA (https://studentaid.gov).
- Homecoming September 18
- Senior Portraits for yearbook (Greg Brooks-September/Oct). Sign up with Mrs. Singleton.
- Pay $150 Senior Fee (or $50 for graduation only) to LCHS (Mrs. Rogers) by Oct 9. $25 late fee added after Oct 9.

November – December

- **ACT Workkeys** - ALL SENIORS
- Order cap and gown from Jostens – more info TBA
- Last chance to pay for Prom + $25 late fee – Deadline Dec 15
- Complete the 2027-28 FAFSA using 2025 tax info- opens Oct 1, 2026
- Complete all applications for admission* and continue scholarship applications
- Scholarship deadlines for Auburn, UAH, Miss State, Troy, Alabama
- **ASVAB** test for students interested in military entrance
- **US CIVICS Exam** in Government/Econ classes (required) uscis.gov – study guide

January-February

- Continue scholarship applications from senior handout and other scholarship searches
- Scholarship deadlines for AL State, JSU, Montevallo, Ole Miss, USA, NWS, UAB
- Mr. and Miss LCHS / Good Citizenship Selections / Who's Who Voting

March – May

- **Prom March 12** at Ingalls Harbor (lead-out practice March 11 is required in order to participate)
- Continue Scholarship Applications, deadlines for UWA, UNA, A&M, Calhoun, WSCC
- Check with your college financial aid office to ensure your paperwork is complete
- Take College Placement tests if needed and register for housing / class registration
- Senior Class Picture (for Yearbook and Decatur Daily Senior Edition) and Who's Who pics
- Spring Break March 29- April 2
- Awards Day– May 18 (Tentative –pending athletic tournament dates)
- Graduation—Monday, May 24 at 7:30pm *Attending graduation practice is mandatory*

***ACT, College Admission, and NCAA fee waivers are available for students who qualify for Free/Reduced lunch and for students in Talent Search. See Guidance Staff for waiver information.**

Senior Activities

Senior pictures

Each senior must have a drape (girls) or tux (boys) picture for the yearbook. Greg Brooks Photography provides this service for LCHS with no sitting fee. Appointments will be available this **summer** for senior portraits (**256-476-4135**), or you can get your portraits done in the fall (appointments are set up during the 2 weeks around homecoming week).

Your casual pictures (optional) can be done with any photographer, but the tux and drape pictures MUST be done by Greg Brooks Photography in order for your picture to be in the yearbook! Students may sign up for **Fall** appointment times (on campus) with Mrs. Singleton or call and schedule a time in Greg's studio.

Ordering graduation supplies

Students are responsible to ordering their graduation supplies. Jostens is our supplier of graduation supplies, and we will share order information later in the fall semester.

- Cap/Gown is the only required purchase, approximately $100, which also includes tassel, diploma &cover.
- All fees must be paid before a student receives his/her cap & gown / supplies.

PROM: March 12 @Ingalls Harbor

Your Senior fee ($150) pays for venue/ rentals, decorations, cleanup, security, tickets/ programs, and prom refreshments. Senior fees are due Oct 9. After Oct 9, a $25 late fee will be added. Each senior who plans to attend the prom is required to pay. The Prom fee does not include optional items such as prom T-shirt or picture packages.
***Prom Dates** who are not LCHS juniors or seniors will also require an additional $35 fee. This will be collected during second semester closer to prom time.
*Prom Dates who are not LCHS students will be required to turn in a *Letter of Good Standing* from their school and a copy of their ID. This form will be provided to students and due back before prom day.
Prom Pictures: Greg Brooks will be set up on site before and after lead out, 5:00pm-9:00pm.
Prom Breakfast, memory slide show: Senior parents are responsible for these.
Prom Lead-Out Practice (the day BEFORE prom) is mandatory for those who want to participate in lead-out at prom.

GRADUATION CEREMONY: May 24, 2027 7:30pm

All fees, dues etc must be paid in order to participate in the graduation program, and students MUST successfully complete all academic /senior requirements (see page 26). Weather permitting, graduation is held at the stadium.

- Cap and Gowns are all red
- Girls wear any color knee-length dress, (that does not show outside of grad gown) and dress shoes/ sandals (black, brown, white, silver, gold…neutral colors)
- Guys wear khaki or black pants, white dress shirt with collar, tie (red, black, or white), and black or brown dress shoes or nice boots
- No tennis shoes or flip flops
- Cum Laude Medals and Academic Honor Society cords/ stoles (Beta Club, National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, NHS Art, NHS Spanish) are the only distinction accessories allowed. Distinction medals/ stoles are ordered through the school ONLY.
- Parents who want field seating will reserve those with a fee TBA (this requires extra chair rentals). Each senior is limited to 4 field seating tickets. Stadium seating is open to the general public.

OVERVIEW OF EXPENSES

REQUIRED ITEMS: Senior fee and Cap&Gown Order

LCHS Senior Fee (for Prom & Graduation): DUE OCTOBER 9 $150*

Senior Fees are turned in to Mrs. Rogers, checks payable to LCHS. After October 9, a $25 late fee is added to the fee amount. Must be paid in full by December 15 in order to go to prom. Many of our expenses require early reservations/ orders.

*Students who do not attend Prom are only required to pay $50 for "Graduation Only." Due Oct 9.
*Students who do not attend Prom or Graduation do not pay the $150 Senior Fee
*Senior Fees are NOT REFUNDABLE. The prom budget and reservations/ services are based on the fees collected.

Cap, Gown, & Tassel/ Diploma and Cover **$75**—approximate cost (Jostens)

*Students who need assistance with this purchase, please see Mrs. Martin. There are some funds available to help with Cap and Gown orders for those with hardships.
**Students who are NOT participating in graduation ceremony may order their "diploma /diploma cover only" for about $55. See Mrs. Martin for a "diploma only" order.

OPTIONAL ITEMS	Estimated cost
Senior Shirt	$35-40
Graduation invitations	varies depending on source- can use Balfour or other source
Yearbook	$60-65 depending on if personalized Jostens.com
Senior Portraits	varies (no sitting fee for yearbook portrait)
Prom T-Shirt	$10-$15

Alabama High School Diploma Requirements

Graduation Requirements	Course Options
English Language Arts *4 credits required*	-English 9 or Advanced English 9 -English 10 or Advanced English 10 -English 11, AP English Language, or College English -English 12, AP English Literature, or College English
Mathematics *4 credits required: must include completion of Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II*	- Geometry with Data Analysis or Advanced Geometry - Algebra I or Advanced Algebra -Algebra II with Statistics or Advanced Algebra II -Senior math credit may be earned from these options: Senior Math (Math. Mod), Pre-Calculus, Computer Science, or College Math
Science *4 credits required:* *Biological Science* *Physical Science* *2 additional sciences*	-Biology or Advanced Biology -Physical Science or Advanced Chemistry -Year 3 & 4 options: Human Anatomy, Environmental Science or College Science (BIO 101-102)
Social Studies *4 credits required; must include World, 2 credits US, ½ credit Gov, and ½ credit Econ*	-World History -US History I OR Advanced US History OR HI 201 (UNITED STATES HISTORY I) -US History II OR AP US History OR HI 202 (UNITED STATES HISTORY II) -Government (1 semester) and Economics (1 semester)
Other Required Courses:	
HEALTH (.5 credit)	Health (half-credit course) OR Foundations of Health Science course at LCCT
PE (1 credit)	Beginning Kinesiology, Athletic PE, JROTC, or Marching Band
Career Preparedness (1 credit)	-Includes Computer Application, Career Planning, & Financial Literacy (Encompasses the state's online learning/digital literacy requirement)
AREA 5 (3 credits)	Career Tech and / or Foreign Language and /or Arts Education Students must earn at least 3 credits from among these areas. Any combination from these areas is accepted, or all from one area.
Additional Requirements:	
Pass Civics Exam	Every senior must successfully complete the US Civics Exam (Gov class)
Financial Literacy Exam	Class of 2028 and following (Exam is given in 9th grade Career Prep class)
College and Career Readiness must meet at least one CCR benchmark in order to graduate:	College Course Completion AP Score of 3 Computer Sci Course Workkeys Silver Level (all 4's) Career Tech Credential 3-Credit CT Cluster Military Enlistment At least one ACT benchmark (ENG 18; MTH 22; RDG 22; SCI 23)
FAFSA Completion (seniors)	Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or the waiver
TOTAL CREDITS	26 required for Graduation (Lawrence County BOE)

Course Weight Policy:

Advanced/ Honors Courses: Numeric Grade +5 calculated toward Numeric GPA (.5 added to 4.0 scale)
AP Core Courses: Numeric Grade +10 calculated toward Numeric GPA (1.0 added to 4.0 scale)
College Courses: Core- weighted +10 Elective- weighted +5

Graduation Honors: based on Exact CORE weighted GPA* at end of first semester of 12th grade

Cum Laude: 95.0 – 97.9
Magna Cum Laude: 98.0 – 100.9
Summa Cum Laude: 101+

*__CORE GPA:__ includes Math, English, Science, and History classes

Official Final Class Rank is based on the Cumulative (overall) weighted GPA at the end of first semester of 12th grade.
Graduation Honors status is based on the WEIGHTED CORE GPA at the end of first semester of 12th grade.

Dual Enrollment jwelborn@lawrenceal.org

Dual Enrollment is a student's enrollment in a college course while in high school. Students may be eligible to receive both college and high school credit for dual enrollment courses.

With which colleges may I dual enroll?
Lawrence County has dual enrollment agreements with Calhoun (calhoun.edu), Northwest Shoals (nwscc.edu), and the University of North Alabama (una.edu, called Early College).

Who is eligible for dual enrollment?
To participate in dual enrollment, students must have completed all required core courses for all previous grades, and must have an overall B average (80 or higher). Students who take a Math or English course must meet the ACT score requirements that the college sets for enrollment in the class.

What courses can I take?
Any type of course (whether on campus or distance learning/ computer-based) is allowed, with exception to remedial courses (any course numbered 099 or below). Students are encouraged to research which classes will contribute to their planned college degree. Courses that are taken most often are Psychology, Speech, History (US History can represent the high school US History course), English (can represent EN 11/ 12), and College Algebra. Colleges set the ACT requirements for enrollment in English and Math courses. See Mrs. Welborn about ACT requirements.

How much does dual enrollment cost?
Each college sets its own cost of tuition. Students are responsible for tuition, fees, and books, but the LCBOE funds tuition for up to 2 courses per student per semester, while that source lasts. Some courses are allotted grant money (free), but some classes may cost up to $500 each.

How do I enroll?

1. Students determine which course they wish to take by researching their degree requirements and course availability for the term they wish to dual enroll. This information is posted on the college website under their academic program information and the college's schedule information for each term. Alabamatransfers.com is also a good source to get a course guide for your degree program. Select classes that will benefit your college degree plan!
2. Next, students apply for admission as a Dual Enrollment /Early College student. Applications for admission are online on the college website. **All Dual Enrollment students must complete the registration process before the end of May.**
3. Dual Enrollment Approval forms* are completed online and routed to LCHS (Mrs. Welborn) for verification. LCHS provides the student's transcript to the college along with the dual enrollment approval form. *Course approval forms for classes on LCHS campus are completed by Mrs. Welborn.
4. Colleges will communicate with students via email, mail, or campus portal sites regarding admission, registration for classes, and fees.
5. Students are responsible for taking care of registration, payment, and books.
6. Students are responsible for maintaining contact with the college through their portal and/or email address regarding payment, course enrollment, and other requirements.

****SEE MRS. WELBORN ASAP IF YOU PLAN TO DUAL ENROLL NEXT SEMESTER!****
Some courses fill up quickly! jwelborn@lawrenceal.org

Dual Enrollment planned on LCHS Campus this year:

Intermediate Algebra MA 100 and College Algebra MA 112:
Requirements for MA 100 Intermediate Alg: ACT Math score of 16
Requirements for MA 112 College Alg: ACT Math score of 22 or completion (C or higher) of MA 100

BIO 101-102 Introduction to Biology I & II

HI 201 and HI 202 (US HISTORY I and II)

EN 111 (Fall Semester) and EN 112 (Spring Semester)
Requirements for EN 111: ACT English Score of 18

Students who plan to participate in any dual enrollment option need to inform Mrs. Welborn which course(s) you plan to take. Applications for Admission and Approval Forms need to be completed before school ends this semester. All payment of tuition fees must be paid to the college directly by their assigned deadline, unless covered by LCBOE funding.

AFTER HIGH SCHOOL ….. WHAT THEN?

1. **College? See pages 11-16**
    a. Application for Admission
    b. ACT Scores – admission criteria
    c. GPA/ Transcripts- admission criteria
    d. Applying for Scholarships
    e. Financial Aid (see pages 18-20)
    f. Registration, housing, meal plans

2. **Military?**
    a. Take the ASVAB if not already
    b. Establish and maintain contact with your recruiter about signing and training.

3. **Employment?**
    a. Have your resume ready! (see page 17 for sample)
    b. Prepare for a good Work Keys test score (test in Fall).
    c. Establish and maintain contact with your future employer.
    d. Use every opportunity for training, building your skill sets, internships, job shadowing, and volunteer work to help with employability after high school.

WHAT TYPES OF COLLEGES EXIST?

More than half of all recent high school graduates in the United States pursue some type of post-secondary education. There is a wide range of higher education options in the United States. For this reason, your child is likely to find a college that is well suited to his or her needs. There are two basic types of post-secondary education institutions:
Community (Junior) Colleges and Four-Year Colleges/ Universities

Community / Junior Colleges

Many kinds of colleges offer programs that are less than four years in length. Most of these schools offer education and training programs that are two years in length or shorter. The programs often lead to a license, a certificate, an Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree, an **Associate** of Science (A.S.) degree, or an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree.

Some programs at two-year colleges can lead to a Bachelor's degree in an academic discipline. These academic programs are comparable to the first two years of a general academic program offered by a four-year college or university. **Students can transfer their "2-year" credits toward a 4-year degree program at a university.** Students who plan to transfer schools need to utilize the STARS Transfer Guide at alabamatransfers.com to ensure transfer of credits.

Many junior and community colleges offer technical/occupational training, as well as academic courses. For example, many cardiovascular technicians, medical laboratory technicians, and computer technicians receive their education and training at junior colleges, community colleges, and/or technical colleges.

Many junior, community, and technical colleges offer technical programs in cooperation with local businesses, industry, public service agencies, or other organizations. Some of these programs are formally connected to education programs that students start in high school; they are often referred to as "tech-prep" or "school-to-career" programs. These programs often provide students with an opportunity to learn new skills by working for a local employer and by taking high school courses that link with courses offered at local colleges (examples: Health Care/ CNA/ Internships toward a nursing degree).

Two-year colleges such as community colleges often operate under an "open admissions" policy that can vary from school to school. At most community colleges, admission is guaranteed with a high school diploma or GED.

Application requirements at colleges with two-year programs and shorter programs may include a high school transcript and college entrance examination scores as well. Some schools have programs that allow "open admissions," while other programs in the same school – particularly in scientific or technical subjects – may have further admission requirements. Since requirements vary widely, it is important to check into schools and programs individually.

Admission to a 2-year college: High School Diploma or GED; Placement test if ACT score is not at benchmark requirement for freshmen-level Math or English.

TYPES OF COLLEGES EXIST? ….Continued



Four-Year Colleges and Universities

These schools usually offer a **Bachelor** of Arts (B.A.) or **Bachelor** of Science (B.S.) degree (usually completed in four years). Some universities also offer graduate and professional degrees (degrees higher than a bachelor's level).

Students who wish to pursue a general academic program usually choose a four-year college or university. Such a program lays the foundation for more advanced studies and professional work. Four-year colleges and universities offer bachelor's degrees (the B.A. and B.S.) in most areas in the arts and sciences, such as Education, Business, Nursing, Engineering, Liberal Arts, and Pre-Professional Programs (Pre-Medicine, Pre-Law).

When a student earns a bachelor's degree it means that he or she has passed examinations in a broad range of courses and has studied one or two subject areas in greater depth. These one or two subject areas are called a student's "major" area(s) of study or area(s) of concentration. A bachelor's degree is usually required before a student can begin studying for a graduate degree. A graduate degree is usually earned through two or more years of advanced studies beyond the bachelor's degree. This might be a master's or a doctoral degree in a particular field or a specialized degree required in certain professions such as law, social work, counseling, architecture, or medicine.

Items considered for Admission: High School Diploma, GPA, ACT Scores



(**What Types of Colleges Exist** – Taken from the National Association for College Admission Counseling – "*Preparing Your Child for College*")

CHOOSING A COLLEGE



Most students apply to at least three colleges; five or six would give you all the options you need. As you narrow your choices, we suggest that you consider the criteria listed below and create a "Plan A," "Plan B," and a "Plan C" for your plans for college.

Academic Programs and Curriculum

- Does the college have the major you are considering?
- Does the college offer credit for high school courses (i.e. AP Exams)?
- Are there co-op and/or intern programs in my field?
- How many courses or credits are needed to earn the degree you want?
- Can you finish your program in two / four years?
- What percentage of this college's graduates are placed in my field of study? Job outlook?

Academic Competitiveness

- How do your academic credentials compare to the freshmen profile?
- Have you taken an academically challenging program in high school?
- What is the average GPA and ACT score of freshmen entering that college?
- **Do you meet their admission requirements?** ACT, GPA, Courses in High School

Location

- Distance from home – how far from family and friends?
- Transportation costs?
- On-Campus living requirements? Dorms? Meal Plan? Apartments?
- Rural vs. urban environment?
- Climate /Weather

Type of School

- Public vs. Private? Religious-based?
- Do you want a certain type of college or university? (arts, military, single sex or historically black)
- Do you prefer a small, medium or large enrollment?

Student Body and Student Life

- Co-ed or single sex?
- What kind of extracurricular activities are there?
- What special services are available – counseling, tutoring, health care?
- Do most students live in dormitories or commute? Freshmen required to live on campus?
- What percentage of freshmen return as sophomores?
- Comfort level – do students have similar goals as you?
- What percentage of the student body goes to law, medical or graduate schools?
- What percentage get jobs after graduation?

Cost

- Is there financial aid available?
- Do they have work study programs?
- Will there be out-of-state fees?



al.kuder.com (access through clever.com account) – career inventory, college matches



CAMPUS VISITS

It would be unfair – to yourself and to the college – to judge a school just on the basis of its catalogue or a brochure. Visiting or revisiting a college campus will help you make the right choice for you. While we realize that it can be very costly to visit all the colleges before you apply, it is essential to visit the colleges after you have been accepted and before you make your final decision. If you cannot visit a college or university before you apply, we suggest you check their website thoroughly to be sure they offer everything you need in a college. We also suggest that when you call the admissions office, request to have an upper classman call you, so you can ask them pertinent questions. Most students are usually open and honest. Also remember, we live in the vicinity of many colleges. Taking tours of local campuses can give you a good idea of what you like and dislike in a prospective college. It will help you be more discerning in your choices.

*Seniors are allowed 2 pre-approved visits to colleges on school days. Schedule the visit ahead of time, inform your teachers, and bring back a letter from the visit day as your excuse for the day.

BEFORE YOUR TRIP

1. Schedule your tour through the college's admissions website portal. There usually are set days and times.
2. Do your homework. Research their admission requirements, scholarships, programs of study, dorms, and extracurriculars. This will help you know what questions to ask when you are there.

WHILE ON CAMPUS

1. Take a tour and hear an admission presentation.
2. If time permits, arrange a visit to a dorm and cafeteria. Eat a meal on campus.
3. Walk around on your own and talk to students. You may feel bashful, but chances are they are flattered to tell you about their school.
4. If you have a strong inclination toward a course of study, visit that department. Interview a faculty person. If you are in the science department, check out the labs. What research is going on?
5. Find the Career Center. Browse through the bulletins. Where do students find jobs after graduation? How?
6. Find the Financial Aid office. If time allows, visit a financial aid rep to gather info about all the scholarships and grants available.
7. Pick up a copy of the campus newspaper. They are very revealing about the issues affecting the student body.

AFTER YOU LEAVE

1. Write down as much information about your visit as you can remember. Include names of people you met.
2. Record your personal impressions of the school – both negative and positive. Did people seem friendly? Stressed? (Exam time does not count.) Did you like the dorms? Was it easy to get around?
3. Jot down some comparisons with other colleges. Such as "I like this better at College A than at B because . . ." The more careful notes you take now, the better prepared you will be when it comes time to make a decision.
4. When you get home, set up a college file. One folder or file per school. Every time you receive information from that college, put it in the file to keep everything together.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Many colleges (and scholarship foundations) ask you to supplement your application with letters of recommendation. It is your responsibility to determine what letters, if any, are required. Colleges may specify that recommendations come from:

- Teachers in academic subjects who can speak to your academic strengths.
- Coaches and teachers who can attest to your athletic or artistic talent.
- Counselors who can address your personal strengths, accomplishments, and special circumstances which might impact on an admission decision; or others, such as club sponsors, religious leaders, employers, who can give evidence of your character and leadership ability.

You should choose a person who knows you well enough to write a letter of recommendation which will cite your strengths and abilities. Allow the person sufficient time to write a thoughtful letter (3-5 working days). It is helpful to share your resume in order to provide background information about you. **It is appropriate to send a thank you note or email to anyone writing a letter of recommendation.**



YOUR RESUME:

Your resume reflects the educational, leadership, and extracurricular investments you have made from 9th -12th grade. A good resume is helpful when filling out scholarship applications, and often is required as an attachment to an application.

Resumes are also helpful when requesting letters of recommendation; teachers appreciate the details as a reference to use when describing your accomplishments in a letter.

Your resume is not only valuable now; it will "follow" you even into college and your career. Keep it saved in Google docs or on a flashdrive so you can review and edit it each year. You will use your resume again in college, whether applying for a club or interviewing for a job. It will grow with you over time and can save precious time when you get ready to pursue other things!

A sample resume is provided here; however, there are many different formats you can use.

**Tips: Use headers and phrases, not complete sentences or "I" statements
List activities in order of most recent
Only list activities from 9th-12th grade
Use action verbs in past tense
1-2 pages max: be concise, but try to include everything in a neat and organized way

Sample Resume (For College/ Scholarship purposes)

Beatrice A. Student

100 College Street
Moulton, AL 35650
BeAStudent@gmail.com
(256) 123-4567

OBJECTIVE

To pursue a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with Certification in Special Education

EDUCATION

High School Diploma, Lawrence County High School, *Cum Laude*- May 2027
GPA: 3.6
Class Rank: 20/153
Lawrence County Center of Technology
Business Technology 11, 9
Health Care Foundations 10
ACT Composite: 24 (October 2025)
AP Exams: English Language Composition (score:3)
Biology (score:3)

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES / LEADERSHIP

Class Officer 12, 10
- Senior Class Treasurer
- Sophomore Class Secretary

Beta Club 12, 11
- Treasurer 12

LEO Service Club 12, 11, 10, 9
Student Ambassador 12, 11
Soccer Team 12, 11, 10, 9
- Team Captain 12
- All-County 12, 11

Peer Tutor 12, 11
Student Assistant in Special Needs Classroom 12, 11
Spirit Club 12, 11, 10, 9
Fellowship of Christian Athletes 12, 11, 10, 9
- Prayer group leader

Youth Leadership Lawrence 10
FCCLA 9

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community Church 12, 11, 10, 9
- Mission Work at Rainbow Omega Residential Facility – Summer 2024 and 2025
- Vacation Bible School volunteer
- Sponsorship of needy families at Christmas

LEO Service Club 12, 11, 10, 9
- Built wheelchair ramp for disabled community member
- Participated in canned food drive
- Volunteered at Relay for Life

Special Olympics Volunteer 12, 11
- Partnered with Special Olympians in races

Read Across America: Moulton Elementary School 12, 11
- Volunteered as a reader for elementary students

WORK EXPERIENCE

Server, Western Sirloin Steakhouse — June 2024 to present
Child Care provider (summer) — June – July 2023, 2024

Sample of work-focused resume

John Wayne Smith

123 Court Street
Moulton, AL 35650
(256) 555-2222
johnsmith@yahoo.com

Objective

To obtain employment in an industrial field, applying my special training in welding and construction

Education

Lawrence County High School—Alabama High School Diploma May 2027

- GPA 3.2
- Scored Silver Certificate level on ACT Work Keys Test

Lawrence County Center of Technology

- 3 years of Welding classes (6 total credits)
- 1 year of Building Construction (Ag)

Special Skills

Good attendance, fast learner, good team member, dependable, trustworthy
Trained in use of tig welding machinery
Highly skilled in use of welding torch and arc welding
Efficient in use of plasma cutter
Trained in shop safety and clean-up

Achievements

1st place in County and District Welding Competition (12th grade)
2nd place in County Skills USA Welding Competition (11th grade)
Membership in Welder's Union

Work Experience

Foodland—Stock worker (September 2025 to present)
Lawn Care (Summers of 2023-2025)

References

Brian Tidwell, Welding Instructor
Greg Morris, Foodland Manager
Chris Christian, Community Church Youth minister

Types of Financial Aid

Collegiate Scholarships (awarded by the college)

- Academic (ACT, GPA, Rank)
- Athletic (see your coach to help with this, and make sure you are NCAA eligible!)
- Leadership (resume and sometimes interview- i.e. Ambassadors, Warhawks)
- Career Tech (2-year programs)
- Band / Music (require tryouts)
- Dance/ Cheer/ Flags (require tryouts)
- ROTC
- Foundation/ Endowed (memorial funds, special groups)

Community Scholarships: awarded by groups outside of college

- Memorial Scholarships (local families/foundations)
- Business Foundations (Better Business Bureau, Coca-Cola, JWEMC, State Farm)
- Community Groups (Kappa Kappa Iota, Cattlemen, Byler Road)

Dependent-based Grants and Scholarship:

- Veterans/ Military (benefits.va.gov/gibill or visit your local VA)
- Employer Scholarships (ex: NUCOR, Listerhill, Burger King, Unions)

Pell Grants: awarded through the FAFSA; "free money" that is not paid back
Student Loans: usually facilitated through the college
College Payment Plans: some colleges offer monthly payment plans

Financial Aid Terms to Know:

Financial aid package: The combination of gift aid, loans and work-study received
Comprehensive fee: The total cost of tuition, room, board and student fees charged by a college or university. In addition, other expenses (such as transportation and books) are added to the comprehensive fee to determine the cost of attendance at a college.
Need analysis: Using information provided on the FAFSA form and on other forms a college or university might require, the income and assets of both the parents and the student are analyzed. Many variables that affect a family's financial situation are considered, such as the number of people in the household, number of children in college, state of residence, age of the parents, and the types of assets and savings. Upon completion of the FAFSA, you can view an SAR (Student Aid Report) which indicates the amount of aid a student is eligible for.
Expected family contribution (EFC): The amount that the family, including the student, could reasonably be expected to contribute toward the cost of college education. This is determined by need analysis on the FAFSA.
Financial need: The difference between the estimated family contribution and the estimated cost of attendance at a college or university. The amount of financial need is the basis for awarding need-based aid.
Need-based aid: Awarded on the basis of the financial need shown by a family, as determined by need analysis.
Merit-based aid: Aid awarded on the basis of factors other than financial need. This usually consists of scholarships awarded for academic performance or for special talents, such as artistic or athletic ability.

Financial Aid Web Resources

- https://studentaid.gov the official website for applying for federal student financial aid- FAFSA
- www.finaid.org explanations of different types of financial aid, glossary of terms, calculators for estimating college costs and financial aid.
- www.alstudentaid.com provides college/ financial info for Alabama colleges
- www.nasfaa.org/ParentsStudents Web site for the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, features on-line financial aid brochures (some in Spanish), worksheets, and checklists.
- www.fastweb.com Searchable database of more than 600,000 scholarships
- studentscholarships.org searchable database of scholarships
- college-financial-aid-advice.com provides scholarship listings

***Never pay for scholarship searches! All these are free resources.**

Tips for Navigating the Financial Aid Process:

- ✓ Read each college's brochures carefully to find out which form(s) to submit and when to apply for financial aid.
- ✓ Fill out all forms accurately and completely. Mistakes and incomplete information on financial aid forms can cause delays or even ineligibility.
- ✓ Make sure you don't miss important deadlines, as these due dates vary from college to college.
- ✓ Keep a copy of every financial aid form and supporting document that you send out. Also keep copies of any correspondence and notes of conversations you have with financial aid officers.
- ✓ Beware of scholarship scams. If you have to pay money to get a scholarship, it's probably a scam.
- ✓ Reapply every year. Most financial aid awards are not automatically renewed.

Questions to ask colleges:

1) What kind of financial assistance does the college offer: need-based, merit-based, or both?
2) Can the college provide an early estimate of what our financial aid award might be?
3) What forms are needed in order to apply?
4) When are financial aid applications due?
5) What costs are taken into account by the financial aid office? Tuition, room, board, transportation? How about additional expenses like books, fees, computers and personal expenses?
6) When will we be notified about the amount of assistance we can expect?
7) Does the institution have an appeal process to review special circumstances?
8) Is there a commitment for financial assistance after the first year?
9) How and when do we apply for financial assistance after the first year?
10) What if we do not qualify for need-based aid? Are there alternative financing options?
11) What grant, loans, and work study opportunities are offered by the college itself?
12) What is the average student loan indebtedness of the college's graduates?
13) Is there a restriction to the length of time that financial assistance will continue?
14) How long does it typically take a student to graduate from this college?
15) What impact do scholarships from outside sources have on other financial aid?
16) Can we apply financial aid toward an off-campus study program, either in the U.S. or another country?
17) What happens if our family's financial situation changes substantially during the school year?
18) Are there any payment options available (such as monthly or quarterly)?

FAFSA

You must complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to apply for federal student aid for college or career school and for most state and institutional aid. All FAFSA application processes are online at **https://studentaid.gov**. This is a universal form that all colleges use to determine your eligibility for aid. Some colleges even require completion of the FAFSA before awarding academic scholarships.

***Beginning school year 21-22, every senior in Alabama is required to complete the FAFSA OR sign a waiver to decline eligibility.**

Students/ Parents may also complete the FAFSA on the **myStudentAide** phone app.

Financial Aid offices use information from the FAFSA to determine if you are eligible to receive federal student aid from grants, loans, and work-study programs. Also, foundation scholarship committees often review financial aid information to determine scholarship candidacy.

Before beginning the FAFSA, each student AND his or her parent will create an FSA ID. This is your personal access to FAFSA. Store your username and password safely, as you will reuse it each year when applying for a FAFSA. You will need an active email address to create an FSA ID; do NOT use your school email, since it will retire when you graduate.

Financial Aid determination: An academic year for financial aid runs from fall to summer (August to July). Fall 2027 College Freshmen will complete the 2027-28 FAFSA using 2025 tax information. **The 2027-28 FAFSA opens October 1, 2026.**

If you plan to enroll in college SUMMER of 2027, you will need to fill out the 2026-27 FAFSA as well, which uses 2024 tax info. That application is already available on the FAFSA website.

Other tips:

1. Be aware of FAFSA deadlines outlined by your college. Many enforce a FAFSA deadline in order for students to be eligible for their scholarships.
2. List recipients (colleges) on your FAFSA to make sure the colleges receive your financial aid status information. You can also forward your FAFSA information to other colleges on a later date if you change your college plans.
3. Follow up on your FAFSA. Your application will be processed and you will receive a Student Aid Report. Review your SAR for any necessary corrections and updates. 7-10 days after submitting your FAFSA, contact the financial aid office of your college to verify that they have received the information.

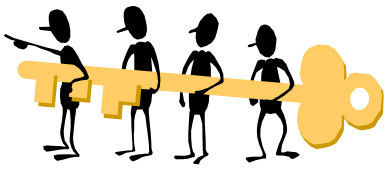
LOCAL HELP with FAFSA: Our Talent Search Counselor, Mrs. Beverly Bentley (babvote@aol.com), and our Career Coaches Mrs. Kaci Quails (kquails@lawrenceal.org) and Mrs. Tabitha Pace (tpace@lawrenceal.org) offer FAFSA assistance on our campus. Our local colleges also host financial aid events on their campuses and can provide assistance by appointments.

THE PARENTS' ROLE
IN THE COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS

The application period is a time of anxiety for your son or daughter. Help your child by seeing that he/she follows the procedures properly and meets all deadlines. Be an active participant in the exploration process and offer your guidance as your child weighs information and creates the list of schools to which he or she will apply. Be certain that your daughter or son completes all admission requirements in accordance with required deadlines. With your child, file all required financial aid forms by the deadline. Colleges may require one or more of the following financial aid and related forms.

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), required by all colleges for applicants for need-based aid and/or loans from state and federal sources. There is no charge to submit the FAFSA.
- Financial records as requested by the college, most often copies of the parents' and student's federal income tax returns. Audits of the FAFSA are common.

The college application process can be time-consuming and distract from routine student responsibilities. Make sure that your daughter or son keeps up with all schoolwork and maintains good study habits during this active time. Encourage patience, persistence, and a positive attitude about their future.



If your son or daughter has applied to a range of different types of schools, your child will have a choice if he/she selected well. Should a negative response be received, provide consolation and support. When good news is received, seize the time to praise and congratulate your child. It will be a very happy time for everyone. You now have a college freshman in the family!

Tips for Parents of Seniors:

- ✓ REGULARLY check up on attendance and grades (Powerschool, email teachers, etc)
- ✓ Communicate EVERY DAY about how they are doing with school, assignments, and/ or college plans. Encourage them and communicate your expectations for their future.
- ✓ Help your senior take care of him or herself (sleep, eating, de-stress, healthy choices)
- ✓ Begin (if you haven't already) teaching your senior about money management and credit
- ✓ Support your senior's independence by holding them accountable for their responsibilities (field trip permission form deadlines, requesting letters of rec, paying fees on time, etc). We are not preparing our kids for life if we do everything for them!!!
- ✓ Help organize your senior's time and materials
    - Keep an event calendar for deadlines, homework, tests, work, special events, etc
    - Break down long term goals into short term goals
    - Provide a regular time and place for quiet study time and college planning time

COLLEGE ATHLETIC REQUIREMENTS



A high school student who plans on playing a sport at the college level must register through the NCAA/ NAIA (depending on the school's division) and must meet specific academic requirements as set forth by the NCAA / NAIA.

To register with the Eligibility Center, go to eligibilitycenter.org (NCAA) or play.mynaia.org. (NAIA). There is a registration fee; however, the fee can be waived if you qualify for Free or Reduced lunch or in Talent Search. Let Mrs. Martin or Mrs. Montgomery know if you have requested a waiver online.

Inform Mrs. Montgomery when you have created your account, so your high school transcript can be uploaded to your account.

Also use the websites to view Eligibility Requirements for Division I and Division II sports. GPA and ACT scores are considered for eligibility, along with required number of core courses. Make sure that when you take the ACT, you list NCAA (code 9999) as a score recipient.

2026-27 Testing Dates

The ACT is a college placement/admission test for colleges. Colleges also use ACT test scores to determine eligibility for scholarships.

- Register at www.act.org.
- The cost of the ACT (as of 3/25) is $68 ($93 for Plus Writing). Additional fees if you register past the deadline or if you change test date/ location. Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch (based on family income) or who are in Talent Search are allowed 2 test fee waivers for the ACT during their Junior and Senior Year. See Guidance staff for a waiver code.

ACT Test Dates	Registration Deadline	
June 13, 2026	May 8	
July 11, 2026	June 5	(NOT offered at LCHS)
September 19	August 14	
October 17	September 11	
December 12	November 6	
February 27, 2027	January 22	
April 10, 2027	March 5	(NOT offered at LCHS)
June 12, 2027	May 7	
July 10, 2027	June 4	(NOT offered at LCHS)

- ✓ List your colleges of interests as recipients of your test scores. You can also send scores to other colleges later for a small fee. SEND SUPERSCORES if your college accepts them.
- ✓ Check your colleges' scholarship deadline dates! Many colleges have December 1 deadlines, which means the October test will be your last chance to qualify for ACT-based scholarships!
- ✓ You MUST upload a PHOTO on the registration site before the deadline, or you will be removed from the test roster. You MUST have your picture ID to test.

ACT WorkKeys (Seniors): October 2026

Workkeys assesses work skills, provides certification for employment, and helps formulate a career plan. Many employers use WorkKeys scores to determine level of job placement and salary range. Students who do not meet the ALSDE benchmark scores (4 on all three sections = Silver level) will be required to retest in February, unless they meet CCR another way.

Test Preparation Resources:

- www.act.org (practice tests)
- "It's a Test Thing"-Individual or group (256-684-2789)
- Score Plus ACT workshops (Florence): scoreplusacademics.com
- All Pencils Down: test prep courses www.allpencilsdown.com

College Admissions Information **Based on 2025-26 school year**

*Many colleges offer "test optional" admission/ based on GPA,
but most DO need ACT scores for scholarship consideration*

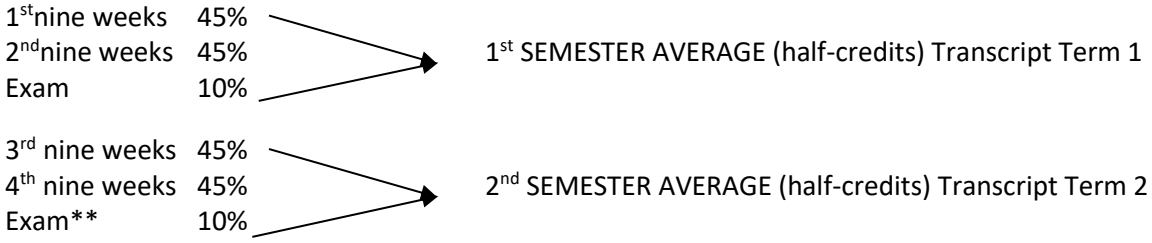
College	Admission Requirements ACT/ GPA	Scholarship Deadline	Website
4-year colleges			
Auburn University	Competitive wholistic review. Average student is 26-31 ACT	Dec 1 Early Acttion Feb 1 Regular	www.auburn.edu
Alabama A & M	2.25 GPA, no ACT required	March 15	www.aamu.edu
Alabama State	sliding scale w/GPA	Feb 15	www.alasu.edu
Jacksonville State	Test optional	Feb 1	www.jsu.edu
Mississippi State	20 / 2.0 gpa Test scores optional	Dec 1	www.msstate.edu
Montevallo	Test optional w 3.0 GPA, or 2.5/20	March 1	www.montevallo.edu
Ole Miss	Test optional w/ 3.2 GPA	Jan 10	Olemiss.edu/admissions
Troy University	Test optional / 2.5 GPA	Dec 1/ Mar 1	www.troy.edu
Univ of Alabama	ACT required if GPA <3.0	Dec 5 uah	www.ua.edu
Univ of AL B'ham	Test optional	Jan 15	www.uab.edu
Univ of AL H'ville	ACT/ GPA reviewed individually	Dec 15	www.uah.edu
Univ of North AL	Test Optional / 2.5 GPA	March 1	www.una.edu
Univ of South AL	Test optional / 3.4 GPA automatic	Feb 15	www.southalabama.edu
Univ of West AL	19 /17 conditional or 2.5 GPA	April 15	www.uwa.edu
2-year colleges: ACT Score is NOT required for Admission (Diploma / GED meets admission criteria; ACT scores are used for course placement and scholarships)			
Calhoun		March 1	www.calhoun.edu
Northwest-Shoals		Feb 15	www.nwscc.edu
Wallace State		March 1	www.wallacestate.edu

College Admissions / Scholarship reminders:

1. Narrow college search to 3-5 colleges and apply for admission to at least 2 colleges.
2. Seniors will create accounts at parchment.com to send transcripts to colleges.
   a. The cost to send a transcript is $5. However, if you qualify for free/reduced lunch or Talent Search, you get 4 free transcript requests. See Mrs. Montgomery if your waiver needs to be set up.
3. Send your *best* ACT scores to your colleges of interest. As your plans evolve, you may need to log back into myact.org and send your scores to new places!
4. Apply for collegiate and foundation/ endowed scholarships. Often these have later deadlines and separate applications. Be mindful of deadlines and complete ALL requirements for consideration (i.e. essay, transcript, resume, rec letter).
5. Pay attention to all senior handouts—there will be scholarships available throughout the year from various sources, and it is UP TO YOU to follow the directions on the handouts! Keep a folder of all scholarship / college materials and visit it at least once per week. The handouts are emailed to the senior email group and also posted on the Guidance Page / "Scholarships" on the School website.
6. Fill out the 2027-28 FAFSA using your 2025 tax returns / income information (studentaid.gov). For Summer 2027 Pell grant- complete the 2026-27 FAFSA with your 2024 taxes.

GRADES, AVERAGES, and CREDITS:

The school year is divided into two semesters: first semester is August – December, and second semester is January – May. Within each semester there will be two nine-week grading periods. Students earn half credits at the end of each semester (3.5 + 3.5= 7)*. First semester grades have NO bearing on second semester grades; they operate independently (they do not average together at the end of the year). Therefore, students must pass both first and second semester of their required courses to gain the correct amount of credits. The first and second semester averages are listed separately on the transcripts, each reflecting half-credits/ grades earned for each course.



Your Semester Average is the grade that goes on your permanent transcript and determines your pass/fail status for the course. Even if a nine-week grade is below passing, the pass/fail determination is based on the semester average. Failed semester averages can be recovered through after-school credit recovery and summer school.

****Final Exam Exemption Policy (Grades 10-12):** If exempted, 3rd and 4th nine weeks count 50% each.

--Course average of 70

--No more than 5 absences for the entire year

A first semester failure can be recovered during 2nd semester credit recovery.

A 2nd semester core failure will result in retention in 12th grade (no graduation) and will require summer school to complete requirements necessary to earn a diploma.

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to be present, on time, and prepared to learn each day. Notes: Doctor's Notes, Court Notes, or Parent Notes (up to 5 Parent notes allowed per semester) for absences MUST be turned in within 3 days of returning to school. After returning from an absence, you are allowed 3 days to complete missed work. Students who do not turn in work within 3 days (excused or unexcused) will receive a zero for the assignments missed. If you know you will be absent for an extended time (surgery, pre-approved trip, etc) it is YOUR responsibility to contact your teachers ahead of time (or via email) to discuss staying on task while you are absent.*Students and parents are summoned to truancy court when excessive unexcused absences are accrued for the year.

College and Career Readiness Benchmarks: REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION

Every senior MUST meet **at least one** of these **College and Career Ready Benchmarks** by Graduation, as set by the Alabama Dept of Education:

- Score 4+ on all three sections of the ACT Workkeys* Test (Silver Level Certificate)
- Score a 3+ on an AP Exam
- Earn Career-Tech Credentialing OR CTE Completion (3 credits in one pathway)
- Complete a college course
- Sign with the Military
- Complete an approved Computer Science Course (Exploring Computer Sci or AP)
- Meet ACT benchmark in at least one subject:
  - English-18
  - Math-22
  - Reading-22
  - Science-23

Senior Requirements for Graduation:

Participation in Graduation Ceremonies is a privilege for students who have completed ALL state and school requirements. The following must be met in addition to completing the academic requirements (p7) for graduation:

____ Completion of FAFSA or the FAFSA Waiver
____ Completion of the ACT Workkeys Test (and retest if required)
____ Successful completion of Civics Test
____ College Career Readiness Benchmark
____ All fees paid (senior fee, all books, uniforms, technology returned)

CLEAR: Completed Learners Earning Advanced Release

Seniors in "good standing" will have the opportunity to **CLEAR** 2 weeks early.
Good Standing includes:
1. Completion of all academic requirements for graduation
2. No truancy issues (5 or less unexcused absences in a semester)
3. Completion of ALL senior requirements listed above (FAFSA, Workkeys, Civics Test, CCR, All Fees paid)

SENIORS

You will receive monthly senior handouts that list important announcements and information about upcoming scholarships. It is important that you pay close attention to the information on these handouts, especially the deadlines for scholarships. Please keep a folder of these handouts, as well as other important senior information (graduation supply orders, test results, etc).

The senior handouts will indicate how to apply for certain scholarships. Most scholarship applications are located online. However, if the handout indicates that the scholarship is available (paper copies) in the Guidance Office, you may help yourself to the scholarship file box in the Guidance Office (just inside the office door). If there are no copies in the scholarship cart, the original may be copied out of the "Scholarship Originals" notebook on top of the desk. ALWAYS return the original to the notebook!

PARENTS

Each time I distribute senior handouts (first Friday of every month), I will post the handout on the school website and email it to the senior email group (students' school email). Please contact me by phone or email if you have questions or need help with any of your child's college and scholarship efforts.

SENIOR PLANNING PAGE

College	Admission Requirements/ Scholarship Deadline	Application Done?	Scholarship Done?	Transcript Sent?	Register for Housing?

OR

Military Branch	Recruiter Contact	ASVAB Score	PT Requirement	MEPS Appointment	Signing Day

OR

Employer	Job Title	Requirements/ Application Process	Letter of Rec?	Transcript?	WorkKeys?

Senior Checklist:

- Take the ACT for college entrance/ scholarship opportunities
- Take the ASVAB for military entrance, if applicable
- Senior Pictures (Tux/Drape by Greg Brooks Photography)
- Pay Senior Fee ($150 for Prom and Graduation) to LCHS (Rogers) by Oct 9
- Order Cap and Gown
- Apply to colleges and meet application and scholarship deadlines
- Complete the 2027-28 FAFSA (Opens October 2026)- required for all
- Apply for housing and register for classes (Spring 2027)
- Take the ACT WorkKeys Test and meet College/Career Readiness benchmarks
- Pass the US Civics Exam (required)
- Complete all Course Requirements (including any credit recovery)
- Pay all fees/ return all books prior to Graduation

ACCOUNT/ LOGIN INFO

Site	Username / email	Password	Notes
ACT Test/ Scores myact.org			
Transcripts parchment.com			
FAFSA-student studentaid.org			
FAFSA- parent account			
College 1:			
College 2:			
College 3:			
College 4:			
College 5:			
NCAA (athletes) ncaa.org			
NAIA (athletes) play.mynaia.org			