



RECOMMENDED TIMELINES

JUNIOR YEAR

- ☐ Meet with your Counselor for Junior Status Conference. Counselors will schedule meeting and notify student of date/time via email.
- ☐ 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 Northview, as well as in-person or virtual college tours.
- ☐ Take a mock SAT/ACT through a local provider, 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 Letters of Recommendation

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 your 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 final transcripts to the college they decide to attend
- ☐ Prospective Division I or II athletes must also send final transcripts to the NCAA Eligibility Center



COLLEGE APPLICATION FAQs

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, please add your counselor in Common App and send in your Senior Information Sheet before the deadline. Counselors will only write letters for schools in which the Counselor LOR is required.

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 taking the one that best suits your strengths, as colleges view the tests equally. **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 [Northview Counseling ACT/SAT Webpage](#).

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 (Early - Typically Fall, or Regular - Typically Spring) 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 Northview Counseling [Financial Aid Webpage](#) & [Scholarship Webpage](#).

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.

What is my class rank?

Fulton County Schools does not report the rank of its students.

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 Northview 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 scriborder.
7. **Submit Application.** Pay attention to deadlines!