

**EASTSIDE  
HIGH SCHOOL  
COUNSELING OFFICE**



**Senior Survival  
Guide**

**For Students and Their Families**

**2018-2019**

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Dear Eastside High School Senior:

Welcome to your senior year! The counseling office is excited to be able to serve you in your final year of secondary school. Making it to your senior year is exciting, but this is a busy year that requires a lot of responsibility and work on your part. It will all be worth it, though, when you walk across that stage at graduation in May! We are here to help you make that goal a reality, so be sure to make use of the resources available to you.

Our office consists of several support staff that will assist you with your educational, social, and emotional needs. Our services include individual counseling, college and financial aid advisement, career counseling, academic advising, and much more.

This 'survival' packet is intended to help guide you and your family through some important aspects of your senior year. Please read through the entire packet. There is a lot of important information included, but try not to get overwhelmed. We are here to help you with any questions you may have or any additional information you may need.

Your high school career is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way complete, but that remaining  $\frac{1}{4}$  is perhaps the most important portion. Let's work together to make your senior year a successful one. We are excited about the Class of 2019, and we look forward to working with you this year. **GO EAGLES!!**

Sincerely,

The Eastside High School Counseling Office

# The Eastside High School Counseling Office

Staff Directory  
2018-2019



<p>Mrs. Erin Lowry, Counselor 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade (A-G) (770) 784 2920 x 4316 <a href="mailto:lowry.erin@newton.k12.ga.us">lowry.erin@newton.k12.ga.us</a></p>	<p>Mrs. Elizabeth Harwell, Counselor All seniors &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> year juniors (770) 784 2920 x 4317 <a href="mailto:harwell.elizabeth@newton.k12.ga.us">harwell.elizabeth@newton.k12.ga.us</a></p>
<p>Mr. Jahmar Tate, Counselor 11<sup>th</sup> Grade, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade (H-Z) (770) 784 2920 x 4320 <a href="mailto:tate.jahmar@newton.k12.ga.us">tate.jahmar@newton.k12.ga.us</a></p>	<p>Mr. Jeffrey Johnson, Graduation Coach (770) 784 2920 x 4315 <a href="mailto:johnson.jeffrey@newton.k12.ga.us">johnson.jeffrey@newton.k12.ga.us</a> Credit &amp; Attendance Recovery, NCAA</p>
<p>Mrs. Gayla Ellis, Registrar (770) 784 2920 x 4319 <a href="mailto:ellis.gayla@newton.k12.ga.us">ellis.gayla@newton.k12.ga.us</a> Insurance Forms, Social Security Forms, Address Changes</p>	<p>Mrs. Jannah Farmer, Records Clerk (770) 784 2920 x 4313 <a href="mailto:farmer.jannah@newton.k12.ga.us">farmer.jannah@newton.k12.ga.us</a> Transcripts, Withdrawals, Records</p>
<p>Ms. Tione Turner, Secretary (770) 784 2920 x 4314 <a href="mailto:turner.tione@newton.k12.ga.us">turner.tione@newton.k12.ga.us</a> Registration, Homework Request, Attendance, Work Permits, Certificate of Attendance</p>	<p>Other: Work Based Learning &amp; Youth Apprenticeship: Ms. Alisa Echols <a href="mailto:echols.alisa@newton.k12.ga.us">echols.alisa@newton.k12.ga.us</a> (770) 784 2920 x 4335</p>

## **2018-2019 IMPORTANT DATES FOR EASTSIDE HIGH SENIORS**

August 12	Registration Deadline for September ACT
September 4	Senior Parent Meeting 6:30
September 7	Registration Deadline for October SAT
September 28	Registration Deadline for October ACT
October 1	Begin FAFSA
October 4	Newton County Probe Fair, Alcovy HS 5:30-7:30pm
October 5	Registration Deadline for November SAT
October 6	SAT
October 27	ACT
November 2	Registration Deadline for December SAT
November 2	Registration Deadline for December ACT
November 3	SAT
December 1	SAT
December 4	ASVAB at EHS
December 8	ACT
January 11	Registration Deadline for February ACT
February 8	Registration Deadline for March SAT
February 9	ACT
March 8	Registration Deadline for April ACT
March 9	SAT
April 5	Registration Deadline for May SAT
April 13	ACT
May 1	College Acceptance Letters and Scholarship Offers Due for Recognition
May 3	Registration Deadline for June ACT
May 4	SAT
May 7	AP Physics
May 8	AP Literature, AP European History
May 9	AP Chemistry and AP Psychology
May 10	AP US History, Computer Science, and Studio Art
May 13	AP Biology
May 14	AP Calculus AB/BC, AP Human Geography
May 15	AP English Language and AP Macroeconomics
May 16	AP Statistics and AP World History
May 17	Music Theory, AP Microeconomics, AP Latin
May 24	Last day of school
TBD	Graduation
June 1	SAT
June 8	ACT
June 14	Registration Deadline for July ACT
July 13	ACT

## **APPOINTMENT PROCEDURES**

Students are assigned a counselor by grade level at EHS. To schedule an appointment, students should complete an appointment request form in the counseling office reception area. This form can be turned in to either of the counseling secretaries or dropped in the appointment request form box. A counselor will respond to your request. <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/exam-dates-and-fees/2019-exam-dates>

### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is imperative to earn credit. Students may not miss more than ten (10) unexcused absences in each course to earn credit for the course. For questions concerning attendance, contact Ms. Tione Turner. Please refer to your student handbook for specific attendance information.

### **CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE**

Students may request a Certificate of Attendance from Ms. Tione Turner by completing the request form located in the counseling office. Requests are completed on specific days each week. If your child needs the ADAP card, contact Mrs. Wilson-Pyant in the front office at 770-784-2920 ext. 4308.

### **CLASS RANK & GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)**

Senior class rank is determined by seven semesters ending with the first semester of senior year. Class rank is based on a weighted grade point average. Many colleges and scholarship programs prefer to look at unweighted grade point averages. To determine your unweighted GPA, total quality points are divided by the total number of courses attempted. If you have taken Advanced Placement courses, you should be aware that your grade had 10 points added to it. For an unweighted GPA, you should calculate those AP grades with the 10 points removed. Many students get confused about what it means to have a true 4.0 GPA. Simply stated, a student with a 4.0 GPA has never earned any grade below an ‘A’ on all high school coursework.

### **Quality Points Scale**

Course Grade	A	B	C	F
Quality Points	4	3	2	0

### **Example**

Course	Weighted Grade	Weighted Quality Point	Unweighted Grade	Unweighted Quality Point
AP Eng. Lit.	98	4	88	3
AP Calculus	80	3	70	2
Spanish II	85	3	85	3
Vis. Art	100	4	100	4
		Weighted GPA = 3.5		Unweighted GPA = 3.0

### **COLLEGE VISITS**

It is very important to visit colleges you are interested in attending. It is not recommended to make up your mind to attend a college based solely on the website, or what your friends think of it. You will be living at the college you choose to attend for quite a while, so you should be sure you are pleased with the campus and the town where the college is located.

Each senior is allotted two college visits during their senior year. If you have all A's and B's during your first semester of your senior year, you will be granted an additional college visit during the second semester. See the secretary in the counseling office for the forms. The form must be signed by a college official and turned back in within three days of the college visit.

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

All students are required to earn 23 units to graduate. Students must earn credit for specific courses. To walk at graduation, students must have met all graduation requirements.

Each senior will have a senior evaluation during first semester to evaluate their courses. All students must complete four units of English, four units of Social Studies, four units of Math, four units of Science, one Physical Ed/Health course, and three CTAE, Fine Art or Foreign Language courses. Students interested in entering college are encouraged to complete two credits of Foreign Language in the same language.

### **HONOR GRADUATE**

Honor graduates are defined as students who have earned an overall GPA of 90 for the first seven semesters of their high school career. Honor graduates earn the privilege of wearing a gold honor stole at graduation and are recognized at Honors Night. If a student earns an 89.9, the GPA is not rounded to 90 and the student is not an honor graduate. Other requirements needed to earn honor graduate status include: has not received an NC due to absences; has not been suspended for a formal hearing more than once; has not withdrawn during high school to attend a home school program and re-enrolled; has completed seven consecutive semesters of high school.

### **HOPE GPA**

HOPE eligibility is determined by the Georgia Student Finance Commission. To qualify for the HOPE scholarship, students must be a U.S. citizen or meet the eligible non-citizen requirements. Students must also meet HOPE's Georgia residency requirements. Students must earn a 3.0 cumulative GPA on *all attempted* core curriculum coursework. Please note that HOPE requirements are set by the state of Georgia and are subject to change. The most current HOPE information is available online through [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org).

Seniors apply for the HOPE scholarship through their [gafutures.org](http://gafutures.org) account.

The HOPE Scholarship is for two and four year public college or universities in the State of Georgia. The program currently covers a percentage of tuition depending on GPA and test scores. It does **NOT** cover room and board. It is not transferable to colleges outside of Georgia. It covers a portion of private school tuition (\$3,500) in the State of Georgia.

The HOPE Grant may be used at Georgia Technical Colleges and is not connected to the student's GPA for the first 30 semester hours. Both the HOPE Grant and the HOPE Scholarship

have a limited amount of combined hours (127) available to students. Eastside High School does not compute the GPA for HOPE scholarship.

### **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

Many colleges and scholarships require letters of recommendation from your school counselor or a teacher. Some schools have a specific form for a counselor or teacher to complete, while others just require a letter. Please provide the form with all student information completed (do not turn in a blank form). Be sure to give your counselor or teacher ample preparation time. A good rule of thumb is to request the letter a *minimum of 5 days* before it is needed. This 5-day period should not include holidays or weekends. To write a good, thorough recommendation, counselors and teachers need a copy of your high school resume. Your counselor or teacher may know you well at school, but have no idea of the activities you participate in outside of school. Please review the sample resume for an example.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID**

Scholarship information is available for seniors on the NCSS website and lists state and national scholarships. Check the college you intend to apply to for their available scholarships and criteria. Parental employers often have scholarships available to employee children. Local scholarships become available in January. The scholarship contact and criteria will be on the NCSS website. The deadline is usually mid-February. Submitting information to scholarship organizations by deadlines is extremely important. Plan to attend the financial aid workshop to learn more about other forms of financial aid. Contact the college and speak to a financial aid advisor at the collegiate level. Visit Georgia Student Finance Commission website at [www.gsfc.org](http://www.gsfc.org). Most legitimate scholarships will NOT ask you for money. One website many students find helpful is [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com).

### **TRANSCRIPTS**

Senior students and families may request transcripts from Mrs. Janiah Farmer. Contact with the counselor is not necessary. **ALL** transcripts are submitted by Mrs. Farmer. A form is available in the counseling office to complete to request transcripts. Make sure and request any transcripts you need well before the deadline for your school or scholarship program. If you request a transcript too close to a deadline, you will be required to mail it yourself. If you are attending a Georgia university or college, you will use your gafutures.org account to request your transcript electronically.

At graduation practice, the final transcript information form will be completed. Final high school transcripts are not available until after you have completed high school. For Georgia colleges, students should log into their gafutures.org account and request that one be sent. If the college isn't found on gafutures.org, students must provide the address for one to be mailed. Transcripts are typically ready and mailed to colleges or other organizations during the second week of June.



# Recommended College and Career Testing Timeline

## **NINTH GRADE:**

End Of Course Tests (EOC) are given in Biology, Ninth Grade Literature, and Algebra

## **TENTH GRADE:**

Fall: PSAT (needed for Governor's Honors nominations)

EOC: Geometry, and Physical Science

## **ELEVENTH GRADE:**

Fall: PSAT (for college bound juniors) Fee-based  
Armed Services Aptitude Battery (ASVAB—for juniors who sign up)

Spring: ACT/SAT (college bound juniors—second semester)  
\* Students planning to attend a technical college should consult with that institution and the program which they are entering to see if testing is necessary.

EOC: US History, American Literature

## **TWELFTH GRADE:**

Fall: ACT/SAT (for college bound students planning to attend two/four-year schools)  
ASVAB (for seniors who sign up)

EOC: Economics

**COLLEGE ADMISSION TESTING SCHEDULE  
2018-2019**

REGISTER: ACT = [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) SAT = [www.collegeboard.org/register](http://www.collegeboard.org/register)

\*Find the most convenient test center when you register online\*

Fee waivers are available from the counseling office for qualifying students.

<b>ACT Test Dates</b>	<b>Regular Registration Postmark Deadline</b>	<b>Late Registration Deadline *add additional \$ to test fee</b>
September 8, 2018	August 10, 2018	August 13-26, 2018
October 27, 2018	September 28, 2018	Sept. 29-Oct. 14, 2018
December 8, 2018	November 2, 2018	November 3-19, 2018
February 9, 2019	January 11, 2019	January 12-18, 2019
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019	March 9-25, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 4-20, 2019
July 13, 2019	June 14, 2019	June 15-24, 2019

Regular registration fee = \$50.50 Regular test plus writing test = \$67.00

\*Most colleges require the writing test\*

<b>SAT Test Dates</b>	<b>Regular Registration Postmark Deadline</b>	<b>Late Registration Deadline *add additional \$ to test fee</b>
August 25, 2018	July 27, 2018	August 15, 2018 (registrations made online or phone only, excludes mail)
October 6, 2018	September 7, 2018	September 26, 2018 (registrations made online or phone only, excludes mail)
November 3, 2018	October 5, 2018	October 24, 2018 (registrations made online or phone only, excludes mail)
December 1, 2018	November 2, 2018	November 20, 2018 (registrations made online or phone only, excludes mail)

March 9, 2019	February 8, 2019	February 27, 2019 (registrations made online or phone only, excludes mail)
May 4, 2019	April 5, 2019	April 24, 2019 (registrations made online or phone only, excludes mail)
June 1, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 22, 2019 (registrations made online or phone only, excludes mail)

Regular registration fee = \$47.50 Regular test plus writing test = \$64.50

## SAT vs. ACT: How do the Tests Compare?

What are the differences between the SAT and ACT? They are both standardized tests and factor into the college admissions process. To learn about the differences between the two tests and how they compare, take a look at the chart below.

	SAT	ACT
<b>When is it administered?</b>	Seven times per year	Seven times per year
<b>What is the test structure?</b>	<b>Ten-section exam:</b> Three Critical Reading, three Math, three Writing, and one Experimental. The Experimental section is masked to look like a regular section.	<b>Four-section exam:</b> English, Math, Reading, and Science Reasoning. An Experimental section is added to tests on certain dates only, and is clearly experimental.
<b>What is the test content?</b>	<b>Math:</b> up to 9th grade basic geometry and Algebra II. <b>Science:</b> none. <b>Reading:</b> sentence completions, short and long critical reading passages, reading comprehension. <b>Writing:</b> an essay, and questions testing grammar, usage, and word choice. Beginning in 2016, it is optional.	<b>Math:</b> up to trigonometry. <b>Science:</b> charts, experiments. <b>Reading:</b> four passages, one each of Prose Fiction, Social Science, Humanities, and Natural Science. <b>English:</b> stresses grammar. <b>Writing:</b> though listed as optional, most colleges require this portion of the test.
<b>Is there a penalty for wrong answers?</b>	No	No
<b>How is the test scored?</b>	200-800 per section, added together for a combined score. A 1600 is the highest possible combined score.	1-36 for each subject, averaged for a composite score. A 36 is the highest possible composite score.

<b>Are all scores sent to schools?</b>	<b>Yes.</b> If a student requests a score report be sent to specific colleges, the report will include the scores the student received on every SAT taken.	<b>No.</b> There is a "Score Choice" option. Students can choose which schools will receive their scores AND which scores the schools will see.
<b>Are there other uses for the exams?</b>	Scholarship purposes.	Scholarship purposes. Certain statewide testing programs.
<b>Best time to register?</b>	At least <b>six weeks</b> before the test date	At least <b>four weeks</b> before the test date
<b>Need more information?</b>	<b>Educational Testing Service (ETS)</b> <a href="http://www.ets.org">www.ets.org</a> <b>The College Board</b> (866) 756-7346 <a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>	<b>ACT, Inc.:</b> (319) 337-1270 <a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a>

## WHAT DOES THIS SCORE MEAN???

Score comparisons between ACT composites, SAT I composites with writing, and SAT I composites without writing.

\*This chart is an estimate based on current and previous information\*

<b>ACT Composite</b>	<b>SAT I New Score (Writing)</b>	<b>SAT I Old Score (No writing)</b>
15	1060	740
17	1210	830
19	1350	910
20	1410	950
21	1500	990
22	1530	1030
23	1590	1070
24	1650	1110
25	1700	1140
26	1760	1180
27	1820	1220
28	1860	1260

29	1920	1300
30	1980	1340
31	2040	1380
32	2130	1420
33	2190	1470
34	2260	1520
35	2340	1580
36	2400	1600

Sources: 1) College Board, Data Extrapolated; 2) ACT concordance study

## ACT/SAT TEST PREPARATION RESOURCES

Prepared 2014-2015

Prices and availability may have changed since form was published.

### BOOKS

#### ACT

*Kaplan ACT, 2015 Edition w/CD Rom*—Kaplan  
*Cracking the ACT, 2014 Edition*—Princeton Review  
*Procrastinator's Guide to the ACT 2015*—Kaplan  
*The Real ACT Prep Guide*—actstudent.org

#### SAT

*SAT/ACT/PSAT 2015 Platinum Edition w/CD Rom*—Kaplan  
*Barron's SAT 2400: Aiming for the Perfect Score*—Barron's,  
*Cracking the SAT, 2014 Edition*—The Princeton Review  
*Cracking the SAT, 2014 Edition w/DVD*—The Princeton Review  
*Kaplan SAT, 2015 Edition: Premier Program w/CD Rom*—Kaplan  
*The Official SAT Study Guide*—CollegeBoard  
*11 Practice Tests for the SAT/PSAT, 2015*—The Princeton Review

# ONLINE COURSES/STUDY

## ACT/SAT

ACT Online Prep—actstudent.org  
 ACT Online Course—Kaplan  
 SAT Online Course—Kaplan  
 GAfutures.org—free ACT/SAT test preparation

\*This handout is not intended to endorse any particular product or company. Please use your judgment as you research and purchase any test preparation resources. There are many products available on the market, so please pick out the one that best suits your needs and study habits. Also, check with the school and county library for materials. This is not an exhaustive list.\*

## GUIDE TO THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA ADMISSION STANDARDS

### The University System of Georgia's College Preparatory Curriculum (CPC)

The University System of Georgia requires that students complete the CPC to ensure that they are able to succeed at the college level.

#### The CPC Consists of 17 Carnegie Units\*

<b>4 Carnegie Units</b>	<b>College Preparatory English</b>
<b>4 Carnegie Units</b>	<b>College Preparatory Mathematics</b>
<b>4 Carnegie Units</b>	<b>College Preparatory Science</b>
<b>3 Carnegie Units</b>	<b>College Preparatory Social Science</b>
<b>2 Carnegie Units</b>	<b>Foreign Language (2 units of same language)</b>

\* A Carnegie Unit is a full academic year of credit.

### University System of Georgia Four-Year University Freshman Comparisons

Colleges and Universities	Average SAT Verbal	Average ACT Math	Average Freshman HS GPA
<b>Research Universities</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>3.59</b>
Georgia Institute of Technology	641	687	3.72
Georgia State University	540	545	3.31
University of Georgia	615	622	3.65
<b>Regional Universities</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>3.07</b>
Georgia Southern University	546	552	3.08
Valdosta State University	518	511	3.05

Albany State University	460	455	2.93
Armstrong Atlantic State University	515	506	3.07
Augusta State University	492	487	2.85
Clayton College & State University	498	487	2.91
Columbus State University	507	496	2.99
Fort Valley State University	453	448	2.84
Georgia College & State University	562	558	3.20
Georgia Southwestern State University	498	498	3.17
Kennesaw State University	535	532	3.18
North Georgia College & State University	546	533	3.30
Savannah State University	439	437	2.84
Southern Polytechnic State University	550	574	3.17
State University of West Georgia	515	506	2.97

**University System of Georgia    Four-Year University  
Minimum Testing Admission Requirements\***

Colleges and Universities	SAT Critical Reading	SAT Math	ACT English	ACT Math
<b>Research Universities</b>				
Georgia Institute of Technology	590-680	650-730	25-30	27-31
Georgia State University	430	400	17	17
University of Georgia	1150-1310 (Combined CR and Math)		24-30 (Overall Composite)	
<b>Regional Universities</b>				
Georgia Southern University	1000 (Combined CR and Math)		21 (Overall Composite)	
Valdosta State University	440	410	18	17
<b>State Universities</b>				
Albany State University	430	400	18	16
Armstrong Atlantic State University	460	430	19	18
Augusta State University	430	400	17	17
Clayton College & State University	430	400	17	17
Columbus State University	490	460	20	19
Fort Valley State University	430	400	17	17
Georgia College & State University	1050-1180 (Combined CR and Math)		23-26 (Overall Composite)	

Georgia Southwestern State University	430	400	17	17
Kennesaw State University	490	460	20	19
North Georgia College & State University	1020-1100 (Combined CR and Math)		22-24 (Overall Composite)	
Savannah State University	430	400	17	17
Southern Polytechnic State University	500	500	21	21
State University of West Georgia	430	410	17	17

Effective Fall semester 2011, colleges including two year colleges shall require one of the following: test scores and minimum Freshmen Index criteria or minimum high school GPA and placement testing. The Freshmen Index is: FI = 500 x (GPA) plus SAT Verbal/Critical Reading plus SAT Math or FI = 500 x (GPA) plus (ACT Composite x 42) plus 88.

The minimum FI required for admission to a: research university (ex: UGA) is 2500; regional university (ex: Georgia College & State University) is 2040; state university (ex: North Georgia College) is 1940; or state of two-year college (ex: Georgia Perimeter College) is 1830. In addition to the FI, students must have a minimum SAT verbal score of 430 and Math score of 400 (or their ACT equivalents) for admission. Students without these minimum scores but with SAT scores of at least 330 Verbal and 310 math may be considered for admission to a two year college, but will be required to exempt or exit learning support in the areas of deficiency.

\*Admission requirements change from year to year. Please be sure to check your school's website for any updates to the requirements. Some schools do not post minimum requirements; in that case a middle 50% range is given. Due to increasing competitiveness, schools do not guarantee admission even if minimum requirements are met. For more information, look at averages for four-year universities given on the preceding page.\*

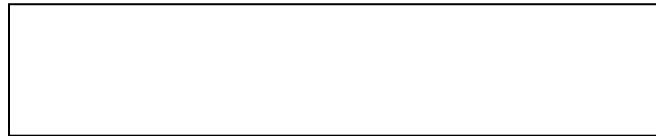
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## **SCHOLARSHIP PREPARATION TIPS**

- **Start Early!** There are many scholarship opportunities available throughout high school, especially during your senior year.
- **Study hard to raise your GPA.** Scholarship committees are interested in proof that a student has worked hard in high school.
- **Work on test-taking tips and strategies.** Scholarship committees often require high ACT or SAT scores.
- **Get involved!** Extracurricular activities are important in the eyes of scholarship committees.
- **Many scholarships are either based solely on a student's community service record, or community service plays a major role in whether or not a student receives a scholarship.**



- Work on your high school resume. Most scholarship committees require that you turn one in with your application.
- Make sure that you have a few teachers you can count on to write letters of recommendation for you. Quite a few scholarships require at least one letter of recommendation.
- If you begin to feel overwhelmed, see if a parent can help you fill out basic information on scholarship applications.
- Work on your writing skills. Many scholarships have an essay requirement. Also, don't think you have to write a unique essay for each scholarship. Many have similar topics, and you can cut and paste essays to fit your needs.



**NEWTON COUNTY LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP GENERIC APPLICATION**

**SCHOLARSHIP NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
   First  Middle  Last

Student ID number: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ (AHS/EHS)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' names: \_\_\_\_\_

**I. NEED:**

- A. Approximate combined parents' **gross** income: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Do you expect to qualify for Georgia's HOPE Scholarship/Grant? \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Do you plan to attend college in Georgia? \_\_\_\_\_
- D. What are your college housing plans? \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Number of dependent children in family: \_\_\_\_\_ Ages: \_\_\_\_\_
- F. Number of children in family who will be full-time college students: \_\_\_\_\_
- G. List other scholarships, grants, or awards you have received or expect to receive:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

H. Are you employed? \_\_\_\_\_ How many hours do you work weekly? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Place of employment: \_\_\_\_\_

I. Father's Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mother's Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**II. ACADEMICS:**

- A. ACT Composite: \_\_\_\_\_ SAT Critical Reading: \_\_\_\_\_ Math: \_\_\_\_\_ Writing: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Cumulative Grade Point Average (100 point scale): \_\_\_\_\_
- C. College Prep. or Tech./Career Prep. diploma? \_\_\_\_\_
- D. College(s) to which you have applied: \_\_\_\_\_
- E. College you expect to attend: \_\_\_\_\_
- F. What degree/diploma/certificate do you plan to earn? \_\_\_\_\_
- G. What is your proposed major/course of study? \_\_\_\_\_

**III. LEADERSHIP AND EXTRACURRICULARS:**

Attach a resume of your high school activities to your printed application.

**IV. OTHER ATTACHMENTS:** In addition to your resume attach:

- A. A typed one page essay in which you describe the affect this scholarship would have on your future plans **OR** the specific essay for the scholarship.
- B. A copy of your college acceptance letter or a note from your counselor stating that you have applied to college. Attach a copy of your transcript to each application before it is sent to the sponsoring organization.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

## Sample Resume

**John Doe**

111 Main Street  
Covington, GA 30014  
(678) 555-1212  
doe.john@aol.com

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**Life Goals:**

After high school, I plan to participate in a college ROTC program while pursuing a major in international studies. After completing my military service, I would like to go to law school and eventually practice international law.

**Accomplishments and Awards:**

President of Student Council, 2013  
Treasurer of Student Council, 2012  
President of Junior Class, 2012  
Governor's Honors Program, Social Studies, 2011  
Air Force Academy Summer Program, 2011

Eagle Scout, 2010  
Boy's State Program, 2010

**School Activities:**

Captain of the Football Team, 2013  
Football Team, Running Back, 2011-2013  
Student Council, 2011-2013  
Secretary of Interact, 2013  
Interact Club, 2004-2013  
Yearbook Editor, 2013  
Yearbook Staff, 2011-13

**Community/Church Activities:**

The Boy Scouts of America, 12 years  
First United Methodist Church, President of UMYF  
First United Methodist Church, Youth Council, 2010-2013  
Keep Covington Clean, Volunteer, 2010-2013  
Washington Street Community Center, Volunteer, 2011-2012

**Work Activities:**

*The Newton Citizen* Publishing Company, June 2012 to present  
Advertising Layout Assistant, approximately 25 hours per week  
McDonald's, September 2011-June 2012  
Drive-Through Crew, approximately 15 hours per week

**COMPLETING THE COUNTDOWN TO COLLEGE!**  
Checklist for 12<sup>th</sup> Graders

<b>General Time Frame</b>	<b>College Admissions &amp; Career Planning</b>	<b>Testing</b>	<b>Financial Planning</b>
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AUGUST—SEPTEMBER

\*Think about what you want out of college and use GCIS, [www.gcis.peachnet.edu](http://www.gcis.peachnet.edu), and <http://www.gafutures.org> for research. Ask your counselor for the GCIS password so that you can use it at home.

\*Review your graduation status with your counselor by the end of August.

\*Check with the colleges you are considering for their admissions procedures and deadlines. Be sure to ask which admissions tests are required.

Tip—Never limit your college choices to just one school. You should always do research on at least two or three schools in case your first choice doesn't work out.

\*Most colleges prefer that you apply online through their website or [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org)

Tip—Applications and catalogs are available in your college/career center, online on the college web site, and at PROBE fairs.

Tip—Be sure to request transcripts, recommendations, etc. at least two weeks before application deadlines.

\*Select two teachers and another adult not related to you and request general letters of recommendation to use now and later. Letter guidelines are available from your college advisor.

\*Arrange campus visits and interviews if recommended.

\*Assume a leadership role in the extracurricular activities in which you participate.

\*Attend Newton County's PROBE fair at Alcovy High School

\*Check with all colleges you are considering and ask what their testing preferences are.

\*Register for ACT or SAT online courses as needed. A list of other test preparation sources is on your school's website.

Tip—Check the college admission test schedule for all registration deadlines for ACT and SAT tests.

Tip—Consider purchasing various test preparation software. <http://www.kaplan.com>

\*Be sure to keep up your grades. Your GPA will play a strong role in whether or not you are accepted into a competitive college.

\*Now that college admissions tests have required or optional writing elements, be sure to practice your writing skills. If you struggle in this area, ask a teacher for extra help.

\*Update your high school resume.

Tip—check out the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators website: [www.nasfaa.org](http://www.nasfaa.org)

\*Check the HOPE website, <http://www.gsfc.org/HOPE/Index.cfm>, for requirements that will apply to your graduating class. Make sure you stay on track!

\*Good sources on scholarships and financial aid are: GCIS, <http://www.gafutures.org>, FastWeb.com, <http://www.collegeanswer.com>, and <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>

Tip—avoid scholarship scams. If you are asked for money, or if something seems too good to be true, it may be questionable. Check <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/edcams/scholarship/> for answers to your questions.

\*Discover how the military can help pay for college through ROTC scholarships, academy appointments, or educational benefits for enlisting. Check [www.myfuture.com](http://www.myfuture.com) for information.

\*Research cooperative education at colleges you are interested in attending. This is a great way to pay for your college education while gaining relevant work experience at the same time.

\*Athletes—complete and mail the NCAA student release form. Check with your student records office or your coach for this form. <http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net> is also a good resource.

OCTOBER

\*Continue your college research and/or application process.

\*Be aware first round early decision/early action deadlines can be as early as mid-October, many college-specific scholarships have October deadlines, and some ROTC scholarships have application due dates before November 1.

\*Give your counselor any school reports that must be filled out.

\*Continue studying for the ACT and SAT, and sign up for any online courses you might need.

\*Write or email college financial aid offices for financial aid information from the specific colleges in which you are interested.

**IMPORTANT:** Always let your counselor know about any scholarship offers you have received.

\*Register for the CSS PROFILE if you are interested in private schools which require it.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOVEMBER—DECEMBER</b></p>	<p>*Finalize the personal essay you will need for many college applications. Have a teacher proofread the essay when you are finished.</p> <p>*Keep records of all correspondence.</p> <p>*Attend sessions with college representatives who visit your school.</p> <p>Tip—with the implementation of the HOPE scholarship, admission standards at Georgia colleges have become much stricter.</p> <p>Example: UGA Admitted Student Profile <b>2016 Freshmen</b>: 4,686 total; Avg. SAT score: 2063; Avg. GPA: 3.8 99 percent of in-state freshmen earned the HOPE Scholarship.</p>	<p>*Take the ASVAB. This exam provides helpful vocational aptitude feedback.</p> <p>*Take SAT II subject tests if they are required by your college.</p>	<p>*Continue working on a college financial plan with your parents. Avoid loans <b>if possible</b>.</p> <p>*Check with scholarship websites for updated scholarship reports.</p> <p>*Some ROTC applications and some military academy applications are due in December. Check dates for accuracy.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>JANUARY—MARCH</b></p>	<p>*Observe college deadlines for admissions, financial aid, testing, and housing.</p> <p>Tip—January 1 is the usual deadline for applying to many selective colleges.</p> <p>*Maintain good grades and continue to sign up for rigorous courses. Final acceptance depends on your final transcript.</p>	<p>*Read! Review the college bound reading list available on your school’s website.</p> <p>*Continue working to improve writing skills.</p>	<p>*Remember that most local scholarship applications are due in February – contact the local scholarship donor directly.</p> <p>*Attend the Newton County FAFSA seminar</p> <p>*Complete FAFSA, CSS PROFILE, and any other institutional financial aid forms. Each school in the state of Georgia sets their own financial aid deadline—check carefully!</p> <p>*Check your selective service status—this affects federal aid eligibility for males.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>APRIL—JUNE</b></p>	<p>*Most selective colleges announce admissions decisions in April. Make sure and reply by May.</p> <p>*Sign and return all required forms and deposits to colleges by the required deadlines.</p> <p>*At graduation practice, fill out a final transcript request for the college you are planning to attend.</p> <p>Tip—Writing thank you notes to people who have been helpful to you this year will establish contacts for your future.</p>	<p>*Advanced Placement Exams are given nationally in May in high schools. Be sure to have your scores sent to the college that you are most interested in attending.</p> <p>*Plan for a productive summer—freshman orientation, summer employment, or enroll for your college’s summer term.</p> <p>Tip—Don’t take the ACT or SAT too often. Scores may improve with the second and third tests and then begin to decline.</p>	<p>*Carefully review financial aid award notices from colleges. Call the financial aid office if you have any questions.</p> <p>*Compare the amount of money you will have left to pay at each college before making your final decision.</p> <p>*Notify aid offices <b>in writing</b> of your decision to accept or decline any offer you have received. Find out when school charges are due and pay them before the deadlines.</p> <p>Tip—Be wary of opening credit card accounts while in college. The debts you incur will affect your credit for many years.</p>

## INTERNET RESOURCES FOR COLLEGE AND FINANCIAL AID

**\*Please note: Internet sites listed were valid as of June 4, 2014\***

### Scholarship Databases and Scholarship Searches

- FastWeb: [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) Custom scholarship information and e-mail updates.
- The Financial Aid Information Page: [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) Described as a one-stop shop for financial aid information. Endorsed by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.
- Georgia Career Information System: [www.gcic.peachnet.edu](http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu) Allows students to search for scholarships by category. See counselor for password.
- Scholarships.com: [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com) Allows students to search for scholarship information
- College Board's Scholarship Search: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- [www.collegeanswer.com/index.jsp](http://www.collegeanswer.com/index.jsp) Sallie Mae's free, comprehensive going-to-college internet destination, where students and parents can learn about financial aid and search for scholarships. Rated best of its kind online by *Forbes* magazine.

### Avoiding Scholarship Scams (Do NOT give out your SSN or pay any money for scholarship information without speaking with a counselor first)

- Federal Trade Commission: [www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/edcams/scholarships](http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/edcams/scholarships)
- FinAid's Scam Alert: [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) Provides links to press releases, documents, lists of suspicious companies, and other information to avoid being victimized.
- Better Business Bureau: [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org)
- United States Postal inspection Service (USPIS): [www.usps.gov/postalinspectors/fraud/welcome.htm](http://www.usps.gov/postalinspectors/fraud/welcome.htm)

### Student Athletes

- NCAA Guide for the College Bound Student Athlete: [www.ncaa.org/library/general/cbsa/2007-08/2007-08\\_cbsa.pdf](http://www.ncaa.org/library/general/cbsa/2007-08/2007-08_cbsa.pdf)
- Applicant Clearinghouse registration: [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)
- **Fee waivers are available IF the student has used a fee waiver for the ACT/SAT. See the counselor for information.**
- **Some online courses are not accepted by NCAA.**

### Minority Students

- Black Excel College: [www.blackexcel.org](http://www.blackexcel.org) Admission and scholarship information.
- United Negro College Fund Participating Schools: [www.uncf.org](http://www.uncf.org) Scholarship search by major, classification, achievements, or state.
- The National Hispanic Scholarship Fund: [www.hsf.net](http://www.hsf.net)

### Students with Disabilities

- National Council for Support of Disability Issues: [www.ncsd.org](http://www.ncsd.org)
- Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: [www.agbell.org](http://www.agbell.org)

### **Military**

- My Future: [www.myfuture.com](http://www.myfuture.com) The U.S. Armed Forces have collaborated on a Web site which has links to each service.
- Service Academies: West Point: [www.usma.edu](http://www.usma.edu) U.S. Naval Academy: [www.usna.edu](http://www.usna.edu)  
U.S. Air Force Academy: [www.usafa.edu](http://www.usafa.edu)

### **National Service/Job Corps**

- AmeriCorps: [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org)
- Job Corps: <http://jobcorps.dol.gov>

### **Cooperative Education**

- National Commission for Cooperative Education: [www.co-op.edu](http://www.co-op.edu)

### **Planning Ahead**

- College Parents of America: [www.collegeparents.org](http://www.collegeparents.org) Information about saving for college.
- American Council on Education financial aid guide for students/parents: [www.collegeispossible.org](http://www.collegeispossible.org)
- [www.ed.gov/thinkcollege](http://www.ed.gov/thinkcollege) This U.S. Department of education web site has special sections for parents whose children have not yet entered high school.
- State 529 Savings Plans: <http://www.gafutures.org/GACollegeSavingsPlan/default.asp>
- Upromise college savings plan: [www.upromise.com](http://www.upromise.com)

### **Applying for Financial Aid**

- FAFSA on-line: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- CSS PROFILE: <http://profileonline.collegeboard.com> PROFILE registration and Q & A (for exclusive private schools only)

### **On-Line Financial Aid Updates**

- HOPE Scholarship and other Georgia Student Aid Programs: [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org)  
\*Make sure to check changes to the HOPE program effective for the CLASS OF 2017 and beyond\*
- National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators: [www.nasfaa.org](http://www.nasfaa.org)

### **College Information, Applications, and Career Planning**

- [www.usg.edu](http://www.usg.edu) Information on all of the University System of Georgia schools.
- [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org) A comprehensive web site designed by the University System of Georgia to provide students with college admissions, career and financial aid information, and on-line applications.
- [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com) Provides over 5000 current school profiles, 700 online applications, as well as a career quiz and information on career and technical programs.
- <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/> A basic look at more than 9000 schools by the U.S. Dept. of Education
- [www.scholarstuff.com](http://www.scholarstuff.com) Provides links to home pages of colleges around the world.
- Petersons Undergraduate Study: [www.petersons.com/ugchannel](http://www.petersons.com/ugchannel)
- The Campus Tours Index: [www.campustours.com](http://www.campustours.com) Has interactive tours of colleges across the U.S.
- College View: [www.collegeview.com](http://www.collegeview.com) Has virtual tours and electronic applications.
- U.S. News Online: [www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com) Provides rankings and information about money/jobs/colleges.
- Mapping Your Future: <http://mappingyourfuture.org/> Provides information and services on career planning, college selection, and financial aid. The site is sponsored by guaranty agencies who administer the Federal Family Educational Loan Program.
- Careers and Colleges: [www.careersandcolleges.com](http://www.careersandcolleges.com) Has a virtual guidance counselor section
- Bureau of Labor Statistics: <http://stats.bls.gov>
- Community Colleges: [www.aacc.nche.edu](http://www.aacc.nche.edu)
- Women's Colleges: [www.univsource.com/womens.htm](http://www.univsource.com/womens.htm)
- [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) Allows you to complete and submit the Common Application completely over the internet.

## STUDY ABROAD

- [Studyabroad.com](http://Studyabroad.com) Search by country, language, or subject

**\*Make sure to check the websites of all schools that you are interested in for information on admissions, scholarships, financial aid, degree programs, and much more\***

# Narrowing Your College Choices

Finding the right college can be a difficult decision. One bit of advice is to research more than one school. Some students have their hearts set on a specific school. There is nothing wrong with that...unless you are not accepted to that school. Then what choice are you left with? With some careful research and planning, it is not hard to find colleges that will appeal to you. The following are some examples of areas you might want to look into when considering your college choices.

### Academic Reputation

What is the school's general reputation?

What is the reputation of your major?

### Curriculum or Program

Is my intended major available? Is there a strong liberal arts program?

### Academic Support Services

Are special services such as tutoring available? What services do you need?

### Class Size and Teaching Approach

How big are the classes? Do professors keep regular office hours? Are classes taught by professors or teaching assistants?

### Affiliation of Institution

Public, Private, Religious, Vocational, Two-year, Four-year, Single-sex, Co-Ed, Military,



Technical

Academic Facilities

Computer/Science labs, facilities, library

Retention, Graduation, & Placement Rates

What percentage of students return for their sophomore year? What is the graduation rate of entering students? What percentage of students is placed in jobs in their field? What percentage of students go on to graduate/professional school?

Size of Undergraduate Student Body

Ranges from less than 500 to 15,000 Plus

Location

Anywhere in U.S., multi-state region,  
in state, immediate area (75—100 miles), commuting area, or foreign country

College Setting

Small, Medium or Large City  
Suburban, Small town or Rural

Campus Environment

Is the campus community lively and spirited? Are people I meet on campus friendly? Is the faculty accessible? Is there a diverse student population? How present is security on campus? Is undergraduate housing comfortable? How is the food?

Activities

Sports, Community/religious activities, Social opportunities, Cultural activities, Greek Life

Costs

Costs of tuition, room, and board  
Availability of grants/scholarships  
Availability of loans  
Availability of part-time jobs/campus jobs

# College Visit 101

## Questions Parents and Students Should Ask During a College Visit

### **The Basics**

This list is meant to provide prospective students and parents with ideas of people to talk with during an on-campus visit, as well as important questions to ask them. Keep in mind that it is important to seek answers from a variety of students and college officials in order to get a well-rounded view of the college. A campus tour is the best place to ask questions! You get to see where classes are held and pick the brain of a current student - take advantage of it!

- Ask questions about things that are most important to you- no question is too stupid.
- Try to ask the same questions at each school you visit so that you have a point of comparison between the schools.
- Take a tour and interact with your guide. Ask him or her questions about student life and his or her personal experiences. It is important to get a first-hand student perspective on things. Also, tour guides love feedback!

### **Questions for Student Tour Guides (and other students):**

Make these questions more focused on student life and personal experiences. If you need clarity on academic requirements, etc., do inquire about those things, but also ask the questions that aren't outlined in admissions materials - those that only a student could answer! For example, some of the most important questions to ask a student are these top 5:

1. Why did you choose this college?
2. What other schools did you consider?
3. What do you like most about this school?
4. What do you wish you could change?
5. Is there anything you know now that you wish you had known as a prospective student?

### **Academics:**

- How often do students get the chance to interact with professors outside of class time?
- Do the professors hold office hours? Do they communicate with students via phone or email?
- How effective is your adviser? How is academic advising organized here?
- How often do students collaborate with professors on research or other academic projects?

- Who teaches the classes and lab sessions, especially the introductory courses – professors or graduate assistants?
- How big are introductory level classes?
- Are there study support groups or tutoring programs available? Do they cost extra?
- Is there an honors college or are there special honors programs?
- What are some special programs available to students, such as study abroad or pre-professional programs? Are they open to anyone?
- How much reading and writing is expected?
- How many hours do you spend in class each week? How many hours studying?
- How do students register for classes? Is it difficult to enroll in courses you need?
- What is your favorite class that you've taken so far? What made it so great?
- What are some of the most popular classes on campus?
- Where do you study? Do students use the library or are there other quiet spaces on campus?
- What are the library hours? Are the librarians accessible to help with research, etc.?
- Are there computer labs on campus? Is it hard to get a computer? Is the campus more Mac or PC friendly? Does a student need to have a personal computer? Are there any models that are suggested or required? Are there discounts or group rates available?
- Is wireless access available in dorms and academic buildings?

#### **Residential life:**

- Is on-campus housing required for first-year students, all students (do most students live on campus)? Is it guaranteed?
- Do all first year students live together, or are they combined with upper-class students?
- What are the housing options? (dorms, apartments, suites, co-ed, single sex, themed housing, etc.)
- How are roommate assignments made? Can one request a specific roommate?
- What is the university's alcohol policy? Are there "substance free" housing options?
- What are dorms like? Are there community restrooms? Lounges? Kitchens? What about room amenities like carpet and air conditioning?
- Are students allowed to live off-campus? Is it difficult to find a place to live?
- What is the meal plan like? (21 meals/week? 20 meals/week? 14 meals/week?)
- How is the food? Is it the same in every dining hall, or are there options?
- Are students allowed to have cars (what about first year students)? How is parking handled?

#### **Extracurricular Activities and Student Life:**

- Are there any special student traditions (academic, athletic, social, etc.)?
- What do you do on a typical weeknight on campus? How about a weekend night?
- Do students stay on campus for the weekend?
- What kinds of student groups are you involved in?
- What are some of the most popular organizations on campus? How easy is it to get involved?
- Are there any groups associated with academic departments, like drama troupes or science clubs? Can first-year students get involved?
- What are the opportunities for performance and study of music and drama? Are there productions open to first year students or non-majors?
- What musical opportunities are there for non-music majors? Are there any costs associated with these opportunities (lesson fees, instrument rental, etc.)? Are there student bands and ensembles?
- Are there opportunities for students in the campus media? Who runs the newspaper/ TV station/ radio station?
- What kinds of programmed events take place on campus? Who does the programming (the students or the university)?
- How are student activities funded? Is there a student activity fee? What is covered by the student activity fee (athletic events, concerts, etc.)? How much are the student fees?
- Do students work while they are at school? Are on-campus jobs available?
- What are some of your college's big campus events (Homecoming, Family Weekend, Alumni W, etc.)?

- Is there Greek life on campus? What percentage of students are involved in a fraternity or sorority? How active and noticeable is Greek life on campus? Do they throw parties, host events, do community service? Do the fraternities and sororities have houses? If not, do they have meeting and social facilities available?
- Are there places to visit off campus? Is it easy to leave campus (even without a car)?
- How many students participate in varsity athletics? Does the school participate in NCAA Division I, II, or III or NAIA? What sports does the university offer at the varsity level or at the club/intramural level? How many students get involved in intramurals? Are there any exercise classes offered?
- What type of gym facilities are available and what type of access do non-athletes have to these facilities? Is there an additional cost to use facilities or participate in activities?
- How does the athletic department view the relationship between athletics and academics?

### **Questions for Professors:**

Ask professors questions about academic life, requirements, and advising. Also include questions about things like academic expectations, specific departmental requirements, or more in depth questions about a particular academic program.

- What do you expect of your students? What are the typical course requirements: how many exams, research papers, and presentations in a semester class?
- Do you offer opportunities for students to engage in research? Do you often mentor students?
- Who teaches introductory courses – graduate students or professors?
- How do you make yourself accessible to your students?
- If tutoring is needed, what arrangements are made for the student?
- How many students do you advise at one time?
- What is the student/teacher ratio?
- What is the average class size?
- How easy is it for a student to switch majors?
- Do students often collaborate on class projects in or outside of class?

### **Questions for Admissions Counselors:**

Now, ask your admissions counselor questions about the college overall - what is the school known for, and what kind of students typically attend? How diverse is the school and what do students go on to do after graduation?

- Why do students select this college? What is distinctive about this college?
- How would you describe the profile of a typical student who attends this college?
- What is the process used to evaluate a student's application? How important are test scores in the final decision?
- Do you recalculate a student's grade point average (GPA)?
- If I apply for financial aid, does that reduce my chance of being admitted to this college?
- What are the graduation requirements? Are there any general requirements that one often takes as a first-year student? What about a first-year seminar?
- Are there opportunities for study abroad or college exchange programs?
- How easy is it to obtain a part-time job on campus?
- What is the percentage of students who graduate in 4 years? in 5 years?
- After graduation, what is the career placement rate and/or graduate school acceptance percentage (ask about specific fields or graduate programs important to you)?
- What kinds of things are your most recent alumni doing?
- How does the college accept and apply AP, IB and transfer credits?
- Does the college have a career center? How many students does it serve each year? What resources are available for student and graduates seeking jobs?
- What internship possibilities are there for me? Are there opportunities to complete internships for credit? How does one find internships?

### **Questions for Financial Aid Officers:**

- Do you offer Academic Scholarships? If so, what are the scholarship award levels and the criteria for each level? Are students automatically considered or is there a separate application process? Do you offer other non-need-based scholarships? How do you apply for them?
- For need-based Financial Aid, do you require any additional financial information beyond what's on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)? If so, do you use the College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile? Your own institutional form?
- What, if any, changes do you make to the Federal Methodology for need-based financial aid? Do you look at home equity? Retirement accounts? Cash values built up in life insurance policies? What else? (Focus on how much those things that apply to you will affect your need-based Financial Aid.
- Do you meet 100% of demonstrated financial need? If you know your current Expected Family Contribution (EFC) under the federal formula, give it to the Financial Aid Officer to get specific.
- What is the average unmet demonstrated financial need if the college doesn't meet 100% of need?
- What is the average academic scholarship amount?
- What is the average need-based grant?
- What is the average amount of student loan in a first-year student financial aid award?
- Do you count Parent Loan for Undergraduate Study (PLUS) loan money in meeting need  
\*\*\*Ask an Admissions Counselor about your chances of Admission. If you aren't admissible, NONE of the questions in this document matter!
- Take an unofficial copy of your high school transcript of your courses, grades and test scores.

## Quick Reference Guide for High School Students

### Financial Aid

FastWeb's College Gold.....[www.collegegold.org](http://www.collegegold.org)  
 Federal Student Aid for Students.....[studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov)  
 FinAid.....[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)  
 Mapping Your Future.....[mapping-your-future.org](http://mapping-your-future.org)  
 Project Scholarship Scam....[www.ftc.gov/scholarshipcams](http://www.ftc.gov/scholarshipcams)  
 Taxes for Students..... [www.irs.gov/individuals/students](http://www.irs.gov/individuals/students)  
 Scholarship Search.....[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)  
 US Dept of Education.....[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

### Sources of Aid

FastWeb Scholarship Search.....[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)  
 FAFSA (Free App for Federal Student Aid) [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)  
 Federal Direct Loans.....[www.ed.gov/DirectLoan](http://www.ed.gov/DirectLoan)  
 JobCorps.....[www.jobcorps.dol.gov](http://www.jobcorps.dol.gov)  
 \*AmeriCorps.....[www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org)  
 \*City Year.....[www.cityyear.org](http://www.cityyear.org)  
 Resources by State.....[www.finaid.org/otheraid.state.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/otheraid.state.phtml)  
 FAFSA PIN.....[www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)

### Calculators

College Cost Projector.....[www.finaid.org/calculator](http://www.finaid.org/calculator)  
 Loan Calculators.....[www.finaid.org/calculator](http://www.finaid.org/calculator)  
 Savings Calculator.....[www.finaid.org/calculator](http://www.finaid.org/calculator)  
 EFC Calculator.....[www.finaid.org/calculator](http://www.finaid.org/calculator)

### General Information

Social Security Administration.....[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)  
 Selective Service.....[www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov)  
 Student Gateway to U.S. Government..[www.students.gov](http://www.students.gov)

### College Goal Sunday

**website:** <http://www.collegegoalsundayga.com>

Various locations in the state  
 Usually held in February  
 Assist with completing FAFSA

### THINGS TO REMEMBER:

Watch deadlines.  
 UGA early action deadline: Oct 15  
 UGA regular deadline: Jan 15

Check the college's website for scholarship opportunities (check deadlines).

Complete applications online when possible.

Register online for ACT or SAT.  
 High School Code: 110-898  
 ACT offered at EHS Sept and Dec only.  
 Check registration for other locations.

Transcripts are available from the

Study Abroad.....www.studyabroad.com  
 U.S. Department of Education.....www.ed.gov

**College Admissions/Testing**

ACT.....www.actstudent.org  
 AP....www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html  
 SAT.....www.sat.org  
 PSAT.....www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html  
 Admissions Information.....www.admissions.com  
 GAFutures.....www.GAFutures.org

**Choosing a Major/Career**

Career Planning.....www.fastweb.com  
 Monster (Job Search).....www.monster.com  
 Monster Trak (Entry-level jobs).....www.monstertrak.com  
 America's Career Infonet.....www.acinet.org  
 Bureau of Labor Statistics.....stats.bls.gov  
 Occupational Outlook Handbook.....www.bls.gov/oco

guidance secretaries. Final transcript form completed at graduation practice and sent the week after graduation.

Athletics planning to continue sports in college must register with NCAA at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org).

FAFSA forms **cannot** be completed until after October 1<sup>st</sup> using prior year's tax return.

**Important Numbers**

FAFSA (Free App. for Federal Student Aid).....(800-4-FED-AID) 800-433-3243  
 ACT.....319-337-1000  
 SAT.....866-756-7346

**College Application Planner**

College	Application Deadline	E s s a y	Teacher Recommendation	Counselor Recommendation	Transcript Requested	ACT/ SAT Scores Sent	Application Sent	Done

**Important:**

- Make sure you apply to more than one college. It is a general rule to apply to three schools: a dream school, a school you would like to attend, and a school where you feel sure you will be admitted. Make sure the college you plan to attend as the program in which you wish to major.
- Not all colleges require essays, teacher recommendations, and/or counselor recommendations. Check each school's requirements carefully.

- Each school's records clerk handles transcript requests. You can pick up a form from her. Final high school transcripts are not available until you have graduated from high school. Final high school transcript request forms are filled out at graduation practice. These transcripts are typically mailed during the second week of June or sent electronically through [gafutures.org](http://gafutures.org).
- Even if your ACT/SAT scores are on your transcript, most colleges do not consider those scores to be official. Most colleges across Georgia and the nation require your test scores to be sent directly from the testing center. It is up to you to request those scores to be sent to each college where you plan to apply. If you did not send your scores to the college when you registered for the ACT or SAT, the testing company will require for you to pay for the score to be sent. You will access your account and submit payment to the testing company.
- Make sure you fill out a FAFSA form. Each college in the state of Georgia sets its own financial aid deadline, so be sure to meet your school's deadline. The FAFSA form is the application for federal grants, federal student loans, the federal work study program, and Georgia's HOPE scholarship program.
- Once you have mailed your applications, each college will send you information about whether you have been accepted, financial aid, housing fees, orientation sessions, and any other details that should be taken care of before you enroll. Carefully watch deadlines and submit housing deposits prior to the deadline. Make sure you understand the financial obligation you will be responsible for at the college.

# Newton County



# College Fair



**Date: October 4th  
5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Alcovy High School**

Approximately 75 Colleges and  
Technical Colleges will be on hand to answer questions

**STUDENTS SHOULD REGISTER BEFORE ATTENDING**



## **Student Registration Instructions**

1. Students go to <http://www.gotocollegefairs.com/> and click "register now".



2. Click the state of Georgia located on the map of the US.
3. Scroll down and select Georgia Probe 10/4/18  
Thursday October 4th, 2018 5:30-7:30 PM Alcovy  
High School (the location of your Probe Fair).
4. Click the gold register now button.
5. Fill in the requested information on the Student  
Profile page. Everything noted with an \* must be  
completed.
6. Click “submit” to print your admittance Pass.
- 7. BRING YOUR ADMITTANCE PASS TO THE  
FAIR!**