

CLASS OF 2025

Countdown to Graduation... Junior Year Planning Guide



HILLGROVE HIGH SCHOOL

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What is Junior Advisement? Junior Advisement is an individual meeting between parent(s), student, and counselor to make sure the student is on track for graduation, plan senior year coursework, and discuss plans for after high school. This meeting is scheduled in October/November of Junior year. For the class of 2025 students will attend in person in the counselor's office and the parent(s) will attend virtually through Microsoft TEAMS.

How can I prepare for the meeting? The pre-conference tasks are sent to students and parents in the follow up email when they register for their session. Since the session is limited to 30 minutes, parents and students should review this information and create a list of questions.

What should I be doing this year to prepare for college admission?

Research potential college choices and take the SAT/ACT if necessary. Attend College Fairs and visit college campuses. Keep working hard on your grades! You can access a helpful junior "action plan" at: [Home – BigFuture | College Board](#)

Do colleges come to Hillgrove? College visits are held during lunch on Tuesdays and Hawk Hour on Wednesdays. Students must visit Naviance (Colleges, College Visits) to register for the Hawk Hour visits.

College Visit Procedures: You and your parent/guardian may plan to visit colleges and universities as you make post-high school graduation plans. Please be aware of the following procedures regarding absences because of these visits: A. For these absences to be considered excused, official documentation from the institution including dates and times of tours, appointments with admissions counselors, etc. (on college or university letterhead) MUST be turned in to the Attendance Office when the student returns to school. Brochures, campus maps, or email confirmations of the visit or tour will not qualify as appropriate and sufficient documentation for a college visit. B. There will be a limit of two (2) days per academic year which will be excused for these types of visits for a senior or junior student.

Who should take the SAT or ACT? A student planning to go directly to a four-year college/university after high school graduation should take the SAT or ACT. Check with individual colleges for this requirement. Note: even if this is not required for enrollment, it might be needed for scholarships and other programs.

I'm going to a 2-year technical college first. Should I take the SAT or ACT? No, it is not required. Students take the ACCUPLACER Test for admission to a 2-year technical college. This test is given several times a year at the Technical College location.

When should I take the SAT or ACT? Typically, students are advised to take the SAT or ACT in the Spring of their junior year. Students will achieve a better score if they have taken at least half of Advanced Algebra and American Literature before testing. These tests are given nationally 6-7 times per year on Saturdays at various locations in the local area.

Which one should I take? SAT or ACT? Students should take both. Some students do better on one test over the other, and most colleges take either the highest SAT or ACT score for admission consideration.

How do I prepare for the SAT or ACT? Our PTSA organizes SAT and ACT Prep classes at Hillgrove each semester for a reasonable cost. Follow the links below for additional test prep resources:

SAT <http://satpractice.org> (*khanacademy.org*)

ACT <https://academy.act.org>

SAT/ACT/AP www.varsitytutors.com/practice-tests

SAT/ACT www.prepscholar.com/sat/s/resources

Test Waivers: If you are on free or reduced lunch, you are eligible to receive **2 SAT** test waivers and **4 ACT** test waivers. As a senior, you will automatically receive college application fee waivers after using an SAT Fee waiver and your NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) application fee will be waived. **Contact your counselor for more information.**

What is the ASVAB? (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) The ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) is a career exploration test. This exam is required if you are planning to enter one of the branches of the military. The ASVAB is a comprehensive career exploration and planning program that includes a multiple aptitude test battery, an interest inventory, and various career planning tools designed to help students explore the world of work. The ASVAB will be given once in the Fall and once in the Spring. Study guides can be found at: www.military.com/ASVAB or www.asvabprogram.com

How do I know if I am eligible for the HOPE Scholarship? Remember that your overall cumulative GPA is **NOT** your HOPE GPA. Graduates completing a college prep diploma must have a 3.0 in their core coursework for the REGULAR HOPE. Only English, Math, Science, Social Studies, World Languages and some computer science courses are calculated. All core courses are included in the calculation. Four rigor courses are also required. The completed list of rigor courses is available on GAFutures.org. AP courses will receive an extra .5 quality point weight in the HOPE calculation up to a 4.0. No student's HOPE GPA will be higher than a 4.0. **You can and should view your HOPE Progress Report, uploaded each semester, by creating an account on www.gafutures.org.** Students will need their social security number (SSN) to create this account. If the SSN is not on file with the school, you will not be able to view the HOPE GPA. Upload a copy of the SSN card via ParentVue. It may take 5-7 business days for the update to be made in GA Futures.

How much will the regular HOPE Scholarship cover? The regular HOPE (3.0 core) will pay a percentage of tuition charges (not 100%), depending on annual lottery revenue. Go to www.gafutures.org to view HOPE award amounts, organized by college.

How do I get 100% of the tuition charges paid for by HOPE? The Zell Miller Scholar Program, which requires a 3.7 core GPA and a 1200 CR+M SAT Score, or 26 on the ACT, or graduate as valedictorian or salutatorian.

What is Dual Enrollment?

- Dual Enrollment is a program that allows 11th and 12th graders to take college classes while completing their high school diploma.
- DE also provides limited options for 10th graders:
 - Any 10th grader can take CTAE classes at a Technical College
 - 10th graders who have earned a 1200 SAT or 26 ACT (in one sitting) are eligible to apply to any DE program and take any approved courses
- DE pays for 100% tuition, mandatory fees, and required textbooks up to a maximum cap of 30 hours (this equates to roughly one year of full-time college enrollment or around 10 courses)

For more information, please plan to attend a Hillgrove DE information session during Hawk Hour. These meetings are held during Hawk Hours throughout the year. Also visit the Cobb County website for general information about dual enrollment:

[Dual Enrollment \(cobbk12.org\)](http://cobbk12.org)

NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) If you wish to participate in NCAA Division I or II athletics, you need to be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. You need to qualify academically and be cleared as an amateur student-athlete. Registration should be done at: www.ncaaclearinghouse.net at the beginning of your junior year. A copy of your transcript must also be sent. During your senior year, you will need to log back into the NCAA clearinghouse website to update any new information and to request your final amateurism certification. Please contact **Ms. Calloway** in the school counseling department if you have any questions.

Is there a career assessment to help give me ideas for college majors? Yes! It is called YouScience and all students qualify for a free test paid for by the state of Georgia. This assessment will be given through Junior English classes at the close of each semester.

When should I plan to submit my college applications? Most students applying to four-year colleges will start the application process during the fall of their senior year. Seniors will go through Senior Seminar in August and will receive details on the college application process.

Can I start the college application process over the summer? Yes, counselors will provide more information during the Junior Lesson in the Spring. Students will then have an opportunity to complete their Brag Sheet in Naviance and are encouraged to spend time in Naviance reviewing college requirements. They should also visit college websites for essay prompts, and other requirements. This is also a good time to consider who to ask to write letters of recommendations if needed. However, they won't be able to start the actual application until August 1st at the earliest.

College/Career Scholarship Websites: www.gafutures.org, www.collegeprep101.com, <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>, Naviance, and more.

2023-2024 SAT Dates		
Test Date	Registration Deadline	Deadline for changes, Regular Cancellation, and Late Registration
Oct 7, 2023	Sep 7, 2023	Sep. 26, 2023
Nov. 4, 2023	Oct 5, 2023	Oct. 24, 2023
Dec. 2, 2023	Nov. 2, 2023	Nov. 21, 2023
Mar. 9, 2024	Feb. 23, 2024	Feb. 27, 2024
May 4, 2024	Apr. 19, 2024	Apr. 23, 2024
June 1, 2024	May 16, 2024	May 21, 2024

For more information visit: [www.Collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

2023-24 ACT Dates		
Test Date	Registration Deadline	Deadline for changes, Regular Cancellation, and Late Registration
Oct 28, 2023	Sep 22, 2023	Oct. 20, 2023
Dec. 9, 2023	Nov. 3, 2023	Dec. 1, 2023
Feb. 10, 2024	Jan. 5, 2024	Feb. 2, 2024
Apr. 13, 2024	Mar. 8, 2024	Apr. 15, 2024
Jun. 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 31, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	July 5, 2024

For more information visit: <http://www.actstudent.org/>

