



JUNIOR ADVISEMENT: CLASS OF 2028

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For more information, go to: www.cobbk12.org/allatoona > FIND IT FAST (top right) > COUNSELING

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In This Packet You Will Find:

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Career Interests

Dual Enrollment

HOPE Scholarship Information

Graduation Requirements

Post-Secondary Options

ACT/SAT Testing Information

Financial Aid Resources

Additional Resources



Junior Year Timeline

What do you need to know now?

- ☐ Review courses left to meet graduation requirements and college admission requirements.
- ☐ **Your goals.** It is time to start defining your goals in terms of what you want to do after high school and the steps needed to get there.

Fall

- ☐ If you have not already, create a **GA Futures** account at www.gafutures.org. This is where you can see and track your HOPE GPA. DO NOT CREATE MORE THAN ONE ACCOUNT. Must enter SSN to see HOPE GPA.
- ☐ Start **researching careers** using **SchoolLinks**, YouScience, GAFutures, etc. **Determine the education/training** required for the career you wish to pursue. (4yr college, Technical School, Trade School, Apprenticeship, On-the-Job Training, Military, etc.)
- ☐ **Research Postsecondary Schools:** Talk with College Admissions Reps and ask questions during lunch visits. **Check SchoolLinks for lunch visits.** Look at college websites using your **SchoolLinks** account or go directly to their website. Plan to visit college campuses during breaks. Talk to friends, family members, teachers, and recent grads that are now in college. List the college features that interest you.
- ☐ **Make a file** to manage your college search, testing, and application data. List all your activities, awards, etc. from high school.
- ☐ **Start studying** for the SAT/ACT, if applicable.

Winter

- ☐ Sign up to take the **SAT/ACT** in the spring.
- ☐ Continue to **research careers** and colleges.

Spring

- ☐ **Stay open to all the possibilities** — don't limit your search. To find the best college for you, you should apply to colleges of varying selectivity. Selective colleges admit a portion of students who apply. Some colleges are highly selective while others are less selective.
- ☐ **Take or Retake the SAT/ACT.**
- ☐ **Visit colleges, even if it is a virtual visit** – Most schools offer interactive virtual tours!
- ☐ **Teacher Recommendations** – Will you need a recommendation letter? Who will you ask to write a letter of recommendation? Go ahead and ask the teachers.

Summer

- ☐ **Athletes--Register** with the appropriate clearinghouse if you are an athlete planning to continue playing a sport in college (NCAA, NAIA or NJCAA).
- ☐ **Visit colleges.** When planning your campus visits, make sure to allow time to explore each college. Take campus tours and, at colleges you're serious about, make appointments to have interviews with admission counselors if available.
- ☐ Take the SAT/ACT if necessary.
- ☐ **Create a résumé** — a record of your academic accomplishments, extracurricular activities, and work experiences since you started high school. **SchoolLinks** has a resume tool. This will help when you complete your Senior Brag Sheet.
- ☐ **Make a list of 3-5 schools** you plan on applying to in the fall.
- ☐ **Begin** writing admissions essays for those schools on your list that require them.

Graduation Requirements vs. College Admissions:

Graduation Requirements	VS.	College Admissions
Determined by the GA Dept. of Education.		Determined by individual college. Often greater than graduation requirements (even in GA). Ex. math and/or world languages.
Tracked by you , your teachers, and your school counselor.		Tracked by you – It's your responsibility to find out what the school requires.
Must pass 23 specific classes including: 4 English 4 Science Health/PE 3 CTAE, Fine Arts and/or World Language 4 Math 3 Social Studies 4 General Electives		Most colleges require some type of testing for admissions, but not all. Do your research on the college's admissions page. *Keep in mind that many test optional schools use test scores for scholarship eligibility.
Required credits must be met before you earn a high school diploma.		Meeting minimum admissions' requirements does NOT guarantee admission to that college.

Career Interests: **So, what do you want to do with your life?**

Do you know what you want to do?



How do you decide?



Where do you begin?

If you aren't sure, take a Career Interest Inventory

Step 1: Take an Interest Inventory – SchoolLinks, YouScience (In Clever), GAFutures, BigFuture College Board, ASVAB (You can sign up to take this here at school on November 17, 2026), etc.

Assessment Tip: While taking the assessment, be as specific as possible when answering. Avoid choosing “Not Sure” when you have a preference. For example, if you don't want to work outdoors, select responses that reflect that. Your answers help ensure your career results are a better fit.

Step 2: Make a list of careers you want to learn about.

Think about...

Job availability and location upon graduation

Education/Training Required

Salary Range-Can you make a livable wage?

Work Demands-Are you physically able to do the job?

Step 3: Determine the Occupational Outlook for the careers.

You can find answers to these questions on sites like:

Occupational Outlook Handbook: www.bls.gov/ooh/

O*Net Online: www.onetonline.org

Step 4: Look for colleges that offer that major on sites like:

SchoolLinks (Login via Clever)

GaFutures - www.gafutures.org

Big Future - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>

Post-Secondary Options

Work Force -State Workforce Development Initiatives

Helps students start a well-paying career with little to no debt while also building a skilled workforce for Georgia employers. To learn more about the Georgia Department Economic Development's Workforce initiatives please visit the following website: <https://georgia.org/competitive-advantages/workforce-education>.

Cobb County School Counseling has also compiled a list of several workforce initiatives in Georgia at: <https://linktr.ee/GAWorkForceDevInitiatives>.

On-the-Job Training vs. Apprenticeships

On the Job Training		Apprenticeships
Short Period of Time.	VS	The completion of an apprenticeship is generally associated with skilled labor.
Structured Hands-On Training by a peer or supervisor.		Training can take 1-6 years and provides on-the-job training from someone who is licensed in the field. Often requires formal licensure.
Typically, does not require tests for certification or licensure.		Examples: Skilled construction work, electrician, plumber, HVAC, automotive technician, welder, etc.

Apprenticeships

Atlanta Electrical Contractors	http://atlantaelectrical.org/
Electrical Training Center	https://sites.google.com/aejadc.org/etc/home?authuser=0
Independent Electrical Contractors	http://iecatlantaga.org/training/apprenticeship/
Atlanta Carpenters Union	http://www.atlantacarpenters.com/
Southeastern Carpenters Union	http://www.southeasterncarpenters.org/join-us/
Mechanical Trades Institute	https://www.mti-jatt.org/
United Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVACR Technicians	http://ua72.org/apprentices
Plumbing, Heating, Cooling Contractors Association	https://www.phccga.org/
Iron Workers Union	https://ironworkerslocal387.com/apprenticeship-2/
Local 515 – International Laborers Union of North America	https://liunalocal515.com/
Finishing Trades Institute	https://ifti.edu/
Georgia Utility Contractors	https://www.guca.com/
Masonry Association of GA	https://www.masonrypros.org/apprenticeship-1/
Operating Engineers Union	https://iuoe926.org/
Roofers Union	https://unionroofers.com/join-us/apprenticeship/
Sprinkler Fitters Union	http://sprinklerfitters669.org/jatc.aspx
Southeastern Millwrights Union	https://southernrcc.org/
Sheet Metal Union	http://www.jatc85.org/
International Union of Elevator Constructors	https://nabtu.org/affiliates/international-union-elevator-constructors-iuec/
Walgreens Pharmacy Technician Apprenticeship Program	https://jobs.walgreens.com/en/pharmtechlicense
Technical College System of Georgia Apprenticeship Programs	https://www.tcsgeorgia.edu/for-students/apprenticeship-programs/
Georgia Power Lineworker Entry Program	https://www.georgiapower.com/about/company/careers/lineworker-entry.html

Military

- Research the different branches (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy) at <https://www.usa.gov/us-military>.
- You can enlist as Active Duty (Full Time) or Reserves (Part Time).
- Excellent scholarships are available for students who pursue ROTC in college. Research ROTC programs by school at <https://www.rotcconsulting.com/schools/>.
- Talk to a recruiter either at school or at their office.
- Take the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) to determine job eligibility. <https://www.officialasvab.com/>. We are offering the ASVAB here at school on November 17, 2026.

Military Academies

- **Academies:** West Point, Naval Academy, Air Force Academy, Coast Guard Academy, Merchant Marines.
- All academies, except the Coast Guard Academy, **require a Congressional nomination**.
- **Very competitive process** that you must begin very early! **Service Academy applications take planning!** Strong candidates begin preparing before senior year. Research academies, build leadership and service experience, challenge yourself academically, stay physically active, research testing requirements, and learn about the nomination process early. Academy applications and congressional nomination applications are separate, and both may have important deadlines.
- **You can find more information about the process on the Service Academy websites or www.whitehouse.gov.**

Career and Specialty Training Schools

Schools that offer training for a specific career. These schools are typically **FOR-PROFIT** schools, which means they are funded by students and may have limited financial aid. They are considered a business and can close without notice, so make sure you choose a reputable school.

Do your homework before paying for a career school!

Check whether the program is approved or licensed by the appropriate Georgia agency, what credential or license you will earn, how long the program takes, total tuition and fees, financial-aid options, required exams, and whether the training qualifies you for the career you want. Georgia has different regulatory agencies for different occupations.

Examples of Specialty Schools	Types of Programs Offered
The Paul Mitchell School, Aveda Arts & Sciences Institute, etc.	Cosmetology, Barbering, Esthetician, etc.
Georgia Trade School	Welding
Georgia MLS Real Estate School; Barney Fletcher School; Keller Williams, etc.	Real Estate
Gupton Jones College of Funeral Service	Funeral Directing/Mortuary

Postsecondary Options: College

How do I get to college?

- **Define your priorities and “must haves”**
 - Location, major, size, cost, etc.
- **Research colleges**
 - Visit their website.
 - Go on college visits – You can take two days during the school year to attend a formal visit. These two days are excused absences. Go on a visit during the summer and/or during school breaks. This will help you get a feel for campus life.
 - Resources – **SchoolLinks**, Big Future at <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>, GaFutures at <https://www.gafutures.org/>.
 - Talk to your School Counselor.
- **Attend college fairs and visit with college Admission Reps**
 - **Georgia Probe College Fairs** – <https://www.gaprobe.org/calendar/>
 - **Peach State Tour** – Information sessions about Augusta University, Georgia State, Georgia Tech, and UGA – <http://www.peachstatetour.org/students.html>
 - Check your **SchoolLinks** for AHS college rep visits during lunch

What to Know and Ask When Choosing a College

✦ **First and Foremost - Does the school offer the course/major you want?**

Admission Information:

- **Requirements:** What are the admission requirements (GPA and test scores needed)?
- **Typical Profile:** What are the average GPA and test scores of the most recent freshman class? How do I compare? (You can view this in **SchoolLinks** or on the college website)
- **GPA:** Do they use weighted or unweighted GPA? Do they **recalculate** GPA?
- **Activities:** Do they consider extracurriculars, work experience, and community involvement in the decision-making process? **Meaningful involvement and leadership in a few activities can be more valuable than simply joining many clubs.**
- **Course Rigor:** Do they consider the rigor of your high school courses? Most competitive schools do - Challenge yourself by taking the most rigorous courses available to you while maintaining strong grades.

- **Recommendations:** Are teacher/counselor recommendations required? If required, ask for it early. If not, don't send one.
- **High School Courses:** Are specific high school courses required for admission (ex. Fine Arts/Math)?
- If you are considering HIGHLY SELECTIVE SCHOOLS – **PREPARE EARLY!**
- **Transcript:** Your counselor will submit your high school transcript through **SchoolLinks AFTER** you apply.

Application Information:

- **Application Fee:** What is the application fee? Are fee waivers available?
- **Application:** Do I apply through **Common App, Coalition, or directly** to the college?
- **Deadline:** What is the application deadline? **KNOW YOUR DEADLINES!**
- **Decision:** When will I receive an admission decision?
- **Early Options:** Does the college offer **Early Decision or Early Action**?

Understanding the Decision Process for each school you are considering.	
Early Action	Application decisions are made earlier than regular decision deadlines. Not required to accept the offer and have until spring to decide. EA may also allow you to be considered for merit scholarships and other institutional aid opportunities.
Early Decision	Students apply early, but the decision is binding. You can ONLY apply to one (1) school; if you are accepted you must attend.
Regular Decision	No application decisions are made until after the posted deadline; usually 2 nd semester, possibly allowing you time to retake SAT/ACT if necessary & submit Semester 1 grades.
Rolling Decision	Application decisions are made as they are received until all classes are filled.

Expenses:

- **Cost:** What is the total cost of attendance? Consider tuition, fees, room & board, books and meal plans. Does it fit my budget? Out of State schools charge higher tuition for non-resident students.
- Are meal plans required, am I required to live on campus – what will this cost?

General Information:

- **Campus & Location:** Big or small? City or rural? Do I want a lively campus or more personal attention?
- **Distance:** Stay close to home or explore somewhere new?
- **Type:** Public or private?
- **Outcomes:** What are the graduation, employment, and retention rates?
- **Size & Classes:** What is the average freshman class size, student body/campus size, and student-to-teacher ratio?
- **Housing:** Are freshmen required to live on campus?
- **Flexibility:** Are flexible scheduling and study abroad options available?
- **Campus Life:** Are there sports and extracurriculars I'm interested in? Does the campus feel like a good fit? Can I see myself here for four years?

Financial Aid

- **Scholarships:** Does the college offer **merit or non-academic scholarships**? What are the requirements?
- **Loans:** Are loans available?
- **Work-Study:** Is a **work-study program** available? How does it work?

Additional Resource:

Admissions Requirements for USG Schools <https://www.usg.edu/>

Make a list of potential schools. Plan to apply to at least 3 colleges:

- **Safety** – student's core GPA and test scores are above the college's freshman profile.
- **Target** – student's core GPA and test scores match the college's freshman profile.
- **Reach** – Student's core GPA and test scores are below the college's freshman profile OR the school is **HIGHLY COMPETITIVE.**

Different Types of GPA

1

Cumulative Weighted GPA (Allatoona GPA)

- Located on your Allatoona HS transcript.
- Includes EVERY course you've taken for school credit.
- Calculates an extra 0.5 quality points for Honors courses.
- Calculates an extra 1.0 quality point for AP courses.
- NOT typically what colleges use for admissions.

2

Cumulative Unweighted GPA (Allatoona GPA)

- Located on your Allatoona HS transcript.
- Remove any extra weight you received for taking Honors or AP level courses.
- Still includes ALL courses taken for high school credit.
- NOT typically what colleges use for admissions.

3

HOPE GPA (NOT Allatoona GPA)

- Located on GaFutures.org.
- Includes only grades earned in the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and World Language.
- Quality points for Honors are REMOVED.
- 0.5 quality point added to AP, International Baccalaureate (IB), and Dual Enrollment (DE) core courses (not to exceed 4.0).
- **NOT LOCATED ON YOUR ALLATOONA TRANSCRIPT!**

4

College GPA (NOT Allatoona GPA)

- Calculated by each college individually based on their standards for admission.
- May be different than weighted, unweighted, and HOPE GPA.
- Example: The average of 17 core classes: 4 English, 4 math, 4 science, 3 social studies, 2 world languages. Most GA colleges use this to determine admissions. If you have taken Honors or AP; they may leave the weight in, they may take it out or **recalculate** using their own formula. **Every school is different!**

ACT, SAT, & Other Testing Information

For a comparison of the ACT v. the SAT visit: <https://www.applerouth.com/blog/digital-sat-vs-act-test>

What About Test Scores?

- Plan to take the SAT and/or ACT **BEFORE** Senior year. This will allow you extra time to retake a test if you need a better score.
- You will need to request your scores be sent via College Board (SAT) or Act. **THE COUNSELORS DO NOT SEND YOUR SCORES.**
- Most colleges will accept either test. Writing requirements vary by college. These tests may be required for admission to 4-year colleges. Students can take BOTH.

Test Preparation: You NEED to study BEFORE the test!

- SAT & ACT test prep: www.march2success.com
- SAT ONLY: www.khanacademy.org AND www.applerouth.com/services/test-prep/sat
- College Board Bluebook – SAT Practice Tests — Free, full-length **official SAT practice tests** that simulate the digital SAT and provide scores and feedback.
- College Board Student Question Bank — Thousands of official SAT questions that students can filter by subject, skill, and difficulty.
- ACT Free Practice & Prep — Official ACT site with **free practice tests**, subject-specific questions, quizzes, daily questions, and study guides.
- Check the Allatoona Counseling website for additional options such as the AHS PTSA SAT Prep Course.

2026–2027 SAT® & ACT® Test Dates

College Admission Testing Dates

2026–2027 SAT® Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline
Sept. 12, 2026	August 28, 2026
Oct. 3, 2026	September 18, 2026
Nov. 7, 2026	October 23, 2026
Dec. 5, 2026	November 20, 2026
Mar. 6, 2027	February 19, 2027
May 1, 2027	April 16, 2027
June 5, 2027	May 21, 2027

Registration deadlines: Verify with the official testing organization.

2026–2027 ACT® Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline
Oct. 17, 2026	September 11, 2026
Dec. 12, 2026	November 16, 2026
Feb. 27, 2027	January 22, 2027
Apr. 10, 2027	March 5, 2027
June 12, 2027	May 7, 2027
July 10, 2027	June 4, 2027

Registration deadlines: Verify with the official testing organization.

Register for the SAT at <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/registration>

Register for the ACT at <https://www.act.org/content/act/en-georgia.html>

ACT, SAT, & Other Testing Information

Fee Waivers:

- Test and application fee waivers are available to economically disadvantaged 11th and 12th grade students.
- Parents/guardians can apply for Free/Reduced lunch at <https://www.cobbk12.org/foodservices/family-meal-application-information>

SAT Fee Waiver	ACT Fee Waiver
2 Free SATs	4 Free ACTs with or without the optional writing
Unlimited Score Reports to colleges	Free access to The Official ACT online course
Waived college application fees at participating schools (If you have already tested, the fee waivers are in your college board account.)	Free score reports for up to 6 colleges Waived college application fees at participating schools

Test Optional? What Does That Really Mean?

While some colleges and universities are test-optional, many are NOW requiring standardized test scores again. Don't assume—**do your research!** Check each school's admissions requirements carefully to find out if submitting SAT or ACT scores is necessary for your application.

Test scores will continue to be required for the Zell Miller scholarships in accordance with the State of Georgia requirements.

Other Tests You May Need to Take

Accuplacer	Placement exam for two year & technical colleges. You can schedule to take the test at your chosen college. May be required for careers in Public Safety.
ASVAB	Aptitude/career exam required for entrance into the military that determines your eligibility for military jobs.

Postsecondary Options: 2-Year/Technical College

Research Technical Colleges in the State of Georgia using the Technical College System of Georgia website:

<https://www.tcsg.edu/>

The Pros of Attending a 2-Year or Technical College

- Attending a 2-year community or technical college can help save money.
- It is a GREAT stepping-stone! Helps you adjust to college course work and stay close to home for a slower transition (if a 4-year college is your goal). You can take transferable core classes towards a bachelor's degree. Example Chatt Tech and KSU Link Program.
- You can earn a Certificate, Diploma, or an Associate's Degree.
- 2-year and technical colleges have many career training opportunities! And offer a quick employment pathway to certain careers.
- Your high school GPA and standardized test scores are not as heavily weighted for admission.
- Smaller class sizes!

Financial Aid Opportunities include:

- HOPE Grant
- HOPE Career Grant
- Zell Miller Grant
- <https://www.gafutures.org/federal-aid-scholarships/>

Hope Career Grant

- The HOPE Career Grant can be the boost a student needs to get started on a rewarding career in a well-paying job, and without accumulating a lot of student debt. It also helps Georgia employers by creating a pipeline of skilled workers they can hire well into the future.
- To be eligible for the HOPE Career Grant, students must first qualify for and receive the HOPE Grant. The two grants together can cover all tuition in **specific programs of study**.

You may be required to take the Accuplacer Exam:

ACCUPLACER EXAM: Computer Adaptive College Placement Test

- Used for admission to 2 Year and Technical Colleges (in place of SAT or ACT).
- Scheduled through the individual college.
- Evaluates skill levels in reading, writing and math.
- 3 Integrated Components: Placement Assessments, Diagnostic Assessments and Skill Building Support.
- Immediate results.

What can I do if my GPA isn't high enough to get into my dream college?

- Consider taking classes at a different school, perhaps a junior or technical college. Your GPA starts over when you begin college, you can start fresh then transfer.
- Once you earn 30 college credit hours, you can apply as a transfer student to a different school.
 - More information on applying as a transfer student:
<https://www.usg.edu/information/prospective-students/>
- You can take courses that are guaranteed to transfer to a school that is part of the University System of Georgia. More information here: Georgia Transfer [Georgia Transfer \(gatransfer.org\)](http://gatransfer.org) *Be sure to check with the school you are interested in transferring to for specific transfer guidelines.

Financial Aid Information

Grants & Scholarships	• Sources: Government, College, Private (business & organizations) • Merit based or need based
Loans	• Must pay back - with interest • Each loan has a different set of terms and conditions • Pay attention to how much you'll need for college, monthly payments, and how much you'll have to pay on interest
Work Study	• Students have a job on campus • Money earned helps to pay for school

Financial Aid Tips

- Are you interested in a major not offered in GA and going out of state doesn't seem possible?
 - Look into **Academic Common Market**. This program gives you the opportunity to study in a specialized field at an out-of-state college and pay in-state tuition rates.
<https://www.sreb.org/academic-common-market>
- **FAFSA Information:** <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
 - Complete the FAFSA as soon as possible in your senior year.
 - Students apply for HOPE scholarship programs through FAFSA completion.
- **Scholarships:**
 - Apply early and often!
 - Put together a resume and prepare a personal statement so you are ready to apply.
 - Create a notebook to keep track of all information.
 - Start local – Look at all Local Scholarships in SchoolLinks.
 - Check with your employer and your parent's employer for different scholarship opportunities.
 - Check organizations you are involved with in your community.
 - **Check SchoolLinks under Colleges – Scholarship Matching – Scholarship Opportunities Based on Specific Criteria (including local scholarships).**
- **Undocumented Students**
 - Financial aid requirements are different for undocumented students. There may be additional options provided by specific colleges. It is the student's responsibility to contact the college directly.

Hope Scholarship Programs

Hope Scholarship

- Covers a portion of tuition!
- Be a U.S. citizen or meet eligible non-citizen requirements.
- Be a Georgia resident for at least one year.
- Georgia high school graduate with a minimum 3.0 HOPE GPA as calculated by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC).
- Be in compliance with Selective Service registration requirements.
- Must have a minimum of a 3.0 HOPE GPA upon graduation.
- Must have your SSN updated in the CCSD student record.
- Must earn a minimum of 4 full rigor credits from the academic rigor course list prior to graduating from high school. **You can also review the HOPE Rigor Required Course Listing here:** <https://www.gafutures.org/media/apofcfmn/rigor-list-september-2025.pdf>
- Which courses are weighted for HOPE?
 - Honors courses do not earn additional quality points toward the HOPE GPA
 - AP, IB, and Dual Enrollment core courses earn .5 additional quality points, up to a 4.0
- **Review your HOPE transcript on GAFutures.org.**

Zell Miller Scholarship

- Requires 3.7 core high school (HOPE) GPA as calculated by GSFC (www.gafutures.org).
- Currently requires a 1200 SAT Math and Reading or a 25 ACT composite in one test sitting.
- Must earn a minimum of 4 credits from the academic rigor course list prior to graduating from high school.
- Pays 100% tuition for a two year or four-year degree.
- Must graduate from a GA high school.
- Must be a GA resident for at least one year. Meet the postsecondary institutions Georgia Residency requirements. Meet U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements.
- Be in compliance with Selective Service registration requirements.
- Must maintain 3.3 in college. Students can drop to HOPE if GPA is lower than 3.3.

Hope Grant

- Be a U.S. citizen or meet eligible non-citizen requirements. Be a Georgia resident for at least one year.
- No initial GPA requirement; 2.0 required after the first 30 hours. No test score requirement.
- Technical certificate or diploma.
- Must have a high school diploma or GED.
- Be in compliance with Selective Service registration requirements.
- Covers a percentage of tuition.

Zell Miller Grant

- No initial GPA Requirement; Requires 3.5 college GPA for grant eligibility.
- Does not require minimum test score.
- Covers 100% tuition (retroactively covers previous semester once 3.5 GPA is earned) for certificate or diploma at technical college.
- Must graduate from a GA high school.
- Must be a GA resident for at least one year. Meet the postsecondary institutions Georgia Residency requirements. Meet U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements.
- Be in compliance with Selective Service registration requirements.

Hope Career Grant

- Enroll in certain high-demand certificate and diploma programs at a Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) School.
- HOPE Grant and Zell Miller Grant eligibility requirements apply.
- Award amount: Awards are a fixed amount per term based on the program and number of hours enrolled; approved programs and award amounts available on GAFutures.org.
 - Example 9 or more credit hours – \$500/semester
 - 3-8 credit hours – \$250/semester
 - 1-2 credit hours – \$125/semester

State Scholarship Programs

For the most up-to-date information on HOPE and Zell Miller scholarships and HOPE Grant, please visit <http://bit.ly/AHSHOPEinfo> or scan the QR code below.

Please note, your HOPE GPA is based on ALL English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Language classes. This GPA is NOT on your Allatoona transcript.



Dual Enrollment

What is Dual Enrollment?

- Dual Enrollment (DE) is a Georgia funded program that allows 11th and 12th graders to take college courses that can simultaneously count toward high school and college requirements.
- The Dual Enrollment program covers tuition, mandatory fees and required textbooks.
- The goal of Dual Enrollment is to increase college access and completion and prepare students to enter the workforce with the skills they need to succeed.
- For detailed information regarding the dual enrollment program in the Cobb County School District visit: <https://www.cobbk12.org/page/42474/dual-enrollment>

General Requirements

To qualify for the state-funded program on GAFUTURES, a student must meet these criteria:

- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Meet Georgia residency requirements.
- Be enrolled in grades 10 through 12 at an eligible Georgia high school or home study program.
- Be under 22 years old.

Where do most Buccaneers Dual Enroll?

- Kennesaw State University: <https://www.kennesaw.edu/dual-enrollment/index.php>
- Chattahoochee Technical College: <http://www.chattahoocheetech.edu/deeligibility/>
- Check out GAFutures to see all the schools that participate in dual enrollment.

What should I do if I'm interested in participating in dual enrollment?

- Research admissions requirements for the college you're interested in attending for DE.
- Know application **deadlines** for individual schools (some are early).
 - The Allatoona DE deadline is earlier than the colleges.
 - If you are considering dual enrollment for senior year (fall or spring), you MUST submit an intent form during registration in the spring.
- Take SAT/ACT/Accuplacer (if required).
- Look into full-time and part-time options.
- Talk to your parent/guardian about this experience.
- Determine if you are ready for college level work and responsibilities.
- Consider challenges...
 - Activities during and after the school day
 - Transportation
 - Rigorous college level classes
 - Scheduling classes at college and high school
- Dual Enrollment Course Directory:

<https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/scholarships-grants/dual-enrollment/course-directory/>

Students are required to attend ONE mandatory information session. Sessions will be offered during Anchor Block on the following dates: 10/22/26, 11/18/26, 12/10/26, 1/13/27, 1/20/27, and 1/27/27. Please sign up in your Flex account.

Parent/Student Information Virtual Meeting: December 8, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.
Information to participate in the meeting will be sent out to parents and students.

Additional Resources

ACT (Admissions Test)	http://www.actstudent.org/
ACCUPLACER (Admissions Testing)	https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/student/practice
ASVAB (Military)	https://www.officialasvab.com/
ACADEMIC COMMON MARKET (Financial Aid)	https://www.sreb.org/academic-common-market
BIG FUTURE (College Planning)	https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/
COMMON BLACK APP (College Application)	https://commonblackcollegeapp.com/
COMMON APP (College Application)	https://www.commonapp.org/
COLLEGE DATA (College Planning)	http://collegedata.com/
COLLEGE ESSAY RESOURCES	https://www.collegeessayguy.com/ https://blog.collegeboard.org/how-write-college-application-essay https://www.commonapp.org/blog/their-stories-their-way-approaching-college-essay
FAFSA (Financial Aid)	https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa
FAIR TEST (Test Optional Schools)	www.fairtest.org
GA FUTURES (HOPE)	www.gafutures.org Create a username/password-must enter your social security number, date of birth, address & enter Allatoona High School as your school to view your HOPE GPA.
GAP YEAR ASSOCIATION	https://www.gapyearassociation.org/
HIGH DEMAND CAREER INITIATIVES (HDCI)	https://topstatefortalent.georgia.gov/explore-georgias-high-demand-career-list
NAIA (College Athletics)	www.naia.org
NCAA (College Athletics)	https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/
NET PRICE CALCULATOR (Financial Aid)	https://collegecost.ed.gov/net-price
SAT (ADMISSIONS TEST)	https://www.collegeboard.org/
TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM OF GA (Oversees all Technical Colleges in Georgia)	https://tcsgeu.edu/ Great resource for GA Technical colleges: admissions requirements, programs offered at each school, etc.
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GA (Oversees all Public Colleges in Georgia)	https://www.usg.edu/ Great information about all GA Colleges: avg GPA/Test Scores; degrees, admissions requirements, financial aid, etc.
VIRTUAL CAMPUS TOURS	https://www.campusreel.org/ https://www.youvisit.com/collegesearch/ https://campustours.com/