

CLASS OF 2027

SENIOR PARENT INFO NIGHT

1 September 2026





Welcome
Dr. Odom &
Mrs. Buhler!

ALLATOONA COUNSELORS



ANGIE WEEKS
A-D



ROBIN ROHRBACH
E-K



KRISTI TURNER
L-Re



OLIVIA MASTRANGELO
Ri-Z

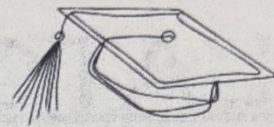


KERI CORTOLANO
Student Support



WENDY SHERER
CITA Counselor

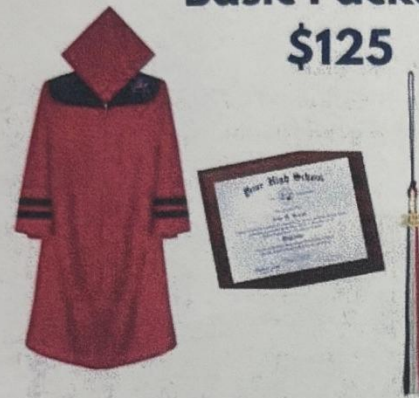
PACKAGES



Website will go LIVE for ordering on August 15th

Cap, Gown & Tassel \$80 *includes all items required to walk for graduation

Basic Package \$125



Cap & Gown Unit + req items
Diploma Plaque
School Souvenir Tassel

Spirit Package \$192



Cap & Gown + req items
Diploma Plaque
School Souvenir Tassel
Senior T-Shirt & Hoodie
Key Chain OR Lanyard

Senioritis Package \$212



Cap & Gown + req items
Diploma Plaque
School Souvenir Tassel
Key Chain OR Lanyard
Senior Crewneck and PJ Pant
Grad Cap NeeDoh

Bling Package \$220



Cap & Gown + req items
Diploma Plaque
School Souvenir Tassel
Bling Tassel
Sparkle Crewneck
Kendra Bracelet (Silver OR Gold)

Place orders by December 1st for Cap & Gown delivery on March 4th, 2027 -
atlantagrad.com



<https://atlantagrad.com/atl/caps-and-gowns-page/1>

Stay Connected

Email: Make sure you are checking
your CCSD email regularly

Allatoona High School Website:
<https://www.cobbk12.org/Allatoona>

CTLS: Check the Senior Class of 2027 tile in CTLS



@buc_counselors
@allatoonahighschool
@allatoona2027



How to Stay Informed

Parents:

- CTLS
- PTSA Newsblast
- Dr. Odom's Friday Newsletter
- Senior Page on Allatoona Website

Students:

- CTLS Senior Page
- Senior Page on Allatoona Website
 - SchooLinks
- Allatoona Instagram Pages

TONIGHTS AGENDA

MEETING GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

SCHOOLINKS

FUTURE PLANNING

THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Subject	Credits Required	Courses Required
English	4 Units	Literature and Composition 1 Literature and Composition 2 Two additional courses
Mathematics	4 Units	Algebra I Geometry Advanced Algebra plus one additional Senior math course. <i>(Foundations of Algebra may be used as a fourth math course for graduation. However, four-year colleges/universities will require a Senior level math course.)</i>
Science	4 Units	Biology Physics or Physical Science Chemistry Earth Science, or Environmental Science plus one additional course
Social Studies	3 Units	World History US History Economics & Government
Health Personal Fitness	1/2 Unit of Each	
Foreign Language Fine Arts Career & Technical	3 Units	Recommendation is to take 3 courses from a single area. <i>(Two foreign language courses are required to enter four-year colleges/universities.)</i>
Local Electives	4 Units	
Total	23 Units	

INTRODUCING SCHOOLINKS

SchoolLinks is a delivery system and a college/career readiness platform that helps students explore their interests, discover career pathways, and plan for life after high school.

The SchoolLinks logo is displayed on a yellow rectangular background. It features the word "schoolinks" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font, followed by a stylized icon consisting of two interlocking loops.

MULTIPLE USES OF SCHOOLINKS

College Planning:

College Application Manager, College Search, Letters of Recommendation

Career Planning & Resume Building:

Explore Careers, Clusters, and Pathways

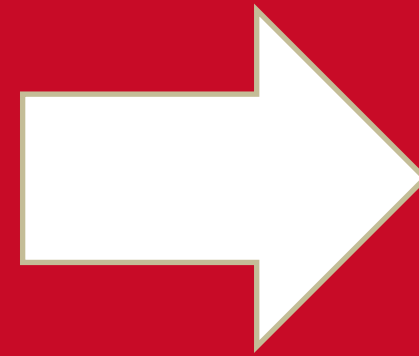
Self-Discovery:

Skills, Personality, and Interest Assessments

Scholarship Search:

College-specific, National Search, CCSD-specific, School-specific

STUDENTS LOGGING INTO SCHOOLINKS

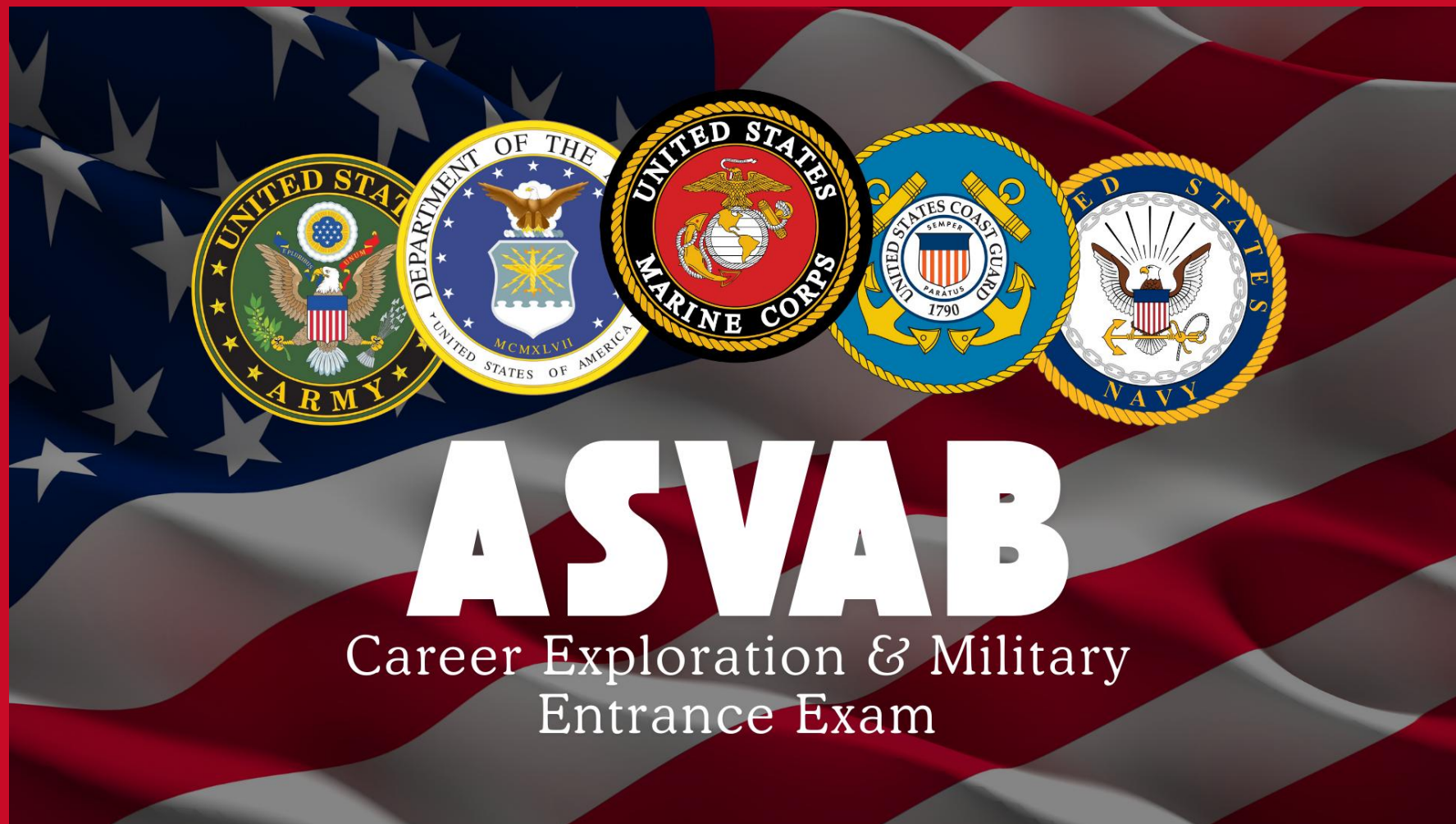




WHAT IS YOUR CHILD'S POST SECONDARY PLAN

- Military service
- Workforce
- Specialty school
- Technical school
- Two year college
- Four year college
- Other (Mission Field, gap year, etc)

MILITARY/ARMED FORCES



- Do some research at <https://www.todaysmilitary.com>
- High School Diploma is preferred/required
- Take the ASVAB test at AHS or MEPS
- Make contact with branch recruiter
- Request your final transcript in May.



ON THE JOB TRAINING VERSUS APPRENTICESHIPS

On the Job Training	Apprenticeship
Short Period of Time	Takes 1-6 years to learn the job from someone in the field
Structured hands on training	Most skilled trades: HVAC, Electrician, cosmetology
Trained by a peer or supervisor	Often requires formal licensure
Typically don't require tests for certification/licensure	May also require formal classes to learn the job



Two Year Colleges

& Technical Colleges



Chattahoochee Tech

Georgia Highlands College

Technical Colleges with housing:
North Georgia Tech and South
Georgia Tech

Technical College System of Georgia

<https://www.tcsg.edu>

2 YEAR COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES

- 1 Two-year school requirements:
2.0 Core GPA, plus all GA requirements
- 2 Technical college requirements: High
School Diploma or GPA
- 3 See if the SAT/ACT, Accuplacer Exam, or a
placement test is required. Check with each
school
- 4 Accuplacer preparatory material:
<https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/>

I PLAN TO GO TO A 4 YEAR COLLEGE!

WHAT DO I DO NOW?!



POINTS TO CONSIDER



Check admission requirements by visiting college websites

GPA admission requirements vary from school to school

Weighted and Unweighted GPAs will be reported on CCSD transcript

Class rank is NOT included on transcripts or reported on Secondary reports

Some colleges want students who show an interest in their school

REACH, MATCH, AND SAFETY

REACH SCHOOLS

Apply to 1 or 2

“**Reach schools**” are those where your academic credentials fall below the school’s range for the freshman class.

TARGET SCHOOLS

Apply to 2 or 3

“**Target schools**” are schools where your academic credentials fall within or perhaps slightly exceed the school’s range for the freshman class.

LIKELY SCHOOLS

Apply to at least 1

“**Likely schools**” are schools you will almost definitely get into because your academic credentials are much better than the typical range for their freshman class.

OTHER FACTORS TO CONSIDER

**Size and
Diversity**

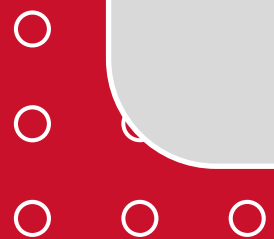
Location

**Academic
Programs**

**Campus
Life**

**Graduation
and
Retention
Rates**

**Financial Aid &
Scholarship
Opportunities**

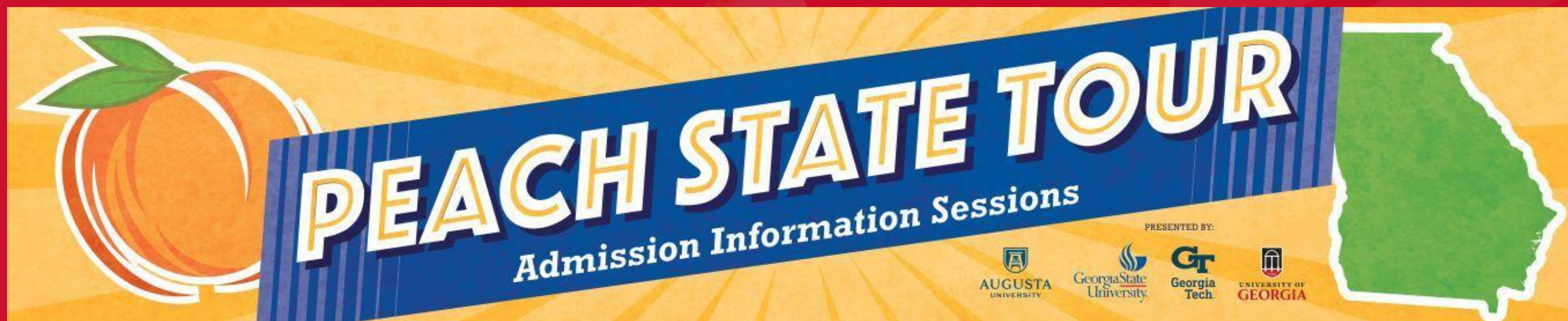


GEORGIA MATCH

GEORGIA Match helps students and families see what colleges they are eligible to attend based on their HOPE GPA through 11th Grade

- Simple way to explore college options and plan next steps
 - Students still need to apply!
 - Students personalized GEORGIA MATCH colleges will appear in their GA Futures Dashboard.
-
- Students will receive their GEORGIA MATCH letters from the GSFC/GA Futures in October!





GEORGIA STATE, AUGUSTA STATE, GEORGIA TECH & UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Virtual

Wednesday, September 2: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 9: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Georgia Financial Aid Session

Tuesday, September 15: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

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- ○
- ○ ○

<https://www.peachstatetour.org/>

COLLEGE CASE STUDY AND COLLEGE FAIR



Monday,
September 14th
from 5pm To 8pm
at Walton High
School

<https://www.scholartrek.com/cobb>

COLLEGE VISITS AT ALLATOONA!

College visits at Allatoona during lunch provide students an opportunity to:

- Introduce themselves to a college rep-the rep may be the one who reads their application
- Come prepared to ask thoughtful questions-great way to make a good first impression and show demonstrated interest
- Students can view College Rep visits on SchooLinks and the Allatoona Home Page!

THE APPLICATION PROCESS



APPLICATION DEADLINES

Regular Decision

- Deadline date established by the institution

Early Decision I & II : Binding

- Cannot apply **ED** to other colleges, can only apply regular decision.
- If accepted, must attend (BINDING)

Early Action: Non-Binding

- Can apply early to other colleges, can apply for regular decision

Single Choice Restricted Early Action: Non-Binding

- Cannot apply early to other colleges, can apply for regular decision

Rolling Admission

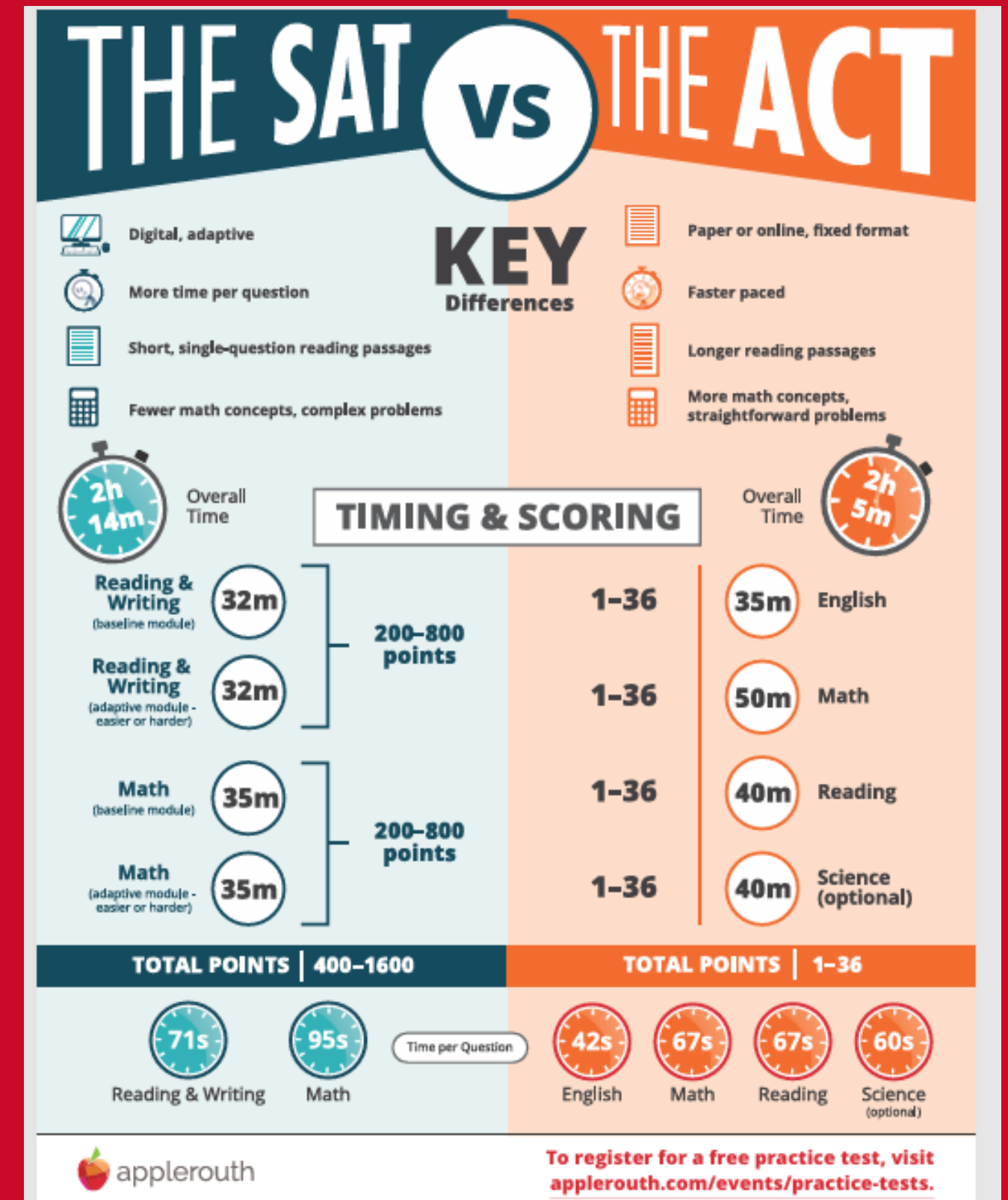
- Open admission, decisions are given throughout the year, not at a specific time

Priority Deadline

- Similar to rolling admissions, but priority is given to those applicants who meet the earlier priority deadline

COLLEGE ADMISSION TESTS

- A college's standardized testing policy will be clearly explained on their website
- Registration for upcoming [SAT](#) and [ACT](#) dates
- SAT/ACT Scores
 - If a college requires an official SAT/ACT score, these scores must be sent directly from the testing agencies website. Counselors DO NOT send test scores.
 - Electronic sending of scores can take a few weeks, so plan accordingly
- Some colleges will allow students to self-report scores



TEST OPTIONAL POLICIES



- For colleges that are test optional for Fall 2027 Admission
 - Students may submit test scores if they believe it will strengthen their application
 - Submitting test scores may not be required for test-optional colleges (pay attention to GPA requirements for these schools)
 - Colleges may place greater emphasis on other parts of the application (e.g., GPA, essays, activities)
 - Always check each college's website for updated test optional policies and admission criteria!

COMMON APP

The Common App is a free admission application that applicants may use to apply to any of the 1,000+ member colleges and universities

Each college charges its own application processing fee

Students must:

1. [Create](#) a Common App account
2. Add colleges to Common App
3. Then the student matches their Common App account to SchooLinks account



STEP BY STEP PROCESS

1. Select what colleges you're applying to
2. Determine application types: Common App, Direct to Institution
3. Submit your college applications – your “package” (may include essays and/or a resume)
4. Send your test scores via College Board/ACT
5. Request recommendations (if needed)
6. Use SchoolLinks – our “delivery” system. Students must:
 - Add colleges
 - Match your Common App (if using the Common App system)
 - Invite teacher recommenders (if recommendations are needed)
 - Complete Senior Brag Sheet
7. Request initial transcripts through the Counseling Office





WAIVING FERPA

WAIVING YOUR RIGHT LETS COLLEGES KNOW THAT YOU DO NOT INTEND TO READ YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS, WHICH HELPS REASSURE COLLEGES THAT THE LETTERS ARE CANDID AND TRUTHFUL.

SOME RECOMMENDERS MAY DECLINE TO WRITE A LETTER FOR YOU IF YOU DO NOT WAIVE YOUR RIGHTS. CHECK WITH YOUR COUNSELOR OR TEACHERS TO SEE IF ANY OF THEM FOLLOW SUCH A POLICY.

REQUESTING TRANSCRIPTS

2 STEP PROCESS

STEP 1

Make sure every college you are applying to is listed in the College Applications Manager (CAM) in SchoolLinks.

- Applying through Common App: Your colleges will automatically appear in CAM after you link you Common App
- Applying directly to a college (not using Common App): You must manually add each college to CAM before requesting your transcript.

STEP 2

- YOU MUST SIGN YOUR TRANSCRIPT CARD & PAY \$2 PER TRANSCRIPT, IN THE COUNSELING OFFICE
 - Cash or Check only
- FOR COMMON APP DOCUMENTS, YOU MUST LINK YOUR COMMON APP

BOTH PARTS OF THE ABOVE PROCESS MUST BE COMPLETED OR TRANSCRIPTS WILL NOT BE SENT.



UGA TRANSCRIPT UPDATE

UGA has requested all applicants submit their GA Futures transcript. If you are applying to UGA, your counselor will take care of sending both your common app school report and transcript, as well as your GA Futures transcript. Students must still request and pay for their initial transcript. Cobb County has disabled the option for students to request and send their own transcripts.



When Common App asks you to send your transcript through GA FUTURES, select YES. You do not need to self-report your grades.

TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS

- Allow at least 2 weeks for teachers to complete their recommendation portion of your application.
- Ask the teacher you would like to write the recommendations BEFORE you submit the request in SchoolLinks
- Students invite their teachers to upload and send letters of recommendation in SchoolLinks

Remember to WORK BACKWARDS! If a deadline is 10/15 then make sure you request a recommendation before October 1st!

Check if a letter of recommendation is required. If the college does not accept one, DO NOT send one! Only send when the colleges request.



The screenshot displays the 'College Applications' interface for Southern Methodist University. The main page shows the application status as 'In Progress' and a table with columns for Method, Type, Deadline, and Formulas. A modal window titled 'Select the recommendation type' is open, allowing users to choose between 'General (Most common)' and 'College-specific' recommendations. Below this, a section titled 'Select a teacher to complete a recommendation for Southern Methodist University' includes a search bar, a list of previously requested teachers (e.g., 'AT at@sl.com'), and a list of other teachers (e.g., 'Aaron M. Moore, A.Moore@seacounselor.com'). A red box highlights the search bar, and another red box highlights the note at the bottom of the modal: 'Counselor recommendations are automatically requested if required by the college.'

Students can search for a teacher or manually enter a teacher's name if it is not in the list.

The teacher will be alerted via email of the request.

NOTE: Counselor recommendations are automatically requested *if required by the college.*



FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS



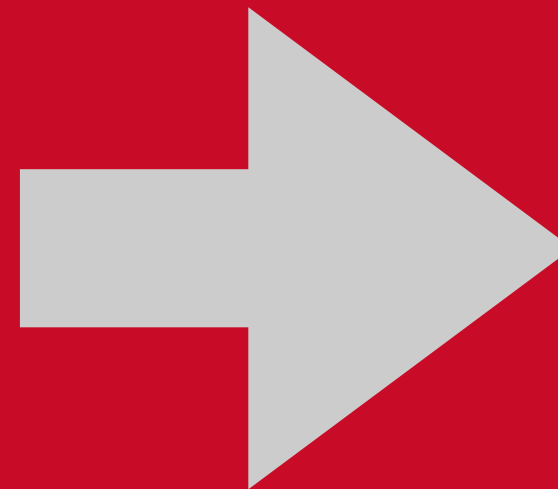
FINANCIAL AID



- Financial Aid helps students pay for college
- Types of Financial Aid
 - Scholarships
 - Grants
 - Student Loans
 - Work Study
- Scholarships and grants do not have to be repaid
- Student loans **MUST** be repaid (the amount borrowed + interest)



**Free Application for
Federal Student Aid**
<https://studentaid.gov>



**APPLICATION WILL
AVAILABLE
IN
OCTOBER**



SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Different types of scholarships:**
 - Academic, community service, athletic, identity based, need based, military
- Check the scholarship resources in SchoolLinks!
- Check the colleges website and other search engines.
- Pay Attention to deadlines!

Where to find scholarships:

- SchoolLinks
- GAFutures
- College/University Financial Aid Office Websites
- Online Search Engines (ex: FastWeb)



HOPE AND ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIPS

- **HOPE Scholarship**

- 3.0 GPA for core academic courses (English, Math, science, social studies, and world language)
- 4 HOPE Rigor Courses

- **Zell Miller Scholarship**

- 3.7 GPA for core academic courses
- 1200 on SAT (1 Sitting) and/or 25 on ACT (1 Sitting)

Remember for both HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships

- HOPE GPA is calculated by GSFC and found on GA Futures
- HOPE GPA is not listed on the Allatoona Transcript
- [Click here](#) for the HOPE Rigor List
- [Click](#) to learn more about the HOPE & Zell Miller Scholarship

We must have your student's Social Security Number on file to submit academic records for HOPE eligibility!



VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS

[Click here](#) for detailed information about Allatoona's service hour program

Seniors are grandfathered into the Service Hour Requirements for this school year.

Submit your service hours by April 16, 2027!!



WHAT'S NEXT?

- Stay tuned for a Financial Aid night presented by the Georgia Student Financial Commission!

- Watch your Graduation Credits

23 Credits to Graduate

- Counselors are meeting with Seniors now through the end of September!
- REACH OUT TO YOUR COUNSELOR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS!!