



Harrison High School Class of 2017

Junior Year and Beyond

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Know Your Personal Stats!

Compare your personal stats against the average (and minimum) GPA and admission test scores for your school(s) of interest. How do you measure up?

_____ = My Weighted GPA

_____ = My HOPE/Core GP.

_____ = My SAT score

_____ = My ACT score



Take advantage of

WWW.GACOLLEGE411.ORG

- 1) View your **HOPE GPA**
- 2) **APPLY** to Georgia colleges
- 3) Send **TRANSCRIPTS** to Georgia colleges
- 4) **COMPLETE FAFSA** and apply for **HOPE**

My GACollege411:

Username: _____

Make sure your username is appropriate as college reps may see it.

Password: _____

Step 1

Are you on-track to graduate?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Classes I need to graduate:

* If you plan to attend a USG institution, you will need the following:

- 2 credits of the same world language
- credit for Algebra II and another math beyond that

Step 2

What will you do post-graduation?

- ☐ I have an idea of what I want to do after I graduate. (Go to Step 3.)

My career interest is:

- ☐ I'm unsure of what I'd like to do after I graduate. (Go to page 3.)

Helpful Hint: Determine your career interests!

Step 3

What should you do to prepare for post-graduation?

Choose a post-graduation path (check one):



☐ College



☐ Military



☐ Workforce

*Questions about the information in this packet? Schedule an appointment with your counselor.

Countdown to Graduation: Junior & Senior Year Timeline

	JUNIOR YEAR	SENIOR YEAR
September – December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Create an account at www.gacollege411.org. <input type="checkbox"/> Study/Practice for the SAT/ACT or COMPASS. <input type="checkbox"/> Attend the Quest College Fair Tuesday, March 14 at Harrison High School from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. <input type="checkbox"/> Look for other local college fairs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ www.gaprobe.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Begin the college application process. <input type="checkbox"/> Continue scholarship searches. <input type="checkbox"/> Re-take SAT/ACT (if necessary). <input type="checkbox"/> Send transcript to colleges. Two ways to send: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Counseling office (\$2.00 per transcript) <p style="text-align: center;"><u>OR</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ www.gacollege411.org for free
January & February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Register for the SAT/ACT. <input type="checkbox"/> Begin your career search. <input type="checkbox"/> Research scholarships. (It's not too early!!!) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for HOPE and free federal aid by completing BOTH the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) & GSFAPPS (both are located at www.gacollege411.org).
March – June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Take the SAT/ACT (HHS Code 111734) www.collegeboard.org OR www.act.org 	GRADUATE IN MAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Research & visit colleges! <input type="checkbox"/> Research scholarships! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pursue your post-graduation plans!

Determining Your Career Interests

Learning about your career interests and your abilities will help provide you with direction for life after high school graduation!

Tip #1: Learn about yourself!	Tip #2: Start broad and then narrow!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What are your interests? What subjects do you enjoy? What gets you excited? What do you love to do? ➤ With whom do you enjoy working? ➤ What's your ideal work environment? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Once you identify a field of interest, you can research specific career options within that field. ➤ One thing to pay attention to is where jobs are available. What is the job outlook for the career you are considering?

Use the resources listed below to help you learn about your career interests.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Career Possibility			
Next step after graduation	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical College <input type="checkbox"/> Two-Year College <input type="checkbox"/> Four-Year College <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Workforce	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical College <input type="checkbox"/> Two-Year College <input type="checkbox"/> Four-Year College <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Workforce	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical College <input type="checkbox"/> Two-Year College <input type="checkbox"/> Four-Year College <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Workforce

Resource 1:

www.CareerCruising.com

- ☐ Use your **access card** to log in. See your counselor if you don't have your login information.
- ☐ Click **Assessments**.
- ☐ Use **Matchmaker & My Skills, Ability Profiler, Learning Styles** to find careers that might interest you.
- ☐ Use the **"Careers"** tab to explore careers. Complete the career table above.

Resource 2:

www.GACollege411.org

- ☐ Create an account on GACollege411.
- *Note:** College officials will see your username so create a name that is appropriate.
- Username:** _____
- Password:** _____
- ☐ Use the **"Career Planning"** section to:
 - **"Learn about Yourself"**
 - **"Explore Careers"** → Use **"Career Finder"** in conjunction with your results from the "Learn about Yourself" section to choose career possibilities. Consider factors such as education, money and outlook, skills, your characteristics, and career facts.

Research Your Career's Occupational Outlook

Joining the Military



- ☐ **Learn** more about the military. **Decide** if you're ready to join, and **discuss** your decision with a parent or guardian.
- ☐ **Go to** <http://www.military.com/Recruiting/Home/>.
- ☐ **Choose** the right path for you.
- ☐ **Meet** with a recruiter.
- ☐ **Take the ASVAB** (Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery). Go to <http://www.military.com/ASVAB>.
- ☐ **Visit the MEPS** (Military Entrance Processing Station) with a recruiter & complete a physical, select a MOS (Military Occupational Specialty), and join the branch of choice. Go to <http://www.mepcom.army.mil/>
- ☐ **Request** final transcripts in May. Transcripts sent through the counseling office cost \$2 each.

Branch	Website	Phone Number
U.S. Army	http://www.goarmy.com	1.800.USA.ARMY
Army National Guard	http://www.nationalguard.mil/	1.800.GO.GUARD
U.S. Navy	http://www.navy.com	1.800.USA.NAVY
U.S. Air Force	http://www.airforce.com	1.800.423.USAF
U.S. Marine Corps	http://www.marines.com	1.800.MARINES
U.S. Coast Guard	http://www.gocoastguard.com	1.800.424.8883

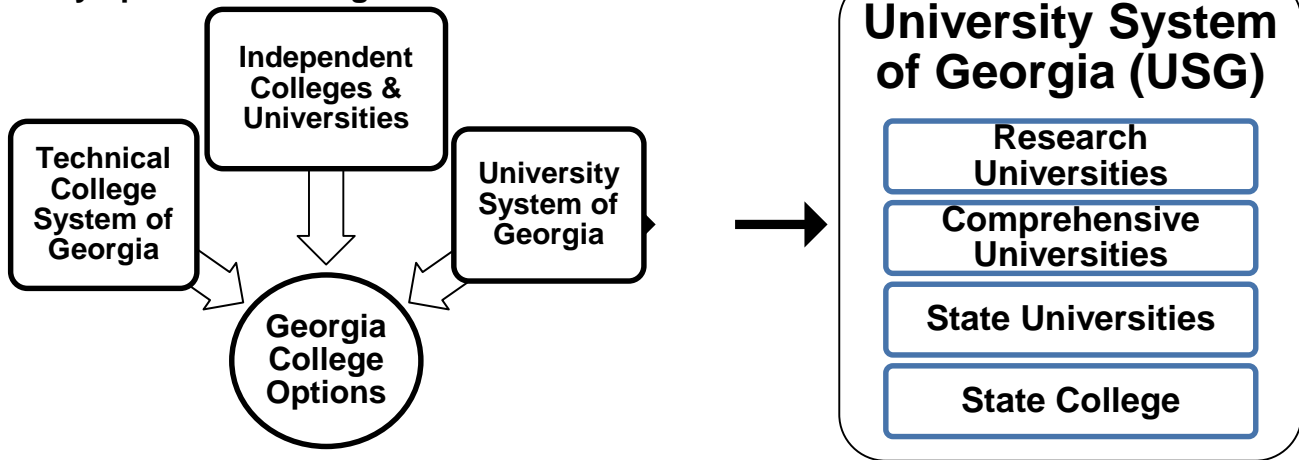
Entering the Workforce

- ☐ **Decide** what type of work you would like to pursue.
- ☐ **Visit** www.GACollege411.com, and choose "Get a Job" under the "Career Planning" tab. Also visit www.careercruising.com, and choose "Employment," or visit www.fastweb.com, and choose "Career Planning" to get to the "Job Search" section.
- ☐ **Create a resume** on GACollege411.
- ☐ **Find references** to include on your resume. (Make sure you ask someone's permission before including them as a reference!)
- ☐ **Look** for job openings and internships on GACollege411 and on www.internships.com, **attend** career fairs, and **search** want ads and websites like www.monster.com and www.ajcjobs.com.
- ☐ Complete and submit **applications**.
- ☐ **Prepare** for interviews by researching potential employers so you can ask 3 questions during the interview.
- ☐ **Interview**. Before interviewing, know what to wear, know the company, arrive early, bring a resume.
- ☐ Make sure to **send a thank you note** or email after the interview.



Overview of College Options – Measuring Up

What are my options for college?



- Technical schools: <https://tcsgeorgia.edu/colleges.php>
- Private schools: www.georgiacolleges.org
- USG schools: www.usg.edu/institutional

Which colleges are realistic options for me?



- **Know your** various types of **GPA** (college, core, HOPE, and cumulative (weighted and unweighted)) and your **test scores**.
- **Know** the following for **your schools** of interest: minimum requirements, the average high school GPA, and test scores for the most recent freshman class.
- **Compare** your stats with the minimum requirements and averages for your schools of interest. How do you measure up?

Researching College Options – Minimum Requirements High School Graduation vs. College Admissions

HIGH SCHOOL GRAD REQUIREMENTS	COLLEGE ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS
➤ Determined by Georgia Department Of Education	➤ Often greater than graduation requirements (even in GA) i.e., math or foreign language
➤ Tracked by you, your teachers, & your school counselor	➤ Tracked by you – it's your responsibility to find out what the school requires
➤ <u>Must</u> be met <u>before</u> you earn a diploma	➤ Must take SAT or ACT (4 Yr Colleges) or COMPASS (2 Yr and Tech in GA)
	➤ Meeting minimum admissions requirements <u>does not guarantee</u> admissions

Overview of College Options – Measuring Up

How do my GPA and SAT scores compare to USG schools? (www.usg.edu/research/college_readiness)

Institution	Type	Fall 2014 Average GPA	Fall 2014 Average SAT		
			V + M	V	M
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	State College	3.10	908	457	451
Albany State University	State Universities	2.93	882	447	434
Armstrong Atlantic State University	State Universities	3.26	1013	518	496
Atlanta Metropolitan State College	State College	2.71	COMPASS scores used.*		
Bainbridge College	State College	2.89	COMPASS scores used.*		
Clayton State University	State Universities	2.99	943	476	466
College of Coastal Georgia	State College	3.05	927	469	458
Columbus State University	State Universities	3.09	986	489	498
Dalton State College	State College	3.21	922	467	454
Darton State College	State College	2.79	COMPASS or SAT/ACT scores used.*		
East Georgia State College	State College	2.82	COMPASS scores used.*		
Fort Valley State University	State Universities	2.84	874	445	430
Georgia College & State University	State Universities	3.49	1158	584	575
Georgia Gwinnett College	State College	2.79	COMPASS scores used.*		
Georgia Highlands College	State College	2.89	COMPASS scores used.*		
Georgia Institute of Technology	Research University	3.78	1403	679	724
Georgia Perimeter College	State College	2.73	COMPASS scores used.*		
Georgia Regents University	Research University	3.26	1035	520	515
Georgia Southern University	Comprehensive University	3.27	1113	557	556
Georgia Southwestern State University	State Universities	3.25	986	498	488
Georgia State University	Research University	3.41	1073	537	536
Gordon State College	State College	2.88	864	440	425
Kennesaw State University	Comprehensive University	3.24	1085	547	538
Middle Georgia State College	State College	2.97	462	468	930
Savannah State University	State Universities	2.77	847	428	419
South Georgia State College	State College	2.93	COMPASS scores used.*		
University of Georgia	Research University	3.77	1257	628	629
University of North Georgia	State Universities	3.25	1016	512	505
University of West Georgia	Comprehensive University	3.15	959	485	474
Valdosta State University	Comprehensive University	3.17	996	504	491

NOTE #1

Many schools have minimum GPA & test score requirements. Check a school's website for details.

NOTE #2

The USG requires a minimum high school GPA of 2.0 based on the 17 CPC.

NOTE #3

Schools that are part of the USG may set higher minimum standards for high school GPA and test scores.

NOTE #4

If your GPA or test scores are below the average or the minimum standard, consider starting at a technical school or 2-year school.

Choosing a College- Factors to Consider

Consider the following information that may influence your decision making.

☆ Location ☆

In-state or out-of-state? How far from (or close to) home would you like to attend college?

☆ Size ☆

What is the size of the student body?
What is the physical size of the campus?

☆ Facilities ☆

What are the academic facilities like?

☆ Financial Aid ☆

What are the deadlines for financial aid? What forms are required? What percentage of the student population received aid? What scholarships are available? Are there any part-time employment opportunities?

☆ College Expenses ☆

What is the cost of tuition, room and board? What is the estimated total budget for attending a particular school? Are there application fees or deposits required?

☆ Housing ☆

What are the residence hall requirements? What housing options are available on- and off-campus? What types of housing are available, and what size are the options available? What meal plans are available?

☆ Admission Requirements ☆

What are the admission deadlines? Are there early action and/or early decision deadlines? What tests are required (e.g., ACT, SAT, ACCESS, COMPASS)? What are the average test scores, GPAs, and ranks of students who are admitted? Are there any special requirements for admission?

☆ Academics ☆

What majors are offered? Are there any special requirements to graduate or participate in certain academics? Who is the school accredited by? What is the student-to-faculty ratio? What is a typical class size?

☆ Environment ☆

Do you want to attend a technical, two-year, or four-year school? Do you want to be in a rural, urban, or suburban setting? What is the location and size of the nearest city? Is the student body all-male, all-female, or co-ed? Is there a religious affiliation?

☆ Activities ☆

What clubs and organizations are available? What sororities and fraternities are there? What athletics and intramurals are available?

Things to Know About Your Colleges of Interest (Research & Ask)

Admissions Information

- What are the admission requirements?
- What is the typical profile (Average GPA/test scores) of an accepted freshmen from last year?
- Do you use weighted or un-weighted GPA for admission?
- Do you consider extra-curricular activities, work experience, community involvement in your decision-making process?
- Do you consider the rigor of my schedule?
- Do you require letters of recommendations from teachers and/or counselors?

Application Information

- What is the application fee?
- What is the deadline for my application?
- When will the college let me know of their decision?
- Do you offer Early Decision or Early Action?

Expenses

- How much should I budget for tuition, books, room/board?
- Am I required to buy a meal plan?

General Information

- Is the college state or privately owned?
- What is the average class size in the freshmen class?
- Are freshmen required to live on-campus?
- How are roommates chosen? What if I don't get along with my roommate?
- Can I bring my car? Is it easy to park on campus?

Financial Aid

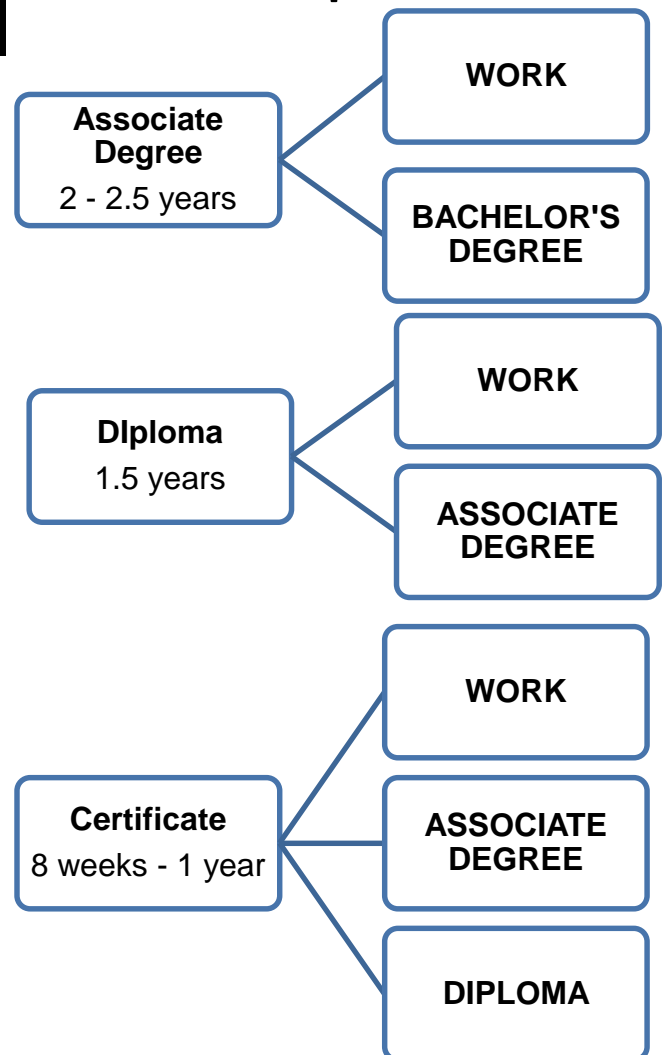
- Do you offer tuition scholarships? What are the requirements?
- Do you offer scholarships that are not academic based?
- Are there loans available from your college?
- Do you have a work-study program? How does it work?
- Do you require financial aid forms in addition to FAFSA?

Starting at a Technical School

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

- Consider taking classes at a different school, perhaps a technical school. You can start fresh with your GPA, and build it up.
- Once you **earn 30 hours of college credit**, you can apply as a **transfer student** to a school that is part of the University System of Georgia. (See the following link for more information on applying as a transfer: www.usg.edu/policymanual/section4/C328/#n4213.)
- One option when attending technical schools is to take **TAG classes**. TAG stands for "Transfer Admission Guaranteed." TAG classes are guaranteed to transfer to schools that are part of the University System of Georgia.
- List of TAG classes: www.chattahoocheetech.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Transfer-Agreement-Chart.pdf
- Taking classes at a technical school can help you **save money** during your first year or two of college!

Next Steps...



What are the admission requirements for schools in the Technical College System of Georgia?

Per <https://tcsge.edu/admissions.php>, the admission requirements for technical schools in Georgia are as follows:

- A **GED or high school transcript**
 - All applicants must submit the scores from the **SAT, ACT, or COMPASS** exam.
- Some programs have additional requirements. **Contact the technical college offering your specific program to learn if any additional requirements apply.**

Researching College Options

☐ I **DON'T** know where I want to apply to college:

- ☐ Check the college bulletin board and blog to see which colleges are visiting Harrison.
 - ☐ Attend college fairs in the Cobb County area.
 - ☐ Log into:
 - www.GACollege411.org: Choose “College Planning.” Choose “Explore Postsecondary Schools.”
 - www.careercruising.com*: Choose: “Schools”
- *Use the username and password on the Career Cruising Access Card provided by your counselor.

☐ I **DO** know where I want to apply to college:

- ☐ Choose 3 – 5 colleges. Schedule college visits. Plan to apply 30 days before deadlines!

College Name:			
Website			
Deadline to Apply**			
Average GPA			
Average ACT Score			
Average SAT Score			

*TERMS TO KNOW	Regular Decision —No application decisions are made until after the set deadline.
	Rolling Decision —Application decisions are made as they are received until classes are filled.
	Early Action —Application decisions are made earlier than a regular decision date.
	Early Decision —An admission decision is made before the usual notification date. There’s a catch! An early decision plan is <i>binding</i> —if you’re accepted, you agree to attend the college & withdraw all other applications.

College Name			
Application Procedures †Not every college requires an application fee ††Not every college requires recommendations	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit application <input type="checkbox"/> Pay fee† <input type="checkbox"/> Submit test scores <input type="checkbox"/> Send transcript <input type="checkbox"/> Counselor Rec†† <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Rec††	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit application <input type="checkbox"/> Pay fee† <input type="checkbox"/> Submit test scores <input type="checkbox"/> Send transcript <input type="checkbox"/> Counselor Rec†† <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Rec††	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit application <input type="checkbox"/> Pay fee† <input type="checkbox"/> Submit test scores <input type="checkbox"/> Send transcript <input type="checkbox"/> Counselor Rec†† <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Rec††

College Application Quick List***:

*****See next page for detailed information about each step in the college application process.**

College Application Process

- ☐ **APPLICATION:** Complete **before** sending your test scores and/or transcript. Almost every school prefers an ONLINE application.

All schools in Georgia can be applied to through www.GACollege411.org.

Submit applications 30 days before the deadline! Pay any fees.

- ☐ **COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS:**

If your plan is to attend a...	Take the...	Practice at...
4-YEAR UNIVERSITY	ACT and/or SAT	ACT: www.ACT.org SAT: www.collegeboard.com
2-YEAR or TECHNICAL COLLEGE	ASSET or COMPASS*	http://www.compass-test-practice.com/

* ASSET or COMPASS tests are given on the college's campus.

- ☐ **SEND** your test scores to your potential colleges. Only OFFICIAL scores from College Board or ACT are accepted by the colleges.

When you register to take either the SAT or ACT, you are allowed **4 free score reports**.

However, you only have a **limited amount of time** to use the free score reports.

Make sure you take advantage or you will have to pay up to **\$12 per report** to send your scores.

Are you qualified for **Free and Reduced Lunch** at Harrison?

If so, ask your counselor about ACT, SAT, and college application **fee waivers**.

- ☐ **TRANSCRIPTS:**

Have you submitted your college application?

Yes

Request your transcript!

No

Do not send a transcript until your application is submitted.

Are you applying to an in-state or out-of-state school?

In-State

Send your transcript for free through www.GACollege411.org.

Out-of-State

Transcript requests are made through the counseling office and cost \$2.00 each.

- ☐ **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:**

Does your school require a recommendation form or letter?

**(NOTE: Don't wait to request a recommendation!
Request it while you are completing your application!)**

Yes

Complete the "Recommendation Letter Packet" available in the counseling office.

No

Request your transcript only!

2016 College Admissions Test Date

SAT			ACT			SAT* vs. ACT	
Basic Information	The new SAT is an achievement test, measuring what a student learned.		The ACT is an achievement test, measuring what a student learned.			1600	36
	Register @ http://sat.collegeboard.org .		Register @ www.actstudent.org .			1560	35
	HHS Code: 111734		HHS Code: 111734			1510	34
	Perfect score: 1600 National average: TBD		Perfect score: 36 2014 national average: 21.0* <small>*Eng – 20.3, Math – 20.9, Reading – 21.3, Science – 20.8</small>			1460	33
	Each section is worth 200-800 points, which are <u>added</u> together for a combined score.		Each subject is worth 1-36 points which are <u>averaged</u> together for a composite score.			1420	32
	There is no penalty for guessing, so leave nothing blank.		There is no penalty for guessing, so leave nothing blank.			1380	31
3 subjects: Critical Reading, Math, Writing		5 subjects: English, Math, Reading, Science, Writing			1340	30	
Test Date	Regular Deadline (w/ writing: \$54.50)	Late Fee (\$80.50)	Test Date	Regular Deadline (w/ writing \$54.50)	Late Fee (\$78.50)	1300	29
Jan 23	Dec 28	Jan 12				1260	28
Mar 5	Feb 5	Feb 23	Feb 6	Jan 8	Jan 15	1220	27
May 7	Apr 8	Apr 26	Apr 9	Mar 4	Mar 18	1190	26
Jun 4	May 5	May 25	Jun 11	May 6	May 20	1150	25
						1110	24
						1070	23
						1030	22
						990	21
						950	20
						910	19
						870	18
						830	17
						790	16
						740	15
						690	14

**Start of the new SAT. Cost is \$54.50 (\$43 without essay). For more information on the new SAT visit <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat>

COMPASS/ASSET	
Chattahoochee Tech Test Information	View the COMPASS testing lab hours at the link provided. http://www.chattahoocheetech.edu/enrollment/placement-testing/
Georgia Highlands Test Information	Use the link provided to register for the COMPASS exam. The cost of the test is \$20. www.highlands.edu/site/assessment-center-compass-placement-test
Preparatory Material	www.act.org/compass/sample/ www.act.org/asset/pdf/guide.pdf

Financial Aid Information

What are my options for financial aid?

Grants & scholarships	Sources: Government, College, Private (Business, Organizations)	Research and apply for scholarships (GACollege411 or www.fastweb.com) beginning in August.	Visit our College & Career Center Scholarship bulletin board at www.harrisonhigh.org
Loans	Must pay money back -- <u>with interest.</u>	Each loan has a different set of terms and conditions.	Pay attention to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how much you'll need to take out for college • how much your monthly payments will be • how much you'll have to pay on interest while you are in school
Federal Work-Study	Student has job on campus	Money earned helps to pay for school	

How do I qualify for scholarship money from Georgia's HOPE Scholarship Program?

Scholarship	Zell Miller Scholarship	HOPE Scholarship	HOPE Grant
Funding	Covers 100% tuition (not including books or fees) at a public college in Georgia. (A lump sum is provided for private schools in Georgia.)	Covers a portion of tuition at any Georgia public 2-year college or 4-year university (not including books or fees).	Covers a portion of the tuition based on the number of credit hours being taken in a technical certificate or diploma program at an eligible college.
HOPE Rigor Requirement	Earn four credits in courses considered to be rigorous.	Earn four credits in courses considered to be rigorous.	NONE
GPA Requirement	Must have a 3.7 HOPE GPA* (calculated by GSFC)	Student must graduate with a HOPE GPA* of 3.0	NONE
Test Score Requirement	(1) scored at least a 1200(Reading & Math) on a single administration of the SAT; OR (2) scored a 26 on a single administration of the ACT;	NONE	NONE
Other Requirement	OR (3) was named Valedictorian or Salutatorian.	NONE	Must have high school diploma or GED. Must be a Georgia resident for at least 12 months.
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HOPE GPA based on <u>all</u> classes taken in the following <u>core</u> subject areas: English, math, science, social studies, world languages, and some specific CTAE courses • Check www.gsfc.org for more information • View your HOPE GPA on www.GACollege411.org. Click "<u>Your HOPE GPA</u>" (on the right side of webpage)*** 		

How do I apply for financial aid from the government and my college?

- **Complete the FAFSA** and **apply for HOPE** after January 1. (Go to "Financial Aid Planning" on GACollege411, and choose "Applications.")

Information for Prospective College Athletes

- ☐ For NCAA information, go to www.eligibilitycenter.org. Choose "Enter Here" for "NCAA College-Bound Student-Athletes." Choose the "Resources" link at the top of the screen that appears.
- ☐ For NAIA, go to <http://www.naia.org/>. Using the dropdown menu for the "About the NAIA" tab, choose "Play Sports in College." Look under the "Quick Links" section.
- ☐ Talk to your coach or the Athletic Director, Matt Moody