

COLLEGE GUIDANCE INFORMATION

TCS WEBSITE (www.tcsweb.org):

Check the counseling section of the site for resources such as SAT/ACT testing dates, college planning checklists, local scholarship deadlines, etc.

BRAG SHEET:

Create a resume of your extra-curricular activities, achievements/accomplishments/awards, volunteer/community service, work experience, and church involvement.

SAT/ACT COLLEGE ENTRANCE TESTS:

Take the SAT/ACT multiple times. You cannot simply show up for these tests and expect to score well.

You must prepare! Be sure to take advantage of one of the free test prep opportunities. Students nationwide who achieve high scores participate in these courses.

- SAT – Register at www.collegeboard.com
- ACT – Register at www.actstudent.org
- March2Success.com (offers free SAT and ACT prep)

Aim for a combined critical reading/math score of 1,000 or better; many internal college scholarships are offered based upon SAT/ACT scores.

COLLEGE CHOICES:

- Check the individual college admission and financial aid requirements.
- Call the admissions department and get an admissions counselor assigned to you.
- Be aware of application and financial aid deadlines for each college to which you are applying.
- Most financial aid applications are due by April 1. Competitive scholarship applications usually have a much earlier deadline, depending on the college.

COLLEGE VISITS:

You are allowed a maximum of three (3) visits per year during both your junior and senior years. These visits will not count as school absences if completed by May 1st. Make sure the college you visit provides you with an excuse for the day.

GACOLLEGE411 (www.gacollege411.org):

Create an account (give the counseling office your username and password) and apply for:

- ACCEL – if taking Dual Enrollment courses with Middle Georgia College your senior year
- HOPE Scholarship – if planning to attend a college in Georgia
- Free Application for Federal Student Financial Aid (FASFA)

Make sure to use your name **as listed on your birth certificate**, and enter your correct social security number when registering for colleges, scholarships, federal assistance, etc.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY:

If you are planning on participating in NCAA I or II level athletics, you will need to register with the NCAA at www.eligibilitycenter.org.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

When filling out scholarship applications, you will be asked to have a teacher and/or others write a letter of recommendation. Be courteous and ask these people at least 2-3 weeks in advance if they would be willing to write a letter of recommendation.

BE PROACTIVE AND WORK TOGETHER:

Both the parents and the son/daughter need to be proactive in applying and communicating with the college admissions office...the high school guidance office can get you started with basic information; however, the process then switches to the student and the college admissions office.