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# *A-Z Senior Post-Secondary Glossary of Terms: Class of 2019*

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*Looking Towards the Future from the  
Top of Eagle Mountain!*

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As a senior, preparing to make post-secondary choices, student services have compiled this reference guide, which we hope will aid you in your college search and planning. In the following pages, you will find an alphabetical list of terms that you may encounter during your college search. We have also included some dates and other EHS Class of 2019 specific information for your benefit.

Please know that we are here to help, and we look forward to helping you with your post-secondary planning.

### EHS Counselors

1. **Academic Common Market:** For more than 35 years, the Southern Region Education Board’s Academic Common Market has enabled students to pursue specialized degrees (not available at Georgia Institutions) at out-of-state colleges for discounted (in-state) tuition rates. For more information and qualification requirements see:
  - [www.sreb.org/page/1304/academic\\_common\\_market.html/](http://www.sreb.org/page/1304/academic_common_market.html/)
  - [http://www.usg.edu/academics/academic\\_common\\_market/](http://www.usg.edu/academics/academic_common_market/)
  
2. **ACT:** This college admissions test is accepted by all state colleges and universities in Georgia as well as many private and out-of-state schools.
  - **Etowah HS will host the ACT during the 2018-2019 school year on October 27, December 8, February 9**
  - **Local Test Centers** – All Cherokee County High Schools are local test centers, as well as most schools in surrounding counties.
  - **Registration** – Registration bulletins, which contain helpful information, are available in the Counseling Office and on the ACT website. To register for the ACT, students should go online (EHS cannot register a student for an ACT): [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org).
  - **Registration deadlines** – See the chart below

### 2018-19 ACT Test Dates & Registration Deadlines

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	Complete Score Release**
September 8, 2018	August 10, 2018	August 11-26, 2018	September 18 - November 2, 2018
October 27, 2018	September 28, 2018	September 29 - October 14, 2018	November 13, 2018 - January 1, 2019
December 8, 2018	November 2, 2018	November 3-19, 2018	December 18, 2018 - February 1, 2019
February 9, 2019*	January 11, 2019	January 12-18, 2019	February 20 - April 5, 2019
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019	March 9-25, 2019	April 23 - June 7, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 4-20, 2019	June 18 - August 2, 2019
July 13, 2019*	June 14, 2019	June 15-24, 2019	July 23 - August 26, 2019

3. **ASVAB (ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY).** This aptitude test is available to any interested student and will be offered at EHS on Friday, October 26, 2018 at 8:15 am. Sign-up online at <https://tinyurl.com/EtowahASVABsignup2018> Although it is used for job placement by the military, it can give all students good information about their abilities.

4. **ACADEMIC GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA).** ETOWAH does not calculate GPA; we calculate Numeric Grade Average (NGA). Most colleges request a GPA on applications rather than the NGA which appears on the Etowah HS transcript. The Academic Grade Point Average is calculated by assigning points for grades that can be calculated on a 4.0 scale. A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0. The grades are converted to this numeric system and divided by the number of grades being calculated. Some colleges calculate all grades posted on a transcript; others may choose to only count core curriculum grades (English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Foreign Language classes). Students should be aware that bonus quality points awarded for AP and honors level classes will probably *not* be recognized by colleges and universities when calculating academic grade point averages *unless* it is their policy to factor honors & AP level courses for any student from any high school. Ask the college to verify how they will calculate your grades. GPA Calculators are available on the Internet and can be found with a google search.
5. **CLASS RANK.** Class rank is determined by the cumulative overall *weighted* numeric grade average (weighted NGA on the transcript). The student with the highest NGA is ranked #1; the second highest NGA has the class rank of #2 and so on. Class rank is an important indicator in college admissions, especially for more competitive colleges. Class Rank can be found on the Etowah HS transcript.

6. **COLLEGE ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS:**

**2-year Technical College System of Georgia.**

The Board of Regents, which governs the University System of Georgia's 2-year colleges and technical programs require entering freshman to graduate from an accredited high school to gain entry to a 2-year college or technical program. A minimum COMPASS, ACCUPLACER, ACT or SAT score will be required for admission. Two years of a foreign language is not required for admission.

**23 Credits Required for Graduation**

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|--|---|
| 4 Units of English: 9 <sup>th</sup> Lit & Amer. Lit required   | 1 Unit of Health (.5) and Personal Fitness (.5)   |
| 4 Units of Math: Algebra 1, Geometry & Algebra 2 required  | 3 Units of required electives: any combination of Foreign Language, Fine Arts and Career Tech |
| 4 Units of Science: Biology, Physical Science OR Physics, Chemistry, Earth Systems OR Environmental required | 4 Units of any elective chosen  |
| 3 Units of Social Studies: World History, U.S. History & Gov't/Econ required                                 |   |

**4-year University System of Georgia Colleges and Universities.**

The Board of Regents, which governs the University System of Georgia's 4-year colleges and universities requires entering freshman to complete a College Preparatory Curriculum (CPC) and graduate from an accredited high school to gain entry to a 4-year college/university. Minimum ACT and SAT scores and a Minimum High School GPA will be required in addition to the high school diploma.

**CPC REQUIRED COURSES**

- **4 units Mathematics:** Algebra, Geometry, Algebra 2 and a fourth approved unit of mathematics
- **4 units English:** Literature integrated with grammar and usage and advanced composition skills
- **4 units Science:** The four science units should include two courses with a laboratory component. Students graduating from a Georgia public high school should have at least one unit in biology, one unit of physical science or physics, one unit of chemistry, earth science or environmental science and a fourth science.
- **3 units Social Science:** Must include US History and World History
- **2 units Foreign Language:** Same language emphasizing speaking, listening, reading and writing (a unit refers to a Carnegie Unit and represents a full academic year of credit)

*\*These are minimum requirements & do not guarantee admission to a college or university. University System of Georgia CPC courses/units completed in middle-school grades are acceptable for meeting USG admission requirements. For more information visit: [http://www.usg.edu/assets/student\\_affairs/documents/Staying\\_on\\_Course.pdf](http://www.usg.edu/assets/student_affairs/documents/Staying_on_Course.pdf)*

**Minimum ACT & SAT Requirements**

	SAT		ACT	
	Reading	Math	English	Math
<a href="#"><u>Research Universities</u></a>	27	25	27	26
<a href="#"><u>Comprehensive Universities</u></a>	27	25	22	22
<a href="#"><u>State Universities</u></a>	25	24	20	20
<a href="#"><u>State Colleges</u></a>	24-26 (varies, may not be required)	22-24 (varies, may not be required)	16-19 (varies, may not be required)	17-19 (varies, may not be required)
<a href="#"><u>Two-Year Colleges</u></a>	Varies, may not be required.	Varies, may not be required.	Varies, may not be required.	Varies, may not be required.

Individual institution test score requirements are available online here:

[https://www.usg.edu/assets/student\\_affairs/documents/USG\\_Admission\\_Requirements.pdf](https://www.usg.edu/assets/student_affairs/documents/USG_Admission_Requirements.pdf)

7. **COLLEGE ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES.** College admissions representatives are a good source of information about the college and are the link between the college and the applicant. Students may speak with them by attending one of the PROBE College Fairs (See PROBE COLLEGE FAIRS), visiting college campuses or meeting with them when they visit the Etowah campus during lunch periods.
8. **COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCEDURE.** For each college to which you think you may apply, **read the application requirements thoroughly and completely before you begin.** Generally, the admissions process is found on the Admissions webpage of the university’s website. Look for the “Undergraduate,” “Prospective students” or “freshman” link. The requirements and process vary from college to college. Follow their instructions to apply.
9. **COLLEGE AND SCHOLASHIP ESSAYS.** Pruffread – Proofread – PROOFREAD!! AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS! Be who you are. Don’t change what you do to impress the college. Ask your friends how you come across – funny, serious, inquisitive, etc. That’s how you should come across in your essay. The essay should exemplify how you think, what you think about, and show how well you write.
  - Remember the intent of the essay question. It’s not about the “right answers.” Show your willingness to delve into topics, demonstrate intellectual curiosity, and show off your writing prowess.
  - **NO McEssays!** No five paragraph essays that contain mostly abstractions and unsupported generalizations. Pick a topic you are genuinely interested in. You cannot fake it! College admissions reps have read so many college essays they will see right through a contrived interest.
  - If you can put any other person’s name in your essay in place of yours and it makes sense, go back to the drawing board. Use anecdotes and stories from your life that are yours and yours alone. Detail is what differentiates one essay from another, one applicant from another.
10. **COMMON APPLICATION.** This is a comprehensive college application form used by 500+ independent colleges that is available online. Generally, you need only fill out one application to submit to any participating post-secondary institution. You may be required to complete a supplemental application for a college. For more information visit [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org).
11. **COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATION & COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATION FORM.** A counselor recommendation is a personalized letter of recommendation written by the school counselor on behalf of the student to help them gain college admission. Not all colleges require a counselor recommendation as a part of the application procedure. Read the college application completely and thoroughly to determine if there is a requirement for a Counselor Recommendation. Counselor Recommendation Packets are available in the counseling office (RM 3108).

Packets should be filled out completely and returned to counseling with 2 weeks' notice to complete the letter. A chart demonstrating deadlines is provided.

If the recommendation is due at the college by:	Then the request for the recommendation from your counselor must be made by:
Oct. 15, 2018 UGA & Tech STUDENT Early Action	Friday, September 28, 2018
November 1, 2018	Wednesday, October 17, 2018
November 15, 2018	Wednesday, October 31, 2018
December 1, 2018	Thursday November 8, 2018 (earlier due to Thanksgiving Break)
January 1, 2019 (UGA/GT STUDENT REG. DEADLINE)	Monday December 3, 2018 (earlier due to Exams, Winter Holiday)
January 15, 2019	Monday December 3, 2018 (earlier due to Winter Holiday)
ANY OTHER DATE	10 school days prior to the due date (please keep in mind that holidays and beginning/ending semester activities can cause delays)

**\*\*\*ALL REQUESTS FOR COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATIONS MUST BE ON THE RECOMMENDATION REQUEST FORM, AND RECEIVED IN THE COUNSELING OFFICE NO LATER THAN TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE!\*\*\***

12. **EFC (Expected Family Contribution):** EFC is the "magic number" of the financial aid process. This is the amount of money you and your parents are expected to contribute to paying for college. The EFC is based on the income and other financial assets of you and your parents.

The point of any financial aid form is to figure out your EFC. Calculating the EFC is not so simple, though, because it requires extremely detailed financial information about each applicant. That is where the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and other financial aid forms come in. The information from your completed financial aid form is plugged into a series of formulas to calculate how much money your family can afford to pay for college.

13. **FINAL TRANSCRIPT.** If you will be attending a college, university, technical institute, or other type of school next fall, that school will require that you send a final transcript to the institution as proof that you have graduated. Seniors will be told when to complete the request for final transcripts through the counseling department. Transcripts can be sent to participating colleges and universities in-state for free through GAFutures.org. Out of state transcripts can be sent using parchment.com for a \$5.25 fee. Final transcripts will not be sent unless they are requested. After you have graduated if you need a final transcript, you can request it through GAFutures.org, parchment.com or by completing the paper request form in the counseling office.

14. **FINANCIAL AID.** There are two types of financial aid: need-based and merit-based. Financial aid does not necessarily mean "free money." A financial aid package can include any combination of grants, loans, work-study, and EFC. The biggest mistake most families make is not completing a FAFSA. Parent income is only 1 of 7 pieces of information considered when constructing a financial aid package.

15. **FINANCIAL AID FORMS.** There are several forms which are used to apply for need based financial aid:
- **FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)** - This form is used by *all* colleges to determine eligibility for need-based financial aid. It is also used to establish eligibility for the HOPE Scholarship and HOPE Grant. Application is online at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>. The application for the school year 2019-2020 (your freshman year of college) will be available October 1, 2018, using 2017 tax information.
    - **GSFAPPS.** This application may be used in lieu of the FAFSA for HOPE Scholarship *if* your college accepts it. Check with the Financial Aid Office at your college for more information, they may require additional paperwork. This application may be found at [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org)
    - **CSS PROFILE** - This form is also required by *some* colleges as a supplement to the FAFSA. Check with the college's financial aid office about the requirement for completing the CSS Profile. Forms are available [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

16. **FRESHMAN INDEX NUMBER:** The University System of Georgia colleges and universities use a standardized calculation to determine appropriate college placement for students in the state of Georgia. This is known as the Freshman Index Number. The Freshman Index is calculated by combining the **core** high school grade point average (GPA on a 4.0 scale) with the highest earned SAT or ACT test scores. The high school GPA is calculated from the grades earned in the 17 Required High School Curriculum (RHSC) courses for those students graduating 2012 or later.

The following formulas are used to calculate a student's freshman index:

Formula for SAT Test Takers	Formula for ACT Test Takers
<b>Freshman Index =</b> (500 x High School GPA) + SAT Critical Reading + SAT Math	<b>Freshman Index =</b> (500 x High School GPA) + (ACT Composite score x 42) + 88

\*SAT formula is based on the old SAT (pre-March 2016) and you will need to convert to the comparable old SAT scores using the College Board concordance tables online

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/educators/higher-ed/scoring-changes/concordance>.

A full list of the individual institution requirements is available online here

[https://www.usg.edu/student\\_affairs/prospective\\_students/freshman\\_index\\_requirements](https://www.usg.edu/student_affairs/prospective_students/freshman_index_requirements)

17. **GAfutures.org.** This website is provided by the Georgia Student Finance Commission. The site provides students valuable information on college and career opportunities. Your HOPE GPA is found on this website.
18. **GRADE POINT AVERAGE.** See Academic Grade Point Average.
19. **GRADUATION CEREMONIES.** Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 4:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Woodstock.
20. **GRADUATION REGALIA AND ANNOUNCEMENT.** Visit Herff Jones to order online <http://www.herffatlanta.com> Herff Jones will visit the school in the Fall to take orders and answer questions for students as well.
21. **HONOR GRADUATES.** Any student completing high school with a *cumulative weighted* NGA of 89.5 or better (no rounding up from an 89.49) will be designated an honor graduate. Honor graduates will be announced during graduation practice and will receive an Honor cord to wear at graduation.
22. **HOPE GRANT.** The HOPE Grant program is for students attending a Technical College, *regardless of the student's high school grade point average or graduation date*. The HOPE Grant Award Amount will cover a portion of a student's tuition. Full-time enrollment is not required, but you must be making satisfactory academic progress to maintain eligibility. For more information, visit [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org)
23. **HOPE SCHOLARSHIP.** The HOPE Scholarship program is for students that have demonstrated academic achievement and that are seeking a college degree. Currently, the HOPE scholarship covers approximately 90% of tuition at Georgia's public colleges and universities. For the most up-to-date HOPE Scholarship information, please visit [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org).

- **Basic Eligibility**

All HOPE programs require students to meet basic requirements. An eligible student must:

1. Meet HOPE's U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements;
2. Be a legal resident of Georgia;
3. Meet enrollment requirements;
4. Be in compliance with Selective Service registration requirements;
5. Meet academic achievement standards;
6. Be in good standing on all student loans or other financial aid programs;
7. Be in compliance with the Georgia Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990;

8. Not have exceeded the maximum award limits for any HOPE program.

• **Program Eligibility**

To receive HOPE Scholarship funding, students must:

1. Meet **one** of the following academic requirements:
  - Graduate from a HOPE-eligible high school with a minimum 3.0 grade point average (as calculated by GSFC). [Details](#)
  - Receive a high school diploma through petition of the local school board, in accordance with O.C.G.A. §20-2-281.1, from a HOPE-eligible high school with a minimum 3.0 grade point average (as calculated by GSFC). [Details](#)
  - Graduate from an ineligible high school, complete a home study program in Georgia, or earn a GED and score in the national composite 75th percentile or higher on the SAT or ACT prior to high school graduation, home study completion, or earning a GED. [Details](#)
  - Graduate from an ineligible high school or complete a home study program in Georgia and then earn a minimum 3.0 cumulative postsecondary grade point average after attempting 30 semester or 45 quarter hours of college degree-level coursework for retroactive HOPE Scholarship payment. [Details](#)
  - Earn a minimum 3.0 cumulative postsecondary grade point average after attempting 30, 60, or 90 semester hours or 45, 90, or 135 quarter hours after high school graduation, home study completion, or receipt of GED. [Details](#)
2. Be enrolled as a degree-seeking student at a public or private [HOPE-eligible college or university](#) in Georgia.
3. Meet [academic rigor requirements](#). Beginning with students graduating from an eligible high school on or after May 1, 2015, students must complete a specific number of academically rigorous courses, as identified on the [Academic Rigor Course List](#), in addition to meeting the GPA requirements. This does not include students who received a high school diploma through petition of his or her local school board, in accordance with O.C.G.A. §20-2-281.1, nor does it apply to students graduating from home study programs.

24. **NCAA:** Potential student athletes who need to register with the NCAA Clearinghouse may do so online at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net). The NCAA will require official transcripts be sent once you are registered with the Clearinghouse. Students should discuss NCAA rules and eligibility with their coach and/or the EHS Athletic Director's office. The EHS Counseling Office is aware of NCAA eligibility rules, however, students are advised by the Counselors based on graduation and college admission requirements only. It is the responsibility of the student and parent to ensure that NCAA eligibility rules are being followed. PLEASE NOTE: APEX courses are not currently accepted by the NCAA.

25. **NUMERIC GRADE AVERAGE.** Cherokee County School District uses the numeric grade averages to rank students. Numeric grade averages are the sum of all grades with the total being divided by the number of courses taken. Extra points for honors and AP courses are included in the weighted numeric grade average. The weighted numeric grade average is the average that determines class rank.

26. **PARCHMENT.COM.** Parchment is a third-party vendor that electronically sends transcripts to in and out of state colleges.

27. **PROBE COLLEGE FAIRS.** Meet with college admissions reps at one of the local PROBE fairs listed below:

Day/Date	Time	Location
Monday, September 17, 2018	6-8 PM	Milton High School, Milton
Tuesday, September 18, 2018	6-8 PM	Marietta High School, Marietta
Thursday, October 18, 2018	6-8 PM	Cherokee High School, Canton

Find out the location of other PROBE Fairs at: <http://www.gaprobe.org/>

28. **SAT.** This college admissions test, given multiple times each year, is accepted by most colleges and universities. **Etowah HS will host the SAT during the 2018-2019 school year on October 6, November 3, March 9**



- Local Test Centers – All Cherokee County High Schools are local test centers, as well as most other high schools.
- Registration – Registration bulletins, which contain helpful information, are available in the Counseling Office. To register for the SAT, students should go online to <https://sat.collegeboard.org/register> (EHS cannot register a student for an SAT). Registration bulletins are in the Counseling Office. For registration deadlines, see chart:

<u>TEST DATES</u>	<u>TEST</u>	<u>Regular Registration</u>	<u>Deadline for Changes</u>
October 6, 2018	SAT & Subject Tests	September 7, 2018	September 26, 2018
November 3, 2018	SAT & Subject Tests	October 5, 2018	October 24, 2018
December 1, 2018	SAT & Subject Tests	November 2, 2018	November 20, 2018
March 9, 2019	SAT & Subject Tests	February 8, 2019	February 27, 2019
May 4, 2019	SAT & Subject Tests	April 5, 2019	April 24, 2019
June 1, 2019	SAT & Subject Tests	May 3, 2019	May 22, 2019

29. **SAT SUBJECT TESTS:** Some colleges require subject tests as a part of the admissions process. It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of each college’s requirement in this area. Students need take this test only if required by a college or university to which they are applying. Subject area tests are given at the same time and location as the SAT. See CollegeBoard.com for registration information.
30. **SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION.** To keep seniors aware of current scholarship information, the EHS Counseling Office posts scholarships on the [Counseling webpage](#), send alerts using Twitter @EHSStudServ. A binder is also available in the Counseling Office in room 3018 for students.
31. **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.** These numbers are used as student ID numbers by Etowah High School as well as most colleges. It is imperative that students check their transcripts to make sure that the correct social security number is on your transcript—ONLY THE LAST 4 DIGITS WILL BE DISPLAYED FOR SECURITY PURPOSES. **Incorrect numbers can cause significant delays in college acceptance and HOPE Scholarship qualification!** If the last four digits of your SSN are incorrect, please see Ms. Silvia Holmes in the Counseling office with your original social security card.
32. **TEACHER RECOMMENDATION.** If a college or scholarship requires a teacher recommendation, coordinate this **directly** with the teacher. Each teacher has their own process, so they will tell you what they need. **Always** provide the teacher with an envelope that is addressed and stamped to the admissions office or agency who should receive the teacher recommendation. We encourage students to follow up with a “thank you” note to the teacher when they have completed the recommendation.
33. **TRANSCRIPTS.** A transcript is a history of your academic record and Georgia Academic Assessments for grades 9-12. It also shows your numeric grade average and class rank. A profile of Etowah High School is always sent with the official transcript when sent from Etowah. Official transcripts are required for college applications. Transcripts

sent electronically through [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org) (Georgia schools only) are free. Paper copies must be ordered using the transcript request form found on the Counseling website, or in the Counseling office. Parents may NOT request transcripts for students who are over the age of 18. Electronic copies may be sent to out of state colleges using Parchment.com. Paper copies cost \$5.00 and Parchment copies cost \$5.25 each.

- **Official transcript** – Has a signature and the school seal. Required when applying to college. The Counseling Office can send it electronically (through GAFutures.org if a Georgia school), mail it directly to the college, or it can be given to students or parents in a sealed envelope.
- **Unofficial transcript** – no signature or school seal. May not be used to apply for college.

#### 34. **VERIFICATION OF LAWFUL PRESENCE:**

In October 2010, the Board of Regents passed Policy 4.1.6, Admission of Persons Not Lawfully in the United States, and Policy 4.3.4, Verification of Lawful Presence. Policy 4.1.6 states the following:

A person who is not lawfully present in the United States shall not be eligible for admission to any University System institution which, for the two most recent academic years, did not admit all academically qualified applicants (except for cases in which applicants were rejected for non-academic reasons).

Any student requesting to be classified as an in-state student for tuition purposes will be required to provide verification of their lawful presence in the United States in order to be classified as an in-state student. Learn more about these policies at [https://www.usg.edu/student\\_affairs/prospective\\_students/verification\\_of\\_lawful\\_presence](https://www.usg.edu/student_affairs/prospective_students/verification_of_lawful_presence)

#### 35. **WORK PERMITS.**

Applicants may access the system via the [website](#), and follow the instructions below: 1. Select the Child Labor quick link. 2. Scroll to the bottom of the page and select “Get youth Permit Online” then select Minor. 3. Enter personal information verify accuracy and click “Submit” 4. Print the Work Permit Data Sheet and bring to your employer to fill out the Employer portion. 5. Turn the Data Sheet, a copy of your birth certificate, and a copy of your social security card to the front office to be processed. Due to recent passage of State Law (HB366, 2015), new GA Department of Labor regulations went into effect July 1st regarding work permits. Moving forward, students who are 16 years or older will no longer be required to obtain a work permit prior to employment. The only exception to the new policy would involve students employed in the entertainment industry... work permits would be required for 16YOA and 17 YOA students in this category of employment. *Please allow 24 to 48 hours for the Work Permit to be processed.*

36. **Zell Miller Scholarship.** The Zell Miller Scholarship program is for students who have demonstrated academic achievement and that are seeking a college degree. Generally, to become eligible, a student must graduate from an eligible high school with a 3.70 GPA and a minimum score of 1200 in Language and Math on the SAT or earn a 26 on the ACT. See “Hope Scholarship”.

#### 37. **Z End! (almost)**

**COMMON BLUNDERS OF COLLEGE APPLICANTS.** *The Six Most Common Blunders of College Applicants.*

Advice from Jeremy Spencer, Former Director of Admissions at Alfred University: For more detail see:

<http://collegeapps.about.com/od/theartofgettingaccepted/a/app-mistakes.htm>.

- 1) Missing deadlines.
- 2) Applying for Early Decision when it’s not the right choice.
- 3) Using the wrong college name in an application essay.
- 4) Applying to college online without telling school counselors.
- 5) Waiting too long to ask for letters of recommendation.
- 6) Failing to limit parents’ involvement.

#### USEFUL CAREER/COLLEGE PLANNING WEB SITES

#### ❖ COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS

- [www.sat.collegeboard.org/register](http://www.sat.collegeboard.org/register): On-line SAT registration and test dates are available at this site. It also has college databases, a financial aid registration site, and career questionnaire plus career information.
- [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org): Register for the ACT. This site also provides “information for life’s transitions” including career planning, applying to college, and a financial aid need estimator.

❖ COLLEGE & CAREER INFORMATION

- [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org).
- <https://www.nacacnet.org/advocacy--ethics/initiatives/steps/> The National Association for College Admissions Counseling's "Steps to College" is loaded with good information.
- <https://www.usnews.com/rankings> (click on best colleges) Information about colleges, including rankings.
- [www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com)
- <http://www.bls.gov/ooh>: Occupational Outlook Handbook: Provides career information based on keyword searches and contains an index of occupations. Revised every 2 years, the Handbook describes what workers do on the job, working conditions, training and education needed, earnings, and expected job prospects in a wide range of occupations.

❖ FINANCIAL AID OR SCHOLARSHIPS

- [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) : Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), use this site to complete your federal financial aid application
- [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org): You can use this site to complete applications for GA colleges, research career planning, and financial aid. The electronic application for HOPE, GSFAPPS, is available at this site.
- [www.gsfc.ga.gov](http://www.gsfc.ga.gov): GEORGIA STUDENT FINANCE COMMISSION – Information on the HOPE Scholarship and other financial aid
- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com): Scholarship search database of over 350,000 scholarships.
- [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov) Information about financial aid, including links to other financial aid sites.
- <https://www.petersons.com/> With Best College Deals (for U.S. citizens looking for information on U.S. colleges) you get personalized financial aid guidance.

❖ TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

- [www.tcsg.edu](http://www.tcsg.edu): This website contains information about the technical colleges and programs offered in Georgia, as well as information about the HOPE Grant (specific to technical school students).

❖ UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

- [www.usg.edu](http://www.usg.edu): contains information about all public colleges and universities in the State of Georgia (Research, Regional, State Universities, State Colleges, and 2-year College)