

Academy for Classical Education Senior Year Timeline

August

1. Finish strong your senior year. Colleges, the military, your future employers will ask for your final transcript. You want your grades to be strong at the end.
2. Make sure you are on track to graduate. Are you scheduled for all of your required classes? Compare your schedule to the classes you still need to meet your graduation requirements.
3. Research your post-secondary options. Will you be attending college? Will you be joining the military? Are you going directly into the work force?
4. Check your HOPE GPA. You can find your preliminary HOPE GPA on your GAFutures account. Go to www.GAFutures.org to set up your account if you haven't already done so.
5. Continue to research colleges you may be interested in attending – do they have the programs you are interested in, what size college is right for you, how far is it from home, what is the total cost for one year? A good web site for getting information about colleges is www.gafutures.org
6. If you have not yet taken the SAT or the ACT, register to take one or the other soon. For the SAT, go to www.collegeboard.org ; for the ACT, go to www.act.org
7. Ask the teachers you would like to have write letters of recommendation now. Create a resume or complete the [student brag sheet](#) for the people writing your letters of recommendation. Include your goals, honors, activities (and positions held within those activities), work experience.
8. Check the requirements for all colleges to which you are planning to apply. Search for their freshman profile. Do you have the courses required for consideration for admission? Is your GPA in line with their freshman GPA? Are your SAT and/or ACT scores in line with their admission requirements?
9. A great source of college application information, ideas on how to finish your senior year strong, scholarships is <https://jlvcollegecounseling.com/> This web site also sends out a list every Saturday of scholarships.

September

1. SAVE THE DATE!

Tuesday, September 11th, 6:30 p.m., in the Large Dining Hall

Come and learn about applying for financial aid – HOPE, federal financial aid, grants vs. loans, Pell Grant. A representative from the Georgia Student Finance Commission will present information about various financial aids available and answer your questions.

2. Make a final list of colleges you will be applying to. Remember to request transcripts and letters of recommendation two weeks before the deadline. To request a transcript, complete the [transcript request](#) and give it to Mrs. Patel. The first three official transcripts are free, additional transcripts are \$3.00 each.
3. Make note of the deadlines for your applications to be completed. Be sure you have laid out a plan so that you can beat the application deadline.
4. Ask teachers to write letters of recommendation. Give them at least two weeks to write their letters for you. Give them a copy of your resume to help ensure that all your recognitions, outside work, volunteer time is addressed in their letter. This can be a formal resume or use the [student brag sheet](#) to give to them.
5. Complete a [counselor recommendation form](#) for the colleges for which you need a counselor recommendation. Submit this at least two weeks in advance.
6. If you have not yet taken the SAT or the ACT, register to take one or the other soon. For the SAT, go to www.collegeboard.org ; for the ACT, go to www.act.org
7. Remember most early decision or early action applications are usually due October 1 or November 1.
8. Begin to look at the applications – Are there essays to write? Do you need to ask for teacher and/or counselor recommendations? What supporting documents do you need to have ready to submit?
9. UGA or GA Tech's early action deadline is October 15th. Be sure to gather all the needed materials now so that you can meet their deadlines.

October

1. October 1st is the first day your family and you can begin the application for the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). This is the application you will need to complete in order to apply for federal and state grants, loans, and scholarships to help pay for each college. The web site is <https://fafsa.ed.gov/> . Be aware that there are

several web sites that sound similar and groups that will offer to help you complete the application at a cost to you. You should **not** pay for someone to complete this; it is a free application to complete.

2. Make a final list of colleges you will be applying to. Be sure to know the deadlines for the applications; what is needed from you, the counselor, and the teachers in order for the application to be considered complete.
3. As you write colleges essays, be sure to have someone else (a parent, a teacher, friends) read them as well. You want to be sure they are well-written, grammatically correct, and are addressing the topic of the essay.
4. If you have not yet taken the SAT or the ACT, register to take one or the other soon.
5. **October 24th – Seniors will take the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)**

The ASVAB is not only for students wishing to join one of the armed services, but also is a good way for students to get an idea of their strengths and what areas they need to strengthen.

November

1. **SAVE THE DATE!**

PROBE – College Fair

Tuesday, November 6th, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Middle Georgia State College

Rec/Wellness Center

PROBE, a college fair attended by representatives from both Georgia colleges and national colleges. This is a chance to talk with the representatives about the colleges that you are interested in. Student can pre-register at <http://www.gaprobe.org/>. Once registered, they can create a profile and print a barcode. At PROBE students will present their barcode to the college of their choice, who scan the barcode and quickly collect student information.

2. If you have not yet completed your FAFSA, do so. It is critical to know what financial aid you qualify for and how much financial aid.
3. If you have completed your FAFSA and have received your SAR (Student Aid Report), be sure to review it carefully. If there are any errors on any part of it, make the corrections and resubmit it.

4. Set a goal of completing your college applications before the end of December. Plan out all the steps you need to get done in November and December so that you can reach your goal.
5. Continue to research scholarships.
6. Contact the financial aid office at the colleges you are interested in attending for scholarships specific to that university.

December

1. Check to see if you are on track to submit all applications by the end of December. It's always better to beat a deadline, rather than meet a deadline.
2. If you have submitted applications, be sure to check your email for any updates from colleges and for requests for missing information.

January

1. If you haven't submitted your FAFSA, complete and submit that as soon as possible. Check with the colleges you are considering for any additional financial aid reports they may require on top of the FAFSA.
2. Check your email at a minimum of twice a week for any updates from the colleges to which you have applied. If there is any information they are requesting, get it to them as soon as possible.

February

1. Continue to search for scholarships for which you are eligible and complete the applications.
2. Check your preliminary HOPE GPA on your GAFutures account.
3. For males, you will need to register for the selective service, in order to be eligible for federal financial aid and for some state financial aid.

March, April, and May

1. Colleges, if they haven't already sent their decision letters, will begin to send these out.
2. As you get your acceptance letters, compare the financial aid packets from each college. Be sure you know all the additional fees (lab fees, transportation fees, orientation fees, etc) that need to be paid. If these aren't spelled out, ask the college financial aid office.

These fees can add up quickly and you need to know them when comparing the colleges.

3. May 1st – the deadline for most colleges for you to make your decision if you are accepting their offer for admissions. Know what you need to do in order to let them know you are accepting their offer – confirm via email, pay the commitment deposit, etc.
4. Review the AP scores required by the colleges to exempt classes. Find out how you need to let the college know of your scores.
5. Make sure you request your final transcript be sent to the college you will be attending in the fall.