

Dear Senior,

Welcome to your senior year! This year will be full of some of your “lasts”. (The last first day, the last football game, the last day of school, etc.) The year may go quickly as some of you will dread leaving friends and the comforts of home. For some, the year may drag on as you anticipate your future as an adult. No matter which way you feel, you need to be actively working on plans for next year.

This senior packet will be a valuable tool to use as you check off your graduation requirements, start applying for scholarships, colleges, technical school, apprenticeships, or a branch of the military.

Enclosed is the following information:

- SVHS Counselor Contact Card
- Graduation Credit Checklist
- ACT Testing Information
- FAFSA Information (including Selective Service information)
- Scholarship Information
- Senior College Essay Tips
- Letter of Recommendation Request Form
- Transcript Ordering through Parchment Information
- College Application Tracking Sheet
- NCAA Clearinghouse Information for future college athletes

The SVHS “Counselor’s Corner” Website will also have this information (except for the personal information). Please visit <https://www.tcass.net/domain/2030> to get this information and more.

SVHS Counseling also has social media for scholarship, CTE, and military information. Please follow me at:

Facebook: @SVHSCounselorsCorner

Twitter: @SVHS\_Counselor

Instagram: @SVHS\_Counselor

I hope that this is your BEST year yet! Please remember to keep pressing to your goals, and try not to let senioritis drag you down.

Wishing you all the best!

Amy A. Caudle

SVHS Counselor



## It's Your Senior Year! Now What?

Think about what will happen after graduation. Where will you be one year from now?

### 1) Research

- a. Careers – Occupational Outlook Handbook – <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>
- b. Schools & Scholarships
  - i. Fastweb (Most National Scholarships) - <http://www.fastweb.com>
  - ii. Mapping Your Future - <https://www.mappingyourfuture.org/>
  - iii. College Navigator – <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>
- c. Preview Days/Tours - 2 per year are excused; you will need to bring back proof of your attendance for your absence to be excused. Also, see virtual tours at – <http://ecampustours.com/>

### 2) Free Application for Federal Student Aid - <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>

- a. This is the application available to you **after October 1** that requires financial information from you and your parents. This is the application required to secure a **federal grant, Stafford Loan, Perkins Loan, and Work Study** program eligibility. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT EVERY SENIOR APPLIES FOR THIS** (even if you don't think that you will need it). This year's seniors may use your (and/or your parents) federal tax return to file. DO NOT use [www.fafsa.com](http://www.fafsa.com) it will charge you!!!
- b. Tell your parents that you must have your own and their taxes filed as soon as possible in January. Some money is awarded on a first come, first serve basis. In order to apply for all scholarships and grants, you must apply before June 1<sup>st</sup>. During your senior year of high school, please apply to all your college choices AND your FAFSA by **December 1<sup>st</sup>**!
- c. If you have any questions, please call 1-800-4-FED-AID.
- d. If you would like to see an idea of which federal programs for which you may be eligible, please visit: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/estimate>

### 3) Types of financial aid

- a) Grants – money that you receive but do not have to pay back (i.e. Pell Grants)
- b) Loans – money that you borrow and that you **MUST** pay back
- c) Scholarships – money that you receive because you have earned it
  - i) Academic – usually based on your GPA, your curriculum, and your ACT score
  - ii) Performance – you audition or tryout in fine arts, athletics, etc. You receive money based on your continued performance
  - iii) Character – you exemplify a positive character and have evidence to prove it
- d) Work Study – you have a job on the college campus, usually less than 20 hours at minimum wage. However, you do not pay taxes on this money. This is to help you pay for college expenses.

### 4) What YOU need to do in order to get information for life after high school:

- a. COME SEE ME! My email is [aacaudle@tcss.net](mailto:aacaudle@tcss.net)
- b. Get organized
  - i. Keep a folder or plastic box for all your college/technical school material.
  - ii. Know your deadlines and keep a calendar that you check regularly.

- iii. Develop a resume of your accomplishments, honors, classes work experience, etc. And keep it on a computer. Update it as the year progresses. Make sure that it includes everything you have done from the 9<sup>th</sup> grade on. It should be legible and very neat and orderly. If you would like an example, please visit my website at - <https://qrqgo.page.link/91ikS>
- c. Re-Take the ACT – <http://www.actstudent.org>
  - i. You will have to take this test in a different location. SVHS only offers 11 grade testing once per year. In order to find the code for your registration location, please visit:
    - 1. High School Lookup: <https://qrqgo.page.link/5Znhh>
    - 2. College Lookup: <https://qrqgo.page.link/1UZbY>
- d. Visit Schools. Check their websites for “Preview Days”. Call and make a reservation for a tour. Be prepared with thorough questions.
- e. TAKE CARE OF YOUR GPA!!!! - Work through senioritis!!!
- f. Males 18 and older MUST register with the Selective Service in order to be eligible for federal aid. Visit <https://www.sss.gov/> to register as soon as you have your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- g. If you intend to play athletics in college, you MUST register with the NCAA. You can do this on their website at <https://www.eligibilitycenter.org>. The cost is \$90. Students who are eligible for an ACT waiver are also eligible for an NCAA clearinghouse fee waiver. Also, you must have your ACT scores sent directly from ACT to the NCAA. The code number is 9999. Some colleges use NAIA clearinghouse. Ask your coach which one is right for you. The registration website for the NAIA is <https://play.mynaia.org>.
- h. Letters of Recommendation – Give a copy of your resume and your LOR Request form to the person you ask to write the letter at least TWO WEEKS before you need the letter. Do not use a relative as a reference. Use someone who knows your character AND your work ethic (i.e. teacher, coach, pastor, counselor, etc.) Fill out the Letter of Recommendation form completely.
- i. Get involved, especially in the area of community service. Show that you are a well-rounded, engaged, and interesting person.
- j. Establish an email account to use for school and post-secondary correspondence. It should be an account that you access regularly and that has a name that indicates you are a responsible, mature person (NOT [stinkieloser@gmail.com](mailto:stinkieloser@gmail.com))

- 5) **Students with Disabilities** – Colleges and Universities should have a disabilities coordinator. If you have a disability that significantly affects your life you should be sure to contact this person at the school for help.
- 6) **College Board Profile** - Some schools require you to complete the College Board Profile form. Make sure to find out if your school(s) do and complete that information on time. Registrations will be accepted beginning **October 1<sup>st</sup>**. For more information or help, contact [help@cssprofile.org](mailto:help@cssprofile.org) or call toll free 1-800-239-5888.
- 7) **Expenses** - Senior year has many, many expenses and it's easy to get caught up in all the memorabilia offered to you for sale. Talk with your parents about your budget and what you really need, really want, and are able to pay for. You're going to have graduation invitations, cap and gown, yearbooks, pictures, admission fees, etc. Plan ahead! Set aside money throughout the year so that all the fees won't hit your family all at the same time.

## ***TOP TEN TIPS FOR WRITING A COLLEGE ESSAY***

(provided by [www.nacacnet.org](http://www.nacacnet.org))

**Start early.** The more time you have, the less stress you'll have. You need time to give your best effort.

**Be yourself.** Take a moment to think about what interests you, what you love to talk about, what makes you sit up and take notice when mentioned in class or on TV. Then write about it. One of the biggest mistakes students make is "writing what they think others want to hear, rather than about an issue, event, or person that really had significance for them," says an admission and financial aid officer at a New York college.

**Be honest.** College admission officers have read hundreds, even thousands of essays. They are masters at discovering any form of plagiarism. Adapting an email story, buying an essay from a website, getting someone else to write your essay - admission officers have seen it all. Don't risk your college career by taking the easy way out.

**Take a risk.** Don't settle for the essay that everyone else is writing. Imagine an admission officer up late reading essays. Do you want that person to nod off because he or she has already read ten essays on that topic? "The danger lies not in the writing bad essays but in writing common essays," says an associate director at a Pennsylvania high school.

**Keep in focus.** This is your chance to tell admission officers exactly why they should admit you. Unfortunately, some students try to list every single reason, their stellar academic record, their athletic prowess, their community service, all in a page or two. When that happens, the essay looks like a grocery list. Instead, read the essay question carefully and jot down a few ideas. Then choose the one that looks like the most fun to write about. Stick to that main theme. Use the essay in a creative way to help the admission officers get to know you as a person.

**Write and rewrite.** For your first draft, write anything that comes to mind about your topic. Don't worry about grammar or spelling. Let it "rest" for a few days. When you come back to the draft, look for ways to make it more focused. Are there details that don't relate to the topic? Cut them. Do you need more examples? Add them. One suggestion is to remove the introductory and concluding paragraphs. These paragraphs often have unnecessary detail. Another suggestion, go through the essay and cut "very" and "many." These words are vague, essays are stronger without them.

**Get a second opinion.** After you've rewritten the essay, find someone who can give you advice on how to make it better, a favorite English teacher, a parent, or friend who writes for the school paper. Ask them what they like best, and what you can do to improve it. Criticism of your writing can be tough to hear but try to listen. You don't have to make every change suggested, but you should seriously consider each suggestion.

**Proofread.** Finally, you're ready to send your essay. Read it over and look for those little errors that can creep in as you write or edit. It can be difficult to catch minor typos-you've read the essay so many times that you see what should be there rather than what is there. To make sure you catch everything, read your essay out loud or have someone read it out loud to you. Or, read the essay backward, from the last sentence to the first. That helps errors stand out.

**Be accurate.** "One thing I've often seen is that students who apply online submit sub-par essays," says a director of admission. He has found that essays submitted online tend to be much shorter than those submitted on paper. In addition, students often use email language, no capitalization, abbreviations such as BTW, which are not appropriate. Make sure that you put as much effort into an online essay as you would if you were sending it snail mail.

**Don't expect too much from an essay.** The application essay is important, but it's not the only thing considered. "Can the essay make a difference in getting the 'thin versus thick' envelope? Absolutely," says the New York director, "but that is the exception rather than the rule." Admission officers look at the whole package, your academics, extracurricular activities, standardized tests, etc. A great essay rarely makes up for a weak academic record. Make sure your essay is written well, and the rest of your application receives the same attention.

***If you need help writing your college essays, please visit <http://www.essayedge.com> and <https://www.collegeessayguy.com/>.***

# Tuscaloosa County School System Graduation Credit Check Form

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Class of \_\_\_\_\_

Diploma Type:

Diploma

Diploma with Distinction

Class Type	Credit 1	Credit 2	Credit 3	Credit 4
English (4)				
Mathematics (4)				
Science (4)				
Social Studies (4)				
Career Preparedness (1)				
LIFE PE (1)				
Health (.5)				
Fine Art/ Foreign Lang./ Career Tech (3)				
Electives (2.5)				
Extras				

One science credit must be biology; one must be a physical science.

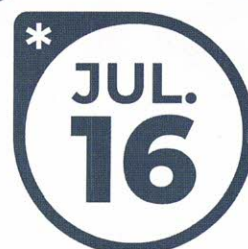
Diploma with Distinction requires all advanced courses & at least one foreign language.





# NAVIGATE YOUR FUTURE

## 2021/2022 TEST DATES



\*No test centers are scheduled in New York for the July test date.

### WHEN IT COMES TO TEST PREP, WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

ACT offers test prep programs for every learning style with live video lessons, interactive practice questions, full-length practice tests, and on-demand tutorials.

Explore your test prep options, including a free practice test, at [act.org/prep](https://act.org/prep).

Register online  
at [act.org/bts](https://act.org/bts)





# WHY TAKE THE ACT TEST?

1

## EXPAND YOUR OPTIONS

Taking the ACT test can help you on your way to your dream school. Plus, the ACT offers you the opportunity to be identified and recruited by colleges.

2

## PAY FOR COLLEGE

Students with an ACT score qualify for more scholarships because many colleges require scores for merit-based awards. Without one, you could miss out on thousands of dollars.

3

## PLAN YOUR FUTURE

ACT scores do more than get you into college. Your results include a college and career planning section that directs you toward the best path to success.

4

## STAND OUT

ACT scores can help you stand out in a crowded field of applicants with similar high school grades.

5

## SECURE A SUPERScore

When you take the ACT more than once, you can average your best section scores for an ACT Superscore.



## FEE WAIVERS

Ask your counselor if you qualify for a fee waiver to take the ACT test for free. Fee waivers cover the basic registration and late fees for up to 4 national tests and provide free access to The Official ACT® Self-Paced Course, Powered by Kaplan®.

Register online at [act.org/bts](https://act.org/bts)







# INTRODUCING THE **ACT SUPERSCORE**

This year for the national ACT test, we're introducing superscoring to give your students greater confidence that their scores reflect their overall academic achievement and potential.



## Superscoring

**Keep your best section scores and use your best overall score.**

The ACT Superscore takes the average of the four best subject scores from each ACT test attempt—and counts it as the student's official score.

Learn more at [act.org/morechoices](https://act.org/morechoices).

# FAFSA: Why You Need It, How to Start

A WORKSHEET YOU CAN SHARE WITH YOUR PARENTS

PLAN

## How do I know if I should fill out the FAFSA?

**Most college financial aid, of any type, requires the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** and many colleges and states require your FAFSA information to award their own grants and scholarships. Check any of the college financial aid you're interested in qualifying for:

- ☐ Need-based financial aid, such as government-funded Federal Pell Grants, which you don't have to repay
- ☐ Merit aid, such as grants and scholarships from colleges, which you don't have to repay
- ☐ State-sponsored financial aid
- ☐ Student loans, such as Federal Perkins and Federal Stafford Loans, and Federal PLUS Loans for parent borrowers
- ☐ Federal and college work-study programs (a job on campus while you attend)

If you placed a check mark next to any of these, you should definitely fill out the FAFSA.

**Tip:** Use the *FAFSA4caster* to estimate your eligibility for federal student aid. Simply go to [fafsa4caster.ed.gov](https://fafsa4caster.ed.gov).

## When should I fill out the FAFSA?

The FAFSA is available every year starting October 1st. You should start the application during your senior year as early as possible.

**Why so early, you ask?** The FAFSA takes time and students who file early tend to receive more grant aid. Many colleges and states have their own varying deadlines. So, don't forget to check your states deadline at [fafsa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov).

## What things do I need to get ready to file?

**Make sure you have:**

- ☐ Your Social Security number, or if not a U.S. citizen, alien registration number or permanent residence card
- ☐ Your driver's license number
- ☐ Your parents' and your tax return(s) from two years before the academic year to which you are applying for financial aid. (e.g. students who apply for financial aid for the 2017-2018 academic year will base their FAFSA on 2015 Federal Income tax returns.)
- ☐ Your parents' and your most recent bank statements
- ☐ Your parents' most recent business, mortgage and investment records

## Ready to start?

You and your parent(s) must create a FSA ID at [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov). Once completed, you will visit [fafsa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov) and click the "Start a New FAFSA" button. **Tip:** Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to transfer income and tax data from you and your parent(s)' federal income returns into the FAFSA.

Once you enter all of your information, double-check your work and print out and keep a copy of the confirmation page for your records. After your FAFSA is filed, you can log on and check the status at any time. **Note:** Some private colleges also require the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, found at [collegeboard.com](https://collegeboard.com), which is a separate financial aid form.

**College Greenlight Fit Fact:** You can learn more about financial aid and scholarships at [CollegeGreenlight.com](https://CollegeGreenlight.com).

# Completing the FAFSA

startwithfafsa.org

fafsa.gov

Students must complete the FAFSA each year they wish to receive financial aid for college. The following steps will help you complete and submit your FAFSA as soon after Oct. 1 as possible.

1

**GATHER MATERIALS** – Gather this information before you go to [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov) to complete your FAFSA:

- ☐ Social Security Card or Alien Registration Card
- ☐ Driver's license
- ☐ Federal income tax returns, W-2s and other records of money earned for the specified year
- ☐ Current bank account balances and records of investments and untaxed income
- ☐ If you're a dependent student, you'll also need your parent(s)' information. Determine your dependency status with UCanGo2's Dependency Questionnaire at [startwithfafsa.org/resources](https://startwithfafsa.org/resources).

2

**CREATE AN FSA ID** – The Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) is the username and password students use to complete the FAFSA. The parent of a dependent student also needs an FSA ID to sign the FAFSA. (Parents with no SSN are ineligible to create an FSA ID, but will be able to print and sign a signature page.) Use the FSA ID Worksheet to keep track of your answers when you set up your FSA ID at [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov).

3

**FILL IT OUT** – After you start your application at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov) or on the myStudentAid mobile app, you will complete the sections below:

**Student Demographics** – When entering your personal information, read directions carefully and enter information accurately.

- Enter your full name and birthdate as shown on your Social Security card.
- Male students must be registered with Selective Service to receive financial aid. You can register directly on the FAFSA by checking "Register me."
- Double-check your name, date of birth and Social Security number. Even one small error could cause delays.

**School Selection** – Select the college, university or career technology center you plan to attend. You can select up to 10 schools. You will also need to indicate whether you plan to live on campus, off campus or with a parent.

**Dependency Status** – A list of questions will determine whether you are considered dependent or independent on the FAFSA. Dependent students will be required to provide parental information.

**Parent Demographics** – Dependent students must enter information about their legal parent(s).

- If your parents are legally separated or divorced, list the parent you lived with the most during the last 12 months.
- If your parents are legally separated or divorced and you lived with them equally, list the parent who provided the most financial support in the last 12 months.
- If your divorced parent is remarried, list both your parent and step-parent.
- If your parents are unmarried but living together, list information for both parents.
- If your parent is undocumented, use 000-00-0000 as his/her Social Security Number.

**Financial Information** – You can enter the specified federal income tax information manually or use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT). The IRS DRT allows users to securely transfer data from their tax return directly into the FAFSA, which is faster and easier. Users must have an FSA ID to access tax information. To learn more, visit [StudentAid.ed.gov/irsdrt](https://StudentAid.ed.gov/irsdrt).

4

**SIGN AND SUBMIT** – Review your answers on the Summary, correct any errors, then enter your FSA ID to electronically sign your FAFSA.

- If you are considered dependent, your legal parent is also required to sign your FAFSA.
- If necessary, you or your parent can print a signature page, sign it and mail it to the address indicated.
- Don't forget to click SUBMIT at the bottom of the screen.
- Review your confirmation page for information about the schools you've selected and an estimate of your financial aid eligibility.

5

**FOLLOW UP** – Watch your email for a Student Aid Report (SAR), which provides a copy of your FAFSA responses. Your college may also send you requests for further documentation before sending your financial aid offer. This letter will contain the types of financial aid offered to you by the college(s) you've chosen.

# FSA ID WORKSHEET



**fsaid.ed.gov**

Federal Student Aid IDs are required for students to electronically sign the FAFSA. One parent of a dependent student will also need to create an FSA ID.\* *KEEP IN A SAFE PLACE.*

## **1 ENTER AN EMAIL ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**1**

The email address must be unique to each individual. You will not be able to use the same email address for student and parent. **DO NOT** use high school email accounts.

## **2 CREATE A USERNAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**2**

Must be 6 — 30 characters. Avoid using personal identifiers like your name or birthdate.

## **3 CREATE A PASSWORD** \_\_\_\_\_

**3**

Must be 8 — 30 characters. Avoid personal identifiers.

## **COMPLETE YOUR PROFILE**

**4**

1. Enter your social security number
2. Enter your birthdate
3. Enter your name exactly as it is listed on your social security card

Social Security matches are confirmed within 1 to 3 days. Errors can cause delays.

## **CHALLENGE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

There are four challenge questions and answers. Select the questions from drop down menus and provide your answers below.

**5**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

## **6 VERIFY YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS & MOBILE PHONE NUMBER**

**6**

FSA will send an email with a code that must be entered to verify your email address. FSA will send a text message with a code used to verify your mobile phone number. Your FSA ID is ready to use!

\*Parents without a social security number cannot create an FSA ID; they'll sign the FAFSA by mailing a signature page to the Federal Student Aid Program.



## Letter of Recommendation Request Form

Recommendation forms should be submitted to the person writing the recommendation at least **TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE**.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Request to: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Recommendation is needed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please address the letter to the following:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please: \_\_\_\_\_ return the letter to the student in a sealed envelope \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ mail directly to the address(es) listed below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the following information in order for this recommendation to be completed, and **attach a current resume**.

.....

1. Please list your educational goals and interests that you plan to pursue after high school. Include the college major and/or minor you are considering.
2. List any skills/personal qualities/attributes you possess as a student.
3. Discuss any future goals.
4. What focus or emphasis is the letter of recommendation to address?

# Request and Send your High School Transcripts and Graduation Verifications

The fast, secure and easy way to request and  
release your records to agencies, educational  
institutions or employers

## START HERE

Select the high school you are  
requesting a record from:

[CONTINUE](#)

Search tip: use the key word of your high school name. For example,  
for Thomas S. Wootton High, search by "Wootton".

**WE MAKE HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS AND  
GRADUATION VERIFICATIONS EASY FOR REQUESTERS  
AND PROCESSORS ALIKE!**

Each time you apply to a college and/or scholarship program, please go to <https://needmytranscript.com>  
and order your transcript. This is free until July 31st after you have graduated. Please send ALL  
transcripts to potential colleges before this time.

# College Application Tracker



Use this form to note the dates you've completed each task in the application process. It will help you remember what you've already done, and what you still need to do.

## APPLICATION

- Made copies of all application materials
- Signed and submitted application (online or paper)
- Requested transcript sent
- Paid application fee
- Sent additional materials if needed
- Confirmed college received all materials
- Gave counselor (or school official) midyear school report

College 1	College 2	College 3	College 4
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## TEST SCORES

- Took entrance exam
- Had test scores sent
- Had additional required test scores sent (SAT Subject Tests™, AP® Exams, etc.)

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## RECOMMENDATION LETTERS/FORMS

- Gave teacher(s) form for recommendation
- Provided teacher(s) with helpful information\* (i.e., résumé, deadlines)
- Gave counselor (or other school official) secondary school form
- Wrote thank-you notes to recommenders

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## ESSAYS

- Completed first draft of essay
- Had two people proofread essay
- Revised and submitted essay

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## CAMPUS VISITS/INTERVIEW

College 1	College 2	College 3	College 4

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## FINANCIAL AID FORMS



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## ADMISSION

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NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.



# ONE OPPORTUNITY. LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES.

If you want to play sports at an NCAA Division I or II school, start by registering for a Certification Account with the NCAA Eligibility Center at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org). If you want to play Division III sports or you aren't sure where you want to compete, start by creating a Profile Page at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org).

## ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

To play sports at a Division I or II school, you must graduate from high school; complete 16 NCAA-approved core courses, earn a minimum GPA, and earn an ACT or SAT score that matches your core-course GPA.

## CORE COURSES

Visit [eligibilitycenter.org/courselist](http://eligibilitycenter.org/courselist) for a full list of your high school's approved core courses. Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:

### DIVISION I

Complete 10 NCAA core courses, including seven in English, math or natural/physical science, before your seventh semester.

<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>NATURAL/ PHYSICAL SCIENCE</b> (including one year of lab science, if offered)	<b>MATH</b> (Algebra I or higher)	<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL</b> (English, math or natural/physical science)	<b>ADDITIONAL</b> (English, math, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy)
4 years	2 years	3 years	2 years	1 year	4 years

### DIVISION II

<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>NATURAL/ PHYSICAL SCIENCE</b> (including one year of lab science, if offered)	<b>MATH</b> (Algebra I or higher)	<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL</b> (English, math or natural/physical science)	<b>ADDITIONAL</b> (English, math, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy)
3 years	2 years	2 years	2 years	3 years	4 years

## GRADE-POINT AVERAGE

The NCAA Eligibility Center calculates your grade-point average (GPA) based on the grades you earn in NCAA-approved core courses.

- DI requires a minimum 2.3 GPA
- DII requires a minimum 2.2 GPA

## SLIDING SCALE

Divisions I and II use sliding scales to match test scores and GPAs to determine eligibility. The sliding scale balances your test score with your GPA. If you have a low test score, you need a higher GPA to be eligible. Find more information about sliding scales at [ncaa.org/playcollegesports](http://ncaa.org/playcollegesports).

## TEST SCORES

Take the ACT or SAT as many times as you want before you enroll full time in college, but remember to list the NCAA Eligibility Center (code 9999) as a score recipient whenever you register to take a test. If you take a test more than once, send us all your scores and we will choose the best scores from each test section to create your sum score. We accept official scores only from the ACT or SAT, and won't use scores shown on your high school transcript. Remember to apply the College Board concordance table for SAT tests taken in March 2016 and after.



# Test Scores

When a student registers for the SAT or ACT, he or she can use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of **9999** so his or her scores are sent directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Test scores on transcripts will **NOT** be used in his or her academic certification.

A combined SAT score is calculated by adding reading and math subscores. An ACT sum score is calculated by adding English, math, reading and science subscores. A student may take the SAT or ACT an unlimited number of times before he or she enrolls full time in college. If a student takes either test more than once, the best subscore from different tests are used to meet initial-eligibility requirements.

If a student took the SAT before March 2016 and then took the redesigned SAT at a later date, the NCAA Eligibility Center will not combine section scores from the former and redesigned SAT when determining his or her initial eligibility. The NCAA Eligibility Center will only combine section scores from the same version of the test. Because the redesigned SAT varies in design and measures different academic concepts than the former SAT, the Eligibility Center will apply the College Board's concordance tables when performing academic certifications for students with redesigned SAT scores.

\*To compare SAT scores, click [here](#) for a comparison table, or click [here](#) to visit the College Board's website.

DIVISION I FULL QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE			DIVISION I FULL QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE		
CORE GPA	SAT* READING/MATH	ACT SUM	CORE GPA	SAT* READING/MATH	ACT SUM
3.550	400	37	2.750	720	59
3.525	410	38	2.725	730	60
3.500	420	39	2.700	740	61
3.475	430	40	2.675	750	61
3.450	440	41	2.650	760	62
3.425	450	41	2.625	770	63
3.400	460	42	2.600	780	64
3.375	470	42	2.575	790	65
3.350	480	43	2.550	800	66
3.325	490	44	2.525	810	67
3.300	500	44	2.500	820	68
3.275	510	45	2.475	830	69
3.250	520	46	2.450	840	70
3.225	530	46	2.425	850	70
3.200	540	47	2.400	860	71
3.175	550	47	2.375	870	72
3.150	560	48	2.350	880	73
3.125	570	49	2.325	890	74
3.100	580	49	2.300	900	75
3.075	590	50	2.299	910	76
3.050	600	50	2.275	910	76
3.025	610	51	2.250	920	77
3.000	620	52	2.225	930	78
2.975	630	52	2.200	940	79
2.950	640	53	2.175	950	80
2.925	650	53	2.150	960	81
2.900	660	54	2.125	970	82
2.875	670	55	2.100	980	83
2.850	680	56	2.075	990	84
2.825	690	56	2.050	1000	85
2.800	700	57	2.025	1010	86
2.775	710	58	2.000	1020	86

ACADEMIC REDSHIRT