

CLASS OF 2021 NEW MANCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR YEAR TO-DO LIST

- Study for and register for either an ACT or SAT.** Do not take the exams cold. (View “**Choosing Which Test to Take**” in Class of 2021 Google Classroom)
- Visit colleges of interest.** With your career goal and college major as your guide, compile a list of 3- 5 colleges and contact them for a formal visit or sign up for **VIRTUAL TOURS!**
- Apply to colleges/technical colleges of interest.**
 - a) Create or use your **GA Futures.org** account to apply to Georgia schools,
 - b) Be mindful of schools requiring the Common Application.

Request a transcript from Mrs. Morris to send to each institution. There is a \$3 fee per transcript.

- a) Send your scores to the colleges from the applicable testing agency (ACT/SAT).
 - b) Adhere to all admission deadlines.
 - c) Once accepted, follow the next steps/guidelines and send required documents/deposits as directed by the institution.
- Continue conversations on financing your education** (Check NMHS website and Class of 2021 Google Classroom.).
 - a) (TBD) for information on completing the FAFSA for local, state and national scholarships/grants (Includes the HOPE Scholarship/Grant).
 - b) Scholarship information will be communicated as we become aware of them through the NMHS counseling section of the webpage, Class of 2021 Google Classroom, the Class of 2021 Band App., and the College and Career Center with Mrs. Morris. (D -1111)
 - c) Create an account with **FASTWEB.com.** (**Check Google Classroom for more websites**)
 - d) Submit a copy/email of all scholarship award letters to your counselor, if you would like your name and scholarship sponsor listed in the graduation bulletin.
- Continue working towards the HOPE** (Check the website and below for requirements).
 - a) Understand HOPE Academic Rigor Requirements. .
 - b) HOPE program and awards:
 - I. **HOPE Grant:** Pays a portion of tuition for students enrolled in a Certificate or Degree program at a state technical college. There is no minimum GPA required for initial eligibility. Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA to retain the HOPE. The scholarship may only be regained once.
 - II. **Zell Miller Grant:** Pays full standard tuition for students pursuing a Certificate or Degree program who maintain a 3.5 or higher GPA. The first term is awarded retroactively after earning a 3.5 GPA.
 - III. **HOPE Scholarship:** Pays a portion of standard tuition. Students must have a 3.0 non-weighted academic GPA to qualify initially. Students must maintain a 3.0 at the end of every spring and fall semesters and at 30/60/90 semester hours or 45/90/135 quarter hours attempted.
 - IV. **Zell Miller Scholarship:** Pays full standard tuition. Students must have a 3.7 non-weighted academic GPA with either a 26 on the ACT or 1200 on the SAT during a single administration. Students must maintain a 3.3 GPA at the same designated checkpoints listed previously.

- ***If you are an athlete, register with the NCAA/NAIA.***
 - a) Determine which is needed and complete the online registration process as soon as possible at www.eligibilitycenter.org or www.playnaia.org
 - b) There is a fee required by the agencies to register. Fee waivers are available for students qualifying for free or reduced lunch.
 - c) Remember to request a transcript and submit the \$3 fee for the official transcript to be uploaded.

- **Request a **Letter of Recommendation** (LOR), ONLY if required by the College or Scholarship Sponsor.**
 - a. Complete the Senior Information Sheet (located on the NMHS website) and please be thorough.
Sentences do not help us, but paragraphs do!
 - 1. Give specific details and avoid general descriptions that may apply to most students. We are looking for what separates you from others.
 - 2. **Be sure to make a copy,** in the event you are asking more than one person to provide you with a LOR.
 - b. Detail in-school and community participation including extra-curricular activities, leadership positions, honors, awards, volunteer work for grades 9-12.
 - c. Indicate your college and career plans after high school graduation with as much detail as possible.
 - d. Give your recommender a two-week notice for recommendations to be completed, providing teachers/counselors with a stamped, addressed envelope, if your LOR is to be mailed.

- **Request transcripts for college applications/scholarships (See Mrs. Morris in the College and Career Center for all transcript requests (Email: www.pam.morris@dcsga.org))**
 - a. Complete a transcript request form and pay the \$3 per transcript fee for all electronic or paper requests.
 - b. Colleges/ NCAA/NAIA will not accept unofficial or opened transcripts.

Final Steps — Review your transcript

- a. Check the social security number for accuracy and provide a copy of your card to your counselor if a correction is needed.
- b. Check and correct personal information.
- c. Check your credits and required coursework for graduation.
- d. Check to make certain you will have met the HOPE Rigor requirements.
- e. Work closely with your school counselor.

