



New Manchester High Senior Timeline



August:

- Think Future!
- Think about and discuss any college or work setting visits as well as military staff discussions that may be valuable for your career decisions after high school graduation.
Use these links to research information:
- **GAfutures:** www.GAfutures.org
- **Campus Tours:** www.campustours.com
- **College Board:** www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org
- **College Express:** www.collegeexpress.com
- **CollegeNet:** www.collegenet.com
- **Georgia Skilled Trades:** <http://www.gobuildgeorgia.com/>
- **Military Careers:** www.militarycareers.com
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** <http://www.bls.gov/ooh>

September:

- Review your grade point average. First semester admissions documents use the grade point average through the junior year.
- Motivate Yourself! Continue to be sure that you are enrolled in challenging courses. Keep up and do well in these courses.
- Check the HOPE GPA on GAfutures on your My GAfutures account. Remember all academic courses count both required and elective courses including an academic work-based learning course(s). Also remember no middle school academic courses count.
- Meet with your professional school counselor about Dual Enrollment.
- Narrow the List! Review a list of target post-secondary options and discuss the finalized list of choices based on research completed during junior year.
- Obtain testing schedule for SAT and/or ACT and consider your time line is for test preparation s well as registration.
 1. Link for SAT: www.collegeboard.org
 2. Link of ACT: www.act.org
- Test preparation link on GAfutures: <https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/>
- Go to the Fair! Plan to attend PROBE Fair (Explore the Possibilities) in October. Talk with military, technical school and college representatives. Most representatives will be from in-state schools. However, there are also some out-of-state postsecondary institutions represented.

October:

- Attend the PROBE Fair held in early October at one of the district high schools. Location is announced during August.
- Take a Trip! Make plans to attend a campus or campuses that you were not able to attend last year or last summer.
- Attend along with your parent/guardian the mandated by Georgia law, BRIDGE Advisement session at the high school.
- Stay Calendar Coordinated! Be organized and put together a calendar of important “things to do”.
- Check on the identification of a specialty school, work or the military if you are not interested in attending a post-secondary institution.
- Georgia Skilled Trades Link: <http://www.gobuildgeorgia.com/>
- Military Careers Link: www.militarycareers.com
- Occupational Outlook Handbook Link: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>
- www.GAfutures.org website for online application in the state of Georgia.
- GAFutures Financial Aid and Scholarships: <https://www.gafutures.org/federal-aid-scholarships/>
- FastWeb - www.fastweb.com
- Double check NCAA Clearinghouse certification applications, if you intend to participate in college athletics. Remember the only online courses approved by NCAA are those completed via Georgia Virtual School.
- Register for the SAT and/or ACT. Use test preparation materials.
- Link for SAT: www.collegeboard.org
- Link of ACT: www.act.org
- Test preparation link on GAFutures: <https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/>

November:

- Be sure you are maintaining an organized calendar of important dates.
- Keep Talking! See your counselor and discuss applying to schools with early admission application deadlines. Some of these deadlines occur this month and may have already occurred for some schools earlier in the fall semester. If a letter or letters of recommendation by teachers or counselors is a requirement, make sure you are asking about these being completed well ahead of the deadline, 3 weeks ahead is recommended.
- Check on the mailing of ROTC and military academy applications, if applicable.
- Consider registering for and taking COMPASS, if applicable. This test is needed for technical schools.
- Take the SAT and/or ACT, if needed. Use test preparation materials as needed.
- Link for SAT: www.collegeboard.org
- Link of ACT: www.act.org
- Test preparation link on GAFutures: <https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/college-decision-guide/test-prep/>

December:

- Think \$! Communicate with the Financial Aid offices of the postsecondary school(s) that you are interested in, requesting information about financial aid and scholarships. Participate in Apply to College Week/Month at the high school. Counselors guide you through this process.
- Think about the ASVAB test. This is an optional test provided at the high school. The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery is a very widely used multiple -aptitude test battery. [Link: http://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/asvab](http://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/asvab)
- Keep a file of all information and correspondence--emails and/or regular mail to postsecondary institutions.

January:

- Request your high school send your official transcripts to the colleges to which you are applying.
- Attend Financial Aid night with your parent/guardian.
- Keep an eye out for financial aid workshops and seminars, for both you and your parents. There is a lot of help out there when you're looking for information on financial aid.
- Website is: www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Review SAR (Student Aid Report) after the completion of the FAFSA.
- GAfutures - <https://www.gafutures.org/federal-aid-scholarships/>
- College Aid - www.collegeaid.net
- Direct Loan - www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/DirectLoan
- FastWeb - www.fastweb.com
- Georgia Student Finance Commission Financial Aid - www.gsfc.org
- Financial Aid Estimator - www.nasfaa.org/Home.asp
- Monitor your HOPE GPA via your My GAfutures account.
- Continue to work hard and take challenging courses. Both final admissions and scholarship eligibility are dependent on final, second semester grades.
- General HOPE Scholarship information may be found on this [link:https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/](https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/)
- Rigorous course information may be found on this link: <https://www.gafutures.org/media/113414/rigor-course-list-july-2016.pdf>
- All core courses taken in grades 9-12 are calculated in the HOPE GPA. No middle school courses taken for high school credit are calculated in the HOPE GPA.
- Observe deadlines for admissions, financial aid, testing, orientation fees and housing deposits.
- Contact the admissions office of the colleges to which you have applied to make sure that your information has been received.

February:

- Double check NCAA Clearinghouse certification applications, if you intend to participate in college athletics. [Link for NCAA Eligibility Center: https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/](https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/)
- Complete your college scholarship applications.
- Maintain good grades and check your preliminary HOPE GPA to see if you are on track to be eligible for the HOPE Program.
- Check your selective service status for financial aid purposes, if applicable.

March

- Make a Decision! You may still be undecided about the future. For additional assistance make an appointment with the school counselor.
- Continue to search for scholarships.
- Georgia Skilled Trades Link: <http://www.gobuildgeorgia.com/>
- Military Careers Link: www.militarycareers.com
- Occupational Outlook Handbook Link: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>
- Talk Finances! Think about looking for summer employment and talk about a budget for summer and for next year with parent/guardian.
- Compare your acceptance letters, financial aid and scholarship offers. These are all important things to consider when choosing a college.
- If you were placed on a waiting list for a particular college and have decided to wait for an opening, contact that college and let them know you are still very interested.

April:

- Decision time!
- Notify that school by sending your commitment deposit check. Remember if you are taking Advanced Placement courses, prepare for the AP exam. .
- Make sure that required deposit(s) are paid by the deadlines, if you are attending an institution that requires deposits for enrollment and/or room and board.
- Compare your acceptance letters, financial aid and scholarship offers. These are all important things to consider when choosing a college.
- If you were placed on a waiting list for a particular college and have decided to wait for an opening, contact that college and let them know you are still very interested.

May/June:

- Ask any questions that you still have about Advanced Placement exams, if applicable.
- If you were placed on a waiting list for a particular college and have decided to wait for an opening, contact that college and let them know you are still very interested.
- Attend awards night and of course, graduation.
- Remember to thank the school personnel who have helped you.
- Make certain you request that a final high school transcript be sent to the university, college, or technical school.
- Check with the admissions and/or financial aid offices at the college, university or technical college to make certain that the staff has everything that is needed.
- Monitor your final HOPE GPA in mid-June via the My GAfutures account. The final, verified GPA with the Georgia Student Finance Commission is used for HOPE Scholarship eligibility as well as Zell Miller Scholarship eligibility.
- General HOPE Scholarship information may be found on this link: <https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/>

