



Welcome to Centennial High School's Class of 2012 Senior Parent Night

Thursday, September 1, 2011

Presented by:

Michael Absher, CHS Counselor





Your Student's Counselor

Last Names	Counselor
A-Dam	Mr. Michael Absher
Dan-Hou	Ms. Shellie Caplinger
Hov-Mord	Mr. Patrick Cox
More-Seo	Ms. Melissa Freeman
Sep-Z	Ms. Hella Peart

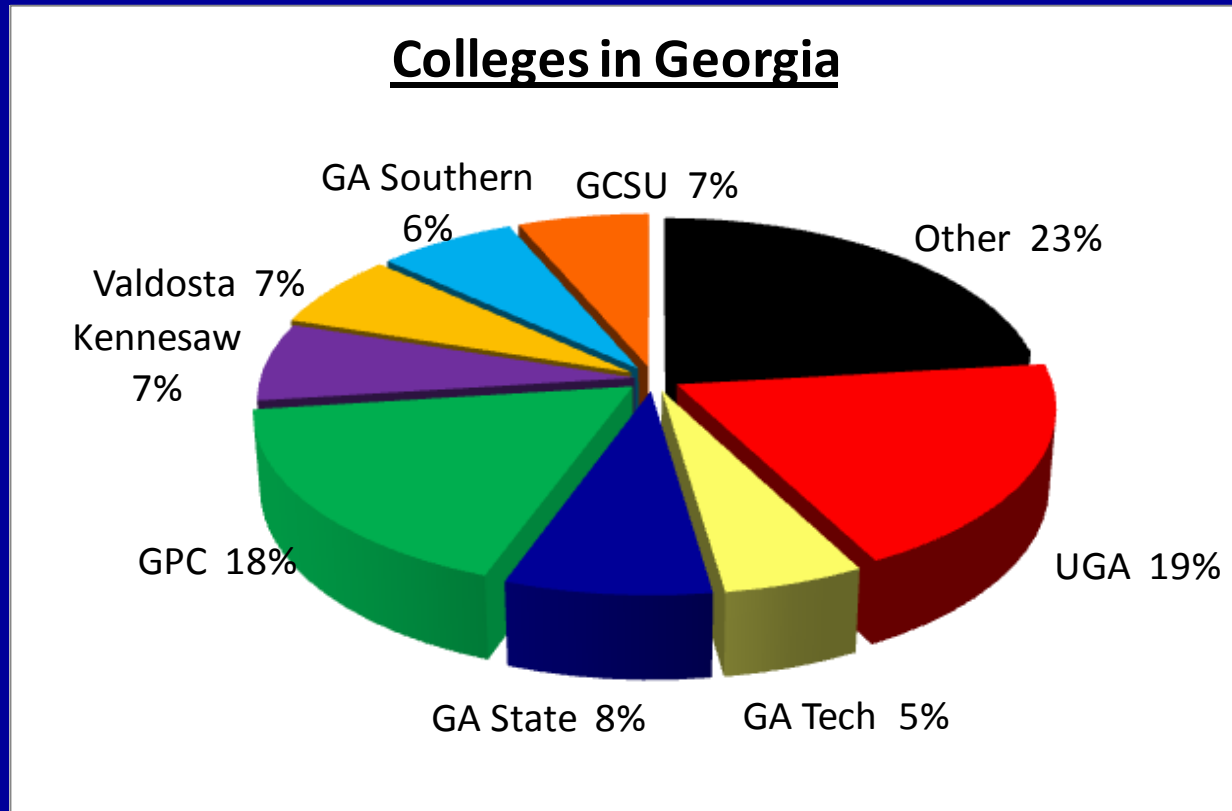
www.mycentennialcounseling.com





CHS Class of 2011

- 93% of Class of 2011 students were college-bound
- 73% of college-bound students are attending schools in GA





Class of 2012 Plans

Attend a 4-year College/University 78%

Attend a 2-year College 10%

Military College/Service 3%

Attend a Technical College 1%





College Planning—Help!

Finding Scholarship Information	86%
Completing the College Application	81%
How to Apply to College	79%
Talking with College Admissions	78%
College Admissions Requirements	78%
Deciding on the “Right” College	75%
Understanding HOPE	73%





Senior Packet

- Contents
- Important Items
 - Deadlines
 - Apply Online
 - SSN & Legal Name
- Important Dates
 - College Fairs & Events
 - SAT and ACT Registration Deadlines
- Important Websites





Senior Packet Contents

- Counselor Request Form
- College Planning Calendar
- College Application Checklist
- Websites for Post-Secondary Planning
- College Visitation Notices
- Assessing Colleges and Admissions Policies
- Transcript Request Form
- Recommendation and Essay Tips/Student and Parent Questionnaire
- Financial Aid Calendar and HOPE Scholarship Updates/GPA Calculation





Getting Ready To Apply

- 1. Be Focused:** Narrow your options through good research
- 2. Be Realistic:** Classify your options—
"match," "reach," and "safety" schools;
\$\$\$\$
- 3. Be Aware:** Know application requirements, fees, and deadlines
- 4. Be Conscientious:** Proofread; keep records and copies of everything





Getting Ready To Apply

- Websites For Post-Secondary Planning
 - General Searches
 - College/University Sites
- College Rep Visits to CHS
 - Students must see the Counseling Administrative Assistant prior to the visitation to get a pass
 - August/September visits include GA Tech, Tennessee, Clemson, Michigan, Ohio State, Florida State, GA Gwinnett, NYU, Alabama





Getting Ready To Apply

- College Fairs / College Fair Checklist
- College Visits / College Visit Checklist
 - Seniors may take up to three college visitation days during the school year
 - Requests must be submitted in writing from a parent/guardian to the Counseling Office at least three school days prior to the absence
 - Assignments due during the absence must be submitted prior to the absence





Assessing Colleges

- “Limiting” Factors
 - Admissions Difficulty
 - Costs, excluding financial aid
- Personal Factors
 - 2-year/4-year
 - Majors/Degrees
 - Size
 - Location
 - Residential/Social Life
 - Activities/Clubs/Sports





Typical Admissions Policies

Type	Example	Application Deadline	Notification Date
Early Action / Early Notification	UGA GA Tech	UGA: 10/15 GA Tech: 10/1	UGA: 12/15 GA Tech: ~11/15
Early Decision **	Emory	ED I: 11/1	ED I: 12/15
Regular Decision	Most 4-year colleges	UGA: 1/15 GA Tech: 1/10	UGA: 4/1 GA Tech: ~3/15
Rolling Admissions	Kennesaw State Univ.	May	Rolling
Open Admissions	Most 2-year colleges	Varies	Rolling





Freshman Profile**

School	Mid 50% GPA	Mid 50% SAT	Mid 50% ACT
Emory University	3.78-4.00	2020-2220	30-33
UGA	3.63-4.00	1750-2020	27-31
Georgia Southern	2.0+ Academic GPA	Minimum 1010 (M+CR)	Minimum 21
Kennesaw State	2.5+	950+	20+
GA Perimeter	2.0+	Not Required	Not Required





College Admissions Advice

- Take a strong senior year schedule—including AP and Honors courses as appropriate
- Senior year grades do matter!
- Activities and Accomplishments—demonstrate leadership, commitment, and uniqueness
- Articulate demonstrated interest
- Unifying “theme”





College Admissions Advice

- Read application directions carefully and thoroughly
- Follow directions—send colleges exactly what they specify (no more, no less)
- Check high school course requirements for admission carefully
- Check college websites for information about GPA computation and use of SAT/ACT scores





College Admissions Advice

- When in doubt, call/email admissions
- Apply online and use Common Application (www.commonapp.org) when possible
- SAT/ACT scores must be requested directly from the testing service
- Student should take the lead in the process and complete all parts of the application her/himself





College Admissions Advice

- The order in which colleges receive parts of the application does not matter as long as all parts are received by the stated deadline
- An application is considered complete (and ready for review) once all required parts have been received by the college





Transcript Requests

- Students must submit a Transcript Request Form ('Gold Form') for *each* college or scholarship that requires an *official* transcript
- Request Form must be submitted at least 10 school days prior to a deadline
- Transcripts are sent electronically to:
 1. GA Public Colleges and Universities
 2. NCAA Clearinghouse
 3. Members of Common Application





Transcript Requests

- Cost for electronic transcripts is \$3 cash per transcript sent
- Paper transcripts are mailed to:
 1. Private colleges/universities in all states (unless member of Common Application)
 2. All out-of-state colleges/universities (unless member of Common Application)
- Cost for paper transcripts is \$3 cash per transcript sent





Transcript Requests

- Paper transcripts require a 9 x 12 envelope addressed to the college and at least three first-class stamps
 - Student may provide addressed envelope and stamps
 - Student may pay an additional \$2 to purchase the envelope and postage from the Counseling Office
- Transcript Request Forms may be obtained online or in Counseling Office





Counselor Recommendations

- Counselors will submit recommendations upon student request when *required* by a college/university—there is normally a printable or electronic form (printable forms may be attached to transcript request form)
- Electronic Transcript=Electronic Recommendation
- Paper Transcript=Paper Recommendation





Counselor Recommendations

- Allow at least 10 school days for a recommendation request to be completed
- Completed **Student and Parent College/Scholarship Recommendation Questionnaires** are *required* before recommendations will be processed (Recommended deadline for receipt = *September 30*)





Other Recommendations

- Follow directions in the application exactly in terms of number of recommendations, from whom, etc.
- Choose teachers who know student well—preferably from junior/senior years
- Give teachers a resume or the completed senior questionnaire
- Allow at least 10 school days for recommendation to be completed





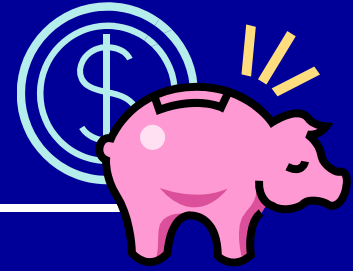
College Application Essays

- Essays provide an opportunity for admissions officers to understand who you are and what is important to you beyond grades and test scores
- Be true to yourself—essays should showcase your individuality
- Proofread, Proofread, Proofread
- “Dos and Don’ts” in Senior Packet





Types Of Financial Aid



Scholarships	Grants	Loans	Work Study
Free	Free	Borrowed	Earned
<p>May be based on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Academic performance• Involvement in extracurricular activities• Group membership	<p>May be based on financial need or other eligibility criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Based on financial need• Must be repaid!• Federal loans for education have the lowest interest rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Federal program that provides funds to students through jobs arranged by the college• Students work 10-20 hours/week





Applying for Financial Aid

- To apply for federal student aid, you must fill out the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Apply on or after **January 1, 2012** but as early as possible to meet all deadlines
- Students and parents will need to apply for a PIN at www.pin.ed.gov





Applying for Financial Aid

- FAFSA is required by many colleges to receive different forms of institutional assistance, and it can also serve as the HOPE/Zell Miller Scholarship application at GA Public Colleges and Universities
- CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE used by some colleges to determine eligibility for non-federal aid programs
- CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE available on October 1 via www.collegeboard.com





Scholarships

- Sign up for emails from CHS at www.mycentennialcounseling.com
- College Financial Aid websites
- Family Employers and Affiliations
- Online Scholarship Searches (examples)
 - www.fastweb.com
 - www.finaid.org
 - www.collegeboard.com
 - www.atlantascholarships.com





HOPE Scholarship

Requirement:

- **3.0 GPA** as calculated by the Georgia Student Finance Commission

The following scale is used to convert numerical grades to a 4.0 GPA scale:

- 4.0 = 90 or greater
- 3.0 = 80 – 89
- 2.0 = 70 – 79
- 0.0 = 69 or less

- Only *academic* courses in **English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Language** included
- All middle school grades removed
- All honors points removed
- All AP courses awarded an extra 0.5 quality points after GPA conversion (up to a maximum 4.0; A's are not weighted)
- The final HOPE GPA will NOT be rounded up





HOPE Changes

- GA Public Institutions
 - Pays a percentage amount of standard tuition charges from previous year (will change yearly)—posted on GA College 411
 - No book or fee allowances
- GA Private Institutions
 - Pays a percentage amount of the HOPE award (this year's maximum is \$3600 total)
 - Tuition Equalization Grant (\$700 this year)
 - No book or fee allowances





HOPE Changes

- No payment for remedial or developmental courses
- If a student falls below a 3.0 GPA in college, he/she may regain the scholarship only one time





Zell Miller Scholarship

Requirements

1. Meet all HOPE eligibility requirements

2. 3.7 or greater HOPE GPA

3. 1200+ CR/M score on a single SAT administration or an ACT composite score of 26+





Zell Miller Scholarship

Payment Guidelines

1. GA Public Colleges and Universities:
Full tuition paid

2. GA Private Colleges and Universities:
\$4,000 per year for current year





Zell Miller Scholarship

- No payment for remedial or developmental courses
- If a student falls below a **3.3** GPA in college, s/he may regain the scholarship only one time





HOPE Grant

- Available to students seeking a certificate or diploma at a TCSG or USG institution
- No GPA requirement upon entrance to program, but a 3.0 GPA on eligible coursework must be maintained in college
- Students who fall below a 3.0 GPA while in college may regain the grant one time





HOPE Grant

- Pays a percentage amount of standard tuition charges and is subject to change yearly

- **INFORMATION ON ALL HOPE PROGRAMS MAY BE FOUND AT WWW.GACOLLEGE411.ORG**



NCAA Eligibility Center

- NCAA Clearinghouse – new site: Apply now via www.eligibilitycenter.org
- Division I and II – Eligibility for Athletics and Athletic Scholarships
 - 16 (D1) and 14 (D2) Core Courses required
 - Minimum GPA required
 - Minimum SAT required
- Division III – Not certified by Clearinghouse





Questions?

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Thank you for
attending Centennial
High School's
Class of 2012
Senior Parent Night

