

# Senior Year Information



Class of 2019

# Remind and Google Classroom

- If you haven't already, join GHS2019seniors Remind Group - Text the message **@ghsenior19** to the number **81010**
- Join CLASS OF 2019 Google Classroom - the Code to join is **93gxp49**

# ACT

- Register for the ACT if you have not taken it or if you need a higher score. The December 8th ACT is the last one you can take for MOST colleges to accept your score for admittance and/or scholarship awards. *All students and/or parents need to sign into the students ACT account to determine which schools (colleges) have been chosen to receive scores. Be SURE to ADD colleges you are interested in so that every time you take your ACT, the scores will automatically be sent to the college and may qualify the student for more scholarship money!!!!*
- ACT Forms are in the Guidance Office. Register at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) The test dates are:

Test Dates	September 8	October 27	December 8
Registration Deadline	August 10	September 28	November 2
*Late Registration Deadline	August 26	October 14	November 10

\*All material sent by MAIL must be RECEIVED by the late registration deadline, regardless of postmark date

# ACT Info (continued)...

- Make SURE you keep up with your ACT Username and Password. You MUST ALWAYS sign in with the same email in which you set up your ACT account. We do not keep up with your ACT sign-in info at GHS.
- *If you cannot get into your original ACT account, go to the website [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) and click 'Sign In'/'Forgot User ID'. ACT will email you a link with info on changing or retrieving your account information. Remember, they will send the link to the ORIGINAL email you used when you set up your account. If you cannot remember which email you used or if you no longer have it, the STUDENT must call ACT at 319-337-1270.*

## ACT Info (continued)...

- PRACTICE taking the ACT for free as much as possible to increase your score. The more you practice and get used to the questions, the better you will perform. Go to:
  - <https://academy.act.org/>
- If you are on the Free or Reduced lunch program, you can get a fee waiver in the counselor's office so you do not have to pay to take the test. You can use **two** waivers, which will allow for two FREE tests.

# NCAA and NAIA

- If you are a student athlete and your coach has told you to register for NCAA Eligibility, go to the following site(s) and make SURE you are registered. You MUST register at home with your parents because there is a fee.
- Also, you will need to go to your ACT account and add the NCAA or NAIA ‘code’ to the list of schools in which you want your ACT score sent.
  - [NCAA Eligibility](#)
  - [NAIA Eligibility](#)

# Applying to College

1. Decide on your TOP 3 COLLEGE CHOICES and focus on them first.
  - a. Safe College - A college you feel 100% confident that you will be accepted and can afford.
  - b. Realistic College - The college that you have or are planning to visit and believe will be your college of choice. You feel confident you will be accepted and you CAN afford it.
  - c. REACH College - Your 'dream' college - you may not have been accepted or can afford it yet, but apply just in case you can find a way to make it there.
2. VISIT as many colleges as you can so you can find your HOME! ***Visit during the week if possible - a REGULAR college day - not only on a 'GAME DAY' as GAME DAYS are not a normal day in the real college life.*** You are allowed 2 excused college visits at GHS - get a letter signed by someone at the college the day of your visit and turn it in to Mrs. Cox in the front office to be excused.

# Applying to College (continued)...

- Begin applying for college immediately. *Do NOT wait to see if you will get your ACT score up or if you will receive a grant or scholarship. Remember, ACT scores will automatically be sent to the colleges you have chosen every time you retake the ACT as long as you list the colleges on your ACT account.*
- Check college DEADLINE dates as soon as possible. There are different deadlines and requirements at EACH COLLEGE for **applying for admission** and **applying for scholarships**. You MUST get on your college websites and begin exploring each college's requirements ASAP!!



# Applying to College (continued)...

- IF you are interested in a 2-year program, such as Physical Therapy Assistant, Dental Hygiene, Aviation, etc., you **MUST** go to the school website to make sure they offer the program.
- **Once you find the college(s) that offer the program, you apply to the college. Once accepted, you MUST go to the actual program site (for Physical Therapy Assistant you would look under Programs or Majors and then under Health Science) and apply to the program separately.**
- These programs have a **SEPARATE** application process into the program. It is **IMPERATIVE** that you know the requirements into the program **ASAP** so you can be working towards acceptance into the program.

# Transcript Information

- Students and/or Parents MUST have the students' OFFICIAL GHS transcripts sent to colleges when the student applies. GHS uses *Parchment*, which is an electronic transcript method.
- To have an official transcript sent to a college OR to self-view a transcript, you must follow the directions below ***precisely***:
  - [Link to Parchment Instructions](#)

*\*\*These instructions are also listed in the Class of 2019 Google Classroom!*

- Once you set up an account with Parchment, you can go to the website below at any time and login to have transcripts sent. The official Parchment site is <https://www.parchment.com/>

# College Scholarships

- There are several different types of college scholarships. It is the responsibility of the student to apply for ALL scholarships offered BY THE DEADLINE DATES. The three main types of scholarships are:
  - **College/University Scholarships** - These scholarships are offered through individual colleges. Most colleges have only one main application for scholarships. Once the student applies, the college will match the student info with all other scholarships within their database (such as endowments, scholarships based on a student's major/minor, GPA-based, memorial scholarships, etc.). Most of these scholarship applications may require at least a student essay and/or a college resume.
    - Mrs. McCoy will be helping Seniors prepare College Resumes during English classes at GHS. ***Students PLEASE remember, your Social Media IS a HUGE part of your 'resume' and colleges WILL look at all Social Media to investigate your character and personal traits before accepting you at their institution.***

# College Scholarships (continued)...

- Types of Scholarships (continued)...
  - **National Scholarships** - These scholarships are offered through national providers and are commonly found online or are sent via mail to students through promotions. These scholarships are sometimes hard to ‘attain’, but are definitely worth the application process. **GOOGLE** is the BEST option for searching for these scholarships. Any national scholarships that come through the Guidance Office will be shared with students on the Class of 2019 Google Classroom page.
  - **GHS Community Scholarships** - These scholarships are offered by individuals or community and business leaders from Guntersville. Applications will be handed out to all seniors during February, 2019, and will be added to the Class of 2019 Google Classroom page. The applications **MUST** be completed by the deadline date to be considered for a community scholarship. Students **MUST** attach their College Resume to Community Scholarship Applications. Examples of these scholarships are Athletic Booster Club, Rotary Club, Local Churches, Anchor Club, Civitans, and Memorial Scholarships just to name a few. **The applications are provided to and chosen by the community member(s), and are NOT chosen by faculty or staff of GHS.**

\*\*Many scholarship applications require Recommendation Letters - Students **PLEASE ALLOW 2 weeks** for teachers to provide you with a recommendation letter **AND** supply the teachers with a College Resume so they will know all activities in which you have participated!!!

\*\*ANY and ALL scholarship applications that are NOT online and cannot be shared on the Class of 2019 Google Classroom page will be ANNOUNCED on the google classroom page and will be copied and provided in a box labeled ‘College Scholarships’ in the Guidance Office.

# FAFSA

- FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

*It is HIGHLY recommended that ALL SENIORS and their PARENTS fill out an application FAFSA. Even if the parent does not think they will qualify based on a lack of financial need, MOST colleges REQUIRE a student to have a FAFSA on file before they will reward ANY scholarship money.*

# FAFSA (continued)...

- The Career Coach for GHS, Mrs. Beck, will be here at the times below to help parents and students apply for FAFSA. FAFSA's are VERY confusing and Mrs. Beck will ONLY be here at these times during the Fall. She will hold another session during the Spring. Mrs. Beck will also be doing some one-on-one FAFSA sessions with students and parents starting in January if parents cannot make it to one of the sessions below. *Parents MUST bring their 2017 tax information to the session(s). Students MUST create their FSA-ID to complete their FAFSA. This MUST be done PRIOR to the FAFSA workshops. **Mrs. Beck will be helping students set up their FSA-ID in Mrs. Brown's Senior Economics class on September 28! If they do not have a Senior Economics class, they MUST arrange their schedule to sit in her class during that date in order to attend the workshop!***

October 4	9:00 am - 11:00 am	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
October 5	9:00 am - 11:00 am	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

- PLEASE email Ms. Kee at [wendykee@gcboe.net](mailto:wendykee@gcboe.net) to reserve a spot in one of the sessions. Space is limited to 15 families per session and sessions are filling up quickly.
- Mrs. Beck's email is [lbeck@albertk12.org](mailto:lbeck@albertk12.org) - Please feel free to email her with questions or to set up appointments in January.

# Awards Night for Seniors

*Parents, PLEASE send ANY and ALL scholarship awards (or a copy of it) that your student receives to the Guidance Office so they can be recognized in May at Awards Night. If we do not receive a copy of the actual scholarship award, the student will not be called to the stage on Awards Night!*

**CONGRATS to the Class of 2019 and the PARENTS for making it to your SENIOR YEAR!!**

# Important Websites

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

<https://fafsa.ed.gov>

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/>

<https://academy.act.org/>

<https://www.parchment.com/>

Please do not hesitate to email Ms. Kee at [wendykee@gcboe.net](mailto:wendykee@gcboe.net) or call the Guidance Office at 256-582-2046 with any questions.