

ADVISEMENT NEWSLETTER

Partial or Full tuition Scholarship
for in-state colleges only!

HOPE Scholarship

Regular HOPE: 3.0 or higher at end of senior year

Zell Miller HOPE: 3.7 GPA and test score is required

FOUR (4) "RIGOR" COURSES MUST BE TAKEN: EXAMPLES:

- Algebra II and higher
- Chemistry, Physics, Human Anatomy, Forensic Science
- Level 2 and higher of For. Lang
- Core AP/Dual Enrollment

Your HOPE GPA IS NOT listed on your Pope transcript!

It is based on ONLY CORE course grades

- * English
- * Math
- * Science
- * Social Studies
- * Foreign Language

Honors courses are NOT Weighted

AP/DE courses receive .5 extra quality pts. up to 4.0

You can check your HOPE GPA calculation by creating an account and entering your SS# at:

GaFutures.org



Who am I? Where am I going? How am I going to get there?

It's easy to get caught up in the post-secondary madness. It's exciting to be planning your future, but before you open your first post-secondary solicitation or visit a college campus or website, consider a couple points.

First, there is no such thing as a "one size fits all" path after high school. There are thousands of post-secondary options you

can choose from. One is bound to fit your unique goals and needs. Each offers a unique experience. Second, don't let anyone tell you where you "should" go. You're the one who'll have to live with the choice, not your counselor, your parents or your best friend. In the process of selecting a training program, college or university, the first step is self-

evaluation. This little talk with yourself will help you consider your dreams and limitations (academic and financial). The second step is figuring out what kinds of schools meet your needs. Use **GaFutures.org** and **Naviance** to explore your career interests and do a college search! This helps you narrow down your search. The third step is putting your list of programs under the proverbial microscope. At the end of this process, you should be ready to apply for admission to your chosen program. Good Luck!

2021 PSAT Results

How did you perform compared to other college bound students?

The SAT College and Career Readiness Benchmark Scores indicate that students who earn that score or higher have a 75% likelihood of earning a C or better in a first-year credit-bearing course in the same subject area.



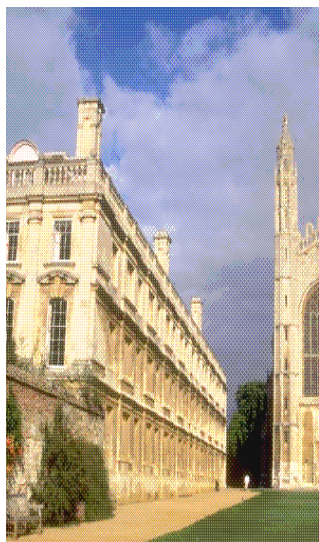
Grade 10

430 ERW

480 MATH

2021 data—Average Combined Score

	Pope	District	State	Nation
9 th	995	1001	946	908
10 th	1037	936	889	995
11 th	1102	1110	1127	995



“How many Honors/AP courses do I need to take to be competitive for college admissions but still be able to handle my extracurricular activities and maintain a decent GPA?”



If honors courses are not weighted for HOPE, and AP are only weighted .5 extra for HOPE, then why take honors or AP ?

1) AP classes require the type of high-level calculating and critical thinking that you'll encounter in your first year of college.

2) College students who have completed one AP course during high school have a 59 percent chance of completing a four-year degree. Students with two or more AP courses have a 76 percent chance of completing a 4-year degree.

3) You typically see better results on SAT/ACT with increased course rigor.

4) Can possibly exempt some coursework in college if you do well on AP exam.

OUR THOUGHTS ON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

College admissions offices want you to take the most rigorous core curriculum you can—AND DO WELL IN! GPA is THE most important factor in college admission. Rigor is also an important factor for competitive colleges, but GPA is first. SAT/ACT scores typically will improve by getting the most out of your coursework, regardless of the level you are in, but only if you learn the material and not just get through it. The more competitive colleges also examine extracurricular involvement and ways a student has been involved in their community. Strive for balance! You don't want to overload yourself with academics to the detriment of not getting involved in meaningful

electives, extracurriculars, sports, and other outside interests. Well-roundedness or having a passion you pursued in high school is something that makes yourself stand out from others and helps with writing college essays, and earning scholarships.

What does rigor look like when a student matriculates through Pope? It doesn't necessarily mean all AP's. It's different for every student. Rigor for you looks different than rigor for your friend. Rigor for some is all on-level, or maybe an honors course or two. Look at the big picture for yourself. If you are recommended for Honors/AP courses, you do not have to take all the Honors/AP courses your teachers recommend you for. Subject teachers don't

always know how many AP or honors courses you are being recommended for, they only recommend for their subject, so use discretion when finalizing your schedule for next year with your parent and weigh in your outside involvement. Also, consult your AP Potential information listed on your online PSAT score report.

When it comes to honors and AP, follow your passion, don't take honors or AP in subjects you are not strong in or don't enjoy.

When in doubt, know that non-honors elective courses can really benefit a student when they leave Pope. They can be a very valuable use of time for students to explore interests and they can add to a student's well-roundedness.



Straight from admissions reps:

Depth is key in reading admissions files!

If you are applying to a college that has competitive admissions, depth is key in reading admissions files. Consider this quote from a UGA rep “I love to see a student find a handful of co-curricular activities and, over the course of three to four years, develop both skills and leadership roles in these areas. Too many times we see files where a student suddenly adds 12th grade only clubs, sports, volunteer work and academic rigor in an attempt to boost their resume. To put it bluntly, applications that “are a mile wide and an inch deep” are not viewed as strongly as ones which show consistency. In the same way, we look for depth in a student's curriculum. When we are looking at a student's academic rigor, we are looking at what is available and what is then taken, and we focus on all four years of core courses, not just on the number of AP classes taken (a myth that I always have to correct). In saying this, we still enjoy seeing students who try some activity that is outside their comfort zone. I have seen “jocks” try out for the senior play, a group of students start a diving team from scratch, or a person finding a need in their community that they try to help. We love seeing people step up and stretch out. But overall, we value depth in the application, from curriculum to grades to activities.”

Helpful college planning recourses are posted in our College Planning Toolkit:
<https://popecounselor.wixsite.com/mysite/college-search-and-application>

What are my options after high school and what does it take to access those options?

AMERICA NEEDS SKILLED WORKERS.

Currently, only one tradesman is entering the industry for every five that leave. That means you can earn competitive pay at a young age – without worrying about student loan debt. Learn more about the industry and how you can build your career.

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/education/decades-pushing-bachelors-degrees-us-needs->

Trades

Occupations such as skilled construction work are considered trades or crafts.

Apprenticeships

Generally associated with skilled labor. Training lasts 1 to 4 years, and provide on-the-job training. These kinds of programs can lead to well-paying jobs!



Military

- High School Diploma
- ASVAB test score
- \$ for College!!

Technical Colleges

What are Technical Colleges looking for?

- -High School Diploma or GED
- -SAT, ACT, or ACCUPLACER Test
- -Will be used for course placement & minimum admissions requirements
- -Apply after graduation from high school
- -The HOPE Grant can be used for trade focused certificate and diploma programs -No GPA requirement

Tech and Two-year colleges can be an economical stepping stone to 4-year colleges!!

Two-Year Colleges

What are Two-year colleges looking for?

- At least a 2.0 GPA in core/academic coursework (does not guarantee admission). Georgia Highlands requires a 2.2 core GPA.
- Complete 4 Math units through at least Alg. II
- Some two year colleges may accept a limited number of students without Foreign Language from high school, but to transfer to a 4 year college will need to take 1-2 classes in the 2 year college.
- -SAT, ACT, or ACCUPLACER

Four-Year Colleges

- GPA (core) of at least 2.5
- Average core HS GPA 3.2
- Average SAT 1000–1200
- Average ACT–21-24
- 4 Math units, including a course beyond Alg. II such as Pre-Calculus or Statistics.
- More selective colleges will be looking for higher math (UGA, GA Tech)
- -At least two years of the same Foreign Language, more is better.
- California colleges, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Tennessee colleges– require additional units such as Fine Arts or Computing, but this may be flexible, CHECK WITH COLLEGE! (this isn't an exhaustive list, but examples)

Sample Admission Stats

Georgia State

Mid 50% GPA 3.2 - 3.7

Mid 50% SAT ERW+M

- 950-1160

Mid 50% ACT 20- 25

Kennesaw

Mid 50% GPA 3.22

Mid 50% SAT 1070-1250

(Min 950, ERW 490, M 460)

Mid 50% ACT 21-24

(Min 20, Eng. 20, Math 19)

Georgia College

Mid 50% GPA 3.36-3.86

Mid 50% SAT 1150-1280

Mid 50% ACT 24-29

UGA

Mid 50% GPA 3.97-4.21

Mid 50% SAT 1320-1490

Mid 50% ACT 28-33

Mid 50% # of APs : 6-11

Georgia Tech

Mid 50% GPA: "A" Average

Mid-50% SAT: 1400 - 1520

- ERW 670-770
- M 700-780

Mid-50% ACT: 31-34

Mid 50% # of APs 8-11

Dual Enrollment: Is it for me?

What is Dual Enrollment?

State Bill 132 & SB2 use state FTE monies to fund Dual Enrollment options for eligible 10-12 grade students.

A student will take some of his or her courses at or through an eligible institution (college, university, or public technical college) or online college courses

Why Should a Student Take Advantage of Dual Enrollment?

- Permits students to earn college and high school credit simultaneously, and tuition, mandatory fees, books paid for with state funds.
- Student's schedules will have more flexibility because courses can be on alternate days and online.
- Allows students to start on career goals and aspirations sooner
- Students will earn college credit as long as they earn credit for the college course, it is not based on how they perform on one test, like it does for the Advanced Placement (AP) program.
- Please go to our **Counseling Webpage** and click on our **Dual Enrollment** link under the **Academics Tab.**

Testing is typically a junior year activity

Some students may need SAT or ACT scores early, while others should wait. Here’s a short guide:

Sophomores:

You need the scores for dual enrollment, or athletic recruitment.

Even if you test sophomore year for these reasons, you can and should still take an SAT/ACT later for college admissions!

Fall of Junior Year:

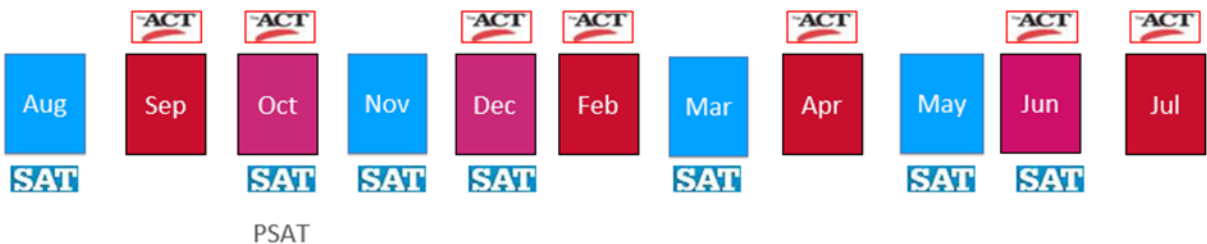
You are in advanced math and English and would like to get it done with!

Spring of Junior Year:

You are in Algebra 2 in Junior year, or you have commitments in the fall.

Students can continue to take the ACT and SAT for college admissions into their senior year (Sept/Oct for early admissions; Nov/Dec for regular admissions), but you shouldn’t wait until senior year to start.

You have lots of opportunities to take either test!



Remember that registration for any given test (except for PSAT) closes about a month before the test date. Registering earlier than that is smart - the earlier you register, the more likely you’ll be able to take the test at your first-choice location.

Choose a testing timeline that works for your student

