



CLASS OF 2022

STUDENT AND PARENT NIGHT INFORMATION



AGENDA

Graduation Requirements

College Application Process Overview

College Essay Overview

Application Platforms and Deadlines

SAT and ACT Score Reporting

Transcripts and Recommendation Requests

Financial Aid and Scholarships

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: 23 credits
- 4 ELA
- 4 MATH
- 4 SCIENCE
- 3 SOCIAL STUDIES
- .5 PE/ .5 HEALTH
- 3 MODERN LANGUAGE/FINE ARTS/TECH*
- 4 ELECTIVES**

*Students interested in attending a University of Georgia system school must have 2 consecutive years of the same foreign language in order to be accepted as a freshman.

** If you are planning on taking outside coursework you must meet with Mrs. Keese for approval. Paperwork and forms are available on the Rivers Academy counseling website.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RIGOR

AP Human
Geography

RIGOR

AP
Psychology

Pre-Calculus

AP Calculus

Statistics

Chemistry

Physics

Anatomy and
Physiology

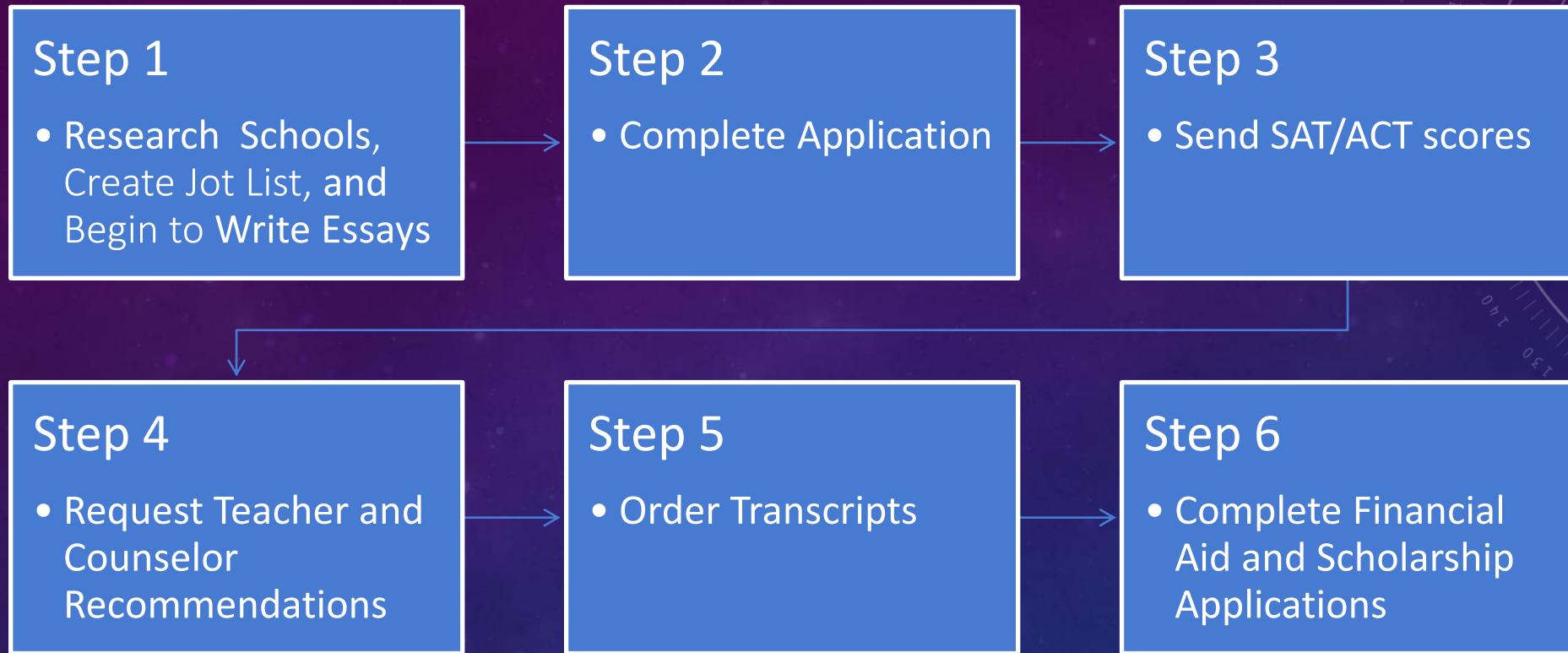
Spanish III
and IV

French III

Dual
Enrollment

The background features a dark blue gradient with technical diagrams. On the left, a large circular scale with numerical markings from 40 to 260 is visible. Various circular and curved lines, some with arrows, are scattered across the upper half of the image, suggesting a technical or scientific theme.

COLLEGE APPLICATION OVERVIEW



SIX STEPS TO SUCCESS

STEP 1- RESEARCH COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Research colleges for academic, social, and financial fit.

Consider the size of the school and its location.

Be sure to note the admission requirements, course requirements, and priority deadlines for scholarship consideration.

Create a spreadsheet or chart that you can use to compare the schools.

Ideally, you should have a balanced list with 25% safety schools, 40% target schools, and 35% reach schools -
REMEMBER THIS SHOULD BE BASED ON MIDDLE 50% DATA.

COMPLETE YOUR SENIOR PROFILE

- Your senior profile allows Mrs. Keesee and recommending teachers more insight into who you are and provides a summary of your achievements beyond your transcripts.
- Please turn in Senior Profiles to Mrs. Keesee no later than **August 31, 2021**.
- [Senior Profile](#)
- [A helpful resource](#) and [examples](#) of how to write powerful descriptions of your activities.
- You have limited space on your applications so make it count!
- [Parent Brag Sheet](#)



BEGIN WRITING YOUR COLLEGE ESSAYS

- [Common App essays for 2021-2022](#)
- [Coalition essay prompts for 2021-2022](#)
- Be sure to check essay prompts for school specific essay questions and for those not affiliated with Common App or Coalition
- Take advantage of essay workshops like those offered by Ms. Shuster.



STEP 2 – COMPLETE APPLICATIONS

Determine what types of applications each institution uses: Common App, Coalition for College, GAfutures, independent, etc.

Access applications and obtain admissions checklists for each institution

Common App and Coalition have really simplified the process for their member schools.

They house all components of your application and make sending applications a breeze.

Be sure to note college deadlines and PLAN AHEAD 2-4 weeks in advance.

APPLYING USING THE COMMON APP



1- Check to be sure your college is an affiliated institution. If so, create your account on Commonapp.org



2- Electronically invite Mrs. Keesee to be the recommender. She will complete the secondary school report and upload your transcript. Allow 2 weeks for processing.



3- Complete your student profile form



4- After first semester grades are reported, the student must submit a request for the Common App mid-year report to be completed



****If you are applying to schools outside of the Common App, Coalition, or GAfutures, then YOU MUST REQUEST TRANSCRIPTS THROUGH PARCHMENT.**

WHEN TO APPLY



EARLY DECISION - allows a student to apply in the early Fall for an early determination of admissibility. **BINDING!**



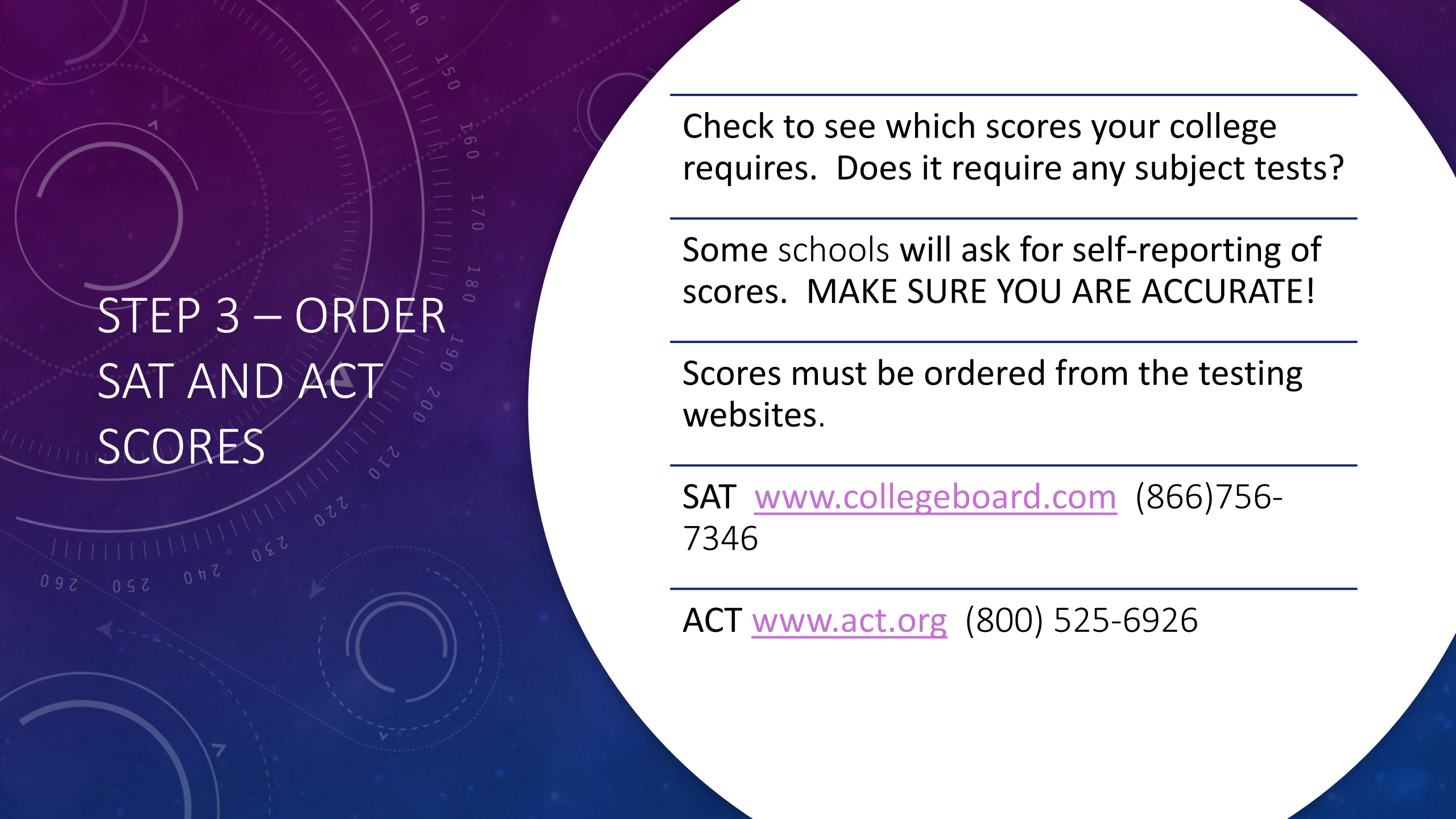
EARLY ACTION- invites early applications but does not require the student to attend if accepted.



ROLLING ADMISSION- the applicant is notified as soon as the application has been processed and the file is complete.



OPEN ADMISSION- students are notified of acceptance upon application (community colleges)



STEP 3 – ORDER SAT AND ACT SCORES

Check to see which scores your college requires. Does it require any subject tests?

Some schools will ask for self-reporting of scores. **MAKE SURE YOU ARE ACCURATE!**

Scores must be ordered from the testing websites.

SAT www.collegeboard.com (866)756-7346

ACT www.act.org (800) 525-6926

SAT AND ACT ADMINISTRATION DATES

SAT

- August 28, 2021
- September 26, 2021
- October 2, 2021
- November 6, 2021
- December 4, 2021

ACT

- September 11, 2021
- October 23, 2021
- December 11, 2021

TEST ADMINISTRATION DATES MAY CHANGE.

PLEASE CHECK WEBSITES FOR UPDATES.

STEP 4- REQUEST COUNSELOR/TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS



Mrs. Keesee is your acting counselor.



Counselor and teacher recommendations should be requested (if asked for by the college) **at least two weeks ahead of deadlines.**



Mrs. Keesee will provide a copy of your senior profile to all your teachers which will help expediate the process.

STEP 5 – TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS

If you are applying through Common App, Coalition, or GAfutures, be sure to put Rivers Academy as your school to request a transcript.

If you are applying to an independent school, then you will need to request transcripts through Parchment.

Parchment is a simple way to request transcripts to be sent to other schools, potential employers and other entities.

[Parchment](#)

**BE SURE TO CHECK HOW YOUR SCHOOL WANTS
TRANSCRIPTS SENT.**

HOW TO REQUEST A TRANSCRIPT THROUGH PARCHMENT

1. Create a Parchment account. • You DO NOT need a Registration Code.
2. Log into your Parchment account.
3. Go to Orders/Request. • Click Transcripts.
4. Search for and select destination.
5. Confirm destination and delivery
6. Submit payment if necessary.
7. Request is confirmed.
8. Track your order through your Parchment account. • Click Transcripts. • Click Order History.

*** If you are over 18, you must request your own transcript.

*** A parent may not request a transcript for you.



STEP 6 – COMPLETE FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS: FIRST STEPS

Familiarize

Familiarize yourself with the information needed for the FAFSA and CCS applications by visiting the websites. Check open application dates and deadlines. Start gathering needed documentation.

Visit

Visit GAfutures to learn more about HOPE and Zell Miller scholarships. You can apply for these scholarships by filling out the FAFSA or by going to the GAfutures website and applying there.

Visit

Visit the Rivers Academy Counseling website to begin your research for scholarship information.

Create

Create a chart detailing the requirements and deadlines to stay organized.

FAFSA VS CSS PROFILE

FAFSA

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

- Provided by the federal government
- Provides available federal aid option
- General financial questions/annual income
- Does not take student contribution into account
- Free

CSS Profile

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

- Provided by CollegeBoard, a non-profit
- Provides non-federal aid options
- More specific financial questions/personal assets
- Takes student contribution into account
- \$25 to fill out forms and submit to 1 school; \$16 for every additional school

HOPE VS. ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIP

HOPE

- Must be a legal resident of GA
- Must be a graduate of an eligible high school with 4 units of rigor
- A GPA of 3.0 in core courses
- Must maintain a 3.0 GPA in college
- If male, must have registered for selective service

**** Please note that changes do occur. For updates and additional information contact:**

GA Student Finance Commission (GSFC)

770-724-9000 or www.gsfc.org

Zell Miller

- Must be a legal resident of GA
- Must be a graduate of an eligible high school with 4 units of rigor
- A GPA of 3.7 in core courses **AND** 1200 SAT or 26 ACT
- Must maintain a 3.3 GPA in college

RESOURCES

[GAfutures](#)

[CollegeBoard](#)

[ACT](#)

[Common App](#)

[Coalition for College](#)

[Parchment](#)

[Rivers Academy Academic Advisement](#)