



COLLEGE ACCESS  
CHALLENGE GRANT

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***RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS  
AND FAMILIES***



# COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT



- *Grant Implementation led by The University System of Georgia on behalf of the Governor's Office.*
  
- *Grant Partners Include:*
  1. *Technical College System of Georgia*
  2. *Georgia Department of Education*
  3. *Georgia Student Finance Commission*
  4. *Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education*
  5. *Communities in Schools of Georgia*
  6. *Southern Regional Education Board*



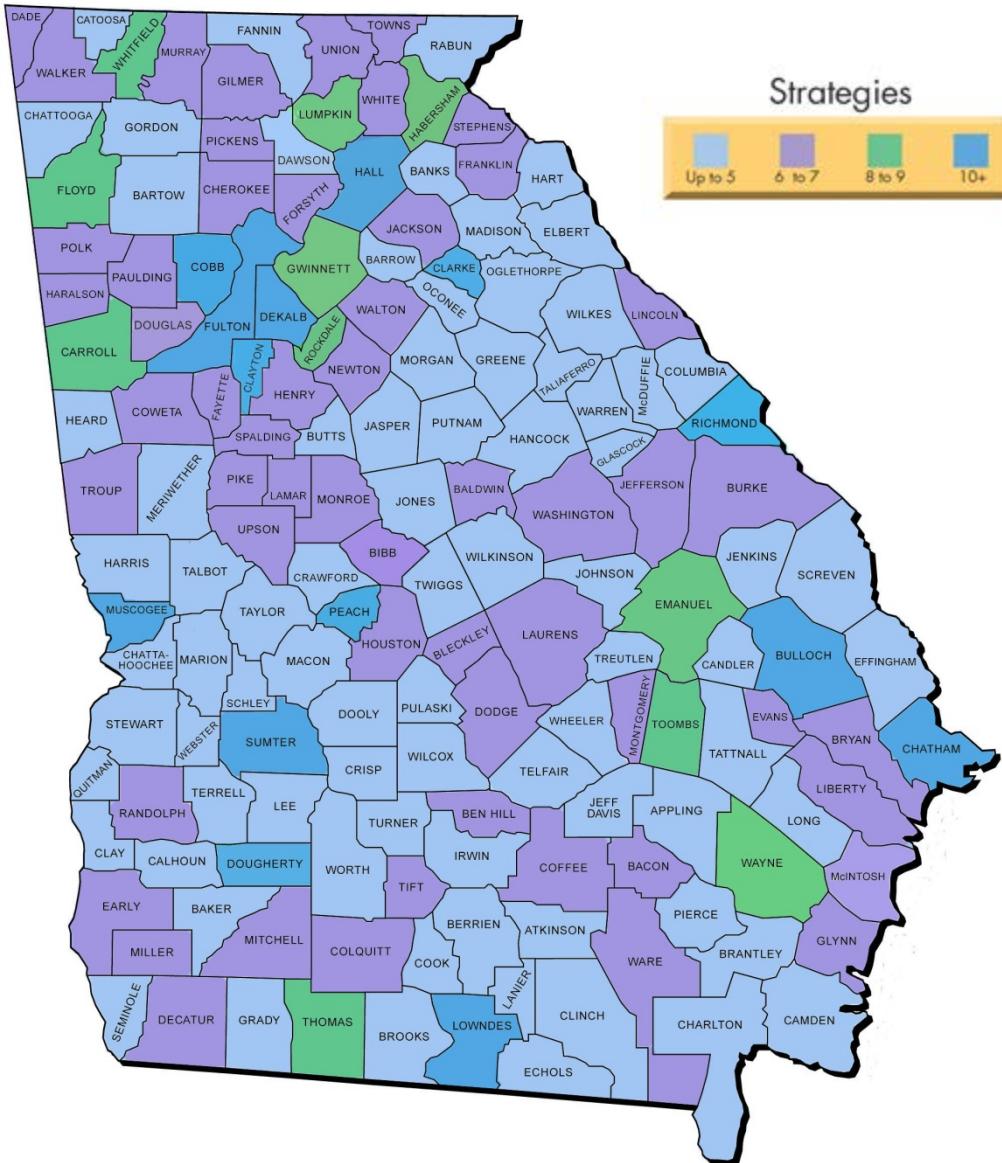
# CACG GOALS

- 1) To increase the number of underrepresented students who graduate from Georgia high schools ready, supported and motivated to go into postsecondary education.
- 2) To increase the number of underrepresented students enrolled and persisting in postsecondary education.
- 3) To increase the college degree attainment of low-income adults with some college credits but no degree.



# CACG STRATEGIES

- Apply to College
- Counselor Training and Tools
- GACollege411
- FAFSA Events
- College Textbook Grants
- Near Peer Program
- Adult Learning Consortium
- GATRACS
- Military Outreach
- Public Awareness Resources
- Motivational Modules
- Community Engagement Events
- DOE Individual Graduation Plan



## Strategies

Up to 5    6 to 7    8 to 9    10+



## **CACG BIG WINS**

- Received funding five years in a row!!
- New GAcademy411 accounts—up 725% to 3 million Georgians
- FAFSA submissions—up 881% over baseline to 311,343
- College applications—up 660% to 972,789 online applications
- College enrollment for the University System of Georgia —up 17% to 391,309 (2008-2012)
- College enrollment the Technical College System of Georgia —up 5% to 152,934 (2008-2012)



#### Member States

Alabama	Mississippi
Arkansas	North Carolina
Delaware	Oklahoma
Florida	South Carolina
Georgia	Tennessee
Kentucky	Texas
Louisiana	Virginia
Maryland	West Virginia

- The SREB Collaborative Counselor Training Initiative – Interstate compact
- Data and research services
- Resource-sharing agreements
- Cooperative programs

# **Go Alliance**

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- Network of state representatives
- Using marketing and communications strategies to promote
  - academic achievement
  - high school completion
  - student readiness for college and work.



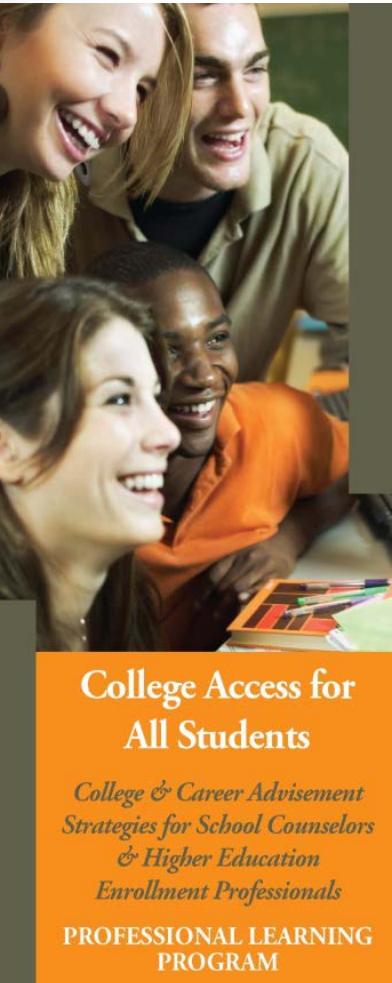
# SREB College Access Campaigns



SOUTH CAROLINA

can go to college





# COUNSELOR TRAINING MODULES

- The **College Access: Creating a College-Going Culture Modules** were developed to provide high quality, online professional learning for certified middle grade and high school counselors and postsecondary enrollment professionals.
- For more information, please visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/collegeaccess.html>.



# Students Who Don't Go ...

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- Don't think they can afford college
- Don't feel academically capable
- Need to start earning money immediately due to family responsibilities
- Feel that college is too far away from home
- Do not like school in general
- Enroll in military
- Believe that their career of interest does not require postsecondary training



# *Strategies for Counselors in College and Career Advising*

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- ASCA National Model
- Development by content experts
  - Middle grades and high school counselors
  - State agency representatives
  - College of Education faculty
  - Curriculum specialists
- Education Development Center (EDC)



# Collaborative Counselor Training Initiative (CCTI)

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- Instructor-led
- Three *stand-alone* modules
  - 1 Module = 4 sessions
  - 1 session = 2 weeks
  - CEU/PLU credit
- 8 week online course for academic credit (semester or quarter)
- Guide for optional face-to-face workshops or hybrid approach



# *Strategies for Counselors in College and Career Advising*

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- Learning goals
- Readings
- Discussion Forum
- Applied Activities
  - discussion rubrics
  - videos
  - action plans
  - research
- Builds Professional Portfolio



# *Strategies for Counselors in College and Career Advising*

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## Module 1

- Introduction
- Advocacy/Creating a college-going culture
- Communicating with diverse populations

## Module 2

- Career Planning
- Academic Planning
- College Choice

## Module 3

- Financial Literacy
- Financial Aid
- Admissions Tests
- Application Process



# **Module IV: *College and Career Advising for the Middle Grades***

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- Understand barriers that cause students to disengage and strategies to mitigate them
- Begin career awareness early
- Use career interests and personal aptitudes to foster academic engagement
- Help students develop an academic plan and make a smooth transition to high school
- Help students understand college choices and the college application process

# COUNSELOR TRAINING MODULES



**Register Online Now for Summer  
Session – June and/or Fall  
Session – September!!**

- Registration fee reimbursed after completion of each module (\$100).
- Stipend of \$500 awarded to participant for completion of all three modules.
- For additional information contact [ccti@usg.edu](mailto:ccti@usg.edu)

# External Evaluation Project

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- 2011 online survey of more than 300 enrollees in 6 states
- Preliminary Findings:
  - 90% of counselors find the modules “useful” or “very useful”
  - 81% would recommend the training to their colleagues
  - 72% of counselors report they are changing their practice as a result
  - 78% are implementing their action plans

# External Evaluation Project

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What was the most valuable lesson you learned from the course?

“College includes training in any type of postsecondary institution, and all students should be encouraged to obtain some type of college”

“...how important it is to help first generation students learn about postsecondary planning .... sometimes we take for granted that kids know how to apply to college or even have access to visit a college campus. This course was a real eye opener for me!”

# GEOORGIA APPLY TO COLLEGE



University System of Georgia • Technical College System of Georgia  
Georgia Independent College Association • Communities in Schools  
Georgia Student Finance Commission • Georgia Department of Education  
Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education



- The Georgia Apply to College program has the goal of providing all Georgia high school seniors with the opportunity to apply to college using [GACollege411.org](http://GACollege411.org).
- Please confirm participation to be listed on the site.
- **THE NOVEMBER 2013 APPLICATION IS NOW AVAILABLE!!!**
  - Apply today!!
- For more information, please visit <http://www.usg.edu/apply-to-college>, email [gacw@usg.edu](mailto:gacw@usg.edu) or call 404-962-3110.



*Expand Your Opportunities*

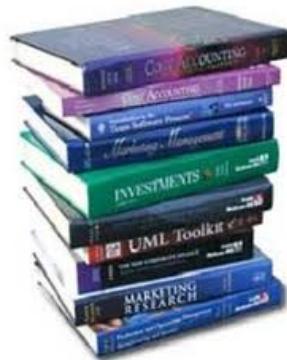
- The College Access Challenge Grant has provided resources to enhance GACollege411. The site offers the following:
  - Career Planning
  - High School Planning
  - College Planning
  - Financial Aid Planning
  - Resume Builder
  - SAT PREP
  - Info for Adult Learners and Military
- For more information or to schedule a GACollege411 presentation or training for your staff or students, please visit [www.GACollege411.org](http://www.GACollege411.org) or email [clientservices@gsfc.org](mailto:clientservices@gsfc.org).





- The College Access Challenge Grant has provided resources to assist Georgia Student Finance Commission's completion of **Financial Aid and FAFSA Events and College Goal Georgia Events.**
- For more information or to schedule a financial aid presentation, please visit [www.GACollege411.org](http://www.GACollege411.org) or email [clientservices@gxfc.org](mailto:clientservices@gxfc.org).





# COLLEGE TEXTBOOK GRANTS

Book Grants to dual enrollment students in Early College, Move on When Ready, and GED Dual Enrollment programs are available to fund college textbook costs not covered through Georgia's dual enrollment funding.

Schools with low income students currently enrolled in these programs can contact the appropriate program directors: **Early College – Dawn Cooper** ([dawn.cooper@usg.edu](mailto:dawn.cooper@usg.edu)), **Hope Grant/MOWR – Sheila Caldwell** ([scaldwell@tcsug.edu](mailto:scaldwell@tcsug.edu)) and **GED Dual Enrollment – Carla DeBose** ([CDeBose@tcsug.edu](mailto:CDeBose@tcsug.edu)) for more information.



# DUAL ENROLLMENT

**Provides students with the opportunity to take college coursework while in high school and receive high school and college credit.**

## FUNDING

1. Accel - Approved academic coursework towards associates or bachelors paid by state appropriated funds.
2. Hope Grant – Approved technical coursework towards certificates and diplomas paid by lottery funds.
3. Move On When Ready – Any full time college coursework paid by state appropriations as a result of Georgia Law.





# COURSE ARTICULATION

- In March 2012 additional 17 general education courses in the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) as transferable to the University System of Georgia (USG) for credit in the core curriculum, the basic courses all students must take to earn a degree.
- A list of all 27 transfer courses, including those newly approved, can be found here at [www.usg.edu](http://www.usg.edu) under “Academic Planning”



# NEAR PEER PROGRAM

- The **Near Peer Program** provides college coaches/mentors for “high-need” high school students to help ensure they receive the services needed to successfully apply to and enroll in a postsecondary institution.
- For more information on this strategy, please email [sheila.jones@usg.edu](mailto:sheila.jones@usg.edu).
- The following USG institutions have Near Peer Programs
  - Georgia Regents University- Augusta
  - Atlanta Metropolitan College- Atlanta
  - University of North Georgia - Gainesville
  - Dalton State College-Dalton
  - University of Georgia-Athens
  - Fort Valley State University – Fort Valley
  - Georgia Tech - Atlanta
  - Albany State University - Albany
  - Georgia Southwestern State University - Americus



# ADULT LEARNING CONSORTIUM

- The **Adult Learning Consortium** is designed to assist in improving adult learner-focused services, programs and outreach to Georgia adults who are interested in completing college.
- The Georgia ONmyLINE website provides access to several courses and degree programs that are well suited for adult learners.
  - Armstrong Atlantic State University
  - Atlanta Metropolitan College
  - Bainbridge College
  - Columbus State University
  - Dalton State College
  - Fort Valley State University
  - Gainesville State College
  - Georgia Perimeter College
  - Georgia Southwestern State University
  - Gordon College
  - Macon State College
  - Southern Polytechnic State University
  - Valdosta State University
- For more information, please visit [www.discoveryourgoal.net](http://www.discoveryourgoal.net).

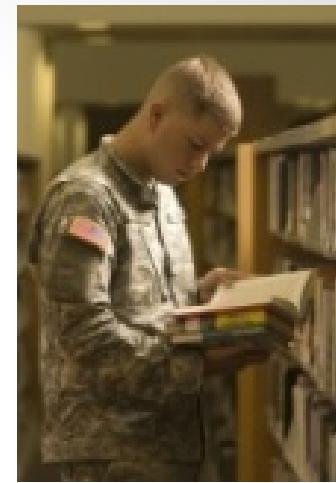




Georgia Transfer Articulation Cooperative Services

- The **Georgia Transfer Articulation Portal** will provide a one stop portal where students can find information on how to transfer and articulate courses and credits within and between the University System of Georgia and Technical College System of Georgia.
- The portal will contain the information institutions have about which courses articulate between institutions and make that information transparent to students.
- For more information, email [daphene.blackmon@usg.edu](mailto:daphene.blackmon@usg.edu).





- The **Military Outreach Strategy** was developed to create military friendly campuses throughout the system and attract, retain and graduate military members, veterans and their families.
- The Military Resource Centers established will serve as the hub for the military student and family members to ask questions, get information, and experience the experience of being with other military students.

For more information, email  
[militaryeducation@usg.edu](mailto:militaryeducation@usg.edu).



**Make Your Dream  
a Reality**

**Apply to College**

Create a **GACollege411.org** account and get started!



- The **CACG Public Awareness Campaign** supports all grant strategies by providing tools to promote the availability of resources.
- Materials that have been developed include but are not limited to logos, videos, banners, flyers, buttons and billboards.
- To view college access videos, please visit <http://vimeo.com/7597084>. To order any other free materials to support CACG strategies or for more information on these materials, please email [collegeaccessitems@usg.edu](mailto:collegeaccessitems@usg.edu).



# GATracs

Georgia Transfer Articulation Cooperative Services

**Discover your**



Georgia Opportunities for Adult Learners

**Why Not You?**

**COLLEGE  
IS FOR  
EVERYONE!**

Sign up NOW.  
[GACollege411.org](http://GACollege411.org)  
Expand Your Opportunities

Check out schools at:  
[usg.edu](http://usg.edu) and [tcsgeorgia.org](http://tcsgeorgia.org)

[GACollege411.org](http://GACollege411.org)



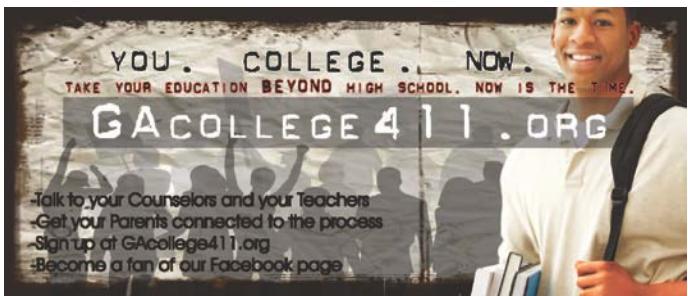
**YOU . COLLEGE . NOW .**  
TAKE YOUR EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL. NOW IS THE TIME.

**Sign up NOW.**  
[GACollege411.org](http://GACollege411.org)  
Expand Your Opportunities

- Talk to your Counselors and your Teachers
- Get your parents Connected to the process
- Sign up at [GACollege411.org](http://GACollege411.org)
- Become a fan of our Facebook page

Check out schools at:  
[usg.edu](http://usg.edu) and [tcsgeorgia.org](http://tcsgeorgia.org)

**GACOLLEGE 4 1 1 . ORG**



**It's within  
your Reach**

**Apply to College**

Get a [GACollege411.org](http://GACollege411.org) account and get started!

**Take the 1st Step to  
Success**

**Apply to College**

Create a [GACollege411.org](http://GACollege411.org) account and get started!

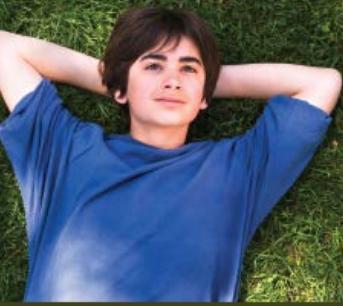
**Make Your Dream  
a Reality**

**Apply to College**

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# Middle School PLANNING CHECKLIST



The state of Georgia provides the GACollege411 website with resources to begin planning for college and future career goals. Using GACollege411 and this checklist makes planning for your future simple.

## SIXTH GRADE CHECKLIST



### CREATE A GACOLLEGE411 ACCOUNT

If your school hasn't already created an account for you then you can do it yourself. To create an account:

1. Go to GACollege411 homepage
2. Click on Create an Account
3. Select Middle School or Junior High School Student
4. Enter your birth date
5. Click on Find, and scroll down to find your school (look for the full name of your school)
6. Select the year of your high school graduation
7. Enter an account name you will be able to remember such as student ID number and last name and then a password that you will remember such as your birth date



### TAKE A CAREER ASSESSMENT

During your 6th grade year you should take at least one Career Assessment. This will help you begin to discover the career path that is right for you based on your personality and interests.

You have SIX to choose from:

- Career Cluster Survey
- The Career Key
- Basic Skills Survey
- Interest Profiler
- Work Values Sorter
- Transferable Skills Checklist

When you find careers that interest you, add them to your portfolio.



Begin developing good study habits and maintaining good grades. You can also take advantage of extracurricular activities and other academic opportunities. All these

## HOPE Program SUMMARY

### HOPE Scholarship

- Students must graduate from high school with a 3.0 GPA as calculated by the Georgia Student Finance Commission for a college prep diploma or a 3.2 for a career tech diploma. Students graduating under the single diploma type must have a 3.0 GPA as calculated by GSFC.
- Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in college.
- If a student falls below a 3.0 GPA in college, they may only regain the HOPE Scholarship one time.
- The HOPE Scholarship will not pay for remedial or developmental courses.
- A student may receive the HOPE Scholarship until the first of these events:
  - The student has earned a baccalaureate or first professional degree;
  - The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours;
  - The student has received a total of combined payment of 127 semester hours or 190 quarter hours from the HOPE Scholarship, HOPE Grant, and Accel program (Accel payments made beginning with Fall 2011 term are excluded from the 127 hour cap); or
  - Beginning with those students entering HOPE for the first time on or after July 1, 2011, seven years after a student has graduated from high school or the equivalent provided, however, that for a student that serves on active duty or resides in the military during such seven-year period such active duty service time will be credited back to the seven years.
- The HOPE Scholarship will pay:
  - At an eligible public postsecondary institution, for FY2012, a percentage amount of the standard tuition charges from the previous year. In subsequent years, the award amount will be a percentage of the immediately preceding year's HOPE Award Amount (view the chart on GACollege411 to find exact amounts).
  - At an eligible private postsecondary institution, a percentage amount of the HOPE award amount for private colleges.

### Rigor Requirements

For students graduating on or after May 1, 2015, they must pass 2 courses from the following types of courses

- Advanced Math;
- Advanced Science;
- Advanced Placement (AP) in core subjects;
- International Baccalaureate (IB) in core subjects;
- Core subjects taken at a University System of Georgia (USG) Institution; or
- Advanced Foreign Language

For students graduating on or after May 1, 2016, they must pass 3 courses.

For students graduating on or after May 1, 2017,



# What Are You Going To Do After High School?

Is college in  
your plans?

Or, are you  
thinking about a  
certificate program  
at a technical school?

Or, maybe you plan  
to get a job?

You can find information to help  
with any of these options at

## GSFAPPS Instructions

### USE GSFAPPS TO APPLY FOR MOST STATE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT PROGRAMS (INCLUDING HOPE)

#### Go to GACollege411.org

First create a GACollege411 account by clicking on "Create an Account" at the top right of the homepage.

#### SET UP YOUR PROFILE

##### STEP 1 OF 3 – Who Are You?

- ♦ Click on "GO" next to the appropriate choice (Middle or Junior High School Student, High School Student, College Student, Adult, or Parent)

##### STEP 2 OF 3

- ♦ Use pull down menus for your month and day of birth and type in the 4-digit year. Type in your full school name or choose find to choose from the list of schools already in the database.

- ♦ Click Next at the bottom of the page.

Please note, if you are not asked to enter your date of birth you will need to add it to your Profile.

##### STEP 3 OF 3

- ♦ Type in your name
- ♦ Use pull down menu for Year of high school graduation
- ♦ Type in your E-mail address (if you don't have an E-mail address, you can choose to create a GACollege411.org account)



# COLLEGE PLANNING CHECKLIST

GACollege411.org

GACollege411.org is your one-stop website for High School Planning, College Planning, Financial Aid Planning and Career Planning.

You can keep track of your high school classes, and you can also apply to colleges and universities in Georgia (and some out of state), fill out your HOPE Scholarship application and build your resume for job searching once you graduate.

#### PLAN YOUR STEPS

There is so much to do in high school – let GACollege411 help you navigate through the steps. This checklist can help you know what you need to do along the way.

#### NINTH GRADE CHECKLIST

- ✓ Update Your Profile within Your Portfolio to reflect that you are now a High School Student and create a connection to your high school.

- ✓ Visit the Career Planning tab to explore careers and save 3 new careers in Your Portfolio.

✓

Meet with your counselor to go over Your Plan of Study in the High School Planning section.

✓

- ✓ Explore Programs and Majors and start thinking about what you might want to major in in college.

✓

- ✓ Set short-term goals for yourself – academic, career, or personal. You can enter these in Your Portfolio.

✓

- ✓ Check out Prepare for College in the College Planning section to find out what your postsecondary options are, for help with picking the right college, as well as college entrance requirements.

✓

- ✓ Explore extracurricular activities in your school and community and record your involvement in Your Extracurriculars.

- ✓ Meet with your counselor to review Your Plan of Study to be sure you're still on track.

- ✓ Learn about the College Credit Now options to help you discover how to earn college credit while still in high school.

- ✓ Take the PSAT in October.

- ✓ Talk to your counselor about the tests you'll need for college admissions and take advantage of the FREE test help available in the College Test Prep section.

- ✓ Start exploring colleges in Georgia and nationwide to find schools that interest you and save your top choices to Your Portfolio.

- ✓ Continue to track your GPA eligibility for the HOPE Scholarship at Your HOPE GPA.

- ✓ Keep volunteering and participating in extracurricular activities such as sports and school organizations.

Get on track



What is  
financial  
aid?

What  
determines  
financial  
aid  
eligibility?



How  
do I  
apply?



What will  
I qualify  
for?

# Paying For College

Student Loan and Financial Aid Information



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

- The **Community Engagement Strategy** is promoting the importance of a postsecondary education among underrepresented persons throughout the state through robust community events. This strategy enables community groups to assist local educators and students by providing resources and information and sponsoring events. For more information on community engagement events, please contact [creynolds@cisgeorgia.org](mailto:creynolds@cisgeorgia.org).

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTNERS

- **Fort Valley State University Educational Talent Search**
  - Warner Robins, GA
- **CIS of Marietta/Cobb County**
  - Marietta, GA
- **Center for Pan Asian Community Services**
  - Atlanta, GA
- **Orange Duffel Bag Foundation**
  - Atlanta and Macon, GA
- **The Scholarship Academy**
  - Atlanta, GA

# MOTIVATIONAL MODULES

- The Motivational Modules, are a comprehensive resource containing critical messages that schools and communities can instill in the minds of PreK through 12<sup>th</sup> grade college bound students and parents regarding the accessibility and importance of college and careers.
- For more information and training on how to use the modules  
[http://www.gsfc.org/main/publishing/volunteer\\_resource/index.cfm](http://www.gsfc.org/main/publishing/volunteer_resource/index.cfm).



# It's for real.

- Over a lifetime a college graduate earns over \$1 million more than a person with a high school diploma.



Photograph licensed from Getty Images, Inc.

# What kind of paycheck would you like to take home?

High School  
Dropout

\$6.55

$$\begin{array}{r} \times \quad 40 \text{ hrs./wk.} \\ \hline \$262.00 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \times \quad 52 \text{ wks./yr.} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

\$13,624



# DOE Individual Graduation Plan

- CACG provides additional resources for the Georgia Department of Education promotion and training for Counselors and Career Technical and Agricultural Education Directors on the advisement mandated by the **BRIDGE** Act.
- For more information on this strategy, please contact [espann@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:espann@doe.k12.ga.us).





# CACG RESOURCES DOE WEBSITE

- This website provides resources for school counselors to reference when assisting students and parents.
- Resources include
  - Presentations
  - Handouts
  - Videos
  - Logos
  - Updates



**Low-income adults who have "stopped out" are in danger of not completing degrees.**

The College Access Challenge Grant provides clear information for transfer and dual enrollment students about which courses and programs will transfer within Georgia's public higher education system.



## Program Summary

The College Access Challenge Grant program seeks to increase postsecondary degree attainment of prekindergarten to grade 12 students traditionally underrepresented in higher education. These students include first-time freshmen, transfer students, adults returning to college, and the military. It also works to increase degree attainment of Georgia's low income adults with some college credit but no degree.

The College Access Challenge Grant program emphasizes performance, partnerships, and the overall value to higher education as part of its metrics for success.



# COMMUNITY RESOURCE STRATEGY

- Please invite us to come to your district, school and community and share our resources promoting college access and success with your community partners, parents and students (**especially seniors!!**)
- Target Communities include:
  - Taylor County
  - Crisp County
  - Cook County
  - Evans County
  - Johnson County
  - Banneker High School Cluster (Fulton)
  - Washington High School Cluster (APS)
  - Clarkston High School Cluster (Dekalb)
- Other focus areas include:
  - Foster Youth
  - Homeless Youth
  - Children of Incarcerated Parents
  - Minority Males



# NEXT STEPS...



# NEXT STEPS...

- Assess needs of your schools and your students
- Review the CACG resources that may assist with meeting needs
- Collect information on how to get started
- Reach out to the resource contact if you need assistance

# QUESTIONS?

Dawn Cooper  
Director of College Readiness  
University System of Georgia

[Dawn.cooper@usg.edu](mailto:Dawn.cooper@usg.edu)

404-962-3123

CACG Public Awareness Materials:  
**[CollegeAccessItems@usg.edu](mailto:CollegeAccessItems@usg.edu)**