

Senior Scholarship Newsletter

October 2023

This newsletter is updated the first week of each month and posted on the GHS website under the "For Students" tab.

Make sure your college applications are complete!

1. Did you complete the school's application for the 24-25 school year online and finalize payment?
2. Did you create an account on parchment.com and request your transcript be sent to the college(s) you applied to?
3. Did you send your ACT score to the college directly from your ACT account?

All 3 steps are part of the admissions process 😊

Should you take the ACT again?

Yes! The ACT is important for scholarship money and even class placement. Take it again!!!!

www.myact.org

Registration deadlines are usually about a month prior to the test date. Fee waivers are available for students who qualify for free/reduced lunch.

**October 28
December 9**

**February 10
April 13**

Free ACT Prep offered by the Get2College Center!!

Virtual workshops on Oct. 21 and Dec. 2 are available as well as pre-recorded sessions for your convenience! Register through www.get2college.org

FAFSA opens in December

The FAFSA – the Free Application for Federal Student Aid – is the first step in getting money for college. It is required for federal student aid. However, the FAFSA results may also be used for private scholarships, money directly from the college or university, and state financial aid, all with different deadlines. Basic parent/student information along with 2022 tax returns are used to complete this free application.

Get help completing this important online application!!! GHS will have FAFSA days each month so you can get assistance with the application, but you can also make an appointment on your own time through get2college.org to complete it.

HELP GRANT: FREE TUITION IN MISSISSIPPI

Students who have a 20 or higher on the ACT, a minimum C average, and who have taken the classes they need to get into a 4-year college might be eligible for the **HELP scholarship**. This scholarship gives **full tuition** to students who go to an **in-state college**. You have to meet the family income requirements, which are subject to change from year to year. Here are the income levels for last year to give you an idea if you qualify...

If you make this amount or less (for the past 2 years) you could qualify!!!

Students who are the only child.....	\$39,500
Students with one sibling under 21.....	\$44,500
Students with two siblings under 21.....	\$49,500
Students with three siblings under 21.....	\$54,500
Students with four siblings under 21.....	\$59,500
Students with five siblings under 21.....	\$64,500

Visit www.ihl.state.ms.us for more info or talk with your student's guidance counselor.

College recruiters... get to know them!!!

College recruiters or admissions counselors are your main resource for all the information you need about that school... they help with everything from general application questions, campus visits, scholarship questions, and housing. They WANT to get to know you and help... so reach out to them with any question or concern you have!!! To find out who your admission counselor is for your school/area, just look under the admissions tab on the college's website! Here are a few who have contacted us so far this year...

University of Southern Mississippi
Dallas Smith- 601-543-7415
Dallas.D.Smith@usm.edu

Mississippi State University
Stacia Cleveland- 228-669-0640
s.cleveland@msstate.edu

Ole Miss
Shelby-Rae Hamel- 228-238-1396
srchamel@olemiss.edu

LSU
Emily Bernard- 225-578-1175
ebarnard@lsu.edu

MGCCC
Karlea Bociga- 228-236-8346
Karlea.bociga@mgccc.edu

Mississippi College
TJ Williams- 601-549-1104
Tjwilliams1@mc.edu

Millsaps College
Damien Darby- 601-974-1047
darbydl@millsaps.edu

University of South Alabama
Mary Catherine Nall- 251-461-1674
mcnall@southalabama.edu

William Carey
Kelsie Smith- 601-318-6450
ksmith@wmcarey.edu

Visit Days

The best way to see if a college is right for you is to visit! Schedule a visit under the prospective student or future student tab of the college's website. Make sure to go on a weekday when class is in session so you can see what a typical day is like. Provide your counselor with proof of your visit and we will excuse your absence! Many colleges host Saturday preview days for high school seniors!

Scholarships with October deadlines

Coca-Cola Scholars Program: Deadline October 2 by 4 pm. This scholarship is VERY competitive. Semi-finalists will be selected in the first phase (by November) to continue with the second phase of applications, including an interview. Only 50 students are selected as national scholars and receive \$20,000 in scholarships. It is for students with a very high ACT score and GPA. Leadership and extracurricular activities are important parts of the selection process. The application can be found at <https://www.coca-colascholarsfoundation.org/apply/>

AES Engineering Scholarship: Deadline October 8. Award amount is \$500. Students must submit an essay of between 500 and 1000 words to answer the following question: *When you look back on your life in 30 years, what would it take for you to consider your life successful? What relationships or accomplishments will be important on this journey?* Details are available at <http://www.aesengineers.com/scholarships.php> and essays should be e-mailed to scholarships@aesengineers.com

Heisman High School Scholarship: Deadline October 17 by 4:00. Senior scholar-athletes are eligible to apply. Heisman will select a male and female from each school who will go on to compete at the state level for the scholarship. In addition to playing at least one varsity sport, applicants should have at least a B overall GPA and should have leadership and community service at the school and/or community level. The 10/17 deadline includes the counselor review process after you submit, so be sure to do your part early! Apply online at www.heismanscholarship.com

National Rice Month Scholarship: Deadline October 31. Scholarship amounts range from \$2,000 - \$5,000 from the USA Rice Federation. Applicants should apply online. Create an original video about US rice and the importance of rice to your state. <https://www.reelricecontest.com/about-the-contest/>

Voice of Democracy Scholarship (VFW): Deadline October 31. Scholarship amounts range from \$1,000- \$35,000. Voice of Democracy is an annual nationwide scholarship program sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). It is an audio-essay contest for high school students. This year's theme is "What are the Greatest Attributes of our Democracy?" For scholarship rules and entry forms, see www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships

Scholarships with November deadlines

Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship: Deadline November 13 at 1 pm.

Scholarship amounts range from \$1,000 per year to \$12,500 per year. An independent selection committee will evaluate the applications and select the recipients considering: leadership, academic achievements and records, community involvement, and financial need. Apply online at <https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/MVS.cfm>

Civic League of Gulfport Scholarships: Deadline November 15. TWO scholarships are available: The Kathy Varnado Smith scholarship has a \$1,000 value and can be awarded to a senior who plans to enter an educational field related to helping those with physical or special needs. The Exceptional Student scholarship is designated for a senior who has personally had to overcome a physical or special need. This includes those who have struggled with hearing, visual, physical, or learning disabilities. Applications for both are available in the guidance office.

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship/The Cooke College Scholarship Program: Deadline November 16. This is an undergraduate scholarship program available to high-achieving high school seniors with financial need who seek to attend and graduate from the nation's best four-year colleges and universities. It is a very competitive and selective process. Students must have an "A" GPA, a minimum 26 on the ACT, demonstrate financial need (students who receive free/reduced lunch), and be involved in community service. For program details and to access the application, visit <https://www.jkcf.org/our-scholarships/college-scholarship-program/>

Scholarships with December Deadlines

National Space Club Scholarship: Deadline December 4. One \$15,000 award. Must be a high school senior with the intention of pursuing a career in the STEM field. Apply online at <https://www.spaceclub.org/scholarship/index.html>

Miriam Scarborough Scholarship through P.E.O. of Mississippi (Dec. 5). Senior girls planning to attend a college in Mississippi or Cottey College are eligible to apply. Must have a B average, a 24 or higher on the ACT, and also have financial need and leadership/service experience. Bring the completed application packet to guidance by December 5th to be picked up by the local chapter of P.E.O. Your application needs to include your high school transcript, ACT score report, resume, college acceptance email, print-out of the cost of attendance for the college you plan to attend (in Mississippi), Paragraph/statement from a parent regarding your financial need.

There are also national scholarship databases that allow you to search for scholarships. Be careful of any scholarship or organization that asks for an application fee, as they may not be legitimate. Scholarship applications should always be free! These are highly recommended...

- [Big Future](#)
- [SallieMae](#)
- [College Scholarships](#)
- [Fastweb](#)
- [Scholarships by UNCF](#)
- [Unigo](#)
- [Student Scholarships](#)

Get2College is a FREE resource for college planning. Check out their website full of helpful information, including their college guidebook.

www.get2college.org