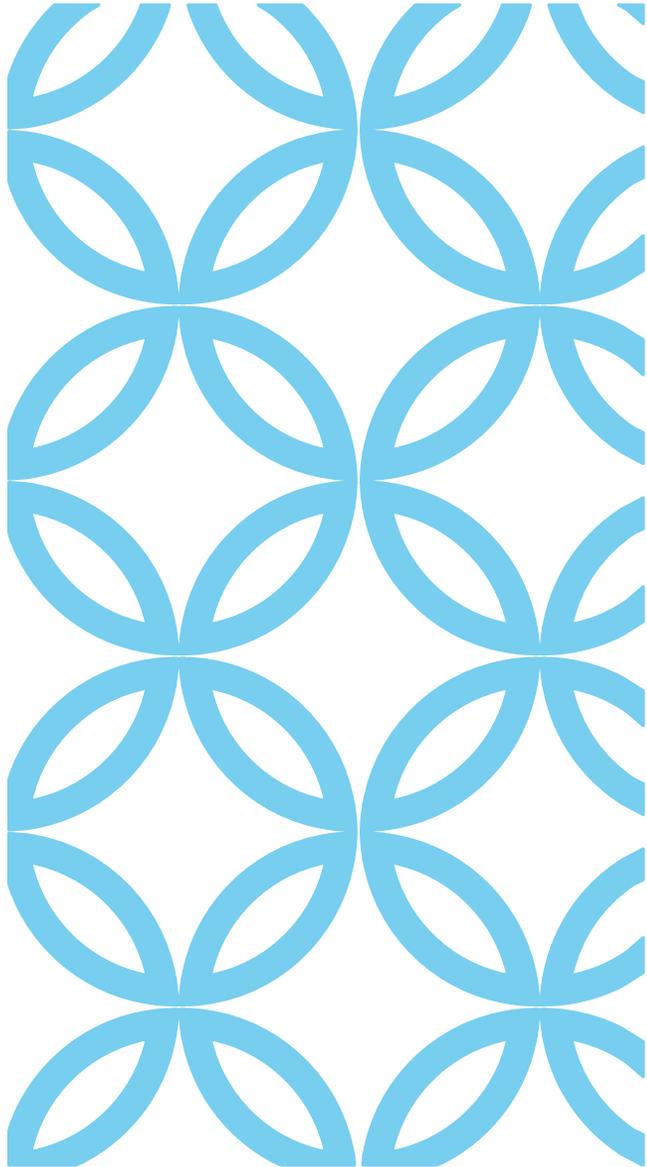




# **SOFO COUNSELORS PRESENT: MANAGING THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS**

And other  
important things  
seniors and the  
SoFo nation need  
to know





It's Stressful!

It's Overwhelming!

It's Confusing!

It's Expensive!

Can you believe it's here?

We promise it's fun!

South Forsyth Counselors are here to help!

Let's discuss team members, the college application process,  
and all the resources available to you and your student.

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**CLASS OF 2021- SENIOR YEAR**



## South Forsyth Counselors

Courtney Johnson, Michele Vargas,  
Aaron Pileggi, Shari Frankel, Amy Short  
*(left to right)*



COUNSELORS SERVE ALL STUDENTS IN 9<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
AND CASELOADS ARE ASSIGNED ALPHABETICALLY

SCHOOL COUNSELOR:

COURTNEY JOHNSON

AARON PILEGGI

MICHELE VARGAS

SHARI FRANKEL

AMY SHORT, LEAD COUNSELOR

STUDENT LAST NAME  
BEGINNING WITH:

A — DE

DF — KA

KB — O

P — S

T — Z

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Need to make an appointment with your  
child's counselor? Email us!



# STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

Jill McKee

Graduation  
Coach

Jonathan Schreier

504, Hospital  
Homebound, SST

Helen Bennett

Registrar (Student  
Records)

Shirley McKinzie

Counseling  
Secretary

Naran Butler-  
Houck

Social Worker

Philip Schmidt

Student Advocacy  
Specialist



# IT'S TIME TO GET ORGANIZED!

College Name	Application Deadline	Priority Deadline
Purdue University	January 15-Regular Decision	November 1 - Early Action
Georgia Institute of Technology	January 4 – Regular Decision	October 15 – Early Action - Scholarships
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	January 1– Regular Decision	November 1 – Early Action
University of Tennessee	December 15	November 1
University of Georgia	January 1 – Regular Decision	October 15 – Early Action November 1 – Foundation Fellowship

There are deadlines, and then there are DEADLINES!

Be Aware of Priority Deadlines- Early Action/Decisions and Scholarships



# COLLEGE APPLICATION TOOL-KIT

## One-Stop Shop for the College Application Process

- Start with the checklist
- Common Application and Coalition tutorial videos and links
- Senior Profile Sheet
- Gap Year Information
- South Forsyth 2020-2021 School Profile
- Essay Writing tips

## Bookmark the tool-kit page for quick reference

- Refer to the tool-kit often
- We provided helpful videos so you can pinpoint exactly what information you need without searching everywhere.
- Use the Appplerouth “bookshelf” for resources on AP, SAT, ACT, PSAT, and preparing for college.
- Georgia Tech’s College Planning Resource Guide



# MATCH - REACH - SAFETY SCHOOLS

- ❖ Match Schools: Grades, course rigor, GPA, SAT/ACT scores (optional), etc. are all on par with those undergrads typically admitted. Don't confuse 'match' with 'guarantee.'
- ❖ Reach (Dream) Schools: Unlike a match, reach schools are colleges where your academic qualifications are below the average accepted student.
- ❖ Safety Schools: A safety school is one in which your academic credentials exceed those of the average accepted student.
- ❖ Your college list should have a mix of all 3 types of schools. A suggestion is 1-2 reach schools, 3-4 match schools, 1-2 safety schools.



# EARLY ACTION VS EARLY DECISION

## Early Action

- If accepted, student is not obligated to attend.
- Student can apply to as many EA schools as they want.
- Application deadline is usually in mid-October/early November with a decision before January.
- A school may defer you to regular decision so you can supply updated grades, test scores to possibly gain admission.
- Do this if you love a particular school, but still want to keep your options open and apply elsewhere.

## Early Decision

- If accepted, the student IS obligated to attend. This decision is binding.
- Applicants who are accepted under ED have usually signed an agreement in their application promising to enroll at that school.
- Students can only apply to 1 school under Early Decision.
- If accepted, student must withdraw all other college applications.
- Do this only if you truly have only 1 dream school and have discussed this decision with your parents and counselor.



# COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS- STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1) Visit the college/university admissions page for their application, freshman checklist, and deadlines.
  - 1) Colleges may use Common Application, Coalition, or their own application. Pick only 1!
  - 2) Keep record of all submitted materials. Allow at least 6 weeks for colleges to process and update their records website.
- 2) Verify that complete college application is submitted online.
- 3) If submitting test scores (see test-optional information on slide 11), have them sent directly from your SAT and/or ACT account to the college. Colleges will not accept scores from high schools and scores are not on transcripts.
- 4) If the college requires a counselor/teacher recommendation, request it at least 3 weeks in advance. Provide a completed Senior Profile to all recommenders.



# COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS - STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY TRANSCRIPTS

★ **ALL** Official Transcripts are requested through Parchment at [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com). Create an account and select destinations. Each transcript is \$6.

★ Some schools ask students to self-report their high school academic record. You can access a pdf copy of your unofficial transcript on Parent Portal.

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Remember that the Counseling Office is closed during Fall Break, Thanksgiving Break, and Winter Break.

Please plan ahead when making requests for transcripts, recommendations, and/or school forms and evaluations.

## **PARCHMENT and COMMON APPLICATION**

*Parchment and Common Application are integrated.*

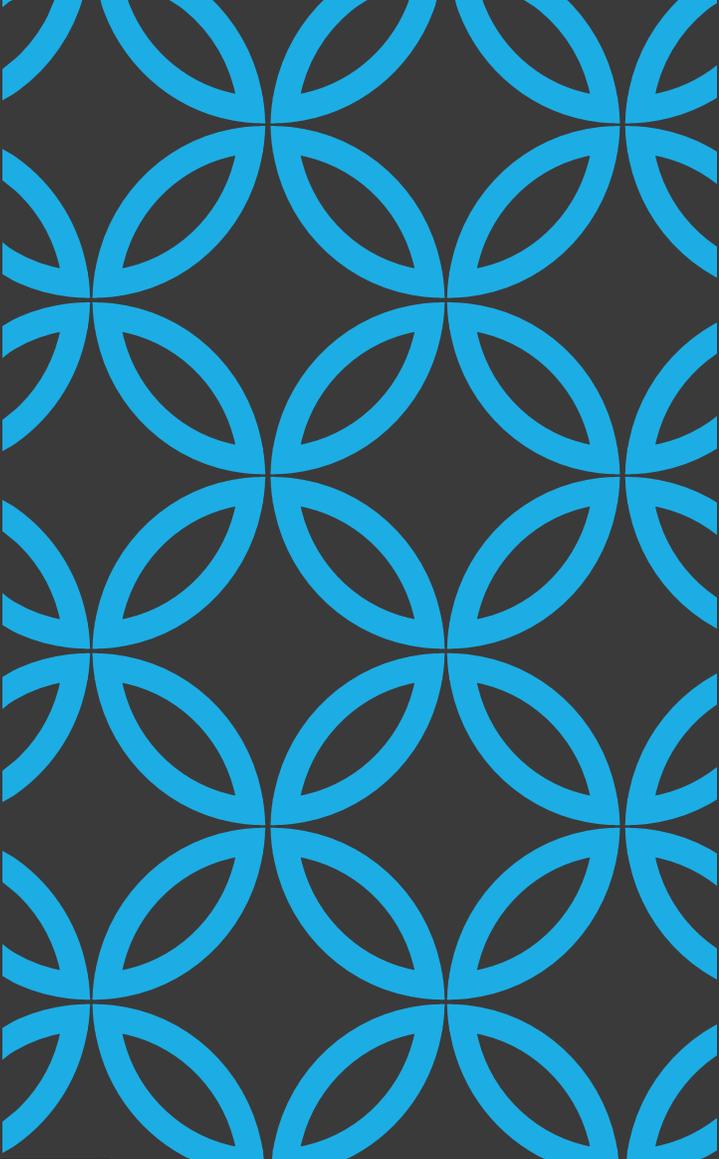
Once you have your Common App ID and submitted the counselor recommendation request in Common Application, go to

[www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com).

Create your Parchment account, select South Forsyth HS as your school and then select Common

App as the destination/receiving school. Follow all prompts until it shows order has been sent.





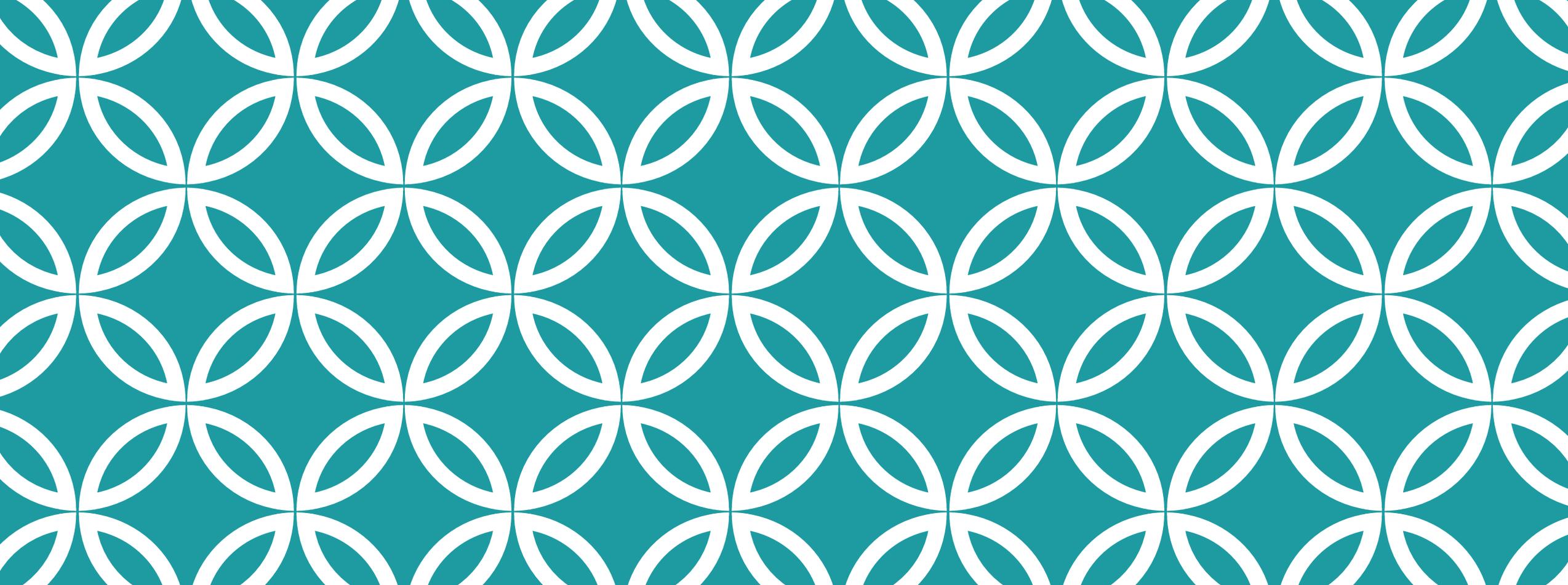
# TEST OPTIONAL — WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

Student has the choice of whether or not to submit SAT and/or ACT scores with their college application. It is ultimately a family decision.

Depending on the college, the student may be able to indicate whether they want the scores considered for admissions or not (if they have been sent previously).

More emphasis will be placed on the student's academic record (grades and course rigor), counselor and teacher recommendations, and extracurricular/community involvement. These criteria better represent a student's overall academic story and potential.





# **INFORMATION PRIVACY**

## **YOUR DECISIONS ARE YOURS TO SHARE**

accepted, denied, deferred-your feelings matter most

It's ok to plan to transfer. If you apply to a reach school and are denied, you can always apply to transfer. Your college diploma will reflect the LAST school you attend.

## → FIRST-YEAR STUDENT PROFILE

On college websites, profile provides you with their middle 50% admissions statistics-GPA, Test Scores, # of AP/IB/DE classes, etc. ([UT Austin](#), [Stanford](#))

Reference the profile when deciding on Reach-Match-Safety schools and whether to submit test scores or not for test optional schools.

## → COMMON DATA SET

Database for college statistics of accepted students. Includes information on the profile of the current freshman class, financial award information, and student life.

In the search engine, type in “Common Data Set School Name” and review. Section C of the data set is admissions details. Below are results for “Common Data Set Georgia Tech”:

[HTTPS://IRP.GATECH.EDU/GT-INFO/COMMON-DATA-SET](https://irp.gatech.edu/gt-info/common-data-set)



# COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER ROOM 653 (NEXT TO WAR EAGLE DINING HALL)

## What is the CCC and Why Visit It?

- ❖ Dedicated space to help students explore colleges, careers, and service pathways so everyone has a post-graduation plan.
- ❖ Open to students all day Monday-Friday. Visit the Counseling website for upcoming events or stop by to see Ms. Mallamace and Jeter.
- ❖ Hosts College, Career and Military Visits (currently virtual)
- ❖ Provides Support in Career Exploration as it relates to college majors and/or job applications.
- ❖ Coordinates activities related to college application help, financial aid, and scholarship information
- ❖ Allows students opportunities to practice interviewing skills and resume writing

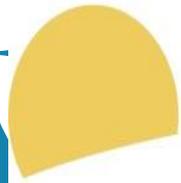


# NCAA

## ARE YOU A POTENTIAL COLLEGE STUDENT- ATHLETE?



- ❖ If planning on playing at a Division 1 or Division 2 college/university, you **MUST** register on the [NCAA Eligibility Center website](#) as a potential student-athlete.
- ❖ Log onto [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com) to send your transcript to the NCAA. You will select the NCAA as the destination, in addition to any colleges you send it to.
- ❖ You should also send [SAT](#) or [ACT](#) scores if you have them, although they are not required for Class of 2021 students. When ordering your scores, use “9999” as the score recipient code.
- ❖ For questions throughout the NCAA process, please email [Mr. Aaron Pileggi, Counselor](#).



# probe

Explore the Possibilities



Meet with College Representatives from around the country  
through these virtual college fairs!

### Fall Probe Virtual Tour

10/5-10/7 and 11/2-11/5

Register beginning September 15

at [www.gaprobe.org](http://www.gaprobe.org)

### NACAC Virtual College Fair

9/13, 10/12, 10/18, 11/8

Register now at:

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



# GAfutures

Explore. Plan. Succeed.

**GSFC** | Georgia Student  
Finance Commission

**Virtual  
Financial Aid  
Night  
Coming Soon!**

**Check Twitter and  
school messenger in  
October for details!**



# HOPE/ZELL MILLER SCHOLARS

DETAILED HOPE REPORT: [WWW.GAFUTURES.ORG](http://WWW.GAFUTURES.ORG)

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP MINIMUM: 3.0 ACADEMIC GPA, 4 RIGOR COURSES

ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIP MINIMUM: 3.7 ACADEMIC GPA, 4 RIGOR COURSES, MINIMUM 1200 SAT OR 26 ACT (FROM 1 SITTING).

ONLY COUNTS ACADEMIC COURSES IN 9<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE, NOT MIDDLE SCHOOL. HONORS COURSES ARE NOT WEIGHTED. AP/IB/DE GET AN EXTRA .5 QUALITY POINT. MAX HOPE GPA IS 4.0

COMPLETING THE FAFSA ALSO SERVES AS YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION FOR HOPE. [HTTPS://FAFSA.ED.GOV](https://FAFSA.ED.GOV)

You have questions,  
we have answers!

Counselors are  
available for student  
support in the CCC  
during every IF  
through October.

Email your child's  
counselor as needed.

