

# Counseling

## Frequently Asked Questions



Welcome to Sprayberry High School!

This document is meant to provide useful information for you and your student on their high school journey. This form will also be available on our counseling website [sprayberrycounseling.com](http://sprayberrycounseling.com)

### Meet your counselor!

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*Department Chair-*

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**Be sure to follow us on Social  
Media too!**

Instagram: @sprayberrycounseling  
Twitter: @sprayberrycounseling

### Virtual Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 7:45am-3:45pm

## Transcripts & GPA

All high school students have a transcript starting the second semester of their Freshman year. Some students may bring a few high school credits from middle school that count towards graduation but are not calculated in their overall GPA. A transcript is an official document that is more than a report card. Transcripts keep track of every class taken and every grade made in high school. What you do Freshman year will stay with you throughout high school. Student's grades are calculated into their grade point average (GPA). There are different types of GPA which can be confusing so here is a handy list to remember:

### Cumulative GPA

All grades on the transcript are converted from numerical grades to a 4.0 scale and averaged together to get the cumulative GPA

A= 4 B= 3 C= 2 D=1 F=0

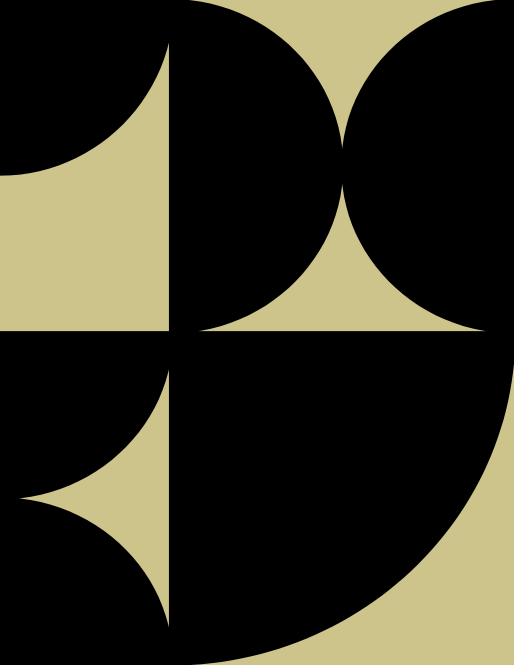
### GPAs on transcripts:

#### Weighted GPA

Average of all classes with quality points added for some honors (.5) and all AP (1.0) courses.

#### Unweighted GPA

The average of all class grades based on a 4.0 scale. This will be capped at 4.0.



## Official Transcript Requests

### Class of 2023 (current seniors):

The cost of each official transcript is \$2.00 and must be paid through MyPaymentsPlus.

You are also required to add the colleges you are applying to into your Naviance account.

Click [HERE](#) for step-by-step instructions for requesting official transcripts in Naviance and submitting payment in MyPaymentsPlus.

### Sprayberry Graduates (alumni):

If you need an official transcript for a job or to further your education, please click [HERE](#) to request your official transcript.

### GPAs NOT on transcripts:

#### Core GPA

Includes English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Language grades. Many colleges will recalculate a student's GPA to look at their Core GPA during admissions.

#### HOPE GPA

The HOPE Scholarship requires a 3.0 Core GPA. Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) will remove the quality points added by the high school and only add a standard weight of .5 for AP and Dual Enrollment course. This GPA is capped at 4.0.

Remember, your GPA is cumulative, so every core class and World Language credit you take will be calculated for your HOPE GPA, even if you don't start thinking about scholarships until Junior or Senior year. Be sure to make a GA Futures account so you can monitor your HOPE GPA and know where you stand when application time comes around in your Senior year.

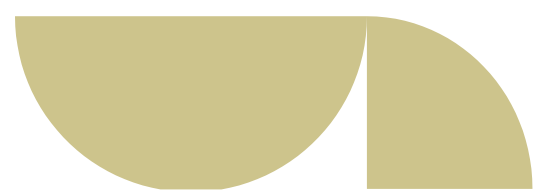
## Cobb County Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	74-79
D	70-73
F	Below 70

Students need to make at least a 70% to pass a class and receive credit. If they do not pass they may need to repeat the course for graduation.

## What is Block Scheduling?

Sprayberry High School is on a Block schedule. This means students will take 4 different classes each semester for a total of 8 credits every year. These classes count for a full 1.0 credit towards their GPA, unlike on a Traditional schedule where students take 7 classes the whole year, completing .5 of the credit in the Fall and .5 in the Spring. Block schedule allows for 9 extra credits to be taken beyond the minimum high school requirements.



# Graduation Requirements & Promotion Requirements

Cobb County graduation requirements and promotion requirements come from the Georgia Board of Education. These are set at a district level, not individually by Sprayberry High School. Please note that to move to 10<sup>th</sup> grade students need 5 total credits with one being in English, one in Math, and one in Science. This is very important for our incoming Freshmen to understand because this is different from Middle School where you can fail some classes and still be promoted to the next grade level. If you do not pass those three classes plus at least two more, you will be retained in 9<sup>th</sup> grade until you complete the promotion requirements. This is true for each grade's promotion requirements listed below.

## Be sure to monitor your grades!

It is very important for high school students to monitor their grades on StudentVue. Keeping track of your grades helps you avoid surprises at the end of the semester.

Part of being in high school is learning life skills that you can bring to college or work after graduation. Following up on missing assignments, verifying grades that are put on your StudentVue, and planning for future assignments are all skills that will help you later on if you master them now.

You can login to StudentVue and ParentVue [HERE](#)

Students should use their Student Number as their Username and Password

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

23 total units (credits) required for all students

<b>ENGLISH - 4 credits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 unit of 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature and Composition</li><li>• 1 unit of American Literature and Composition</li><li>• 2 additional unit of Literature and Composition</li></ul>
<b>MATH - 4 credits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 unit of GSE Algebra I or equivalent</li><li>• 1 unit of GSE Geometry or equivalent</li><li>• 1 unit of GSE Algebra II or equivalent</li><li>• 1 unit of a 4<sup>th</sup> Math option</li></ul>
<b>SCIENCE - 4 credits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 unit of Biology</li><li>• 1 unit of Physics</li><li>• 1 unit of either Chemistry, Earth Systems, Environmental Science, or any AP/IB Science</li><li>• 1 unit of a 4<sup>th</sup> Science option</li></ul>
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES - 3 credits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 unit of World History</li><li>• 1 unit of US History</li><li>• ½ unit of American Government</li><li>• ½ unit of Economics</li></ul>
<b>HEALTH and PERSONAL FITNESS – 1 credit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ½ unit of Health and ½ unit of Personal Fitness</li></ul> <p><i>NOTE: 3 units (credits) of JROTC may be used to satisfy this requirement</i></p>
<b>WORLD LANGUAGE and/or CAREER TECH (CTAE) and/or FINE ARTS – 3 credits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students are required to earn a total of 3 credits from CTAE and/or World Language and/or Fine Arts</li><li>• 2 units from the same World Language for college-bound students*</li></ul>
<b>ELECTIVES - 4 credits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4 Additional elective credits – any area</li></ul>

Students are required to take EOC tests in specified courses which count for a percentage of their overall grade. These courses include **American Literature, Algebra I, Biology, and US History.**

Completion of the Graduation Requirements may not meet the Admission Requirements for entrance into a University System of Georgia Institution or other post-secondary institution without additional coursework.

### Promotion to 10<sup>th</sup> grade

5 credits to include 1 English, 1 Math, 1 Science

### Promotion to 11<sup>th</sup> grade

10 credits to include 2 English, 2 Math, 2 Science

### Promotion to 12<sup>th</sup> grade

16 credits to include 2 English, 2 Math, 2 Science

# All Things Naviance



Welcome to Naviance Student.

Click [here](#) to find our Naviance Help Page. You will find videos and directions on topics like:

- How to sign on to your account
- How to change your email in Naviance
- How to add colleges to your Naviance Application List
- How to link your Common App and your Naviance account
- How to request Letters of Recommendation from teachers
- How to search for Colleges you might be interested in
- How to find scholarships

Students! Please change your Naviance email address if you haven't already. You can do this by logging into your account, clicking on About Me in the top right, clicking on My Account, and then using the edit button to change your email to something you actually check and can receive emails to. Counselors will email out important information so it is crucial you do this for us.

Naviance is a College and Career Readiness Tool used by Cobb County middle and high schools. It provides inventories to students that shows results aligning student's strengths and interest with post-secondary goals. Students will use Naviance every year to complete counselor tasks for the Bridge Law requirements, requirements set by the state for student college and career readiness. They will also become very familiar with Naviance their Senior year when they will need to add the colleges they are applying to on their application list, request letters of recommendations from teachers, and search and apply to scholarships.

How can students use it?

- Academic Course Planning
- College/Scholarship Search Tools
- Career Exploration & Assessments
- Success Planning

Parent access allows parents/guardians to view information in their child's online portfolio:

- College/Career interests
- Status of college applications
- College/Career Search
- Resume, goals, and student tasks
- Assessments/surveys results

Parents will need to retrieve their access code to create their Naviance Parent account. If you have not created your account yet, please email your student's counselor for your registration code. Student accounts were created by the county, so no student needs to create an account. Students should use the same username and password as their CTLS account. If your student has trouble logging into Naviance, please email your counselor to have them reset your password.

# Dual Enrollment

- Dual Enrollment is a program that allows 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders to take college classes while completing their high school diploma.
- DE also provides limited options for 10<sup>th</sup> graders: 10<sup>th</sup> graders who have earned a 1200 SAT or 26 ACT (in one sitting) are eligible to apply to any DE program and take any approved courses
- DE pays for 100% tuition, mandatory fees, and required textbooks up to a maximum cap of 30 hours (*this equates to roughly one year of full-time college enrollment or around 10 courses*)
- DE students can take approved courses in: English, math, science, social studies, or world/foreign languages AND/OR Career Tech (CTAE) classes
- If you are interested in Dual Enrollment please review the PowerPoint on our website [HERE](#) and complete the steps

There are also grants available for those students planning to attend technical college:

## HOPE Grant

- No initial GPA requirement
- Technical certificate or diploma
- Must have a high school diploma or GED
- Must be a GA resident for at least one year (Green Card or citizenship)
- Covers a **percentage** of tuition

## Zell Miller Grant

- Requires 3.5 *college* GPA for grant eligibility
- Does not require minimum test score
- Covers **100%** tuition (retroactively covers previous semester once 3.5 GPA is earned) for certificate or diploma at technical college
- Must graduate from a GA high school
- Must be GA Resident for at least one year (Green Card or citizenship)
- Must maintain 3.5 GPA while in college

# HOPE Scholarship

Students are taught every year about the HOPE scholarship and requirements through Counseling Core Lessons. If there are further questions students can go to [GAFutures.org](http://GAFutures.org) to find more information. All HOPE scholarship and grant applications are done by completing the FAFSA after October 1<sup>st</sup> your senior year.

## HOPE Scholarship Requirements

- 3.0 core GPA as calculated by GSFC (can be earned in college)
- Must earn a minimum of 4 credits from the academic rigor course list prior to graduating from high school. (**Review your HOPE transcript on [GAFutures.org](http://GAFutures.org)**)
- Two year or four-year degree
- Must graduate from a GA high school
- Must be a GA resident for at least one year (Green Card or citizenship)

## Zell Miller Scholarship Requirements

- Requires 3.7 core high school (HOPE) GPA as calculated by GSFC
- Requires 1200 SAT Math and Reading or 26 ACT composite
- Must earn a minimum of 4 credits from the academic rigor course list prior to graduating from high school. (**Review your HOPE transcript on [GAFutures.org](http://GAFutures.org)**)
- Pays for two year or four-year degree