

# COLLEGE- MINDED

PREPARE NOW. SUCCEED LATER.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**GEORGIA**  
Undergraduate Admissions

# COLLEGE: WHAT'S THE HYPE?

## A place for you.

College is a place for you to gain more knowledge, make new friends and build a career. Pursuing higher education will let you experience new things, find a passion and prepare you for a more financially stable future.



## SOME QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

IS COLLEGE  
RIGHT FOR ME?

WHAT CAREER  
DO I WANT  
TO HAVE?

WHAT WILL  
I STUDY?

## LET'S THINK...

What comes to mind when you think about college?

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What questions do you have about college?

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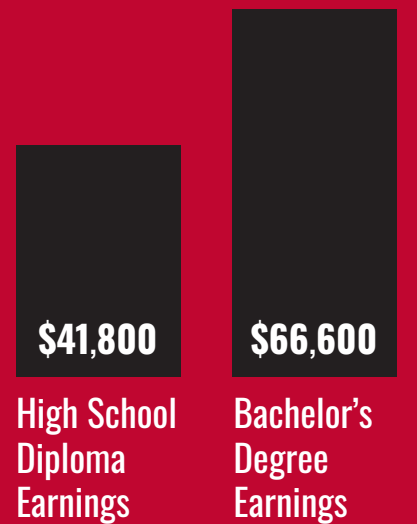
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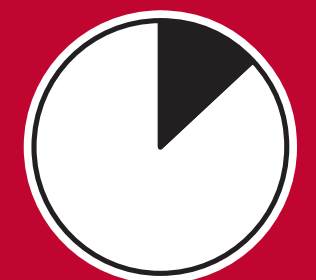
\*nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator/cba/annual-earnings

\*\*federalreserve.gov/publications/files/2023-report-economic-well-being-us-households-202405.pdf

## DID YOU KNOW?



In 2022, people with a Bachelor's degree earned **59%** more on average than those whose highest level of education was a high school diploma.\*



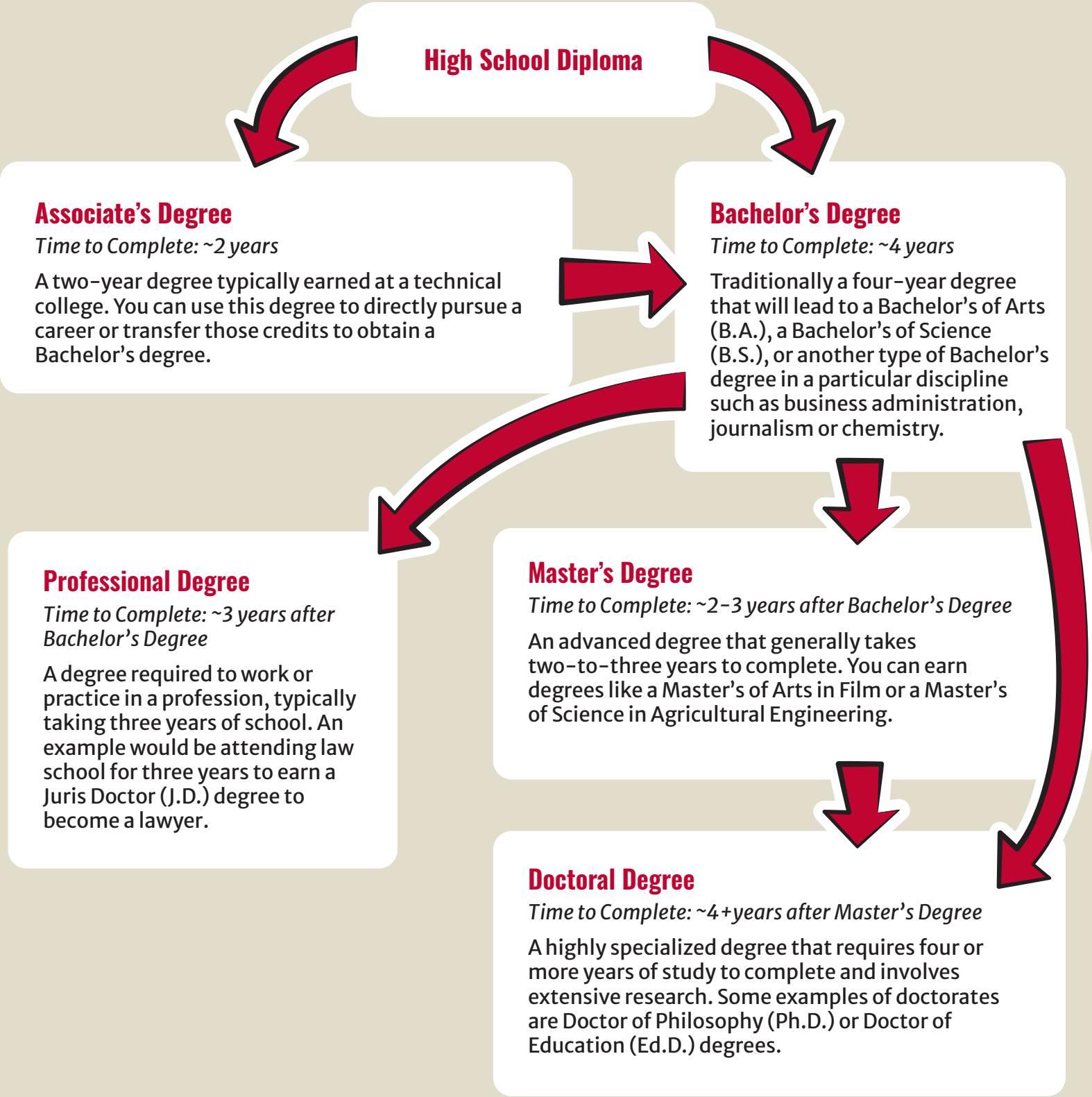
**87%** of Bachelor's degree holders report higher feelings of financial wellbeing compared to other groups with less education.\*\*



# PATHWAY THROUGH COLLEGE

## Post-Secondary Education

Post-secondary education, (everything after high school), can be broken down into five major college degree types. Each degree type provides you with a certain level of expertise on a specific topic and can take anywhere from two to six years to complete. Check out the different pathways through college you can take below.



# VOCABULARY



## Standardized Tests

Also known as college entrance exams, are tests designed to measure your skills and help colleges evaluate how ready you are for college-level work. The ACT and SAT are two standardized admission tests.



## Grade Point Average (GPA)

A number that shows overall academic performance. It's computed by assigning a point value to the grade you earn. Good grades will give you a higher GPA!



## Majors

A college major is a specific subject area that you specialize in—there are a lot to choose from! Almost half of your courses in college will be in your major. Examples include biology, history, marketing or music.



## Decision Types

College applications are submitted during your 12th grade year. The primary types of decisions are Early Action, Early Decision, Regular Decision, and Rolling Admissions.



## Financial Aid

Financial aid helps pay for college, which can be expensive. Scholarships and grants are free money, while loans must be paid back, these all help make college more affordable.



## Transcripts

The official record of your course work at a school or college. High school transcripts are usually required for college admission and for some financial aid packages.

# TYPES OF INSTITUTIONS

## Technical College

Offers two-year Associate's degrees and certificates that prepare you for a certain career or to transfer to a four-year college to earn a Bachelor's degree.

## Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU)

Colleges with a mission to educate Black/African American students.

## Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI)

Colleges that have at least 25% of the full-time student body that identify as Hispanic.

## Public Vs. Private

Public schools get most of their funding from state governments and private colleges receive theirs from private donations and tuition. There is typically a difference in cost for you as the student.

## Liberal Arts Colleges

Offer extensive study in the liberal arts such as languages, literature, history, math and the arts. They are typically smaller than public college campuses.

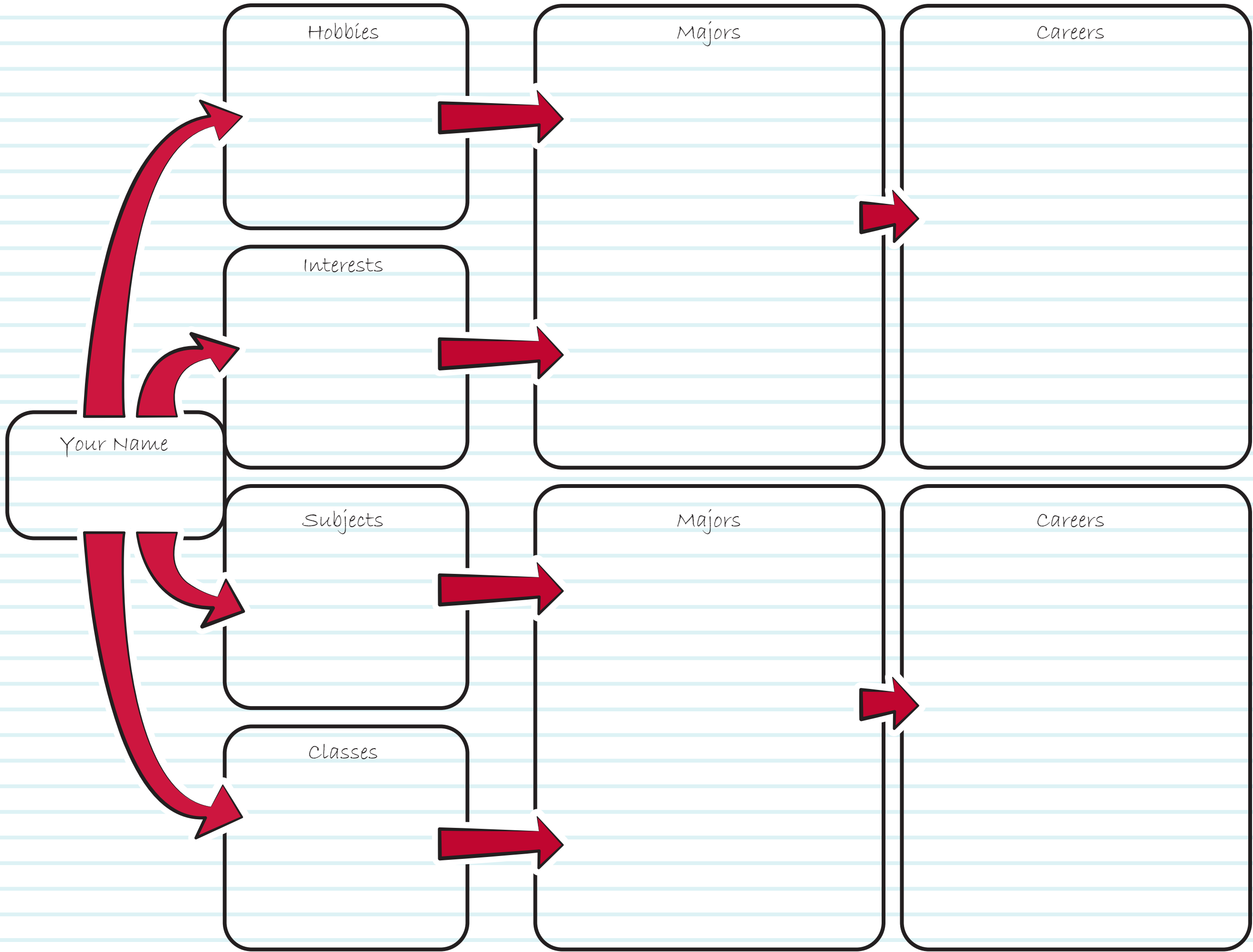
## Single Gender

Private institutions that serve either all-male or all-female students.

**MIND MAP: SKILLS, JOBS, AND CLASSES**

College is a place to discover new things about yourself and deepen existing interests. This mind map is a tool to help you write down the things you're interested in and see how those translate to majors in college and future careers.

- 1. Start by filling out your name.
- 2. Next, add the hobbies, interests, subject areas, and classes you find most enjoyable or would like to learn more about.
- 3. Search the web to see what colleges offer the majors that are related to your interests.
- 4. Consider how those majors can translate into careers. Many colleges have a career center and those websites can be an excellent resource to help with this.



 **9TH GRADE:  
GETTING PREPARED**

- ☐ Your GPA starts here. Aim for A's.
- ☐ Get involved! Join a club or sports team, volunteer in your community, or secure a part-time job.
- ☐ Think about what core classes and rigor your school offers: Honors, AP, Pre-IB or IB, Pre-AICE or AICE and Dual Enrollment.
- ☐ Make the most out of your summers. Consider opportunities such as community service, a part-time job, academic camps or summer programs.

**ACTION ITEMS: WHAT'S NEXT?**

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 **10TH GRADE:  
START NOW**

- ☐ Review your grades from freshman year. Do you see room for improvement?
- ☐ Do you see an opportunity to challenge yourself academically? Consider taking an AP, IB, AICE, Dual Enrollment or Honors course if available.
- ☐ Connect with your counselor to chart a path that will best challenge your academic ability.
- ☐ Stick with any extracurriculars that you've joined or try something new.
- ☐ Take the PSAT or Pre-ACT if offered.
- ☐ Research colleges and majors that align with your interests.

 **11TH GRADE:  
READY, SET...**

- ☐ Continue taking challenging courses and earning good grades.
- ☐ Aim for a leadership position in your favorite club, run for student government or go out for captain on your sports or robotics team.
- ☐ Take the ACT or SAT.
- ☐ Begin asking about local scholarships and grants.
- ☐ Visit colleges to see what feels right.

 **12TH GRADE:  
GO TIME!**

- ☐ Give yourself time to ask for recommendations, write essays, and submit everything on time.
- ☐ Take the ACT or SAT again if needed.
- ☐ Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov). Apply for HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarships at GSFAPPS at [gafutures.com](https://gafutures.com).
- ☐ Apply for external scholarships.
- ☐ Be sure to brag about yourself and your accomplishments in your application!



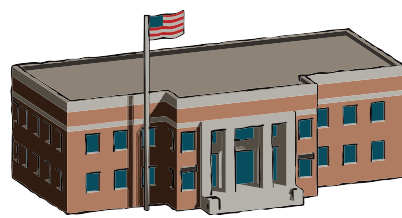
**DID YOU KNOW?**

College graduates are twice as likely to have a job compared to peers whose highest degree is a high school diploma.\*

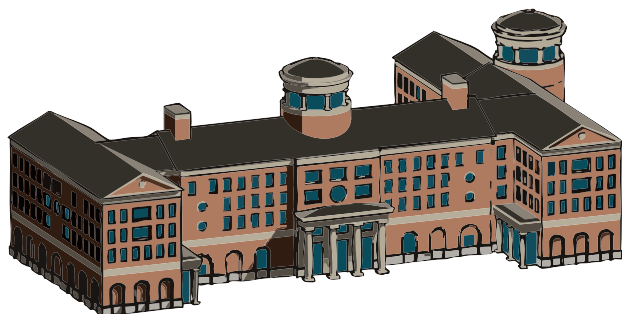
[\\*bls.gov/charts/employment-situation/unemployment-rates-for-persons-25-years-and-older-by-educational-attainment.htm](https://bls.gov/charts/employment-situation/unemployment-rates-for-persons-25-years-and-older-by-educational-attainment.htm)



THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE



High School



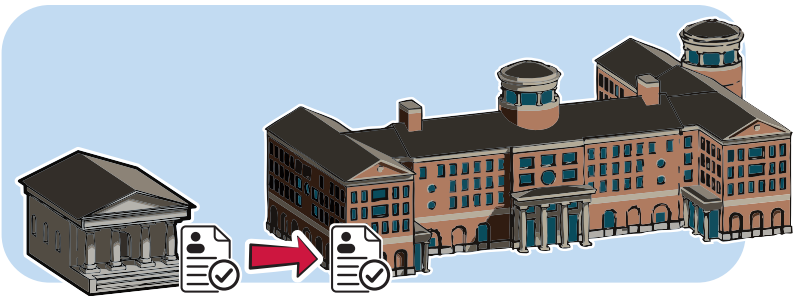
College

	You have some clubs and activities to choose from, but the options can feel pretty limited.	There are hundreds of clubs, organizations, and events to get involved in... whether you're into sports, arts, gaming, there's something for everyone!
	You probably know people from your community: friends, neighbors, and classmates you've most likely grown up with.	You'll meet people from all over the world, bringing new perspectives and experiences. It's a great opportunity to make connections beyond your hometown.
	You're living at home with family, where there are routines and guidelines to follow.	You're living on campus, making your own decisions, and sharing a space with a new roommate who might just become your new best friend.
	Your schedule is probably set in stone with classes and activities filling up most of your day.	You'll have much more free time to work with, but it's up to you to manage it wisely. You're responsible for staying on top of your classes, assignments, and personal time.
	You take classes for a set amount of time per day.	Courses are set up based on credit hours and change depending on requirements.
	Your teachers typically try to connect with you and check on your academic progress.	Professors expect you to reach out if needed and stay on top of assignments and deadlines.
	In class, you'll get clear instructions on what to learn and time to cover the material.	Make sure to read the assigned material before class. Lectures and assignments will build on what you've read, so being prepared is key!
	Tests often check on how well you remember information or solve problems you've practiced in class.	Tests evaluate your ability to apply what you've learned, and sometimes your entire grade hinges on just three assignments.



WHAT ABOUT TRANSFERRING?

Transferring allows you to begin your college journey at another college or university, then transfer your completed credits to your desired school after one or more years. It's an excellent option if you don't gain admission to your target institution on your first try.



TRANSFER APPLICATION PROCESS AT UGA

You may be considered for transfer admission to the undergraduate program on UGA's Athens campus by meeting the following minimum consideration levels:



30-59 completed hours of transferable credit by the application deadline.



Graduated from high school at least 12 months prior to the term of intended enrollment.



Completed at least one year of college by the term of intended enrollment.



Have a 3.30 or higher calculated transfer GPA.



UGA's goal is to enroll one transfer student for every two first-year students.



Of transfer students at UGA are Georgia residents.

# GET TO KNOW UGA



## Enrollment

The University of Georgia is a large public institution, enrolling around **40,000** students yearly.



## Retention Rates

UGA is well above the national average, with a **95%** retention rate of students returning after their first-year.



## Majors

**250+** majors, minors and certificate programs to choose from.



## Double Dawgs

Accelerated degree programs to earn both a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree in five years or less.



## Clubs and Activities

**800+** student clubs and activities are registered!



## Athletics

**75+** athletic teams available to students on various skill levels: varsity, club, and intramural.

*All data in this document is accurate as of February 2025.*



## Office of Undergraduate Admissions

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