



Senior Family Night

Class of 2026





Mrs. Cooper

Freshman Academy Counselor



Ms. Hogan

Academy of Business, Health, &
Professional Services
& Last Names A-K 11th-12th



Mrs. Hipsher

Registrar



Mrs. Buchanan

Academy of Technology,
Engineering, & Design
& Last Names L-Z 11th-12th

Senior Checklist

 SENIOR CHECKLIST		NAME: _____ Weighted GPA: _____ Unweighted GPA: _____ ACT Score(s): _____	
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
☐ Apply for TN Promise Student & Parent BOTH create FSA IDs ☐ Attend GHS Senior Family Night: 9/11 5-6pm (College Fair) 6-7:30pm (Financial Aid Presentation) ☐ Begin completing school applications ☐ College App Week! September 15-19 In the Courtyard every day during all lunches! ☐ Pay Senior Fees on Givebacks ☐ Attend the KCS College & Career Fair 9/29 9am-12:30pm *permission slip required	☐ Apply for TN Promise Student & Parent BOTH create FSA IDs ☐ Use one or both Excused Absences to visit schools of interest/job shadow ☐ Begin/Continue completing school applications (Submit Early-Action Applications) ☐ Find Volunteer Opportunities & Log your hours on TN Achieves ☐ ACT Re-take Day for Seniors (free): 10/14/25 ☐ Order Cap & Gown from Balfour AND Pay Senior Fees on Givebacks	☐ Final Day to Apply for TN Promise 11/3/25 ☐ FAFSA Help Session #1: 11/6/25 5:30-7:30pm in GHS Library ☐ Find Volunteer Opportunities & Log your hours on TN Achieves ☐ Attend Mandatory Student TN Promise Mtg.: 11/17/25 11am @GHS ☐ Use one or both Excused Absences to visit schools of interest/job shadow ☐ Order Cap & Gown from Balfour AND Pay Senior Fees on Givebacks	☐ Complete the FAFSA (must have an FSA ID prior to starting the FAFSA application) ☐ Find Volunteer Opportunities & Log your hours on TN Achieves ☐ Use one or both Excused Absences to visit schools of interest/job shadow ☐ Order Cap & Gown from Balfour AND Pay Senior Fees on Givebacks ☐ Begin applying for local scholarships ☐ Optional ACT day 12/13/25 to increase score for scholarships (outside of school)
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	RESOURCES	
☐ FAFSA Help Session #2: 1/29/25 5:30-7:30pm in GHS Library ☐ Find Volunteer Opportunities & Log your hours on TN Achieves ☐ Mini College Fair: Date/Time TBD ☐ Begin looking for emails from colleges about paying deposits, housing, advising, etc. ☐	☐ Apply for local scholarships ☐ Find Volunteer Opportunities & Log your hours on TN Achieves ☐ Look for emails from colleges about paying deposits, housing, advising, etc. ☐ Sign up for your Orientation and/or Advising for your Freshman Year ☐	ORDER TRANSCRIPT 	TN PROMISE 
		FAFSA/IFSA ID 	CLASS OF 2026 INFORMATION 
MARCH ☐ Apply for local scholarships! ☐ Sign up for your Orientation and/or Advising for your Freshman Year ☐	APRIL ☐ Final day to apply for FAFSA: 4/1/25 ☐ Prom: April 17 @ The Mill & Mine ☐ Senior Academic Signing Day: Date/Time TBD	REGISTER FOR AN ACT EXAM 	LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS 
MAY ☐ Order your Final Transcript !!! ☐ Senior Celebration: Date/Time TBD ☐ Graduation Ceremony: May 15th @ 5:30pm Ernest Whitfield Stadium Coryton, TN	OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER ☐ ☐ ☐	CLASS OF 2026	

One-stop-shop for the Class of 2026

GHS Counseling Department

- > Welcome!
- Class of 2026
 - TN Promise & FAFSA Scholarships!!!
 - College Information
 - Post-Grad Employment Opportunities
- > Order Transcripts Here
- + 865 Academies
- > Dual Enrollment
- > Playing Sports in College
- > Military Careers
- + Course Registration 2025-26
- + Mental Health & Wellness Resources
 - > Social Worker Services
 - > Testing Resources
- > School Profile



TONS OF VALUABLE RESOURCES



Important Senior Dates

August

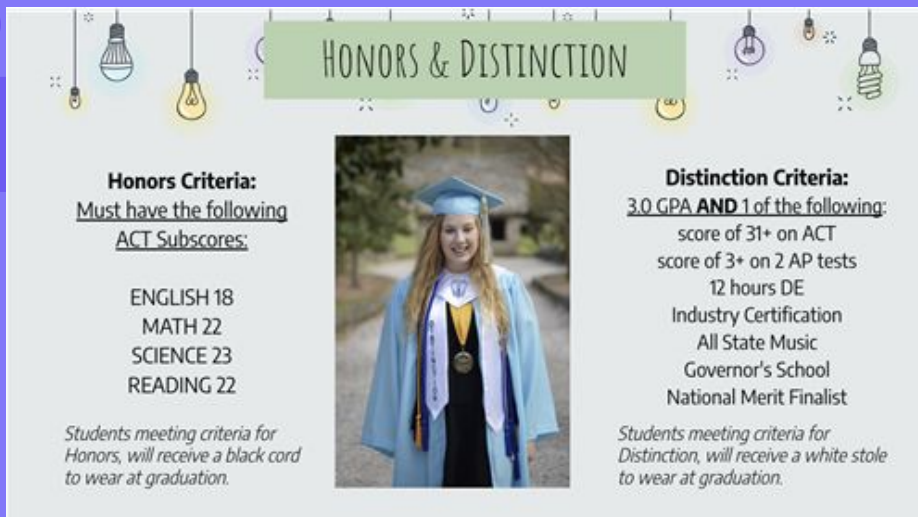
- Senior Meeting Sign-ups: 20th - 22nd
- Senior Meetings: 26th - Sept. 15
- Apply for TN Promise
- Make FSA ID
- Pay Senior Fees

September

- Senior Meetings Continued: 1st - 15th
- National ACT Date: 6th
- Senior Family Night: 9/11
 - 5:00pm-6:00pm - College Fair
 - 6:00pm-7:30pm - Financial Aid Presentation
- Final day to register for Oct. National ACT Exam: 12th

October

- Complete your FAFSA: 1st
- Free Senior ACT Retake @ GHS: 14th
- National ACT Date: 18th

A banner with a light green background and white abstract shapes. At the top, there is a green banner with the text "HONORS & DISTINCTION" in white capital letters. Below this, there are two columns of text. The left column is titled "Honors Criteria:" and lists the following: "Must have the following ACT Subscores: ENGLISH 18, MATH 22, SCIENCE 23, READING 22". The right column is titled "Distinction Criteria:" and lists the following: "3.0 GPA AND 1 of the following: score of 31+ on ACT, score of 3+ on 2 AP tests, 12 hours DE, Industry Certification, All State Music, Governor's School, National Merit Finalist". In the center, there is a photo of a female student wearing a blue graduation cap and gown, with a white stole. Below the photo, there are two lines of text: "Students meeting criteria for Honors, will receive a black cord to wear at graduation." and "Students meeting criteria for Distinction, will receive a white stole to wear at graduation." Lightbulb icons are scattered around the top of the banner.

NEW: Direct Admissions Pilot

TN DIRECT ADMISSIONS PILOT PROJECT TIMELINE



DIRECT ADMISSION LETTER SENT

High school seniors receive letters listing:

- Colleges where they have been accepted.
- Financial aid for which they may qualify.
- A QR code linking to the Direct Admissions student portal.



STUDENTS CLAIM THEIR SPOT

Students scan the QR code on their letter and select their college of choice.



STUDENTS' INFORMATION SENT TO COLLEGES

THEC submits the students' information to the selected institution as their completed application.



COLLEGES SEND OFFICIAL ADMISSION MESSAGES

Institutions confirm admission and welcome students.



COLLEGES FOLLOW UP WITH NEXT STEPS

Colleges provide guidance on FAFSA completion, submitting required documents, enrollment and orientation details.

AT A GLANCE

The **TN Direct Admissions Pilot** gives eligible high school seniors early admission to participating Tennessee colleges and universities—before they submit applications—helping students make early and informed choices about their future.

Participating Schools & Students

- 230 + participating high schools (randomly selected)
- 57 in-state colleges and universities – including TCATs, community colleges, and four-year public and private universities
- Approximately 41,000 eligible seniors (Class of 2026) from selected high schools will receive personalized letters in November

How it Works

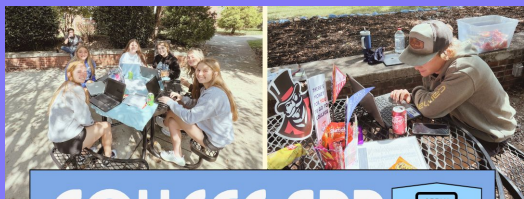
- Every eligible student will see admission offers from colleges, universities, and TCATs for the fall of 2026.
- A subset will also see financial aid estimates, allowing researchers to compare enrollment outcomes between groups that receive differing levels of information.

WHERE DO I START?



- Search the websites of schools that interest you
- Take a Campus Tour
- Narrow down college options
- Apply to as many schools as you would like
- Request your transcript

UPCOMING SENIOR EVENTS



COLLEGE APP WEEK 2025



Join Counselors in the Courtyard during all lunches to receive help with:

- College/Trade School Applications
- TN Promise
- FSA IDs
- More!

Snacks & Drinks Provided!!!

15-19 SEPTEMBER
ALL LUNCHES
(EXCEPT EARLY RELEASE WED)
IN THE COURTYARD

Bring your Chromebook & Social Security Number!
Counselors will have FREE application codes!

KCS | KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS

COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR

Tues. September 29, 2025

MEET REPS, ASK QUESTIONS,
PLAN YOUR FUTURE

📍 *World's Fair Exhibition Hall*
🕒 9:00am - 12:30pm

OVER 100
REPRESENTATIVES FROM
LOCAL & OUT OF STATE
POSTSECONDARY
INSTITUTIONS &
ORGANIZATIONS,
INCLUDING MILITARY,
TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, &
MORE

For more information:
REACH OUT TO THE SCHOOL COUNSELING OFFICE

GIBBS HIGH SCHOOL

SENIOR ACT RE-TAKE

October 14, 2025
@8:00am



Reminders:

- The ACT is a Graduation Requirement
- Bring your charged Chromebook
- Utilize study resources sent by Counselor
- Do your BEST!
 - High ACT Score = MORE Scholarship \$