

Good Afternoon Seniors and Parents,

There are more scholarship opportunities for Osborne seniors! Please check our scholarship newsletter for updated scholarship opportunities guaranteed to go to Osborne seniors. Seniors should be frequently checking the **Class of 2026** CTLS Group for information shared.

This message includes information about the following (click on the link to go directly to the section):

1. [Osborne Scholarship Newsletter](#)
2. [Commencement Ceremony](#)
3. [Cap and Gown Order](#)
4. [Senior Parent Informational Session/Open House](#)
5. [Jacksonville State University Interest Meeting](#)
6. [AP African American Studies Interest](#)
7. [Graduation Verification](#)
8. [Sending Transcripts to College](#)
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10. [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#)
11. [HOPE/Zell Miller Scholarship & GPA](#)
12. [Steps after Applying to College](#)

OSBORNE SCHOLARSHIP NEWSLETTER:

The December/January **OHS Scholarship Newsletter** has been updated with more scholarships guaranteed to be awarded to Osborne seniors. Please view the updated scholarship newsletter here: https://61290ac1-dad1-4dcb-a9da-f9ab5ba23aaf.filesusr.com/ugd/36f5c4_54fd3735cc344c2d92e181f13bfa644d.pdf

Scholarships guaranteed to be awarded to Osborne seniors include:

1. **Cobb Schools Foundation Scholarship** (\$2,000 to two OHS Seniors): Due January 31, 2026
2. **The Wilmer Hicks Memorial Scholarship** (\$500 to one OHS Senior): Due January 31, 2026
3. **The Terry Watson Scholarship** (\$1,000 to one OHS Senior): Due February 28, 2026

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY ANNOUNCED:

Osborne's Commencement Ceremony will be held **Wednesday, May 20th at 3:30 PM** in the **Kennesaw State University Convocation Center**.

Seniors graduating in May will be able to request graduation tickets next semester.

CAP & GOWN ORDER

If you have not ordered your cap & gown for May's Commencement Ceremony, please do so as soon as possible.

You can order through this website: <https://atlgrad.com/> (Click Graduation → Osborne → choose a package or select "Shop Individual Items" at the bottom of the page to order just the cap & gown)

The Cap & Gown will be delivered to Osborne in March (Date TBD) and students will be able to pick-up their order during the school day.

SENIOR INFO PARENT SESSION & OPEN HOUSE:

A **Senior Parent Information Session** will be held on Thursday, January 29th at 5:30 PM in Lecture Hall. This 30-minute session will cover Spring senior events, senior calendar, and other graduation-related information.

The **Spring Open House** will begin immediately after at 6:00 PM.

COLLEGE INFORMATIONAL SESSION:

Jacksonville State University will be hosting an info session on **Wednesday, January 14th at 10:30 AM** in the **Counseling Career Center**. This info session is open to all grade levels and should last 30 minutes.

Students must register in Naviance to attend:

1. Log into Naviance through Clever
2. Look under “What’s New” on the home page
3. Click **More Info → Register**

AP AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES INTEREST:

If you are interested in taking AP African American Studies in Spring 2026 for 3rd block, please complete the form below.

Complete the AP African American Studies Interest form here: [AP African American Studies Interest Form – Fill out form](#)

GRADUATION VERIFICATION:

During Advisement in January (Date TBD), seniors will receive a copy of their graduation status check and transcript. They will review their transcript to ensure they are correctly scheduled to meet graduation requirements for May 2026.

SENDING TRANSCRIPTS TO COLLEGE:

As students are completing college applications, please remember the process to send your transcript to the college. As a reminder, counselors can only send your transcript through Naviance. Please make sure you complete all steps listed below for your transcript to be sent.

Step 1: Make sure your college is in Naviance and marked as “application submitted”

- You must add the college(s) you’ve applied to in Naviance (see instructions below)
- Applications must already be submitted before requesting a transcript.

Step 2: Pay the one-time \$2 transcript fee

- There is a **one-time \$2 fee** to send your transcript. Please do not pay more than once.
- Pay online at www.MyPaymentsPlus.com (look for Senior Transcript)

How to add your colleges in Naviance:

1. Students can access Naviance through Clever OR go to www.cobbk12.org → Click **FIND IT FAST** (upper right corner) → Click **Naviance** → **Login with SAML** and sign in using your student email and password.
2. Click **“Colleges I’m Applying To.”**
 - **If applying through CommonApp**, make sure to match your CommonApp and Naviance by clicking “MATCH ACCOUNTS” in the red bar at the top of the page.
 1. Edit each college and check “Application Submitted.”
 - **If you did not apply through CommonApp**, click on the blue circle **(+)** and add the college you applied to (You must check that the application has been submitted)

SAT/ACT INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION SESSION:

The SAT and ACT are college entrance exams that may be required for college admissions. Students who are applying to the University System of Georgia colleges below are now required to submit test scores with their application:

- August University
- Georgia College & State University
- Georgia State University
- Georgia Southern University
- Georgia Tech
- Kennesaw State University
- University of Georgia

Other colleges may require scores to be submitted based on your GPA. For more information, please refer to college admissions website for details on their test score policy.

Counseling hosts registration sessions every other week to assist students with the registration process. Students can also register for the test for free. Our next SAT/ACT registration session will be held on **Monday, December 15**.

Students who qualify for a fee waiver can pick up a form from the Counseling Office. Once signed by a parent/guardian and returned, the student will be invited to the registration session to receive a fee waiver code and complete their test registration.

Students should send their scores to the Georgia Student Finance Commission to be considered for the **Zell Miller Scholarship** (code 2225).

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA):

The 2026-2027 FAFSA is now open! Students and parents should also be focused on completing the FAFSA for money to help pay for school. The FAFSA should be completed as soon as possible to be considered for financial aid. Students should complete the application with their parents/guardians using their 2024 tax information.

The FAFSA is required for federal and state financial aid programs- including the HOPE/Zell Miller Scholarship, Federal Pell Grants, and student loans. This must be completed every year you are in college.

See below for quick FAFSA resources:

- **2026-2027 FAFSA Application:** studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa.

- **For an overview, visit** studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out.
- **For Step-by-Step Instructions, visit:** https://www.sallie.com/financial-aid/fafsa/guide?utm_source=slmcom&utm_medium=web

HOPE & ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIP & GPA

Students who are attending a Georgia college or university may be eligible for either the HOPE Scholarship or the Zell Miller Scholarship. Students can apply for both by completing the FAFSA or the GSFAPP through GaFutures.

For more information on the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarship, please visit: <https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/hope-zell-miller-scholarships/hope-scholarship/>

To check your HOPE GPA, students can create their account on www.gafutures.org. Osborne must have the student's social security number on file for students to be eligible for HOPE or Zell Miller.

STEPS AFTER APPLYING TO COLLEGE:

Are you unsure of what to do after you submit your application? Follow these suggested steps:

1. Make sure your Official transcript is sent through Naviance
 - a. See the [Sending Transcripts to College](#) section below
 - b. You can monitor this in Naviance under the "Colleges I'm Applying to" dashboard
2. Send your SAT/ACT test scores to the colleges you applied to (*if required by college*)
 - a. SAT test scores are sent through Collegeboard
 - b. ACT test scores are sent through ACT
 - c. Send your test scores to the **Georgia Student Finance Commission** to be considered for the Zell Miller Scholarship
3. Follow-up regarding teacher letters of recommendation that may be required
 - a. Letters of Recommendation are requested through Naviance
 - b. You may need to complete a "brag sheet" for the teachers
4. Monitor the status of your application
 - a. It takes time for colleges to review applications and make decisions
 - b. Check you application status by monitoring your email or logging into the college's student application portal
 - c. You can also track if your transcript, scores, or other materials have been received by the college in the application portal
5. Apply to scholarships and financial aid
 - a. Complete the **2026-2027 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** to apply for federal, state, and potential institutional money
 - b. If you are unable to complete the FAFSA, be sure to complete the **GSFAPP** in GaFutures to apply for Georgia state financial aid
 - c. If the college requires it, you can complete your CSS Profile in CollegeBoard- **not every college asks for this**
 - d. Apply for the local scholarships highlighted in the **Osborne Scholarship Newsletter**- there are several scholarships guaranteed to go to Osborne students- you need to apply!

6. After receiving your acceptances, make your final decision
 - a. In your acceptance email, you will be provided with “Next Steps” from the college that you must follow if you plan to attend
 - b. You will submit your enrollment deposit to the college and confirm that you are attending
 - c. **IN MAY 2026**- Be sure to request your **Final Transcript** to be sent to your “Attending” college when we complete the Class of 2026 Graduation Survey in Naviance
 - i. Your Final Transcript is the proof that you graduated high school and will be sent after graduation to your “Attending” college.

Keep working hard in your classes and finish the semester strong!

The OHS Counseling Department