

Good Afternoon Class of 2026,

We hope you have a restful break after celebrating Apply to College Month! Students can still take advantage of free application opportunities through the end of November. Please refer to the November Apply to College Month section below for more information.

If you have not completed the **FAFSA** yet, be sure to mark your calendars for December 3rd at 5:30pm.

This message includes information about the following:

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COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY ANNOUNCED:

Osborne's Commencement Ceremony will be held **Wednesday, May 20th at 3:30pm** in the Kennesaw State University Convocation Center. Seniors graduating in May will be able to request graduation tickets next semester.

CAP AND GOWN ORDER:

December 1st is the deadline to order your Osborne cap and gown before prices go up. Seniors can find the link to order their cap and gown under the Coursework section in the Class of 2026 CTLS. Prices will increase after December 1st.

Helpful tip: If you do not want to order a graduation package with additional accessories and just want the cap and gown, you can select SHOP INDIVIDUAL ITEMS at the bottom of the graduation products page.

NOVEMBER APPLY TO COLLEGE MONTH:

November is Georgia's Apply to College Month! Many colleges and universities in the state of Georgia are waiving their application fees to encourage seniors to apply during this time. Even if you were not able to participate in the Apply to College events at Osborne, please take advantage of this opportunity and submit your applications to your colleges. For a full list of GA colleges/universities waiving application fees, click here:

<https://www.gafutures.org/college-planning/apply-to-college/application-fee-waivers/>

APPLICATION WORK SESSION:

There will be an **Application Work Session** on Friday, December 5th during 1st and 2nd block. Students are welcome to come to the Counseling Office Career Center to work on college and scholarship applications during this time. Registration is not required, but students need to have teacher permission to attend. There is a limit of 25 students max per block.

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 USG colleges below will be required to submit test scores after applying:

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

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 **Thursday, December 4.**

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).

FAFSA COMPLETION EVENT on DECEMBER 3:

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=sllmcom&utm_medium=web

Osborne will host a **FAFSA Workshop** on December 3rd from 5:30-6:30 in the evening. A representative from the Georgia Student Finance Commission will walk through the 2026-2027 FAFSA and answer questions during this time. Students and parents are welcome to attend!

OSBORNE SCHOLARSHIP NEWSLETTER:

The **November Scholarship Newsletter** has been updated to include more local scholarship opportunities! The **Cobb Schools Foundation Senior Scholarship** will award **two Osborne seniors \$2,000 scholarships each**. This opportunity is *guaranteed* to go to two OHS seniors—don't miss it!

View the November Scholarship Newsletter here: https://61290ac1-dad1-4dcb-a9da-f9ab5ba23aaf.filesusr.com/ugd/36f5c4_6e9414111abc419bbdb36a1c56510d28.pdf

The newsletter highlights local and regional scholarships as they become available. Students can find more scholarship opportunities through reputable scholarship search engines. Suggested scholarship search engines are listed on the OHS Counseling Scholarships & Financial Aid website (<https://osbornecounseling.wixsite.com/ohscounseling/scholarships-financial-aid>).

Be sure to check the most updated version of the Scholarship newsletter on the **OHS Counseling Website** under "Announcements":

<https://osbornecounseling.wixsite.com/ohscounseling>

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.

We hope you have a safe and wonderful break!

The OHS Counseling Department