

COLLEGE

GUIDE

2019-2020

Helping students
Plan, Prepare,
and Pay for
College





YOU ARE COLLEGE MATERIAL

get2college

WOODWARD HINES EDUCATION FOUNDATION

PLAN, PREPARE, AND PAY FOR COLLEGE

Get2College, a program of the Woodward Hines Education Foundation, is committed to helping students navigate the complex process to college. This booklet is your guide to getting started on your journey to graduation and beyond! Make an appointment for virtual counseling or visit one of our centers.



SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Finding the right college fit
- Understanding scholarships and financial aid
- Assistance with resumes, essays, and interviews
- Hands-on completion of the FAFSA and state aid application

Plan

- Research your college choices

Prepare

- Classes you need to graduate
- Requirements for college admissions
- Preparing for the ACT

Pay for college

- Scholarships
- The FAFSA and other financial aid
- Financial aid from the state of Mississippi
- Calculating college cost

RESEARCH YOUR FAVORITE COLLEGES

WHAT MATTERS MOST TO YOU?

For some students, sports and activities are very important. Other students want a challenging academic environment. Some students want both. Answering questions like these will help you focus your college search and discover the right fit.

VISIT YOUR FAVORITE COLLEGES.

During your visit, read the student newspaper and other student publications and scan bulletin boards to see what daily student life is like. If you take a tour of the campus, ask your tour guide about why they chose this college, what they do in their free time and on the weekends and other questions about:

- Transportation if you don't have a car
- Honors programs, study abroad, learning communities, freshman experience, and internship opportunities
- Career services opportunities
- Support services on campus like tutoring programs and writing centers



COLLEGE TYPE

- Public or private
- Community college or four-year institution
- Historically black college or university (HBCU)
- All male or female student body
- Religious affiliation
- Military academy



COLLEGE SIZE

- What is the average class size for freshmen classes?
- How many students live on campus?
- What percentage are from in-state vs out-of-state?
- Is there diversity on campus (ethnic, geographic, family income)?



ASK YOURSELF

- What interests me?
- How do I spend my free time?
- What makes me feel passionate?
- How do I learn best?
- What do I think I want to do in the future?
- What type of degree am I seeking?
- Should I live at home and commute or live on campus?



DEGREE OPTIONS

- A certificate or technical degree
(Ex: Welding or Cosmetology)
 - Associate – 2 year
(Ex: Associate of Arts or Associate of Applied Sciences)
-
- 4+ years
- Bachelor – 4 year
(Ex: Computer Science, Biology, or Journalism)
 - Master degree
(Ex: Business Administration or School Counseling)
 - Doctorate
(Ex: Medical, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, History, or Law)

THE COLLEGE PREPARATORY CURRICULUM FOR CLASSES OF 2020 AND 2021 (16½ units)

4 UNITS **ENGLISH**
 All must require substantial communications skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening, and speaking). Compensatory Reading and Writing may not be included.

3 UNITS **MATHEMATICS**
 ALGEBRA I or equivalent
 MATH HIGHER THAN ALGEBRA I (2 units)

3 UNITS **SCIENCE**
 BIOLOGY I or equivalent
 SCIENCE HIGHER THAN BIOLOGY I (2 units)

3 UNITS **SOCIAL STUDIES**
 US HISTORY
 WORLD HISTORY
 US GOVERNMENT (½ unit)
 ECONOMICS (½ unit) or INTRODUCTION TO WORLD GEOGRAPHY (½ unit)

1 UNIT **ARTS**
 Includes any one Carnegie unit (or two ½ units) of visual and performing arts course(s) meeting the requirements for high school graduation.

2 UNITS **ADVANCED ELECTIVES**
Option 1: Foreign Language I and II

Option 2: Foreign Language I & Advanced World Geography

Option 3: Any combination of English, Mathematics higher than Algebra I, Science higher than Biology I, Advanced Elective category, any AP course, any IB course

½ UNIT **TECHNOLOGY**
 A course that emphasizes the use of technology as a productivity tool. Instruction should include utilizing various forms of technology to create, collaborate, organize, and publish information. The application of technology as a productivity tool, rather than specific hardware and/or software packages should be the focus of the course.

Take one additional advanced elective to be eligible for **THE HELP GRANT.**



CLASS OF 2022!
 The College Prep Curriculum requirement for the entering class of 2022 includes two additional units to equal 18½ units. In addition to the classes to the left, class of 2022 should expect to take

- + 1 Unit Math
- + ½ Unit Social Studies
- + ½ Unit Technology

REQUIREMENTS FOR COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

If you want to go to one of Mississippi's eight public universities, you should meet ONE of the following criteria.



TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3	FOR ATHLETES
<p>3.2 GPA <i>minimum</i></p> <p>+</p> <p>CPC <i>College Preparatory Curriculum</i></p> <p>Complete CPC with a minimum 3.2 high school grade point average (GPA) on the CPC.</p>	<p>16+ <i>ACT</i></p> <p>+</p> <p>2.5 GPA <i>minimum or top 50% of class</i></p> <p>+</p> <p>CPC <i>College Preparatory Curriculum</i></p> <p>Complete CPC with a minimum 2.50 high school GPA on the CPC or a class rank in the top 50% and a score of 16 or higher on the ACT* (Composite).</p>	<p>18+ <i>ACT</i></p> <p>+</p> <p>2.0 GPA <i>minimum</i></p> <p>+</p> <p>CPC <i>College Preparatory Curriculum</i></p> <p>Complete CPC with a minimum 2.0 high school GPA on the CPC and a score of 18 or higher on the ACT* (Composite).</p>	<p>NCAA <i>National Collegiate Athletic Association</i></p> <p>NCAA Division I standards for student athletes who are "full-qualifiers" or "academic redshirts" are accepted as equivalent to the admission standards established by the Board.</p> <p><i>For more details, visit eligibilitycenter.org.</i></p>

**In lieu of ACT scores, students may submit equivalent SAT scores.*

DON'T MEET THE CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION?



Students who do not meet the above criteria are still eligible for admission if they participate in a Summer Development Program (SDP) on a university campus. Students will enroll in one or more deficient subject areas (English, reading, or mathematics) based on ACT subscores and/or ACCUPLACER scores. They receive training in study skills and counseling to enhance their ability to succeed at the university. After successfully completing the SDP, students may be admitted to any of Mississippi's eight public universities.



THE ACT

ACT or SAT scores are requested by most colleges and universities as a part of the admission process. Your results provide one way for colleges to measure your potential for:

- Admissions
- Scholarship evaluation
- State aid (MTAG, MESH, and HELP Grant)
- Academic advising
- Course placement (developmental classes)

TEST DATES	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE FEE REQUIRED
Sept 14, 2019	Aug 16	Aug 17-30
Oct 26, 2019	Sept 20	Sept 21-Oct 4
Dec 14, 2019	Nov 8	Nov 9-22
Feb 8, 2020	Jan 10	Jan 11-17
Apr 4, 2020	Feb 28	Feb 29-Mar 13
June 13, 2020	May 8	May 9-22
July 18, 2020	June 19	Jun 20-26

*ACT prices and fees are subject to change. See act.org for more details



Kimberly Trosclair
Get2College Counselor

PREPARE FOR THE ACT WITH GET2COLLEGE

Find helpful tips and tricks for the ACT in short 1-minute videos on our YouTube channel at

bit.ly/g2cyoutube.

ACT also offers free prep resources at academy.act.org.

ACT FEES*

ACT, no writing	\$51.50
ACT, plus writing	\$68.00
Late Fee	\$30.00
Test Info Release	\$22.00

NEED MORE TEST PREP HELP?

Request a Test Information Release to receive a copy of your test questions and answers.

December, April, and June test dates only

ACT FOR FREE

Fee waivers are offered to help low-income students pay for the ACT and SAT. Ask your high school counselor if you qualify!

COLLEGES IN MISSISSIPPI

COMMUNITY & JUNIOR COLLEGES

Coahoma CC
coahomacc.edu

Copiah-Lincoln CC
colin.edu

East Central CC
eccc.edu

East MS CC
eastms.edu

Hinds CC
hindscc.edu

Holmes CC
holmescc.edu

Itawamba CC
iccms.edu

Jones County JC
jcjc.edu

Meridian CC
meridiancc.edu

MS Delta CC
msdelta.edu

MS Gulf Coast CC
mgccc.edu

Northeast MS CC
nemcc.edu

Northwest MS CC
northwestms.edu

Pearl River CC
prcc.edu

Southwest MS CC
smcc.edu

PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

Alcorn State University
alcorn.edu

Delta State University
deltastate.edu

Jackson State University
jsums.edu

Mississippi State University 
msstate.edu

Mississippi University for Women
muw.edu

Mississippi Valley State University
mvsu.edu

University of Mississippi 
olemiss.edu

University of Southern Mississippi 
usm.edu

PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

Belhaven University
belhaven.edu

Blue Mountain College
bmc.edu

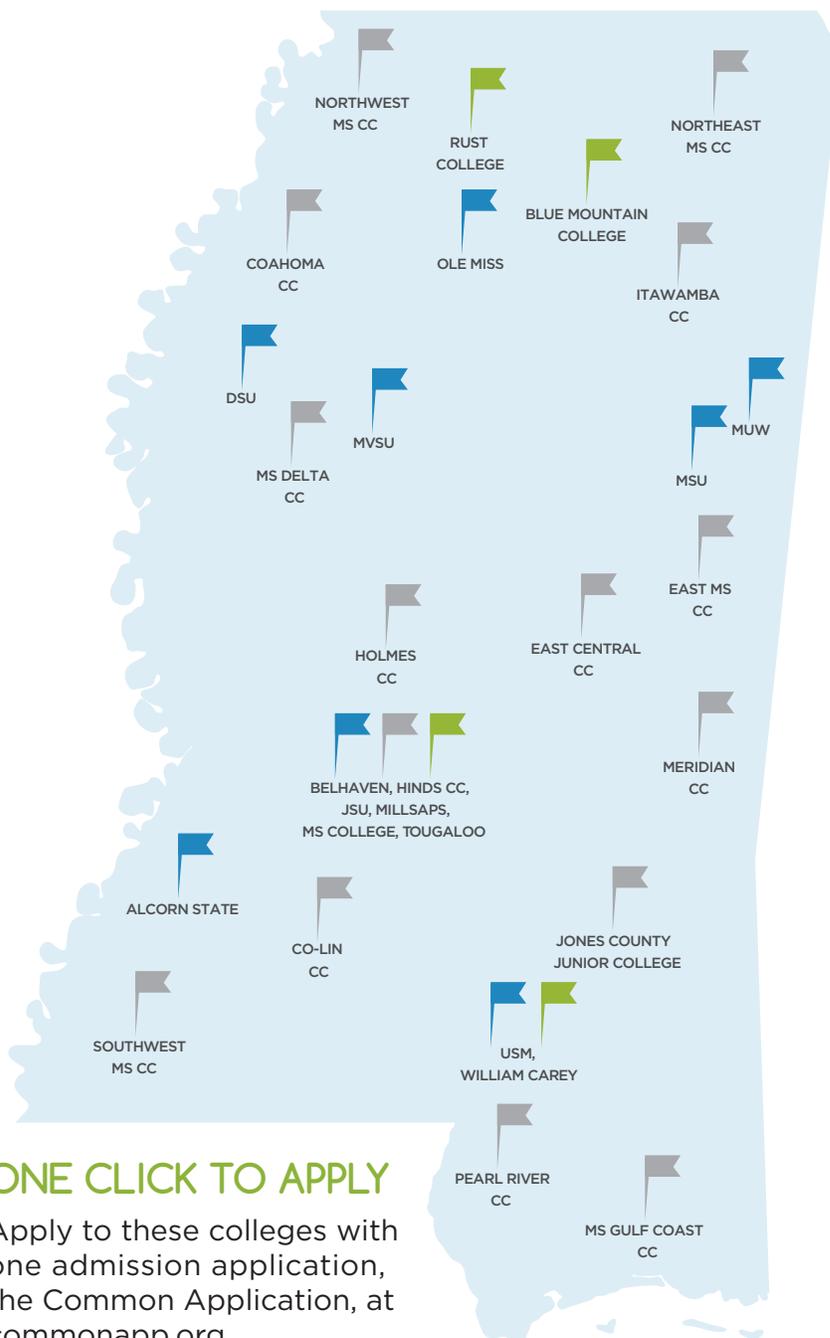
Millsaps College 
millsaps.edu

Mississippi College
mc.edu

Rust College
rustcollege.edu

Tougaloo College
tougaloo.edu

William Carey University
wmcarey.edu



ONE CLICK TO APPLY

Apply to these colleges with one admission application, the Common Application, at commonapp.org

HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

APPLY FOR PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Begin research as early as junior year. Many scholarships are not posted until the fall of your senior year, but deadlines start popping up as early as December. See your high school counselor or career center manager for a list of scholarships.

Browse popular scholarship sites like:

- bigfuture.collegeboard.org
- fastweb.com

Find local and state scholarships at get2college.org/scholarships.

APPLY EARLY FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Most scholarships come directly from individual colleges. Complete applications for admission in the fall of your senior year. Many are open August 1. You must be accepted for admission in order to receive scholarships and financial aid. Most admission applications can be found online at each college's website. **Make sure you meet all deadlines!**

If you attend a community college, join Phi Theta Kappa. Eligible students will receive an invitation if membership requirements are met—typically 3.5 GPA and 12 credit hours. Phi Theta Kappa members are eligible for transfer scholarships at all Mississippi four-year colleges and universities.



PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY



COMPLETE THE FAFSA

The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and is required to receive any federal funds. Federal funds include Pell Grant and other need-based and non-need-based grants, work-study programs, and student loans. The FAFSA may also be used for awarding some state aid, institutional aid, and even private scholarships.

If you have any special circumstances, contact the Financial Aid Office of the school you plan to attend.

Some schools may require the CSS/Financial Aid Profile® in addition to the FAFSA.

COMPLETE THE MISSISSIPPI FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION

The Mississippi Office of Student Financial Aid offers grants based on merit and financial need to full-time students attending eligible Mississippi colleges and universities. To receive any state assistance, you must take and pass at least 15 hours each semester (fall/spring). If students meet the requirements for more than one grant, students will be awarded the state grant with the highest amount.

The application is available at msfinancialaid.org or you can link to the Mississippi application after completing the FAFSA and most of your info will be prefilled.

Cost of Attendance

is tuition, housing, meals, fees, books, transportation and your other living expenses.



\$2,600-\$3,750
annual tuition
2019-2020

Community Colleges
in Mississippi



\$6,726-\$8,800
annual tuition
2019-2020

Public Universities
in Mississippi



GUIDE TO COMPLETING THE

FAFSA

It is important to complete the FAFSA, and you can file as early as October 1 of your senior year. Make sure to file the FAFSA before your college's priority filing deadline to qualify for the most money.



HELP FILING THE FAFSA

Check with your counselor to see if Get2College or your local community college is hosting a FAFSA Completion Day at your school. If we are not coming to your school, call your nearest Get2College Center to make an appointment in our office or ask for remote online, screenshare assistance. As always, all of our services are free!



THE FAFSA IS FREE!

If a website asks you to pay to fill it out, you're not dealing with the official FAFSA site, fafsa.gov.

BRING YOUR DOCUMENTS

College enrollment fall 2020/spring 2021

The FAFSA asks for basic information about the student and parent and about the family's financial situation. Depending on your circumstances, you might need the following information or documents as you fill out the FAFSA.

Parent(s) & student's:

- Legal names
- Social Security numbers
- Dates of birth
- Email addresses—do not use high school email
- 2018 W-2 forms and other records of money earned
- 2018 Federal Income Tax Return (the 1040 form). If your parents or parent and step-parent file separately, bring copies of both.
- Driver's license numbers

IMPORTANT NOTE

Provide information for parents with whom you live. You will need marriage date, divorce date, or separation date.

If you are in a legal guardianship, bring court papers for the guardianship.

Do not bring information on a grandparent, aunt, or anyone other than a parent unless you have been legally adopted (even if someone else claims you on the federal tax return).

MISSISSIPPI FINANCIAL AID



MTAG - Mississippi Tuition Assistance Grant

Application deadline: Sept 15

Freshmen and sophomores receive up to \$500/year, and juniors and seniors receive up to \$1000/year. Eligible students meet the following criteria:

- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5
- Score a minimum of 15 on the national ACT or equivalent score on the national SAT
- Are not full Pell Grant eligible

MESG - Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant

Application deadline: Sept 15

Covers up to \$2500/year. Eligible students meet the following criteria:

- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5
- Score a minimum of 29 on the national ACT or equivalent score on the national SAT or are National Merit/National Achievement Finalists or Semi-Finalists

HELP - Higher Education Legislative Plan

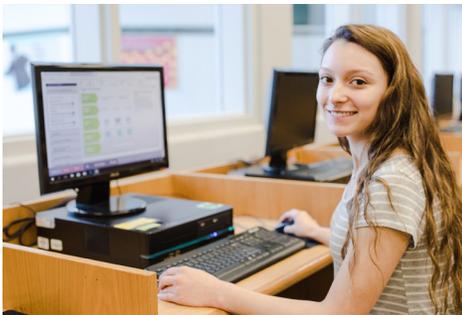
Application deadline: March 31

Supporting documents deadline: April 30

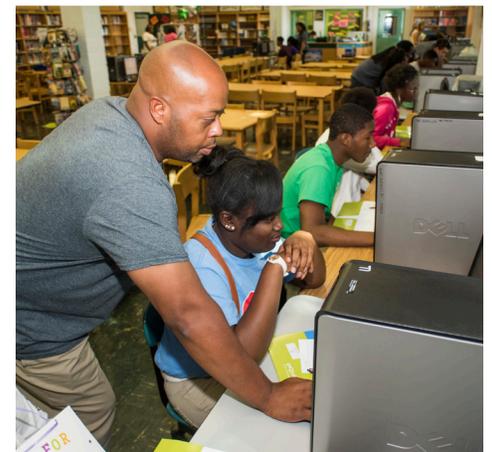
Covers **full tuition and required fees** for no more than eight semesters at a public institution. Participants attending a private institution in Mississippi will receive an award amount equal to the award of a student attending the nearest Mississippi university. Eligible students meet the following criteria:

- Have cumulative GPA of at least 2.5
- Score a minimum of 20 on the national ACT or equivalent score on the national SAT
- Take the College Prep Curriculum (pg4) plus one advanced elective
- Meet income requirements (\$39,500 for family with one dependent plus \$5,000 for each sibling under the age of 21.)
- Be Pell eligible

WHAT'S NEXT AFTER APPLYING FOR THE STATE GRANT



- Check the status of your application through your student MAAPP (Mississippi Aid Application) account at **msfinancialaid.org**.
- Submit any missing documents requested.
- After March, verify that your counselor has individually certified your coursework for the HELP Grant and submitted your GPA and ACT score by April 30.



WHAT TO DO AFTER SUBMITTING YOUR FAFSA

FAFSA ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The processed FAFSA results will be sent to the colleges you listed on the FAFSA, and the college Financial Aid Office will determine the amount of financial aid you will receive.

If you provided an email on the FAFSA, in 1-3 days you will receive an email with a secure link to access your Student Aid Report (SAR) online. If you did not provide an email, you will receive the SAR in the mail. If the information is incorrect, it may be necessary to go back into fafsa.gov and make corrections to a processed FAFSA. Got questions about the FAFSA? Call 1.800.4FEDAID (1.800.433.3243), or contact Get2College.

VERIFICATION



Some financial aid applications will be selected for a federally required verification process. This means that you will be expected to provide supporting documentation for the information on your FAFSA. You may be asked to verify numbers from your FAFSA such as household size, number in college, or untaxed income. You may be asked to upload your tax return directly from the IRS using the FAFSA IRS Data Retrieval tool, or to provide an IRS Tax Return Transcript by requesting online at irs.gov or by calling 800.908.9946.

The information that the college requests must be sent to the financial aid office at the college. Most colleges will not make a financial aid award for you until verification is complete.



FINANCIAL AID OFFERS

You will receive a financial aid offer only from those colleges to which you have been offered admission. Some colleges may require additional forms for financial aid, and it will be your responsibility to complete and submit these documents. The financial aid offer will tell you what financial aid you are eligible to receive, how to accept, and the next steps in the process.

Typically, schools will allow you to accept your offer online. However, you may receive a financial aid offer by mail. You should determine which of the awards you will accept and which you will decline. For student loans, you can choose the amount that you would like to accept. There may be a deadline for accepting financial aid.

STUDENT LOANS

If you accept federal student loans, you will need to follow the college's process for completing the Master Promissory Note (MPN) and Loan Entrance Counseling.

CALCULATING COLLEGE COST

THE BASICS

- Tuition & fees\$ _____
- Housing\$ _____
- Meals\$ _____
- Books/supplies.....\$ _____

PERSONAL/CLOTHING

- Clothing purchase.....\$ _____
- Laundry\$ _____
- Toiletries\$ _____
- Haircuts.....\$ _____

UTILITIES

- Water\$ _____
- Electricity/Gas.....\$ _____
- Cell phone\$ _____
- Hulu, Netflix.....\$ _____
- Wifi\$ _____

TRANSPORTATION

- Car payment\$ _____
- Gas and oil changes....\$ _____
- Parking permit.....\$ _____
- Car insurance\$ _____
- Flights, train or bus fares\$ _____

SOCIAL

- Fraternity or sorority dues.....\$ _____
- Movies, concerts, etc.\$ _____
- Eating out, snacks etc.\$ _____
- Miscellaneous.....\$ _____

Cost of College \$ _____
or Cost of attendance



Stephen Brown
Get2College Counselor

DO THE MATH

The net cost is the total cost of attendance minus all grants and scholarships. Call Get2college if you need information on additional funding.

Cost of College

\$ _____

- MTAG/MESG/HELP Grant - \$ _____
- Pell Grant - \$ _____
- Scholarships/Award
 - Award 1 _____ - \$ _____
 - Award 2 _____ - \$ _____
 - Award 3 _____ - \$ _____
 - Award 4 _____ - \$ _____

Net Price

HOW TO PAY THE REMAINING COST (NET PRICE)

The remaining cost, net price, is often paid with student savings, a part-time job, or parent contribution. Federal student loans or parent loans (PLUS) are an additional funding resource. Borrow wisely.

EXPLORE GROWING CAREERS

MISSISSIPPI'S LARGEST EMPLOYERS

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Huntington Ingalls Industries
<i>Pascagoula, MS</i> | 7. Sanderson Farms, Inc.
<i>Laurel, MS</i> | 14. Memorial Hospital at Gulfport
<i>Gulfport, MS</i> |
| 2. Keesler Air Force Base
<i>Biloxi, MS</i> | 8. John C. Stennis Space Center
<i>Hancock County, MS</i> | 15. Forrest General Hospital (Forrest Health)
<i>Hattiesburg, MS</i> |
| 3. University of Mississippi Medical Center
<i>Jackson, MS</i> | 9. Mississippi State University
<i>Starkville, MS</i> | 16. St. Dominic Hospital
<i>Jackson, MS</i> |
| 4. Baptist Memorial Health Care
<i>Memphis, TN</i>
<i>*This employer has locations throughout Mississippi.</i> | 10. University of Mississippi
<i>University, MS</i> | 17. Beau Rivage Resort & Casino
<i>Biloxi, MS</i> |
| 5. Nissan North America Inc.
<i>Canton, MS</i> | 11. Tyson Foods Inc.
<i>Carthage, MS</i> | 18. Koch Foods
<i>Morton, MS</i> |
| 6. North MS Health Services
<i>Tupelo, MS</i> | 12. Hancock Whitney
<i>Gulfport, MS</i> | 19. Merit Health
<i>Jackson, MS</i> |
| | 13. Howard Industries Inc.
<i>Laurel, MS</i> | 20. AT&T Mississippi
<i>Jackson, MS</i> |



Registered Nurse or Licensed Nurse

Skilled in:
Communication
Leadership
Critical thinking
Flexibility



Electrician or Solderer

Skilled in:
Problem-solving
Troubleshooting
Computer repair
Critical thinking



Accountant



Social Worker

High-demand jobs in Mississippi

Career	Annual avg. salary
Financial Managers Job Zone 5	\$103,300
General & Operations Managers Job Zone 4	\$80,390
Accountants & Auditors Job Zone 4	\$59,960
Registered Nurses Job Zone 4	\$57,700
Human Resources Specialists Job Zone 4	\$51,290
Electricians Job Zone 3	\$49,260
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Braziers Job Zone 3	\$44,270
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education Job Zone 4	\$44,230
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters Job Zone 3	\$44,040
Machinists Job Zone 3	\$43,940
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses Job Zone 3	\$37,280
Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers Job Zone 3	\$35,520
Child, Family, & School Social Workers Job Zone 4	\$34,390

Job Zone:

Zone 5: A bachelor's degree is the usual minimum but some require advanced degrees.

Zone 4: Many require a bachelor's degree but some do not.

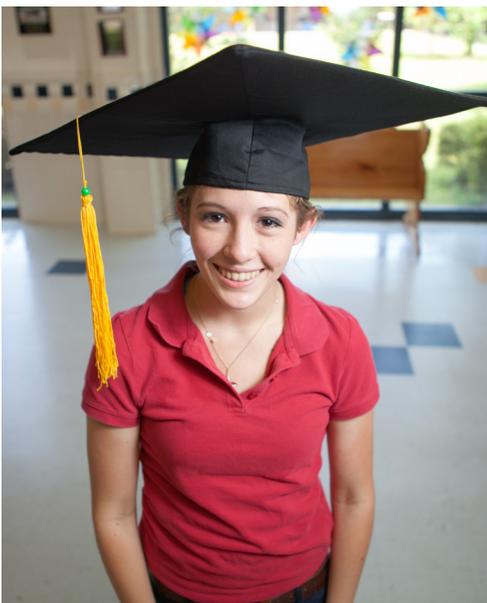
Zone 3: Most require a certificate from a community college, related on-the-job experience, or an associate's degree.



CHECKLIST FOR SENIORS

DO NOW

- Visit your favorite campuses
- Sign up for the ACT/SAT at actstudent.org and sat.org
- Create your high school resume
- Job shadow or apply for internships
- Use Net Price Calculators to see the cost of attending college
- Seek out scholarship opportunities



AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

- Attend college fairs and meet your college recruiters
- Apply for college admission to meet priority deadlines
- Secure letters of recommendation for admission & scholarships, if needed

OCTOBER - DECEMBER

- Complete your FAFSA - fafsa.gov
- Complete the Mississippi financial aid application - msfinancialaid.org
- Meet scholarship deadlines

JANUARY - APRIL

- Submit requested documents to the college financial aid office
- Submit any required documents for state aid
- Review and compare financial aid award notices and make final decision
- Apply for student housing and pay deposit if required
- Sign up for orientation

MAY

- Request for your final transcript to be sent to the college you choose upon graduation
- Complete online loan counseling and sign a Master Promissory Note if you accept a student loan

MEET EARLY DEADLINES TO GET THE MOST MONEY!



Mollie McCarroll
Get2College Counselor

GOALS FOR YOUR SENIOR YEAR

Your goals for the fall should include completing admissions and financial aid applications. Create a senior timeline with a Get2College counselor. Visit get2college.org to book an appointment.

A photograph of two young women standing on a brick walkway next to a large white column. The woman on the left is wearing a purple t-shirt with 'MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE' printed on it and is holding a tablet. The woman on the right is wearing a grey cardigan, a white scarf, and a floral skirt. They are both looking at the tablet. The background shows a brick building and greenery.

get2college

WOODWARD HINES EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Gulf Coast Get2College Center

715 Cox Avenue
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
228.875.4441
gulfcoast@get2college.org

Jackson Get2College Center

2600 Lakeland Terrace
Jackson, MS 39216
601.321.5533
jackson@get2college.org

North MS Get2College Center

5699 Getwell Road
Building H, Suite 3
Southaven, MS 38672
662.349.2789
nms@get2college.org