

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

STUDENTS/PARENTS: PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS. Financial Aid information (grants & loans), as well as scholarship information can be found in the counseling office, the Perry High School website, and gafutures.org.

HONOR GRADUATES, VALEDICTORIAN, AND SALUTATORIAN. The cumulative local GPA is used to determine honor graduates, salutatorian, and valedictorian. To be an honor graduate, a student must have a cumulative GPA of at least 90 (not rounded up). Determination of honor graduates, salutatorian, and valedictorian is made at the end of the first semester of the senior year. (Please see board policy IHC @www.hcbe.net.)

INFINITE CAMPUS. Infinite Campus allows parents to access the grades and attendance of their children on a daily basis through the internet. You can access Infinite Campus by going to the county's main web page, www.hcbe.net. If you need assistance you may contact Dawn Maddox @ 478.988.6298 Ext. 21564.

CREDIT RECOVERY/ODYSSEYWARE. The Credit Recovery and Odysseyware Programs are used to provide Georgia public school students an opportunity to recover credit for selected courses previously attempted and failed or to gain initial credit if a student is off track to graduate. Houston County School System has established regulations and guidelines for students to participate in the credit recovery and Odysseyware courses. These online courses can be taken at no charge.

PLAYING SPORTS IN COLLEGE. * ACCORDING to NCAA rules, students planning to play college sports must meet specific course, GPA, and SAT/ACT score requirements. Information about these requirements, as well as procedures for applying for NCAA eligibility, can be found at www.ncaa.org. Students must complete the eligibility form on-line at the NCAA website prior to the end of their junior year. Students/parents are responsible for all application procedures and insuring the courses taken meet NCAA standards.

***Although Credit Recovery courses may meet Georgia graduation requirements, effective August 1, 2010 the NCAA will no longer accept the GADOE's Credit Recovery Program course credits for student athletes.**

VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL. Georgia Virtual High School is a tuition funded course designed to allow students the opportunity to enroll in a variety of courses. Houston County School System has established regulations and guidelines for students to participate in the online Virtual High School courses. Students are limited in the number of courses they can take each semester depending on their current grade level. Some classes may require a fee.

GAFUTURES.ORG. Georgia futures is a mentor system which is an online resource to help students and their families select a college, apply for admission, and make plans to finance higher education. Students who are planning to enter a college or university after high school must have a gafutures account. A student may also check his or her HOPE GPA on gafutures.org.

ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIP. The Zell Miller Scholarship is awarded to any student who graduates from high school with a GPA of 3.7 or higher and has received a score of at least 1200 on combined Critical Reading and Math or has received a score of at least 26 on the ACT. The award amount depends on the type of institution the student attends and his or her specific enrollment. Residency requirements must also be met as well as course rigor requirements.

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP. The Hope Scholarship is awarded to a student who graduates with at least a 3.0 GPA. Beginning Fall of 2011, students attending public colleges or universities receive a HOPE award amount based upon a per hour rate at the institution he or she is attending. Students attending private colleges or universities will receive a set number of dollars per semester. Residency requirements must also be met as well as rigor requirements to obtain the Hope Scholarship or the Zell Miller Scholarship.

HOPE GRANT. The Hope Grant will pay tuition to anyone enrolled in a certificate or diploma program at a Georgia public technical college regardless of GPA. However, students attempting to obtain an associate's degree from a Georgia public technical college must meet the GPA requirements listed for the Hope Scholarship.

THE GEORGIA STUDENT FINANCE COMMISSION. This is the agency that determines if your child is eligible for HOPE. A 4.0 scale is used when determining your student's scores: A=4 points, B=3 points, C=2 points, and F=0 points. The only classes that will be "weighted" are AP and MOWR academic courses. The GSFC will weight AP and academic MOWR courses to ensure uniform weighting across the state. Numeric grades will be converted to the 4.0 scale and .5 will be added to each grade, not to exceed 4.0. Locally added points for AP and Honors classes will be removed for purposes of HOPE calculation.

HOUSTON COUNTY CAREER ACADEMY. The Houston County Career Academy (HCCA) offers both Dual Enrolled and elective courses for all students in Houston County. The dual enrollment courses include Criminal Justice, Healthcare, Air Conditioning Repair, Cosmetology, Automotive, Fundamentals of Aerospace, Industrial Maintenance, Barbering, Welding, and Computer Information Systems. Elective classes include Healthcare, Teaching as a Profession, Engineering, Electronics, and Fine Furniture. The ACCUPLACER exam must be completed before enrollment at HCCA for Dual Enrollment courses.

ACADEMIC DUAL ENROLLMENT. Students may take college classes through the Dual Enrollment program. The student must score high enough on any required tests, have the required grade point average, and be accepted to the college in order to qualify. Please see gafutures.org for more information about Dual Enrollment.