

DECATUR HERITAGE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

COLLEGE
CONNECTIONS

2016-2017

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COLLEGE INFORMATION **FOR** **SENIORS AND JUNIORS**

- The DHCA Guidance Office strives to educate and prepare students as they explore and apply to colleges and universities across the nation.
- By providing The College Connections News Letter, it is our intent to give students a helpful framework for what can often be a complex and confusing process. If questions remain, after reading the News Letter in full, feel free to schedule an appt. with Mrs. Ross. (email: mross@dhca.org or call 256-351-4275)
- We will be updating the News Letter, as new information arrives.
- If you are a male and approaching your 18th birthday, the law dictates that you must register with the Selective Service. You have 30 days to register after your 18th birthday. You can register online at www.sss.gov. If you are 17 and 3mths, you can go ahead and register and it will automatically update when you turn 18.

Seniors:

You will be given three college visit days, which will provide an excused absence for all of your classes. We do not recommend taking these days consecutively. You will need to get the appropriate form, from the Guidance Dept., and have it signed by Mrs. Ross or Mr. Jones, *prior to your visit*.

Most state school admission applications are due by Oct. 1, so begin this process today. There is ample information in this News Letter to get you started. Again, feel free to contact the Guidance Dept. if you need additional help.

You must first be accepted to a school before applying for a scholarship, to that school.

Juniors:

Begin taking the ACT and/or SAT if you haven't already. You can take these tests repeatedly and your scores will likely improve each time.

Continue putting forth your best effort in your classes! Colleges pay close attention to your grades, during your junior year.

All juniors will take the PSAT in October. This exam acts as the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, so it is important to take this exam very seriously.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER / HELPFUL HINTS

Recommendations:

Colleges and Universities will ask for 1 or more letters of Recommendation, (possibly for admissions or for fraternal involvement.) They will each specify that a teacher, administrator, counselor or adult (pastor, friend, former employer....) sign the form.

*Choose someone who knows you well, and is currently involved in your academic life. (Your kindergarten teacher might think highly of you, but they cannot speak to the type of student you are today.)

* Remember, teachers and others are asked to write a lot of recommendation letters, each year. Asking them at the last minute reflects poorly on you and may result in a less than favorable recommendation. Our suggestion is to make your request known 2-3 weeks ahead of the deadline.

*Also, remember to add a self-addressed envelope, unless the paperwork is online.

*Thank you notes are ALWAYS greatly appreciated!

*Most importantly, if you are not sure how a person feels about you then, don't be shy. Ask them if they feel comfortable writing a *good* recommendation for you. If they seem non-committal, ask someone else!

Social Media:

Do not post anything that you would not want a college representative or potential employer to see.

*Be careful! Social Media can help you or hurt you. It is a wonderful way for people to get a good sense of your character and ethics.

*Most importantly, make sure that you have an *appropriate* and *professional* email address.

	<u>Admission Requirements</u>		<u>Automatic Scholarships</u>	
Alabama A & M	18 ACT & 2.0 GPA		23 ACT & 3.25 GPA	
Auburn	27	3.8	28	3.5
Birmingham Southern	20	3.0	26	3.7
Jacksonville St. Univ.	20	2.0	22	2.5
Troy Univ.	20	2.0	22	3.0
UAB	20	2.25	24	3.0
UAH	20	2.9	25	3.0
Univ. of Mobile	20	2.1	22	2.75
Univ. of Montevallo	20	2.5	22	3.5
Univ. of North Al.	18	2.25	20	3.5
Univ. of South Al.	19	2.5	23	3.0
Univ. of Al.	21	3.0	27	3.5

COLLEGE INFORMATION / EVENTS

***All of the following information is revised:**

***Representatives from many colleges will be visiting our campus this winter and spring. College representatives will call us, when they are in the area, visiting larger schools. They cannot make individual appointments with schools that have an enrollment of less than 1,000 students. So, unfortunately, we will not know ahead of time when they are planning to visit.**

***Mrs. Ross will make an announcement, on the day of, and will give the on site location and the time of the visit.**

Auburn University:

- auburn.edu/admissions for online admissions.
- auburn.edu War Eagle Days are by invitation only and they fill up quickly, so register today! March 3, April 3, April 17, June 19, June 20
- auburn.edu/visit for individualized campus tours

Birmingham-Southern College:

- Get a personalized tour by calling 205-226-4696
- “Junior Preview Day” is April 29, 2017
- Visit the website @ www.bsc.edu

Calhoun Community College:

- calhoun.edu/honors Calhoun is offering a new Honor’s Scholarship Program, for Fall 2017, register today. You must have a GPA of 3.5, or higher and a 24, or higher, on the ACT.
- calhoun.edu Visit this website for any information regarding scholarships or admissions
- Admissions call 256-306-2593
- Campus tours call 256-260-2492
- Academic Advisement call 256-260-4330
- Financial Aid/Advisement call 256-306-2628

Covenant College:

- Preview Weekend, March 30-April 1, 2017, go to covenant.edu/eps to register. The cost is \$40.
- Admissions: covenant.edu/admissions
- Campus Tours: covenant.edu/visit

Huntingdon College:

- Preview day: March 4, register at huntingdon.edu/visit
- Admissions and Tours huntingdon.edu

Judson College:

- Campus Tours: judson.edu/visits
- Admissions: judson.edu/admissions
- Judson Preview Day: May 13
Go to judson.edu/admissions/visiting-judson/preview-days/, to register

LaGrange College:

- Spring Preview Days: Feb. 4 and March 18,
go to lagrange.edu/visiting/preview-day to register.
- Campus Tours: lagrange.edu/visit or call 800-593-2885
- Admissions: lagrange.edu/admissions

Mercer University:

- Preview Day: Jan. 28. go to www.bethebear.com, click on visits/preview day
- Campus Tours: go to www.bethebear.com
- Admissions: www.bethebear.com or contact [800-840-8577](tel:800-840-8577)

Mississippi State University:

- Spring Preview Days: March 20th or 27th.
Go to msstate.edu/events/springpreview-day/
- Admissions: www.admissions.msstate.edu
- To visit: www.visit.msstate.edu

Samford University:

- Preview Days: April 29
- Register at: samford.edu
- For Juniors: McWhorter School of Pharmacy, offers a one week Summer Program
The cost is \$525 (food and board are included) Deadline to register is Feb. 1st
For more information go to: pharmacycamp@samford.edu or call 205-726-2008

Savannah College of Art and Design:

"SCAD Days"

- Atlanta- March 4, April 22
- Savannah- Jan. 14, Feb. 18, April 1
- To Register go to scad.edu

University of Alabama:

- “University Days”: February 6th or 20th, March 6th or 27th
To register: universitydays.ua.edu
- Admissions: gobama.ua.edu

University of Alabama at Birmingham:

- Spring Preview Day March 4: Register at uab.edu/visit
- For Admissions go to uab.edu/admissions

University of Mobile:

- Visit Days: Feb. 3, and Mar. 3
- Register: umobile.edu/visit or umobile.edu/admissions

University of Montevallo:

- Admissions: go to admissions@montevallo.edu
- Honors Program Admissions: Montevallo.edu/honors, deadline to register is Feb. 1
*you must first be registered through regular admissions, before applying
- Campus tours: go to montevallo.edu or call [800-292-4349](tel:800-292-4349)

University of North Alabama:

- Spring Preview Day is March 19, rsvp by March 14
Go to una.edu/admissions/previewday to register
- Visit Campus: www.una.edu/visit
- Apply: www.una.edu/apply

Sewanee: The University of The South:

- Spring Preview Day: April 29
Go to sewanee.edu/register/spring-preview to register
- Visit Campus Day: Jan. 17. To register, go to sewanee.edu or admission.sewanee.edu or call [931-598-1000](tel:931-598-1000)

SCHOLARSHIPS

www.studentscholarships.org

A brand new, more comprehensive, website created to make applying for scholarships easy! Go to the website and become a registered user today. By doing so, you will become automatically “matched” with individualized Scholarships, Bursaries and Grants, just for you!

www.betacub.org The National Beta Club offers an array of financial scholarships. Seniors are eligible to apply.

The deadline to apply is Jan. 26, 2017

click on Scholarships then, Apply)

National Scholarship Search Engines

www.fedmoney.org

ww5.komen.org

go.salliemae.com/scholarship/

www.scholarshipsearch.com

www.schoolsoup.com

www.internationalscholarships.com

www.collegenet.com

www.Scholarships4Students.com

www.scholarshipamerica.org/students.php

College Athletics

* Be sure to first discuss your recruitment plan with your Coach and/or Athletic Director.

* Send videos and athletic resumes to ALL colleges of interest.

Go to: www.athleticscholarships.net This website will give you step by step instructions for creating your resume and videos.

Register with NCAA Initial Eligibility Center, if considering collegiate athletics at a Division I or II school: www.eligibilitycenter.org

National Collegiate Athletic Association: www.ncaa.org

Military Academies:

Army: www.usma.edu/

Air Force: www.usafa.af.mil/

Navy: www.usna.edu/homepage.php

Coast Guard: www.cga.edu

ROTC Information:

Army: www.goarmy.com/rotc.html

Air Force: www.afrotc.com/

Navy: www.nrotc.navy.mil/

Marine: www.marines.com/#default

Military Aid

Military Student Aid: www.finaid.org/military/

Military Scholarships: www.fisherhouse.org

Federal Student Aid

Need help paying for college? Go to [fafsa.gov](http://fafs.gov) to apply

INDIVIDUALIZED ACT TEST-PREP

Facilitator: Mr. Arthur Henderson

Mr. Henderson has over 30 years of aerospace engineering experience at NASA. Additionally, he is employed with Appleton Learning as an ACT instructor. He will utilize a variety of pre-assessments to determine the right ‘prescription’ *individualized* for your student.

The cost for 6 sessions is \$397. Each session is 1.5 hours (9 total hours of instruction)

*You will personally coordinate with Mr. Henderson for your sessions.

GROUP ACT TEST-PREP

Facilitator: Mr. Jacob Hogan, “The ACT Guy”

Session Dates:

Monday..... Jan. 30 and Feb. 6

Wednesday.. Feb. 1 and Feb. 8

Friday..... Feb. 6 and Feb. 10

*All session are held, during school hours.

***TO REGISTER FOR EITHER OF THESE PREP-COURSES, GO TO OR CALL THE FRONT OFFICE, 256-351-4275.**

***TO REGISTER TO TAKE THE ACT, GO TO ACT.ORG**

<u>Test Dates</u>	<u>Deadline to Register</u>	<u>Late Registration with fee</u>
Feb. 11	Jan. 6	Feb. 1
April 8	March 3	April 17
June 10	May 5	May 6-19