

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Acceptance:	Candidate has been asked to attend having met the standards set by the college or school.
Accreditation:	Recognition of a college/university by a regional or national accrediting body indicating that the institution has met their standards.
ACT Assessment:	College entrance exam that is required by many colleges as part of the admission process. ACT measures abilities in English, Math, Reading and Science.
Advanced Placement:	High schools implement AP courses and administer the exams at the end of the school year. College credit is granted dependent upon success on the exam.
Apprenticeship:	During a prescribed time period, a worker learns an occupation (usually a trade) in a structured program.
Associate Degree:	A degree that is granted after the satisfactory completion of a two year Program of study-usually at a community college.
ASVAB:	A test that is taken by those wishing to enter the military. This test shows your ability to learn certain skills and your interests. Many schools give this test to their juniors.
Award letter:	A letter telling you what financial aid a college is offering you. You may choose to accept some or all of what is offered.
Bachelor's Degree:	A degree that is granted after the satisfactory completion of a four year Program of study-usually at a college or university.
College Entrance Exams:	Tests that are used by colleges or universities for evaluation of applicants for admission and/or placement in courses. Tests used most often are SAT, ACT and ASSET.

Community College:	Regionally accredited, post- secondary institution where an associate degree is the highest degree awarded. Certification programs and Non-credit courses are also available.
Core Classes (CPA):	A calculation of grades earned in Math, English, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Language, and Fine Arts.
College transfer Courses:	Courses intended for transfer of college credit to a bachelor's program in a 4 year college or university.
Credit (or credit Hour)	A unit of measurement for fulfilling course requirements. Most colleges require that you complete a certain number in order to graduate.
Class rank:	A student's standing in his/her graduating class that is based on GPA and honors classes. It is expressed in percentages.
Deferred Admission:	The postponing of admission for one year after being accepted into the college or university.
Early Action:	An accelerated application process for certain colleges and universities.
Enrollment status:	An indicator of whether you are attending part-time or full-time.
Expected Family Contribution:	Amount a student and their family are expected to contribute financially toward cost of attendance.
Federal Work Study:	A federal financial aid program that provides on and off campus work for college students. You apply for this program on FAFSA.
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)	The first step in applying for financial aid in which financial information is gathered from the student and family. FAFSA can be completed online at: www.fafsa.gov .
Grade Point Average (GPA)	A calculation of grades earned in coursework.

Honors Program: A program that offers an opportunity for students to enrich their educational experience through independent study with a faculty member.

Independent Study: A program that allows a student to earn college credit through Independent study with a faculty member.

Job Shadowing: A program by which a student observes employees in a workplace to gain insight about a career or job field.

Letter of Recommendation: A letter that supports a student's application to a college or for a scholarship. The letter is written by someone who knows you well (not a family member) who can write positively about you.

Loans: Money that is borrowed to pay for higher education and must be paid back with or without interest.

Major course of study: A course of study in a secondary subject in which the student specializes in at a college or university.

Minor course of study: A course of study in a secondary subject in which the student specializes in at a college or university.

NCAA: The organization that certifies athletes or competition in Division I & II Intercollegiate athletics.

Open Admissions: Students are admitted regardless of academic qualifications. Most Community colleges have an open admission policy.

Out-of-state students: Students attending a public university outside of their state. Higher tuition rates may apply until state residency is established.

Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT): A practice test for underclassmen to prepare for the SAT. National Merit Scholars are chosen from this test's results.

Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC): Air Force, Army and Navy programs at the college level that combines Military education with Bachelor's degree study. A commitment to Military service is part of this college program.

Resume:	An outline of your life as a high school student that contains information about your education, jobs, community services and educational and career goals.
SAT Assessment:	A college entrance exam that is required by most colleges and universities. SAT I is required by most colleges and measures math and verbal skills. A writing assessment is now included.
Scholarship:	A merit based award of money to be used for college costs.
Student Aid Report:	Notifies a student that their FAFSA has been processed.
Transcript:	An official record of high school and/or college courses and grades.
Undergraduate Student:	A student who has not completed a baccalaureate (usually 4 years) or first professional degree.