
College Applications

— How to prepare in high school —

What do colleges consider?

Coursework - all students at LSA graduate with at least the minimum requirements in this area. This is a benefit to attending LSA.

GPA

Test scores

School activities

Outside of school activities including Community Service

Jobs

Major essay

Supplemental essays or questions

More on GPA

The GPA that will be seen during the college admission process is the student's grades from Freshman through Junior Year. GPA is calculated at the end of the school year. It will not change Senior Year.

The minimum GPA to be **eligible** for admission to the UNC System Schools is 2.5. However, the average GPA for students is about a 3.0 and colleges want to see GPAs higher than average. There are some schools with a minimum GPA of 2.0. They're typically private and very costly. For instance, The American Musical and Dramatic Academy's minimum is 2.0 but requires audition.

For more information about GPA, see this article:

<https://blog.prepscholar.com/college-gpa-requirements>

Freshman Year

Choose the most rigorous classes you can handle

Study and learn

Strive to earn As and Bs

Get involved in 2 meaningful activities

Complete at least 10 hours of Community Service

Start a Google Doc to track activities, service and honors/awards

Complete a summer enrichment experience

Sophomore Year

Choose the most rigorous classes you can handle

Study and learn

Strive to earn As and Bs

Continue in previous activities and add 1 - 2 more

Complete at least 10 hours of Community Service

Complete a summer enrichment experience

Take the Pre ACT (in school)

Junior Year

Choose the most rigorous classes you can handle, Study and learn, Strive to earn As and Bs

Continue in previous activities and take on leadership roles

Complete at least 10 hours of Community Service

Take the PSAT 1st semester and ACT 2nd semester (in school)

Attend College Admission Visits at School

Take a Career Interest Survey in Naviance

Consider visiting a few colleges in person over the summer

Consider if you need/want to do some Test Prep

Complete a summer enrichment experience

Senior Year

Choose the most rigorous classes you can handle, Study and learn, Strive to earn As and Bs

Continue in previous activities and take on leadership roles

Complete at least 10 hours of Community Service

Consider taking the SAT and/or ACT in the Fall

Set up Common App in August/September, meet with Mrs. Winters in September

Complete personal essay in Senior English

Senior Year

A meeting with Mrs. Winters is required in September to go over the process of using the Common App and Naviance, discuss interest in a career/major and draft plan for applying or waiting for the right time

Request teacher recommendations by October

Apply early (October - November) to all public universities

Complete the FAFSA during Thanksgiving Break

Watch email closely for possible scholarship opportunities from colleges

Look for other scholarships

Attend Accepted Student events

Compare cost and weigh the benefits - deposits are due May 1