

Class of 2024: Junior Booklet



Haverhill High School Counseling Department



Members of the Junior Class are often warned that the junior year is the most important year of high school. Why is this year such a big deal? It is because junior year offers the most recent data that admissions counselors will have in order to determine how successful a student may be on their college campus.

There is much to do in your junior year in order to prepare for life beyond Haverhill High School. The purpose and benefit of this booklet is to help you as you begin to make those important decisions. We would like to help make this process as smooth and user-friendly as possible for you, your parents/guardians, and your School Counselor.



Junior Counselor Assignments

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Roadmap to College

Keep on track so that you can hit the ground running in your Senior year!

March & April

- Attend college fair (virtual or in person)
- Register for the SAT or ACT
- Visit college campuses
- If considering Div. I or II colleges, register with the NCAA Eligibility Center (www.eligibilitycenter.org)
- Individual meetings with counselor to review college application process or post graduate plans

May - June

- Take SAT/ACT
- Think about which teachers you would want to write you a letter of recommendation
- Ask teachers for letters of recommendation
- Make plans to do something productive over the summer (working, volunteering, or taking a class, etc)

July

- Analyze your SAT scores from the spring and begin to plan for any future testing in the fall
- Continue visiting colleges and take note of those schools you would like to visit again when students are back on campus
- Create your list of schools- make sure to have schools of varying competitiveness as well as financially “safer” options
- Firm up your choice of major by researching careers on Naviance

August

- Both you AND your parents need to create a Federal Student Aid ID (FSAID) for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by going to <https://fsaid.ed.gov/> (may take up to 2 weeks to process)
- Create Common Application account www.commonapp.org
- Register for the ACT, SAT, or SAT Subject Tests in the fall at www.collegeboard.org or www.actstudent.org
- Begin working on an outline for your college essay. You can find the essay prompts on Common App

September

- Check in with the teachers who said that they would write a letter of recommendation. Don't wait until the last minute!
- Parents should attend the Senior Parent Night for more information on the college process
- Firm up your college selections
- Familiarize yourself with admission deadlines
- Meet with your school counselor

Graduation Requirements

Currently, twenty (20) credits are required for graduation. The state has issued Mass Core graduation requirements, which is a rigorous program of study that aligns high school course work with college and workforce expectations. HHS strives for all students currently enrolled to meet Mass Core requirements. All graduates must also pass the English, Mathematics, and Science MCAS tests as required by state regulations.

Subject	HHS Credits	Mass. Core Credits
English	4	4
Math	4	4.0 (including Algebra II)
Science	3	3
Social Studies (includes US History)	3	3
Wellness	2	2
School-to-Career*	1	1
Computer Technology	0.5	0.5
World Languages OR Fine Arts	1	-
Fine Arts	-	1
World Languages	-	2 (must be same language)
Electives	2.5	2.5

TO BE A SENIOR: Students must pass English III have a minimum of 13.5 credits.

Suggested Credits for Admission to Post-Secondary School

	English	Social Studies	Math	Science	World Lang.
Highly Selective Colleges	4	3-4	4-5	3-4	3-4
Four-year Colleges	4	3	3-4	3-4	2-4
Two-Year Colleges	4	3	2-3	2-3	1-2
Technical Colleges	4	3	2-3	2-3	1-2

State University Admission Requirements

The required minimum GPA is 3.0 for the four-year public campuses. If an applicant's GPA falls below the required 3.0 minimum, a sliding scale will apply, which is based upon the combined critical reading and math sections of the SAT.

No applicant with a high school GPA below 2.0 may be admitted to a Massachusetts State College or University Campus.

Sliding Scale for Freshman Applicants to UMass*

GPA	Combined SAT CR & M Must Equal or Exceed <i>(ACT equivalent in Italics)</i>
2.51 - 2.99	1030 (20)
2.41 - 2.50	1070 (21)
2.31 - 2.40	1110 (22)
2.21 - 2.30	1140 (23)
2.11 - 2.20	1180 (24)
2.00 - 2.10	1220 (25)

Sliding Scale for Freshman Applicants to State Universities*

GPA	Combined SAT CR & M Must Equal or Exceed <i>(ACT equivalent in Italics)</i>
2.51 - 2.99	990 (19)
2.41 - 2.50	1030 (20)
2.31 - 2.40	1070 (21)
2.21 - 2.30	1110 (22)
2.11 - 2.20	1140 (23)
2.00 - 2.10	1180 (24)

*Requirements are subject to change upon review by Board of Higher Education



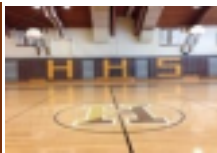
Understanding Rank and GPA at Haverhill High School

Overview



Haverhill High School's GPA and Rank are calculated as a running average at the end of each semester. Therefore, the policy is to calculate Rank and GPA twice a year coinciding with the end of semester one and semester two.

GPA



At Haverhill High School GPA is unweighted. This means GPA is a straight average of courses taken over the course of a student's high school career based on the earned GPA value for each course. The following chart shows the grades and their equivalent GPA value:

Grade Numeric range GPA Value

A+ (97-100)	4.00	A (93-96)	3.85	A-	(90-92)	3.70	B+ (87-89)	3.30	B (83-86)	3.00	B- (80-82)	2.70	C+ (77-79)	2.30	C (73-76)	2.00	C- (70-72)	1.70	D+	(67-69)	1.30	D (63-66)	1.00	D-	(60-62)	0.70	F (Below 60)	0.00
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For example: A student who earns a 95 (A) in a class has a GPA value of 3.85 for that class.

Rank at Haverhill High School is weighted and determined by Quality Points calculation. To calculate quality points one must multiply the grade point value by the weight of the group to which the pupil is assigned. The total of all such products is the total quality point score of the student.

Grade point value for quality points is not based on numeric range, but aligns with each individual grade. For example:

Numeric Grade GPA Value

- 100/4.00
- 99/3.91
- 98/3.83
- 97/3.74
- 96/3.66
- Etc.....

Numeric grades of 59 and below are assigned a 0.0 GPA.

Weight has been assigned to one of the four group levels as follows:

Group Weight

- Advanced Placement/ 3.0
- College courses
- Honors Accelerated 2.7
- Honors 2.5
- College Preparatory 2.0

Example of Quality Point calculation for two students in College Preparatory English:

Student A:

Numeric grade: 98 = 3.83 GPA Value
 Course weight is a 2.0
 Quality Points Calculation:
 $3.83 \times 2.0 = 7.66$ Quality Points Earned

Student B:

Numeric grade: 88 = 2.97 GPA Value
 Course weight is a 2.0
 Quality Points Calculation:
 $2.97 \times 2.0 = 5.94$ Quality Points Earned



Standardized Testing

It is important for all juniors who plan to apply to colleges in the fall to take either the SAT or ACT in the spring so they can research and find colleges that match their academic profile. SAT or ACT scores are also an application requirement for many colleges and universities (unless a school is test-optional.) Although there are many factors which college admission counselors consider, SAT/ACT results are standardized, and can be used to evaluate students on a “level playing field” when they apply from different schools across the country. The SAT and ACT are both accepted for college admission purposes and many students will attempt both tests to see on which they do better before they choose which test to submit to their colleges.

Do you know which test is best for you? Read through this chart to decide!

	ACT	SAT
Total Time	2 hrs 55 mins without Writing 3 hrs 35 mins with Writing	3 hrs total
Order of Sections	1. English 2. Math 3. Reading 4. Science 5. Writing (optional)	1. Reading 2. Writing and Language 3. Math No Calculator 4. Math Calculator
Time Per Section	English: 45 mins Math: 60 mins Reading: 35 mins Science: 35 mins Writing (optional): 40 mins	Reading: 65 mins Writing and Language: 35 mins Math No Calculator: 25 mins Math Calculator: 55 mins
# of Questions	English: 75 questions Math: 60 questions Reading: 40 questions Science: 40 questions Writing (optional): 1 essay	Reading: 52 questions Writing and Language: 44 questions Math No Calculator: 20 questions Math Calculator: 38 questions
Scoring	<u>Total score range: 1-36</u> Each section uses a scale of 1-36 . Your total score is the average of your four section scores. The optional Writing section uses a scale of 2-12 and does not count toward your final score.	<u>Total score range: 400-1600</u> The Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) and Math sections each use a scale of 200-800 and are combined for a total score.
Cost	<u>\$63 without Writing</u> <u>\$88 with Writing</u>	<u>\$60</u>
Who Accepts Scores?	<u>Accepted by all colleges and universities in the US</u>	Accepted by all colleges and universities in the US

For specific information on the Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Tests, as well as materials to help you prepare, visit

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/inside-the-test>

About the Tests

The SAT Reasoning

The SAT measures the critical thinking skills you'll need for academic success in college, such as how well you analyze and solve problems. This is a 3 hour 50 minute exam (including the essay) comprised of three sections: evidence-based reading and writing, math, and essay (optional, but recommended.) The first two sections are scored 200-800 for a total score of 400-1600 points. The essay is scored separately from 2-8 in three dimensions. The cost for each SAT registration is \$64.50 including the essay (or \$49.50 without the essay.)

We advise you take it with the essay, as some colleges require it. If you choose to take the test more than once, each college has its own policy for which scores they will receive.

To register for the SAT and/or SAT Subject Tests visit www.collegeboard.org.

The American College Test (ACT)

The ACT is an achievement test that measures what a student has learned in school and their ability to complete college-level work. The multiple-choice tests cover four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science. The Writing Test, which is optional, measures skills in planning and writing a short essay. The exam takes approximately 3 hours plus an extra half hour if you choose to take the optional writing portion. The test is scored on a scale of 1-36 and the essay is scored between 0-12. The tests cost \$68 with the writing portion (recommended) and \$52.00 without the writing. If taking the ACT more than once, students are able to choose which test score will be sent to their prospective schools.

To register for the ACT visit www.actstudent.org

NCAA Eligibility

Any student who plans to enroll in a Division I or II college and participate in athletics must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. Go to www.eligibilitycenter.org to begin the process. Remember to check eligibility requirements in The Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete. You will need a valid email address to create your account. You will be required to pay a fee as part of registration. In addition you must submit official SAT/ACT scores using the eligibility center's code of "9999". Finally, you should request an official transcript be sent from the Guidance Office.

The suggested time to initially complete this on-line registration form is during the student's junior year of high school. It is the responsibility of the student to know which high school courses have been approved by the NCAA Clearinghouse. Approved Haverhill courses are listed on the Clearinghouse website. You will find these courses by clicking on the List of NCAA Courses under the Resources tab. Use the code 220985. If a student does not enroll in the appropriate core courses, he/she may become ineligible to participate in athletics at the college/university level. For more information see your Guidance Counselor.

Naviance

Family Connection from Naviance is a web-based service designed especially for students and parents. It is a comprehensive website that assists in navigating the college and career process. Family Connection will allow you to:

- **Get involved in the planning and advising process-** Build a resume, complete online surveys, and manage timelines & deadlines for making decisions about colleges and careers.
- **Research colleges-** Compare GPA, standardized test scores, and other statistics to actual historical data from our school for students who have applied and been admitted in the past several years.
- **Find scholarship opportunities-** Research scholarship applications to help fund your post-secondary education.
- **Get organized-** Create goals, track deadlines, and develop your "To Do" list using the My Planner feature.

How do you access Naviance?

- Go to the HPS Launchpad
- Click on the Class Link
- Click on the Naviance icon (all HHS students have accounts linked to their student emails, please be sure you are signed in using your HHS credentials).

Helpful Websites

COMPREHENSIVE COLLEGE PROCESS INFORMATION

www.collegeboard.org SAT prep, online registration, financial aid, college planning, CSS/PROFILE registration, and more

connection.naviance.com/haverhill The site used to research colleges, careers, scholarships, and to track college application information. See your counselor to get your access code.

www.petersons.com College search, career guidance/assessment, financial aid, test prep, summer opportunities, and study abroad.

www.actstudent.org ACT prep, online registration

www.fairtest.org To find a comprehensive list of colleges who do not require standardized testing for admission

JOB INFORMATION

www.stats.bls.gov/ocohome.htm The Occupation Outlook Handbook. Provides job description, working conditions, training/education needed, earnings, and expected job prospects.

www.careernet.org Career exploration, education and training, and employment

www.masscis.intocareers.org Occupational and education information to help make better informed choices about careers

MILITARY INFORMATION

www.asafa.af.mil US Air Force

www.goarmy.com US Army

www.usmc.mil US Marines

www.navy.mil US Navy

www.1800goguard.com US National Guard

FINANCIAL AID

www.fafsa.ed.gov The Free Application for Federal Student Aid

www.mefa.org Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority. College planning/funding

www.fastweb.com College scholarships and financial aid information

www.finaid.org Large variety of financial aid information