

COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

A few colleges base their selection and/or scholarship decisions on the high school grade-point average (GPA) and the *ACT or SAT* scores. Most colleges, however, base their selection and/or scholarship decisions on some or all of the following criteria:

- 1. Academic record in grades 9 through 12 (Transcript):** The transcript of your high-school record is probably the most important part of the college application process and includes the following factors:
 - Rigorous, challenging, college-oriented courses, such as Advanced-Placement (AP); Dual-Enrollment (DE); honors; and college-prep courses
 - Achievement in your courses
- 2. Standardized test scores -*ACT or SAT*:** Because these are standardized assessments, they give colleges a consistent measure by which to compare students, locally and nationally.
- 3. Extracurricular activities:** Colleges look at student leadership and involvement in his or her school and community:
 - School activities - clubs, athletics, theatre, etc.
 - Community - volunteer work, church activities; etc.
 - Leadership - clubs, sports, community volunteer work
 - Employment-part-time jobs

College representatives who visit our school recommend that students involve themselves in a select number of activities. It is more important to make an impact in your community by being involved in one or two activities at most for several hours a week than to have limited involvement in many.
- 4. Letters of recommendation:** These letters from your teachers, counselors, and professionals in the community provide colleges information concerning your academics, extracurricular activities, athletics, and character.
- 5. College-application essays:** Essays serve as an excellent writing sample for college admissions and scholarship personnel and give you a chance to express your opinions, thoughts, and ideas about what concerns you.
- 6. Interviews with college-admissions officers:** Interviews give you a chance to shine, to show your personality, to ask questions, and to demonstrate your interest in them, as well.
- 7. Other considerations:** These include **special talents** (e.g., art, music, dance); athletics; cultural background; legacy status; and, **first-generation**, all of which could affect college admissions/scholarships.