

Question Log: Overview of GAcollge411 Website

August 12th, 2009

Q: Are the career interest inventories the same as the ones on GCIS?

A: I am not familiar with the career interest inventories that are a part of GCIS, so I cannot answer this question.

Q: With the new regulations for the math I and the English requirements, is it possible for an entering 9th grader who is currently in grade level math to jump ahead to his sophomore year as an Honors Math II student?

A: We have referred this question to the Department of Education and will update this document when we have additional information.

Q: The transcripts that Student review in GA411 -are those linked thru HOPE or do we need to upload their transcripts some other way?

A: These transcripts that are uploaded through HOPE can also be used and are linked in the system to be sent to colleges.

Q: If we want to order materials to hand out to students about GA College 411, how do we do that?

A: Please visit the Middle School and High School Educators link at the bottom of the home page and then select "Order Form."

Q: On the Career Planning Tab there was a link for Postsecondary Options - will you please click and elaborate on the resources?

A: As this was a webinar with a PowerPoint, we were unable to do this.

Q: How do we add scholarships and other info specific to the students at our school?

A: This information is added through the Professional Center.

Q: I want to be able to enter as a student so that I can see exactly my 7th & 8th graders are seeing when they create an account. Do I need to log on as a 13 year old to do that?

A: You would just need to create an account as the same age as your students are.

Q: is the Ning only for administrators of the site? Can students use it?

A: No. Students will not be issued invitations to the site. It is only for Professionals in Georgia.

Q: What about the counselor section?

A: The Counselor Center is now the Professional Center. We are offering webinars on this and will be covering it in our hands on training as well.

Q: Where do you go to send the transcripts?

A: The students do this from the College Planning tab → Applications and Transcripts. We have added a pdf document to the home page of GAcollge411 that will assist students in sending transcripts.

Q: Is the student's ability to request transcripts being sent to colleges ready now?

A: Yes

Q: Will the info roll up from middle to high school with the student?

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A: Yes. Once the student moves to high school, they can update the same account to their high school.

Q: Is there an overview tip sheet that can be printed out from the resource section?

A: We sent this out via email to everyone, but we will also add it to the Middle School and High School Educators link.

Q: Where will ACCEL information be located on the page?

A: There is a direct link from the home page and it is also located on the High School Planning tab and the Financial Aid Planning tab.

Q: If a student already has an account from last year, he/she should just sign in and continue using the site?

A: Yes

Q: How can you upload transcripts as a counselor? Will you go through those steps?

A: Our Transcript Exchange staff is conducting training statewide the week of September 21st. You can view these sessions on the Events Calendar located on GAcollge411.org.

Q: How do you get our students transcripts - is it thru the HOPE uploads?

A: Yes. When you upload the transcripts for HOPE purposes they are loaded to the GAcollge411 database.

Q: Will the info you presented today be available online for reference for us?

A: Yes. We are currently adding this to the GAcollge411 website.

Q: How will the requests for additional information from colleges/universities be transmitted or shared with the school?

A: The colleges have the ability to download this information from the Control Center.

Q: Is the college comparison list now somewhere under the College Planning tab?

A: Yes. It is under Explore Postsecondary Schools.

Q: does the professional site give access to the different sites for middle school, high school, etc?

A: The Professional Center is tied to the individual school. If this does not answer your question, please email Sarah Baumhoff at sarahb@gsfc.org.

Q: If a student does not have time to finish their portfolio, will they be able to save and continue later?

A: Yes.

Q: What will the future seminars cover - will it be each of the components in depth?

A: We will be offering hands on training, as well as additional webinars on the Professional Center and other topics. If you have suggestions of other topics that should be included, please email those to Sarah Baumhoff at sarahb@gsfc.org.

Q: What extra features does the school level administrator have access to?

A: They are able to make system wide changes and update transcript preferences.

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Q: Do you have any materials that can be given to interested parties?

A: Yes, you can order and view these publications available at the Middle School and High School Educators link and select Order Form.

Q: When a student moves from middle school to high school, do they have to do anything to keep access to their portfolio?

A: No. They will have the ability to change their associated school from their middle school to their high school.

Q: Maybe I came in late. Can 6th and 7th graders create a portfolio? Also some of the students have older siblings that have created a portfolio with the home email address, can they use the same email address?

A: Yes. Now students of any age can create an account. One email address is still tied to one account. If they do not have another email address, they can have the GAcollge411 site create them an email address.

Q: how do we get the access code for the professional access?

A: Letters and forms were sent to all principals this summer. As the forms are returned, we are sending out the codes. If you have questions about your access, please contact Sarah Baumhoff at sarahb@gsfc.org.

Q: When will logins be available for the HS professional center? We have not received ours for adm. login although name was sent in.

A: These have been distributed. If you have not received it yet, please contact Sarah Baumhoff at sarahb@gsfc.org.

Q: If I want to present this training session to other teachers/parents, is it available?

A: We are making a copy of the presentation available on GAcollge411.org.

Q: There was a choice about being able to give out password reminders on one of the opening screens... I chose NO, but I think I should have chosen YES... can I change that?

A: Yes. Log into the Professional Center and select the "My Account" link. You can make the updates there.

Q: Can homeschoolers keep an unofficial transcript on this site?

A: I need to check on this. Currently the only way transcripts are loaded to the site is if they are uploaded by the school.

Q: will you let us know about the uploading of the transcripts class?

A: Our Transcript Exchange staff is offering training across the state the week of September 21st. Please visit the Events Calendar for more details about these sessions.

Q: how does a student find their HOPE GPA?

A: They can select the "Your HOPE GPA" link from the home page.

Q: If a new Counselor needs a User Id and Password to the site - what is the best way to get this?

A: Please contact Sarah Baumhoff at sarahb@gsfc.org for additional information.

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Q: did the letter say it was from GA411? So I can as the principal or counselor.

A: The letterhead was Georgia Student Finance Commission; however it mentioned GAcollge411 in the letter.

Q: Who should be the administrator at the school? Should it be the registrar who puts the GPA for Hope in the site or the head counselor?

A: This will be a decision that needs to be made at the school.

Q: Do students grant the counselors permission to view their individual portfolio information, or is that permission assumed when they create their accounts?

A: The Privacy Policy tells students that by associating themselves with their school they are giving the school permission to view their data. If they do not want it available to the school, they should not associate themselves with the school.

Q: Are you just contacting the principals?

A: A copy of the letter and form was also sent out to all counselors via our email list.

Q: Did you send to middle and high school principals?

A: Yes