

JUNIOR COLLEGE and CAREER INFORMATION



PERRY HALL HIGH SCHOOL

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Junior Timeline:

September: Get off to a good start in your classes. Join any clubs or organizations. If you have the opportunity to take on a leadership role in a club, do it! Begin preparing for the PSAT. Visit local college fairs.

October: Take the PSAT. Start a file or folder for college materials if you have not already. Start a portfolio if you are interested in art, music, drama, etc. Begin creating a broad list of colleges that interest you. Use the “SuperMatch” program on Naviance to search for colleges. Look at college websites and schedule college visits on any days that schools are closed but the college is open.

November: Start to research colleges online including information on tuition rates, activities, majors, study-abroad opportunities, and scholarships. Continue to visit schools when possible and if they are far away, check out the schools’ virtual tours online. Talk to college students who are home for Thanksgiving about their experiences.

December: Meet with your school counselor or Ms. Campbell to devise a plan for your senior year classes. Register for the most challenging classes you can handle while also maintaining A’s and B’s.

January: Review PSAT scores. Create an account on collegeboard.org to get a full score report and link your scores to Khan Academy. This will help you with your weaker areas and give an individualized study plan for SAT. Students who practice an average of 20 hrs. on Khan Academy raise their scores on average 115 points. You will need your College Board account in your senior year to send SAT scores to colleges.

February: Register for AP tests. Refine your list of colleges and make a list of schools you want to visit in the Spring. Continue being active in school and in your community. Every college will be asking you about volunteer activities so make sure you are engaged in those.

March: Continue studying for the SAT. Register for the June SAT or SAT Subject Tests. Attend any local college fairs including CCBC and the NACAC.

April: Take the SAT and take it seriously. Prepare for AP tests. Visit colleges as this may be the last time to see a college while students are on campus. Register for the June ACT or SAT if you have not already done so.

May: Take AP tests and/or SAT. If you are an athlete and want to play a Division I or II sport at college, register with the NCAA Clearinghouse at NCAA.org. Request recommendation letters from junior year teachers. They may tell you to ask them again in August/September.

June: Prepare for and take final exams. Request transcript to be sent to the NCAA (if applicable). Take SAT or ACT.

Summer: Begin a rough draft of a resume (in and out of school activities, volunteer work, work experience, clubs, sports, special skill/ talents, etc. Naviance has a resume template feature. Visit more colleges and continue to gain work experience as well as volunteer activities. Be ready to come back in September with a list of 4-8 colleges you'd like to apply to including: at least one MD public school, 2 schools with average test scores and grades that are equal or less than yours, a couple of dream schools that you aren't sure you can get in to or pay for, any colleges that you would be happy to go to.

Online applications become live in August!

College Application Deadlines

Early Action – Students apply by an earlier deadline, receive their decision earlier and usually have a higher chance for admission. Some colleges also require that students apply by this deadline in order to be reviewed for scholarship consideration.

Priority – Another word for early action, same rules apply.

Early Decision – Students apply by an early deadline and make a commitment to the institution that if they are admitted, they will definitely enroll and withdraw their application to other schools. Students may only apply early decision to one college. This is a binding agreement.

Early Decision II – This is a later early decision deadline, giving the applicant more time to complete the application, but still binding.

Restrictive Early Action – Students apply by an early deadline to the preferred college and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying early decision or early action to other institutions. Read the college admissions page for specific rules.

Rolling – Students apply and are given their decision a certain number of weeks after all materials are submitted. This is an ongoing cycle, but applying earlier is better because if the college receives enough applications to fill their freshman class, they may discontinue reviewing applications.

Regular Decision – Students submit an application by a specified deadline and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.

Scholarship Deadline – If students would like to be considered for scholarships, they must apply by this deadline. There will usually be a later regular decision deadline, but you will no longer be considered for scholarships.

Keep in mind that all colleges and universities maintain the right to make changes to their deadline policies. Please read the deadline specifications for every college you apply to. This means that if you are applying to five different colleges, you need to check five different college websites and their admission policy.

STEP BY STEP: COLLEGE AWARENESS AND PLANNING: LATE HIGH SCHOOL
National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) NACAC's Top Ten Tips for Writing a College Essay (Read a more detailed discussion of each tip at www.nacacnet.org/PublicationsResources/steps/Articles/Pages/CollegeEssay.aspx).

1. Start early. The more time you have, the less stress you'll have.
2. Be yourself. One of the biggest mistakes students make is "writing what they think others want to hear."
3. Be honest. College admission officers have read hundreds—even thousands—of essays. They are masters at discovering any form of plagiarism.
4. Take a risk. Don't settle for the essay that everyone else is writing.
5. Keep in focus. Use the essay to help the admission officers get to know you as a person.
6. Write and rewrite. Don't try to write a masterpiece on your first try.
7. Get a second opinion. Even best-selling novelists ask other people to read their manuscripts before they're sent to the publisher.
8. Proofread.
9. Don't confuse applying online with sending an email. Make sure that you put as much effort into an online essay as you would if you were sending it snail mail.
10. Don't expect too much from an essay. The application essay is important, but it's not the only thing that is considered.

The Common Application

2022-2023 Common Application Essay Prompts

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

Future applicants may begin **submitting** applications after August 1 of their Senior year. Applicants will be able to begin **filling** out The Common Application in the Spring prior to their Senior year, however, they will need to roll over their account on August 1. During this roll-over process, all the information they have filled out will be erased except for what was provided on the "Common App" tab. So, it is recommended that if applicants wish to begin the process of filling out their application in the Spring of their Junior yr., they only fill out the "Common App" section. Once they roll over the account on August 1, they will be able to complete the application in its entirety.



QUESTIONS TO ASK A COLLEGE

STUDENTS:

- What do students like most about your college?
- What do students do for fun?
- Do most students live on or off-campus?
- Is there an active student government?
- Is there an active Greek system?
- Do students support their sports teams?

CAMPUS LIFE:

- What are the different types of food plans and food options?
- Where do students hang out?
- Is there a health center and what services do they provide?
- Is there a history of any type of violence on campus?
- How does your college keep students safe around campus?

ACADEMICS:

- What are the requirements for admission?
- What percentage of students graduate in four years?
- What percentage of students are employed upon graduation?
- How big are class sizes?
- Is free tutoring available for freshmen?
- Do professors have office hours?
- What important deadlines should I know about? (application, financial aid, priority, early decision, early action, etc.)

- What changes will be happening academically in the next 4 years? Adding or discontinuing majors or programs?
- Do teacher assistants or graduate assistants teach classes?

NOTES

STUDENTS:

CAMPUS LIFE:

ACADEMICS:

HELPFUL WEBSITES

Naviance: www.naviance.com Must be logged in to your BCPS Google Account. Select PHHS and continue logging in via “Clever”.

The College Board: <https://www.collegeboard.org/>

The National Association of College Admission Counselors (NACAC) - a good resource to an array of links: www.nacac.com

ACT - includes test registration and test-prep information: www.act.org

Niche: Students give “grades” to different aspects of colleges. www.niche.com

The College Essay Guy: THE place to go for tons for free resources on essay writing, activities lists, building a college list, etc. www.collegeessayguy.com

Collegexpress – Fun and unique ways to search for colleges. <https://www.collegexpress.com/college/search/>

CampusReel – Videos posted by students about various aspects of their colleges.
<https://www.campusreel.org/>

I’m First – Guide for first-generation college students and their families. <https://imfirst.org/>

Campus Pride – Resources for the LGBTQ+ community. <https://www.campuspride.org/>

The Hundred-Seven – Searchable database of HBCU academic programs. <http://www.thehundred-seven.org/>

Fair Test – Updated resource of which schools are test-optional www.fairtest.org

Common Data Set – Google “name of school” + CDS and find a list of factors that a particular school takes into account when evaluating applicants.

Peterson's -links to many resources: www.petersons.com

US News and World Report - be wary of the rankings, but there is much to learn at this site. The "school comparison" feature is great: www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/eduhome.htm

Colleges That Change Lives - site based on best-selling, highly regarded college advisor, Loren Pope. Insights about some wonderful and sometimes overlooked places: <https://ctcl.org/>

CollegeNET - an all-purpose site with a host of useful links and programs:
<https://www.collegenet.com/elect/app/app>

FASTWEB – easy-to-use college and scholarship search site: www.fastweb.com

Princeton Review - Test prep, college search and other college-related info:
<http://www.princetonreview.com/college-rankings.aspx?uidbadge>

The Common Application – 900 + schools accept it and you should use it. www.commonapp.org

The Common Black College Application Form: Apply to all 67 HBCU’s at once.
<https://commonblackcollegeapp.com/>

USDE College Scorecard: A great site to give you college stats such as average test scores, admission rates, tuition, etc. <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>

FINANCIAL AID

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) - A must for anyone applying for need-based aid. You can apply online: www.fafsa.ed.gov

Completing the FAFSA - detailed, step-by-step guidance on completing the form:

<https://www.nitrocollege.com/afsa-guide>

Compare Financial Aid Packages – part of College Board site that allows you to compare financial aid packages: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid-awards/compare-aid-calculator>

Comparing Financial Aid Awards - A US News and World Report product that provides helpful charts enabling you to line up and compare awards:

http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/tools/brief/awards_brief.php

Bold.org - Scholarship search service that is home to exclusive scholarships that are not listed anywhere else: <https://bold.org/applicants/>

Cappex – Every college, every scholarship - www.cappex.com

CSS Profile - If applying to private schools, check to see if they require this form. You can apply online:

<http://profileonline.collegeboard.com/index.jsp>

FINAID - general site for anything having to do with aid: www.finaid.org/

FastWeb - general financial aid site with great scholarship search engine as well as an EFC calculator function: www.fastweb.com/

Sallie Mae - information about loans and payment options as well as a scholarship search engine:

www.salliemae.com/

Student Guide on Financial Aid - Government site, a comprehensive site with info available in both Spanish and English: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/resources>

Peterson's – A guide to upcoming scholarships: <https://www.petersons.com/college-search/scholarship-search/>

Scholarships - A free resources for finding scholarships and other information about aid:

www.scholarships.com

Savings Plans - Though by the time you are an upperclassman in high school, this information might be too late, finding out about 529 Plans may offer some help: www.savingforcollege.com &

www.collegesavings.org

Broke Scholar - Free search engine with links to more than 900,000 college scholarships:

www.brokescholar.com

Scholarship Scams - A Federal Trade Commission-run site. It is always good to check on what you learn about on the web: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-avoid-scholarship-and-financial-aid-scams>

[scams](#)

Unigo – A search site for all types of scholarships by category. www.unigo.com

Going Merry – Scholarship match service. <https://www.goingmerry.com>

Central Scholarships – Specifically for MD students – open Jan 1st. <https://central-scholarship.org/>

College Green Light – for first generation and underrepresented students.

<https://www.collegegreenlight.com>

Career One Stop – Career exploration as well as over 8,000 scholarships and grants.

<https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Training/find-scholarships.aspx>

SPECIAL INTEREST

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) - www.ncaa.org

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) - www.naia.org

Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life - www.hillel.org

Historically Black Colleges - www.blackhighereducation.com

Jesuit Colleges - www.ajcunet.edu

Macleans - For those looking into Canadian schools, this is an invaluable resource:
www.macleans.ca/universities/

Canadian Colleges - A general and very helpful site: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/study-permit/prepare/choose-school-college-university.html>

Association on Higher Education and Disability - host of information posted by international, multicultural organization of professionals committed to full participation in higher education for persons with disabilities: <http://www.ahead.org/>

Children and Adults with ADD - www.chadd.org

American Association of University Women - www.aauw.org/

LD Online - Interactive learning guide on disabilities for parents, children and educators:
www.ldonline.org

Attention Deficit Disorder Association - Resource on huge array of ADD/ADHD-related issues: <https://add.org/>

Peace Corp - main resource on the ultimate service-learning project:
<http://www.peacecorps.gov/>

CAREER INFORMATION

ASVAB Career Exploration Program - Developed by Department of Defense; free, comprehensive career site: www.asvabprogram.com

US Department of Labor - All the numbers on could possibly hope for in career planning:
<https://www.bls.gov/k12/>

Department of Commerce - Gov.site with host of info on government jobs and other data:
<https://www.commerce.gov/>

Today's Military: A comprehensive website detailing all branches of the military.
<https://www.todaysmilitary.com/>

Job and Career Training

Trade/Vo-Tech:

Programs

<p>Lincoln College of Technology 9325 Snowden River Parkway Columbia, MD 21046 410-290-7100 https://www.lincolntech.edu/campus/columbia-md</p>	<p>Automotive Technology Electrical and Electronic Systems Technology HVAC</p>
<p>Lincoln Culinary Institute (410) 290-7100 https://www.lincolntech.edu/campus/columbia-md</p>	<p>Culinary Arts and Food Services International Baking and Pastry</p>
<p>Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc. Baltimore Metro 1220 B E. Joppa Rd. Ste. 322 Towson, MD 21286 410-821-0351 http://www.abcbbaltimore.org/apprenticeship</p>	<p>Apprenticeship Programs Carpentry, Electrical, HVACR, Plumbing, Sheet Metal, Sprinkler Fitting, more</p>
<p>Association of Air Conditioning Professionals, Inc. 11350 McCormick Rd., EP II, Ste 1006 Hunt Valley, MD 21031 https://www.aacpnet.org/Apprenticeship-2017-2018</p>	<p>Apprenticeship Programs</p>
<p>Baltimore Area Plumbers & Steamfitters JATC, Local 486 1201 66th St. Rosedale, MD 21237 http://www.ualocal486.com/training.aspx?zone=train</p>	<p>Apprenticeship Programs</p>
<p>International Union of Operating Engineers #37 5021 North Point Blvd. Sparrows Point, MD 21219 http://www.iuoe.org/jobs/heavy-equipment-operator</p>	<p>Apprenticeship Programs</p>
<p>TranZed Apprenticeship Services, LLC 6802 McClean Blvd. Parkville, MD 21234 https://tranzedapprenticeships.com/apprentices/</p>	<p>Apprenticeship Programs</p>
<p>Maryland Boat Jobs www.marylandboatjobs.com</p>	<p>Engine Mechanics, Systems Technicians, Composite Repair 6 Week on job apprenticeship</p>
<p>Baltimore Electrical Joint Apprenticeship & Training 2699 W. Patapsco Avenue Baltimore, MD 21230 410-247-3313 www.jatc24.org</p>	<p>Apprenticeship Programs Electrical</p>
<p>Gray & Son, Inc 430 W. Padonia Rd. Timonium, MD 21093 410-771-4311 www.graynson.com</p>	<p>90 day summer paid internship Equipment Operators, Laborers, CDL, more</p>

American Landscape Institute info@americanlandscapeinstitute.com http://www.americanlandscapeinstitute.com/	Landscape Design and Installation
All State Career School 2200 Broening Highway Baltimore, MD 21224 410-631-2742 https://www.allstatecareer.edu/campuses/maryland.html	CDL Driving Practical Nursing Medical Technologists Dental Assisting Skilled Trades
The Cavanagh House https://www.thecavanaghhouse.org/ 350 Main St. Reisterstown, MD 21136	Free trades training for Homeless/low incoming Sewing, Upholstery, Pattern design

Cosmetology/Massage Schools:

Aveda Institute Maryland 227 Archer St. Bel Air, MD 21014 410-838-0845 https://aveda.edu/locations/location/bel-air-md/	Cosmetology Esthetics/Makeup
The Temple Frederick/Annapolis Paul Mitchell Schools Pmthetemple.edu or templeannapolis.com	
Empire Beauty School 9616 Reisterstown Rd. Suite 105 Owings Mills, MD 21117 410-394-9074 nnichols@empire.edu	Cosmetology
Cortiva Institute 519 Progress Drive Linthicum Heights, MD 21090 410-636-7929 Hank Blakely hankb@cortiva.edu	Massage Therapy School

Technical Programs:

Brightwood College 803 Glen Eagles Ct. Towson, MD 21286 http://www.tesst.edu	Two-year, Technical, and Community Colleges
Fortis Institute-Towson 700 York Road Towson, MD 21204 http://www.medixschool.edu/	Private Business and Technical Schools
Institute Of Health Sciences 1300 York Rd Ste 190d Timonium, MD 21093 www.instituteofhealthscience.org	
Sheffield Institute For The Recording Arts 13816 Sunnybrook Road Phoenix, MD 21131 http://www.sheffielddav.com/	Private Business and Technical Schools Audio Recording and Video
Vision Allied Health Institute 1045 Taylor Avenue	Private Business and Technical Schools

Suite 113 Towson, MD 21286 www.visionalliedinstitute.org	
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More Opportunities: <https://mwejobs.maryland.gov/vosnet/Default.aspx> Maryland Workforce exchange

CCBC Certificate Programs: www.ccbc.md.edu/Programs-and-Courses/Professional-Development-and-Job-Skills.aspx

<u>Arts:</u> Graphic Design Interactive Media Interior Design Music Production & Audio Tech Photography & Imaging	<u>Business and Law:</u> Accounting Business Accounting Certified Bookkeeping Commercial Vehicle Operator Corrections Professional Criminal Justice Studies Entrepreneurship Human Resources Management Interpreter Preparation Transportation, Distribution, and Maritime Logistics
<u>Humanities and Social Sciences:</u> Adolescent Behavioral Health Counseling At-Risk Youth Practitioner Behavioral Health Counselor-Advanced Behavioral Health Counselor-Trainee Elder Care Specialist Human Services Generalist	<u>Sciences and Health:</u> Emergency Medical Technology Personal Trainer Practical Nursing Psychiatric Rehabilitation
<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Automotive</u> Air Conditioning and Heating Specialist Brake and Suspension Specialist Drive Train Specialist Electrical and Electronic Specialist Engine Specialist Master Technician Service Attendant	<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Aviation Management</u> Air Traffic Control Aviation Management Flight Attendant Flight Training <i>Computer-Aided Design</i> AutoCAD Operator Computer-Aided Design Architecture Computer-Aided Design Management Computer-Aided Design/Mechanical Modeling
<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Computer Automated Manufacturing</u> CNC Machinist CNC Programming Manual Machinist Quality Assurance Technician	<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Construction Management</u> Construction Craft Professional Construction Management Construction Methods (Intro) Construction Project Controls Legal Aspects of Construction
<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Cybersecurity</u>	<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Engineering</u>
<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Health Informatics and Information Technology</u> Medical Coding	<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HVAC) and Energy Technology</u> Alternate Energy Advanced HVAC and Energy Technology Basic HVAC and Energy Technology

<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Information Technology</u> Database Information Management Office Specialist Programming Mobile Development <i>Mobile Application Developer</i>	<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Network Technology</u> A+ General Networking Information Technology Support Microsoft Certified Information Technology Professional Preparation for CISCO Preparation for Network+ Red Hat Linux (Red Hat Certified Technician)
<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Survey Technology</u> Land Surveying Minor Engineering	<u>Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Sustainable Horticulture</u> Greenhouse and Agricultural Production Landscape Installation, Maintenance and Design” Turf & Landscape Maintenance

ALTERNATIVE AND YEAR-OFF PROGRAMS

Internship Programs – Listings of +7800 programs and 200,000 positions: <http://www.internshipprograms.com/>

Study Abroad - www.studyabroad.com

AmeriCorps - National Service Program: <https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/ Americorps>

City Year - National Youth Service Organization- www.cityyear.org

Earthwatch Institute - Info on this research, conservation and education organization: <http://earthwatch.org/>

Eurolingua Institute - info on language immersion study abroad programs: <http://www.eurolingua.com/>

Global Quest Programs - innovative study abroad program in Thailand: <http://gquest.org/>

Outward Bound - link for adventure-based environmental program: <http://www.outwardbound.org/>

Books

College is yours 3: Live Your Life, Apply to College, No Need to Freak by Patrick J. O’Connor

College Essay Essentials: A Step-by-Step Guide to Writing a Successful College Admissions Essay by Ethan Sawyer

Colleges That Change Lives: 40 Schools that Will Change the Way You Think About Colleges by Loren Pope

Fiske Guide to Colleges by Edward Fiske

Where You Go Is Not Who You'll Be: An Antidote to the College Admissions Mania by Frank Bruni

The Hidden Ivies, 3rd Edition: 63 of America's Top Liberal Arts Colleges and Universities (Greene's Guides)
by Howard Greene and Matthew W Greene