College/Post High School Options: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What if I want to apply to Montgomery College (MC)?

Add Montgomery College into "Colleges I'm Applying To" on Naviance Student and apply during the free application window. (Sign in to Naviance → Colleges (center tab) → Colleges I'm Applying To→ "+" (In Red))

Q: What should I do if I would like to apply for the military?

Make sure to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test and meet with a local recruiter.

Q: What is my class rank?

MCPS does not rank.

Q: How many students are in the class of 2024?

As of 8/31/24, there are 540 students.

Q: Where can I find my GPA?

Naviance → About Me (Upper right corner where your initials are) → My Account

Q: What gets sent to schools via Naviance?

A school profile, your school transcript, and letters of recommendation.

Q: Do you send over my SAT or ACT scores?

No, it is the student's responsibility to send their scores to the schools.

Q: How do I match my Common App to Naviance?

https://www.commonapp.org/ → My Colleges → Pick your school → See left hand side → Recommenders and FERPA

*There is also a helpful video on Naviance Student.

Q: How do I send a request to my teachers for a letter of recommendation?

Sign in to Naviance Student → Colleges (center tab) → Letters of Recommendation

*There is also a helpful video on Naviance Student.

Q: Do I need to request you (my counselor) the same way as my teachers to get a letter of recommendation?

No, you do not need to request a letter of recommendation. Once you turn in your transcript request form, it gives your counselor the signal to write you a letter of recommendation. Just make sure you update your brag sheet.

Q: What's FERPA?

FERPA stands for The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. It is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.

Q: Where can I get more information about financial aid?

Go to the Financial Aid Seminar on November 6 (webinar), December 4 (webinar), January 14 (In Person - Spanish), January 15 (webinar), February 19 (webinar).

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Q: How do I check the status to see if my transcript/letters of recommendations got sent out?

You can check the status on your Naviance account.

Q: Is the SAT on 10/5 cutting it too close for early deadlines?

From the University of Maryland, College Park: It is advised that students taking the October SAT or ACT apply test optional, as scores from those exams will likely not arrive in our office by the November 1 deadline.

Q: When is the time I should be getting started with my college applications?

It is recommended that you do not rush through the application process, so it is important to get organized and make a list of the application deadlines. Please give yourself an ample window of time to get your applications completed.

Q: How many schools should I apply to?

Depends on you - Be mindful of which schools on your list are a safety, target, and reach school. Choose schools that are realistic options and have a mix of safety, target, and reach schools.

Q: Do I request recommendations through the Common App?

You do not need to complete the recommender section in the Common App. You will request letters of recommendations through Naviance.

Q: Do schools only require 1 letter of recommendation?

Depends on the school you are applying to - some schools may only require one recommendation while others may require more.

Q: Would I need to apply to the college before filling out the transcript request form or can I do it after?

You can submit the transcript request form before or after starting the college application.

Q: How do we take a college off of my "Colleges I'm Applying to" list if I no longer want to apply to that school?

If you have not started your application with the school, your counselor can cancel the application on Naviance.

Q: How long does it take to get my SAT scores?

https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/scores/getting-scores

Q: If I don't submit my SAT scores to a test optional school, will that penalize me?

Schools use a holistic review process and consider many different factors. The SAT/ACT can help support your application, but you will not be penalized if you decide not to submit your SAT/ACT score.

Q: If I finish my Common Application, do I wait for Northwest to send my documents before I submit?

No, you do not need to wait for your documents to be sent before submitting your Common Application.