

# PERRY HALL HIGH SCHOOL

## College Application Guide

### Class of 2018

#### **BCPS Office of School Counseling:**

Catonsville Center for Alternative Studies, Catonsville High, Crossroads Center, Dulaney High, Dundalk High, Eastern Technical High, George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology, Hereford High, Kenwood High, Lansdowne High, Loch Raven High, Milford Mill Academy, New Town High, Overlea High, Owings Mill High, Parkville High, Patapsco High School and Center for the Arts, **Perry Hall High**, Pikesville High, Randallstown High, Rosedale Center, Sollers Point High, Sparrows Point High, Towson High, Western School of Technology, Woodlawn High

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## COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

Welcome to your senior year! This booklet provides you with important instructions to complete the college application process. Please share it with your parents and keep it as a resource to use throughout the year. The booklet includes current and useful information for choosing and applying to college and financing the cost of college. Please pay close attention to deadlines. The colleges, school counseling office, and other organizations to which you may be submitting documents expect you to meet designated deadlines.

It is critical that you discuss your post-high school plans with your parents, teachers, school counselor, and others whose opinions you value. Communicate with your counselor on a regular basis so she can be of assistance with the process.

Your senior year of high school is important to the college admissions counselors. They expect you to continue challenging yourself with rigorous courses and to continue participating in extra curricular activities and contributing to your community. Most of all, your grades should be as strong as possible. The college admissions office will likely review your mid-year and will definitely review your final transcript to ascertain your continued eligibility for admission to college.



### College Planning Calendar

#### September

- Discuss your classes, college plans, & test scores with your school counselor
- Utilize NAVIANCE
- Create online application accounts
- Stay organized. Set up a filing system.
- Arrange campus visits.
- Register to take the SAT/ACT.
- Begin to search for scholarships & grants (a year long process). Use free online search websites. See the list in this booklet.

#### October

- Make transcript requests in Naviance, your counselor will send your transcript to colleges through Naviance.
- Ask for letters of recommendation from school counselor, teachers, coaches (you will likely only need TWO letters)
- Write/re-write/review/re-write college application essays.
- Complete early action applications.
- Take SAT/ACT if needed.
- FAFSA COMPLETION EARLY— ACCESS BEGINS OCTOBER 1

## November

- Continue completion of applications.
- Determine which financial aid forms the colleges to which you are applying require & complete as soon as they are available.
- Take SAT/ACT again if needed. Fill out and submit colleges' required financial aid forms (FAFSA, CSS Profile, Institutional Financial Aid forms).
- When you have financial aid questions, contact the appropriate college FAO (financial aid office).

## December

- Complete college applications ideally prior to the winter break.
- Attend Financial Aid Nights and search for additional sources of financial aid.
- Collect information needed to complete the FAFSA.
- Take SAT/ACT, if needed.
- Stay organized. Keep copies of all forms submitted by mail or online.
- Continue to track important dates and deadlines on your calendar.

## January-March

- College decision and financial award letters start rolling in.
- Arrange to have mid-year transcripts sent to colleges as needed.
- Check with each college, as some may have earlier financial aid deadlines.
- Check online for your Student Aid Report (SAR) from the FAFSA.
- Be sure to discuss any special circumstances affecting your family's financial situation with the FAO at the college you are planning to attend.
- Track important financial aid deadlines.
- Respond quickly to college requests for additional documentation.

## April

- Carefully analyze your letters of acceptance and financial aid offers.
- Make a decision & send your deposit (most colleges ask for response by **5/1**).
- Contact the colleges that you have been accepted to but have decided not to attend so they will be able to give your spot to someone on their waiting list.
- Carefully follow the directions in your acceptance letter (esp. important deadlines, instructions on housing, financial aid, orientation, etc.).

## May

- Fill out the form provided by the school counseling office to specify which college should receive your final official transcript.
- Respond quickly to requests and return necessary forms—when in doubt contact the **financial aid office (FAO)**.
- Notify your FAO of any additional funding you'll be receiving to pay for college (scholarships and loans, etc.).
- Evaluate student loan lenders and take time to understand student loans. Learn about borrowing responsibly.

## Things to Consider When Choosing a College

Academic program  
Location (urban, suburban, rural)  
Size (small, medium, large)  
Extracurricular activities  
Housing accommodations  
Dining provisions  
Health and counseling services  
Safety  
Actual cost of attending  
Diversity  
Technology resources  
Religious affiliation  
Job placement services for graduates



## RESEARCHING COLLEGE

### **Keep an open mind to the possibilities:**

Use NAVIANCE, college search websites, College Board and your school counseling office resources to narrow the list to a manageable number of colleges.

Colleges offer open house programs in the fall for seniors and their parents. Physically placing yourself on the campus and talking to staff and students gives you a better sense of yourself in that environment. You may also be able to schedule an interview to speak to an admissions representative. Make the appointment prior to the open house visit. Take a copy of your transcript with you to the interview. Take a copy of the “Questions To Ask On A College Visit”, that is included in the booklet, with you to the open house program.

There are also virtual tours and interactive communication sites with current students on the internet that can help in your search for the college that is the best fit for you.

The National College Fair in Baltimore and our college fair at Perry Hall High School – October 30, 2017 (6:00pm) provide opportunities to speak with college representatives in person.

Representatives from many colleges schedule visits to Perry Hall’s School Counseling Office throughout the first semester. You may sign up to meet with visiting college

admissions officers by signing up in Naviance under the Colleges page. Click on View All Upcoming College Visits and then click Sign Up and Sign Me Up.

## **Community Colleges**

For many students, a community college provides the best fit for the transition from high school to college. Also, difficult economic times have required students and parents to explore alternatives to entering four-year college programs as freshmen. Community Colleges provide many opportunities for students. Financially, they are much less expensive than four-year colleges. Students are admitted regardless of their educational experience. In general, University System of Maryland Colleges have transfer agreements with the community colleges in Maryland to accept transfer credits toward bachelor degree programs.

## **Military Academies and ROTC Scholarship Programs**

Students considering application to military academies and ROTC programs must start the process prior to senior year. Seek the assistance of your counselor with this application process.

## **Athletes**

If you are planning to participate in Division I or II sports in college, you must register with the NCAA ASAP at [www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/eligibility-center](http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/eligibility-center), or Google NCAA Clearinghouse

## **Some Important “Early” Definitions**

Many students like the idea of applying to colleges early, having the process completed by winter break, allowing them to focus on the scholarship process during the second semester. Applying early might, in fact, be a good idea for some students. Below is an explanation of some of the terms used to describe the various ways of applying early:

### ***Early Decision***

Several schools offer an admission plan for those students who are certain of their college choice during the first semester of their senior year. Application deadlines for **early decision** plans are usually in October or November. A student who applies to a school under an **early decision** plan must sign a contract (as do the student’s parents and college counselor) which states that the student will commit to that school if accepted. The student also states that he/she will withdraw any and all other applications submitted to other schools and that he/she will not submit any others. **Applying to a school early decision is a serious and binding commitment.**

Students applying early are reviewed primarily on the basis of their performance through junior year, so the early decision option is usually advisable only for students with outstanding academic records. Responses for early decision applicants are usually received before winter break of the senior year. A student may apply to only one school as an early decision candidate, so if you decide to do this, you should be sure that it is the school you would like to attend.

### ***Early Action***

This is a decision plan similar to that described above, but the **important difference** is that your acceptance is not binding. Most early action deadlines are in November and December, and you will usually receive a decision before winter break. You will have until the May 1<sup>st</sup> Candidate's Reply Date, however, to decide whether or not you will attend that school. You may still apply to other schools even if accepted under this plan. Decisions under this plan are made primarily on the basis of your performance through junior year.

### ***PRIORITY***

This decision plan is usually the same as Early Action.

## **Helpful Hints in Choosing a College**

Select colleges that will best satisfy your needs, interests, lifestyle, and personal and professional goals. A good "match" between you and your college will be the key to your success and happiness over the next four years. Establish with your parents the budget for application fees and only apply to colleges that you really would attend if accepted. To help you make that difficult final decision, the following "helpful hints" may assist you in determining which college is right for you.

### **1. Visit Colleges**

Visit the colleges you are considering when classes are in session. We recommend that you tour the campus, attend one or two classes, meet with the faculty in the department which interests you, eat in the dining hall, and, perhaps most importantly, talk with current students. Students are the best sources of information about the college; they will talk honestly and knowledgeably about the social life, academic program, and atmosphere on campus, dorm life, and other topics that are important to you. If possible, plan to spend one night in a college dormitory. It will enable you to communicate informally with students, get the "feel" of the campus, and "sample" life as a student. The Admissions Office at most colleges will arrange an overnight visit for you, either before or after acceptance. Remember that you are not just choosing a place to go to school; you are also choosing a home for the next four years. It should be a place where you feel comfortable, relaxed, involved, and challenged.

## **2. Consider Actual Cost Rather Than "Sticker Price."**

Unfortunately, some students base their college choice on the "sticker price" - the full cost for tuition, fees, room and board - rather than on the actual cost of attending. Most colleges offer significant amounts of financial aid, including non-repayable grants, to students with demonstrated need. In addition, colleges frequently offer installment payment plans, low interest loans, academic scholarships, jobs on campus, and other forms of aid to students, irrespective of need. When all forms of aid are considered, a college education, either private or public, can be surprisingly affordable. Apply for aid (even if you don't think you qualify) and consider actual cost when making your final decision.

## **COLLEGE ADMISSION TESTING**

Most four-year colleges require the SAT Reasoning Test/ACT and some also require SAT Subject Tests. You may decide to take an SAT prep course through another institution. There are SAT preparation programs at Community Colleges, online at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) or through private companies such as Kaplan, Huntington, or Sylvan, etc. Register online for the October, November, or December tests at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org). If you are applying to a college early, take the SAT/ACT test in October so your scores will be available at the time you submit your application.

**At the time of registration for your SAT/ACT tests, you may request your scores be sent to up to four colleges of your choice at no additional cost.** Additional requests for score reports can also be made at a later time for a fee. Students who qualify for free/reduced lunch may qualify for a fee waiver for the cost of the SAT/ACT. See your counselor to get the SAT fee waiver if you participate in the Free/reduced lunch program. Determine if the colleges to which you want to apply will require SAT/ACT scores, and/or SAT Subject Test scores. It is the **student's responsibility** to request his/her official scores be sent directly from the College Board or ACT to each college. It is to the student's benefit to have his/her appropriate test scores available when submitting your application to the college.





## SAT Testing Dates and Deadlines

SAT Test DATES 2017-2018	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	
		Online	Changes to Registration
August 26, 2017	July 28	August 15	August 15
October 7, 2017	September 8	September 27	September 27
November 4, 2017	October 5	October 25	October 25
December 2, 2017	November 2	November 21	November 21
March 10, 2018	February 9	February 28	February 28
May 5, 2018	April 6	April 25	April 25
June 2, 2018	May 3	May 23	May 23

Students who qualify for free/reduced lunch should request a fee waiver from their School Counselor. Scores must be sent directly from College Board and from ACT to colleges. When registering students can designate up to 4 colleges included in the registration fee.

## ACT Testing Dates and Deadlines

2017-18 Test Dates	Test	Registration Deadlines	
		Regular Test plus writing \$39.50 No Writing \$56.50	Late (\$25.00 fee applies)
September 9	ACT	August 4	August 5-18
October 28	ACT	September 22	September 23-Oct. 6
December 9	ACT	November 3	November 14-17
February 10	ACT	January 12	January 13-19
April 14	ACT	March 9	March 10-23
June 9	ACT	May 4	May 5-18
July 14	ACT	June 15	June 16-22

## RELEASE OF SCHOOL RECORDS

### Official Transcript Permission Form/College Transcript Permission Form

An essential step in the college application process is to have your high school transcript sent to the colleges to which you are applying. Have your parent/guardian, **if you are under 18 years old**, sign the **Official Transcript Permission Form**, provided in this booklet and available in hard-copy through the guidance office, which allows your counselor to send your official high school record of classes, grades, class rank and GPA to colleges. The Release of Record or College Transcript Permission Form requires a parent/guardian signature to comply with federal law. Complete the required information and return the form to the counseling office. Transcripts are usually sent to colleges electronically, but some colleges require that a “hard-copy” be sent. If you need a paper copy, you will submit your request with the School Counseling Secretary. At mid-year, your transcript can be sent only to the colleges that require one. You must again complete a request that a “mid-year” transcript be sent if your college requires that.

After you graduate, one final transcript will be sent to the college that you report to us at the end of your senior year, by filling out and returning the form.

School counselors will need at least seven (7) school days to process transcript requests.

## Completing the College Application

The application process has been made a little easier with the use of NAVIANCE and the Common Application. Read directions carefully. Look for key words such as Early ACTION, Early Decision or REGULAR DECISION. How you apply DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE in the admissions process. Make sure you complete your application **completely and accurately** (and **neatly if you are completing the rare paper application**).

Most college applications have an associated application fee which is non-refundable. **Students who use a fee waiver for the SAT/ACT test may also be able to get a fee waiver for some college applications.** Students may also have application fees waived by college admissions representatives by visiting a college. Submit your application in sufficient time so that it is received before the application deadline date.

## **How to Obtain a College Application**

1. Applications will be available on CommonApp.org if the college is a member of common app and on the college website. Students should link NAVIANCE and CommonAPP to ensure that teacher recommendations can be accessed and processed.
2. Linking Common App and Naviance – Watch the video with directions on how to do this located on your home page of Naviance.

## **Application Essay**

The application essay is a perfect opportunity for you to directly address the college's admission committee to introduce them to you from a personal perspective. You can share your reasons for applying to a particular college, career goals, insights, and opinions as well as your accomplishments. Through your essay, the committee will be able to assess your communication skills, while acquiring a broader understanding of your attitudes, feelings, imagination and creativity. The essay should help them to distinguish you as an individual from the other applicants. The essay should reflect your personal voice.

Arrange with your English teacher to have him/her read the rough draft of your essay and assist you with changes, as needed. Remember, this is a process that takes time. Start in September to afford yourself the time to create a well written essay that you will be proud to submit to the admission committee.

## **Follow-up after Completion of the Application**

Verify with your college that they have received your application, letters of recommendation, transcript, Standardized Test Scores, etc. **Do not assume that your**

**application is complete until you have obtained that confirmation.** A second visit to your top choice colleges can assist you in making the final decision as to where you will attend college.

## **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

### **Counselor Recommendation:**

**Most applications require a School Counselor assessment or Secondary School Report.** Most Secondary School Reports will be completed by your counselor electronically. It is your responsibility to speak to your School Counselor to ensure that this form is completed and then to complete the required NAVIANCE process and submit to your counselor.

The counselor will need at least ten (*10*) school days to complete your letter of recommendation and secondary school report before it is submitted to the college to which you are applying. Please watch your deadline date to assure that your paperwork will be completed by the date designated.

### **Teacher Recommendations:**

Some colleges require/accept teacher recommendations. Carefully consider one or two teachers, preferably ones who you have worked closely with who will write a complimentary recommendation for you. It can/may be a teacher from a previous year. Meet with the teacher(s) personally and provide a copy of your student activity summary/resume. Provide your teacher time to complete a recommendation; at least *Three weeks prior* to your deadline date. Follow up with the teacher with a thank you note and verify with them that the recommendation has been completed.

## **Types of Financial Aid**

**Grants** – This type of aid does not have to be repaid, but there may be an obligation regarding grades while in college, selection of major, or employment upon graduation. Grants are awards that may be based on financial need or other eligibility criteria.

**Scholarships** – Scholarship recipients may have to meet criteria such as academic achievement, extra curricular activities, community involvement, etc. They may also require certain criteria to be met while in college.

**Federal Loans** – These usually have lower interest rates than commercial loans and must be repaid generally after you have graduated or left college.

**Student employment or work aid** – This may mean a job that the college located for you or employment you found on your own.



## How to Apply For Financial Aid

Contact the colleges to which you are applying to request specific information about institutional scholarships and institutional financial aid. Complete the institutional financial aid forms neatly, accurately, completely and timely. Meet your deadlines!

Use **free** websites to do scholarships searches (some sites are available in this packet). Start your search for scholarships early in your senior year. Scholarships are available throughout the year. Criteria for scholarships vary widely: academic merit, leadership, service to school and community, talent, financial need, etc. Scholarships that are advertised to PHHS will be added to Naviance where you can access the link or application.

### FAFSA

#### New Timeline for FAFSA—October 1

The FAFSA is the U.S. Dept. of Education's *free application for federal student aide*. The FAFSA is used by colleges to determine eligibility for financial assistance. Go to <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm> to get your FAFSA ID that you will need to be able to complete the FAFSA. Complete the FAFSA as early as possible beginning in October. The form should be done online at: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) (this is a **FREE application**). Most colleges award financial need monies based on the determination of need on the FAFSA report. You will need your ID to access the student aid report (SAR) online.

The State of Maryland requires that you complete the FAFSA to be considered for any State financial aid programs. Information about scholarships available through the Maryland Higher Education Commission can be accessed at [www.mhec.state.md.us](http://www.mhec.state.md.us)

### CSS PROFILE

The CSS/PROFILE is a financial aid application used by a number of private colleges and universities. The CSS Profile is a very detailed financial application used by colleges/universities to determine financial need. There is a fee for this application. Apply early. Check the Colleges website to see if this form is required.

Attend the financial aid evening presentation with your parents here at our school. The Counseling Office at PHHS sponsors a Financial Aid Night on October 12, 2017 at 6:30pm in the cafeteria and a FAFSA Completion Night TBD.

**Please be aware of and alert to financial aid and scholarship search scams. Be careful of scams from unscrupulous people who wish to charge you for scholarship searches that you can do for free. You should NOT be charged for a scholarship search.**

## **HELPFUL WEBSITES**

**Naviance:** [connection.naviance.com/perryhallhi](http://connection.naviance.com/perryhallhi)

**The College Board:** [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

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

**ACT** - includes test registration and test-prep information: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

**Peterson's** -links to the companies many resources: [www.petersons.com](http://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](http://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: [www.ctclonline.com](http://www.ctclonline.com)

**College View** - a good source for information on all colleges: [www.collegeview.com](http://www.collegeview.com)

**Student Gateway to the Government** - a multi-purpose site with info. On college, careers and the government: <http://www.students.gov/STUGOVWebApp/index.jsp>

**CollegeNET** - an all-purpose site with a host of useful links and programs:  
<http://www.students.gov/STUGOVWebApp/index.jsp>

**FASTWEB** – easy-to-use college and scholarship search site: [www.fastweb.com](http://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** - 200+ schools accept it and you should use it. We have the paper copy as well. : [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

**Historically Black Colleges Common Application** - find applications for 29 different institutions:  
[www.eduinonline.com](http://www.eduinonline.com)

## FINANCIAL AID

**Compare Financial Aid Packages** – part of College Board site that allows you to compare financial aid packages: <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/pay/scholarships-and-aid/index.html>

**The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** - A must for anyone applying for need-based aid. You can apply on line: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

**Completing the FAFSA** - detailed, step-by-step guidance on completing the form: [studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/completing\\_fafsa/index.html](http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/completing_fafsa/index.html)

**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/](http://www.finaid.org/)

**FastWeb** - general financial aid site with great scholarship search engine as well as an EFC calculator function: [www.fastweb.com/](http://www.fastweb.com/)

**Sallie Mae** - information about loans and payment options: [www.salliemae.com/](http://www.salliemae.com/)

**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](http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/tools/brief/awards_brief.php)

**Mach 25 Scholarship Search** - CollegeNet's search tool <http://www.collegenet.com/mach25/>

**Student Guide on Financial Aid** - Government site, a comprehensive site with info available in both Spanish and English: [http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student\\_guide/index.html](http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student_guide/index.html)

**Peterson's** - Comprehensive guide for financing your education: [www.petersons.com/finaid/](http://www.petersons.com/finaid/)

**Scholarships** - A free resources for finding scholarships and other information about aid: [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)

**Savings Plans** - Though by the time you are in your junior year, this information might be too late, finding out about 529 Plans may offer some help: [www.savingforcollege.com](http://www.savingforcollege.com) & [www.collegesavings.org](http://www.collegesavings.org)

**Broke Scholar** - Free search engine with links to more than 900,000 college scholarships: [www.brokescholar.com](http://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: [www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/scholarship](http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/scholarship)

## SPECIAL INTEREST

**National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)** - [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)

**The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA)** - [www.naia.org](http://www.naia.org)

**Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life** - [www.hillel.org](http://www.hillel.org)

**Black Excel: The College Help Network** - designed to help African-American students navigate the college admission process: [www.blackexcel.org/](http://www.blackexcel.org/)

**Historically Black Colleges** - [www.blackhighereducation.com](http://www.blackhighereducation.com)

**Jesuit Colleges** - [www.ajcunet.edu](http://www.ajcunet.edu)

**Macleans** - For those looking into Canadian schools, this is an invaluable resource: [www.macleans.ca/universities/](http://www.macleans.ca/universities/)

**Canadian Colleges** - A general and very helpful site: <http://uwaterloo.ca/canu> and [www.canadianembassy.org/studyincanada](http://www.canadianembassy.org/studyincanada)

**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](http://www.chadd.org)

**Mindplay** - Special education resources "learning from the RIGHT side of the brain." <http://www.mindplay.com/resource.html>

**American Association of University Women** - [www.aauw.org/](http://www.aauw.org/)

**LD Online** - Interactive learning guide on disabilities for parents, children and educators: [www.ldonline.org](http://www.ldonline.org)

**Attention Deficit Disorder Association** - Resource on huge array of ADD/ADHD-related issues: [www.add.org](http://www.add.org)

**Security on Campus** – [www.securityoncampus.org](http://www.securityoncampus.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](http://www.asvabprogram.com)

**US Department of Labor** - All the numbers one could possibly hope for in career planning: <http://stat.bls.gov/>

**Department of Commerce** - gov. site with host of info on government jobs and other data: <http://www.fedworld.gov/>



## **ALTERNATIVE AND YEAR-OFF PROGRAMS**

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

**Study Abroad** - [www.studyabroad.com](http://www.studyabroad.com)

**Americorps** - National Service Program: [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org)

**City Year - National Youth Service Organization-** [www.cityyear.org](http://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/>

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Personality Tests** -Have fun with this quirky site. Interesting way to find out more about YOU. [www.2h.com/Tests/personality.phtml](http://www.2h.com/Tests/personality.phtml)

**Greek Life** - Site dedicated to fraternity and sororities: <http://greekpages.com>

# Perry Hall High School

410-887-5108

4601 Ebenezer Road • Baltimore, Maryland 21236  
887-5116

Fax: 410-

## Transcript Release Form 2017-2018

Please note that the Perry Hall High School Counseling Department processes a large number of transcript requests, particularly in advance of application deadlines. **Requests are needed at least two weeks before pending deadlines.**

- After returning this form to the PHS Counseling office, you must login to your Naviance Account and request your transcript for each individual college separately. Your username is your BCPS username and your password is your 8 digit birth date.

Student First Name  
Name

Middle Name

Last

Phone #

Year of graduation

When you return this form, if you need a paper copy of your transcript, sign the transcript request list with Ms. McCauley. Students are responsible for picking up the transcripts and mailing them to the institution. There is a 1\$ fee per paper copy to defray office expenses.

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for PHS to release my child's transcript electronically through Naviance, other electronic services to institutions of higher education, by fax and email. \_\_\_\_ (please initial)

I give permission for my child to request additional copies of his/her transcript without obtaining additional parent signatures. \_\_\_\_ (please initial)

## QUESTIONS TO ASK DURING YOUR COLLEGE VISIT

You may have only a short time on campus for a tour or open house visit. Prioritize the questions that are most important for you to have answered.

What percent of students receive financial aid?

Are faculty members available to assist me with my courses selection/Will I have a faculty advisor?

Do professors or graduate students teach freshman courses?

What is the typical class size?

Does the college have an active Career Center to help me prepare for a successful transition to the world of work after graduation?

What is the atmosphere on campus? Friendly? Relaxed? Competitive? Pressured?

What tutorial assistance is available to students?

What part do fraternities and sororities play in the social and extra curricular life of the college?

Does the college provide study abroad and/or internship opportunities?

Does the college support an active visiting speaker's program as well as a diverse mixture of entertainment?

What are the percentages of graduates accepted to graduate, medical, and law schools?

How flexible are dormitory living spaces?

Are students guaranteed on-campus housing? How long are they guaranteed?

Are there medical and counseling services available on campus?

Are there part time employment opportunities on campus and in the surrounding community?

Is there public transportation to shopping, airports, train stations, and the bus depot?

## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION REQUEST FORM

### Sample Letter to Teacher/Counselor Recommender for College Application

Dear Dr./Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_,

Thank you for serving as a recommender for my college application to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (list all of the colleges to which you plan to apply). Attached to this note you will find my student my resume/student activities list. I am also available to meet with you if you would like/need additional information in order to draft my recommendation letter.

I have sent/will send a request to you through NAVIANCE so you can complete my recommendation. I have also asked my counselor, Ms. Murphy/James/Lavery, and (teacher) \_\_\_\_\_ to serve as a recommender for me.

Thank you for assisting me with my college application process,

Sincerely,

Your name

Your email