



**Forest Park High School**  
**Senior Handbook - Class 2027**  
**2025-2026 School Year**

# Forest Park School Counseling Department

**Phone 571-589-3437**

**Fax 703-583-3325**

**CEEB Code: 472-468**

**Director: Steve Smith**

Smithss@pwcs.edu

**Transcript Secretary: Olga Geisinger**

Geisinov@pwcs.edu

**Registrar: Nuvia Flores**

FloresNE@pwcs.edu

**Administrative Assistant: Brenda Paniagua— PaniagBL@pwcs.edu**

**Testing Coordinator: Pam Wyatt**

Wyattpj@pwcs.edu

**Social Worker: Marc DeAngelo**

Deangemg@pwcs.edu

**School Psychologist: Mia Valentine**

ValentMN@pwcs.edu

## School Counselors

Aimee Linder (A-Bas) – [LinderAR@pwcs.edu](mailto:LinderAR@pwcs.edu)

Tiffany Jackson (Bat-Cli) – [JacksoT@pwc.edu](mailto:JacksoT@pwc.edu)

Victoria Powell (Clo-Fe) – [powellv12@pwcs.edu](mailto:powellv12@pwcs.edu)

Judy Flores (Fik-Ha) – [floresjd@pwcs.edu](mailto:floresjd@pwcs.edu)

Elena Jessup (He-Kit) – [jessupem@pwcs.edu](mailto:jessupem@pwcs.edu)

Joe Lederman (Kn-Men) – [ledermjd@pwcs.edu](mailto:ledermjd@pwcs.edu)

Chantell Pitts (Mens-Pen) – [pittscs@pwcs.edu](mailto:pittscs@pwcs.edu)

Anna Phalan (Pep-Salg) – [phalanam@pwcs.edu](mailto:phalanam@pwcs.edu)

Helenann Song (Sali-Tul) – [songhh@pwcs.edu](mailto:songhh@pwcs.edu)

Geulia Boddie (Tur-Z) – [BoddieGD@pwcs.edu](mailto:BoddieGD@pwcs.edu)

Ruth Rodriguez (College/Career Counselor) – [rodrigre1@pwcs.edu](mailto:rodrigre1@pwcs.edu)

## CONTENTS

Pg. 3-4 Graduation Requirements

Pg. 5-8 SAT/ACT Info.

Pgs.9-10 GPA/Test Scores for VA Schools

Pgs.11-12 Application Deadlines for VA Schools

Pgs.13-14 Military Info.

Pg. 15 Vocational/Technical School Info.

Pg. 16 Key Factors when Applying to College

Pg. 17 Options for Submitting College Applications

Pg. 18 –19 Scholarship Resources

Pg. 20 Next Steps

Pgs. 21-22 Official Transcript Request Form

Pg. 23 Academic Consent Form

Pg. 24 NCAA Eligibility Transcript Release Form

# Advanced Studies Diploma

**26 Standard Credits, 5 Verified Credits:** Students who enter 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2018-19 and beyond

Course	Credits	Verified Credits	
<b>English</b>	4	2	Courses shall include English 9, 10, 11, and 12 or an advanced equivalent.
<b>Math</b>	4	1	Courses shall include at least three different course selections from among Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II.
<b>Science</b>	4	1	Courses shall include at least three different course selections from among Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the IB Diploma.
<b>Social Studies</b>	4	1	Courses shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and both World History to 1500 and World History from 1500; World Geography may be accepted as one of the required World History courses for transfer students.
<b>World Language</b>	3 or 4		Courses shall include three years of one language or two years each of two languages.
<b>Health and Physical Education</b>	2		<p><b>CPR/First Aid/AED Training</b></p> <p>Courses shall include Health PE I and II.</p> <p>*Students will meet the CPR/First Aid/AED Training requirement while enrolled in an HPE I and II course in Prince William County Public Schools.</p>
<b>Economics/ Personal Finance</b> <i>(Virtual course component included)</i>	1		Students will meet the Virtual Course graduation requirement after taking and passing this course in a Prince William County Public School.
<b>Electives</b>	3 or 4		Courses shall include two electives which are sequential and one elective which qualifies as a World Language, Fine Arts, or Career and Technical Education course. One elective must be a Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education course.
<b>Other Requirements</b>			<p><b>CTE Credentialing Exam:</b> Students must take and pass a Career and Technical Education credentialing exam that has been approved by the Virginia Board of Education</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>Take one advanced course during their high school career.</b> An advanced course can be defined as any <b>AP/Advanced</b>, <b>IB/Pre-IB</b>, <b>AICE/IGSCE</b> course, or <b>dual enrollment</b>.</p>

# Standard Diploma

**22 Standard Credits, 5 Verified Credits:** Students who enter 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2018-19 and beyond

Course	Credits	Verified Credits	
<b>English</b>	4	2	Courses shall include English 9, 10, 11, and 12 or an advanced equivalent.
<b>Math</b>	3	1	Courses shall include at least two different course selections from among Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra Functions and Data Analysis; Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II.
<b>Science</b>	3	1	Courses shall include at least two different course selections from among Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the IB Diploma.
<b>Social Studies</b>	3	1	Courses shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and one of the following: World History to 1500; World History from 1500.
<b>Health and Physical Education</b>	2		<p><b>CPR/First Aid/AED Training</b></p> <p>Courses shall include Health PE I and II.</p> <p>*Students will meet the CPR/First Aid/AED Training requirement while enrolled in an HPE I and II course in Prince William County Public Schools.</p>
<b>Economics/ Personal Finance</b> <i>(Virtual course component included)</i>	1		Students will meet the Virtual Course graduation requirement after taking and passing this course in a Prince William County Public School.
<b>Electives</b>	6		Credits earned for this requirement shall include one credit in fine or performing arts or Career and Technical Education. A computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a Career and Technical Education course credit. Courses shall also include two electives which are sequential. The World Language, Fine Arts, or Career and Technical Education course credit may be used to partially satisfy the sequential elective requirement.
<b>Other Requirements</b>			<p><b>CTE Credentialing Exam:</b> Students must take and pass a Career and Technical Education credentialing exam that has been approved by the Virginia Board of Education</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>Take one advanced course during their high school career.</b> An advanced course can be defined as any AP/Advanced, IB/Pre-IB, AICE/IGSCE course, or dual enrollment.</p>

## SAT TEST DATES FOR THE 2025 – 2026 SCHOOL YEAR

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Regular Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u>
March 14, 2026	February 27, 2026	March 3, 2026
May 2, 2026	April 17, 2026	April 21, 2026
June 6, 2026	May 22, 2026	May 26, 2026

## SAT TEST DATES FOR THE 2026 – 2027 SCHOOL YEAR

**\*(ANTICIPATED DATES )\***

<u>TEST DATES</u>
August 15, 2026
September 12, 2026
October 3, 2026
November 7, 2026
December 5, 2026
March 13, 2027
May 1, 2027
June 5, 2027

**Cost of the Test: \$68.00**

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE & REGISTER ONLINE AT: [WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG](http://WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG)

Preparation for SAT available at: [www.khanacademy.org/sat](http://WWW.KHANACADEMY.ORG/SAT)

		<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>Cancel Registration</b>	Canceling your registration by the change deadline	\$34.00
<b>Change Fee</b>	Changing your test center location	\$34.00
<b>Late Registration Fee</b>	If registering after the regular deadline but before the late registration deadline	\$ 38 .00
<b>Additional Score Reporting</b>	4 –included & each additional score report request	\$15.00
<b>Fee Waivers</b>	Complete the Fee Waiver Request Form Online to see if you qualify	See College/Career Counselor



# Benefits of the SAT

## With the SAT<sup>®</sup>, you can:

- Strengthen your college application by using the college admissions test that's used by many colleges—including those that have test-optional policies.
- Explore personalized career insights aligned to your score.
- Receive guidance about planning and paying for college.
- Get AP<sup>®</sup> course recommendations.
- Access over \$300 million in scholarship opportunities.
- Get free world-class practice.
- Experience a digital test that's shorter and easier to take.

## Testing details:

***SAT School Day for 11th grade is scheduled for:  
April 15, 2026***

Learn more about the digital SAT  
[sat.org/whytake](https://sat.org/whytake)



## ACT TEST DATES FOR 2025 – 2026 School Year

<u>Test date</u>	<u>Regular registration deadline</u>	<u>Late registration deadline</u>
April 11, 2026	March 6, 2026	March 24, 2026
June 13, 2026	May 8, 2026	May 29, 2026
July 11, 2026	June 5, 2026	June 24, 2026

## ACT TEST DATES FOR 2026 – 2027 \*(Anticipated Dates)\*

<u>TEST DATES</u>
September 2026
October 2026
December 2026
February 2027
April 2027
June 2027
July 2027

More Information available and registration at: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

**Cost of the Test: \$ 68.00 (No Writing Test included).** You may view your scores and score report online for free and up to four colleges.

**ACT Plus Writing: \$93.00 (with the Writing Test)** - Includes reports for you, your high school, and up to four college choices (if valid codes are provided when you register). The Writing Test fee is refundable, on written request, if you are absent on test day or switch to the ACT (No Writing) before testing begins.

\*\* If you cannot afford the test fee, ask your school counselor, if you are eligible for a fee waiver. \*\*

### Additional Registration Fees and Services

<b>Adding a 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> college choices</b>	<b>Add \$20.00 each</b>
<b><u>Late Registration Fee (U.S. or Canada only)</u></b> For registration or test date change submitted during the late period for a national test date.	<b>Add \$ 40.00</b>
<b><u>Change Fee</u></b> — includes making a test date change or test center change	<b>Add \$ 48.00</b>
<b><u>Test Option Change</u></b> – add or remove the science test through the late deadline	<b>\$ 4.00</b>
<b><u>Fee Waivers</u></b> — if qualify would be eligible for up to 4 ACT test fees & college application fee waivers	Contact College/Career Counselor

# WHY TAKE THE ACT TEST?

## The ACT can help save money on tuition

Your ACT score can increase your chances of earning scholarships that can fuel your future and help with college costs. Even schools that are test optional may still require or recommend an ACT score to qualify for merit awards.

## The ACT shows the range of your knowledge

The four sections of the ACT test — English, math, reading, and science — each make up 25% of the test and 25% of your score, providing a broad and balanced view of your abilities. Other tests have just two sections, with Math and Reading each being 50% of your score.

## Only the ACT offers support for English Language learners

If you are enrolled in your school's English Learners (EL) program, you may qualify for additional support when taking the ACT. Work with your school counselor to request EL accommodations after you register.

## You can get your ACT answer key

Your TIR provides valuable insights into your performance, helping you understand your strengths and areas for improvement. With the ACT, you can order your Test Information Release (TIR) question and answer key for three test dates a year. Learn more at [act.org/tir](https://act.org/tir).

## Do your best with the testing format you prefer

Depending on what you are more comfortable with, you can choose paper and pencil or online testing.

## GET YOUR NAME IN THE GAME

When you register for the ACT, you can choose to sign up for the ACT Educational Opportunity Service (EOS). When opting in, you can find your perfect college match, make it easier for your perfect match to reach out to you, and get connected with scholarship and financial aid opportunities. Or visit Encourage to connect with colleges today.



## MORE THAN A TEST

The ACT includes a profile and education/career planning section to help you plan for life after high school. In **MyACT** you can complete your interest inventory and see how well your interests align with your planned major. You can also explore schools and majors, or find free online practice tests to help you do your best on the ACT and beyond.

## FEE WAIVERS

Ask your counselor if you qualify for a fee waiver to take the ACT test for free. Fee waivers cover registration fees for up to 4 national tests, unlimited score reports, free access to The Official ACT® Self-Paced Course, Powered by Kaplan®, and free Test Information Releases (TIRs) on eligible test dates.



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## Average GPA and Test Scores of Students Accepted at Virginia Colleges

*Please note that these test scores and GPAs are provided to show you how your scores compare to those of students enrolled in Virginia colleges. Some students had lower scores and GPAs, while other students had higher scores and GPAs.*

### GPA 3.24 and below

College	SAT 25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	ACT 25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Average GPA	6 Year Graduation Rate	Public or Private
Averett University	830-1030	16-22	2.93	33%	Private
Bluefield College	800-1010	16-22	3.0	45%	Private
Ferrum College	740-940	16-24	2.75	32%	Private
Hampton University	910-1100	20-22	3.2	68%	Private
Marymount University	910-1100	18-24	3.02	58%	Private
Norfolk State University	790-950	16-19	2.7	37%	Public
Radford University	890-1060	18-22	3.04	59%	Public
Virginia State University	740-920	15-19	2.8	46%	Public
Virginia Union University	690-860	14-18	2.6	35%	Private

### GPA 3.25 – 3.49

Eastern Mennonite University	860-1130	18-26	3.40	63%	Private
Hampden-Sydney College	995-1210	21-26	3.4	62%	Private
Jefferson College of Health Sciences	NA	NA	3.0	29%	Private
Liberty University	910-1160	19-26	3.24	50%	Private
Longwood University	890-1090	19-23	3.3	63%	Public
Lynchburg College	900-1090	19-24	3.2	56%	Private
Mary Baldwin College	830-1060	18-25	3.27	39%	Private
Old Dominion University	920-1120	18-23	3.3	51%	Public
Randolph College	910-1120	19-24	3.48	69%	Private
Shenandoah University	890-1120	19-26	3.4	45%	Private
Southern Virginia University	900-1160	20-26	NA	33%	Private
Sweet Briar College	890-1160	21-28	3.51	62%	Private
UVA College at Wise	840-1050	17-23	3.2	42%	Public
Virginia Wesleyan College	870-1100	18-25	3.3	44%	Private

## GPA 3.5 – 3.74

<b>Bridgewater College</b>	950-1140	21-27	3.5	60%	Private
<b>Emory and Henry College</b>	860-1100	18-25	3.45	46%	Private
<b>George Mason University</b>	1050-1250	23-28	3.5	67%	Public
<b>Hollins University</b>	960-1200	20-27	3.45	60%	Private
<b>Randolph-Macon College</b>	980-1180	21-26	3.5	62%	Private
<b>Regent University</b>	950-1180	20-26	NA	51%	Private
<b>Roanoke College</b>	980-1190	21-26	3.4	64%	Private
<b>University of Mary Washington</b>	1020-1200	22-27	3.67	74%	Public
<b>VA Commonwealth University</b>	1000-1210	21-27	3.07	57%	Public
<b>Virginia Military Institute</b>	1070-1250	23-28	3.14	76%	Public

## GPA 3.75 and above

<b>Christopher Newport University</b>	1070-1250	23-28	3.6	66%	Public
<b>College of William and Mary</b>	1270-1470	29-33	4.0	90%	Public
<b>James Madison University</b>	1050-1230	25-27	3.74	81%	Public
<b>University of Richmond</b>	1220-1430	29-32	NA	85%	Private
<b>University of Virginia</b>	1250-1460	28-33	NA	93%	Public
<b>Virginia Tech</b>	1100-1320	NA	3.67	83%	Public
<b>Washington and Lee University</b>	1320-1460	30-33	NA	90%	Private

**Early Decision** – if you apply Early Decision, you are committing yourself to attend that college if admitted. You file the application early in senior year and are notified of the college's decision around the end of the fall semester. You may have only one active Early Decision application filed at a time.

**Early Action** – you apply to the college during fall of your senior year and the college notifies you well before their Regular Decision deadline as to their decision. You are not obligated to attend the school. You may submit Early Action applications to multiple colleges.

**Regular Decision** – A college has a specific deadline by which all application must be completed. All of the applications are evaluated, all decisions made, and notification letters are then mailed to all applicants.

**Rolling Admission** – a college will make its admission decision soon after an application is completed. Decisions are released on a "rolling" basis.

## *Grading scale used at Forest Park HS, including weighting*

Numerical Grade	Letter Grade	Standard Classes	Honors Classes	AP or DE Classes
90-100	A	4	4.5	5
87-89	B+	3.3	3.8	4.3
80-86	B	3	3.5	4
77-79	C+	2.3	2.8	3.3
70-76	C	2	2.5	3
67-69	D+	1.3	1.3	1.3
60-66	D	1	1	1
59-0	F	0	0	0

## Virginia College Application Deadlines Public Colleges and Universities

College or University:	Early Decision (binding)/ Action (non-binding) & Priority:	Regular Admission:	Financial Aid Priority:
<b>Christopher Newport University</b>	Early Decision: November 15 Early Action: December 1	February 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>College of William and Mary</b>	Early Decision: November 1	January 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>George Mason University</b>	Early Action: November 1	January 15	<b>March 1</b>
<b>James Madison University</b>	Early Action: November 1	January 15	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Longwood University</b>	Early Action: December 1	March 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Norfolk State University</b>		Rolling, ends May 31	<b>March 15</b>
<b>Old Dominion University</b>	Early Action: December 1	Rolling	<b>February 15</b>
<b>Radford University</b>	Early Action: December 1	February 1	<b>February 15</b>
<b>University of Mary Washington</b>	Early Decision: November 1 Early Action: November 15	February 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>University of Virginia</b>	Early Action: November 1	January 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>UVA's College at Wise</b>	Early Action 1: December 1 Early Action 2: February 1	Rolling, ends August 1	<b>April 1</b>
<b>Virginia Commonwealth University</b>		January 15	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Virginia Military Institute</b>	Early Decision: November 15	February 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Virginia State University</b>		Rolling, ends May 1	<b>March 31</b>
<b>Virginia Tech</b>	Early Decision: November 1	January 15	<b>March 1</b>

## Private Colleges and Universities

College or University	Early Decision (binding)/ Action (non-binding) & Priority:	Regular Admission:	Financial Aid Priority:
<b>Averett University</b>		Rolling	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Bluefield College</b>		Rolling	<b>March 15</b>
<b>Bridgewater College</b>		Rolling, ends May 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Eastern Mennonite University</b>		Rolling	<b>February 15</b>
<b>Emory and Henry College</b>	Early Decision: November 15	Rolling	<b>April 1</b>
<b>Ferrum College</b>		Rolling	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Hampden-Sydney College</b>	Early Decision: November 15 Early Action 1: December 15 Early Action 2: January 15	March 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Hampton University</b>	Early Action: November 1	Rolling, ends March 1	<b>February 15</b>
<b>Hollins University</b>	Early Decision: November 1 Early Action: December 1	Rolling, priority by February 1	<b>February 15</b>
<b>Jefferson College of Health Sciences</b>	Early Action: November 1	Rolling, priority by January 15	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Liberty University</b>		Rolling, priority by January 31	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Lynchburg College</b>	Early Decision: November 15	Rolling	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Mary Baldwin College</b>		Rolling, ends April 15	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Marymount University</b>		Rolling, priority by April 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Randolph College</b>	Early Action: December 1	March 1	<b>February 1</b>
<b>Randolph-Macon College</b>	Early Action: November 15	March 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Regent University</b>		Rolling	<b>March 15</b>
<b>Roanoke College</b>	Early Decision 1: November 5 Early Decision 2: January 12	Rolling, ends March 15	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Shenandoah University</b>		Rolling	<b>March 15</b>
<b>University of Richmond</b>	Early Decision 1: November 1 Early Decision II: January 1 Early Action : November 1	January 1	<b>February 15</b>
<b>Virginia Intermont College</b>	Early Decision: January 1	Rolling, ends July 11	<b>February 15</b>
<b>Virginia Union University</b>		Rolling, ends June 30	<b>March 15</b>
<b>Virginia Wesleyan College</b>	Early Action: December 10	Rolling, priority by March 1	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Washington and Lee University</b>	Early Decision 1: November 1 Early Decision 2: January 1	January 1	<b>February 15</b>

## MILITARY

Military service is a wonderful option for career preparation. The various branches of the armed services compete with industry, colleges, trade and technical schools for recruits.

1. Young people are attracted to the military for various reasons including:

- Travel
- The need for employment
- A sense of civic duty and service for our country
- Occupational training
- Educational opportunities

2. The Armed Forces consists of 4 major branches:

- Army
- Navy
- Air Force
- Marines
- Coast Guard and Air National Guard/Reserve

3. Each branch of the military has its own mission and character, its own incentives, bonuses and recruitment strategy. All service branches require:

High school graduation or GED with college credits

- Aptitude tests
- Physical exams, drug screening and criminal background check
- The need for recruits in a specific job
- ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) test

4. Most active-duty programs range from 3 to 6 years. Enlistments are typically 3 to 4 year commitments. People who join the reserves are on active duty through basic training and job training.

5. The number one purpose of the military is to defend the United States of America, not to provide education and training.

There are some full-time educational programs that include full pay, allowances, tuition and/or related fees. Some programs allow enlisted personnel to take college courses that, together with additional military training, enable them to become commissioned officers. Apprenticeship programs are structured into Army, Navy and Marine training programs. Armed services enlistees train in the mechanical and technical areas. Apprenticeship accreditation can cross over to the civilian world of work. The ROTC is one such program that offers scholarships for students in college to take specified courses.

- The 40 year program leads to an entry-level commission and bachelor degree
- ROTC scholarships pay tuition, required fees, textbooks and provide an allowance for each month a student is academically enrolled

## **General Military Enlistment Qualifications**

**AGE:** Must be at least 17 and not yet 35 years old. Consent of parent or legal guardian required if 17 years old.

**CITIZENSHIP STATUS:** Must be either (1) US Citizen, or (2) an immigrant alien legally admitted to the US for permanent residence and possessing immigration and naturalization documents.

**PHYSICAL CONDITION:** Must meet minimum physical standards listed below to enlist:

- **Weight:** There are minimum and maximum weights, based on percentage of body fat
- **Vision:** There are minimum correctable vision standards
- **Overall Health:** Must be in good health and pass a medical exam. Certain diseases or conditions may exclude persons from enlistment. i.e. diabetes, severe allergies, epilepsy, alcoholism, and drug addiction. Some military occupations have additional physical standards.

**EDUCATION:** High school graduation is desired by all services and is a requirement under most enlisted options.

**APTITUDE:** Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)

- Requires a minimum entry score which may vary by service and occupation
- Is a test that can help you with educational and career planning
- Provides academic and occupational composite scores
- Is a three-hour free exam administered at your high school
- Does not incur a military obligation
- May be taken by 10th – 12th graders

**MORAL CHARACTER:** Must meet standards designed to screen out persons likely to become disciplinary problems. Standards cover court convictions, juvenile delinquency, arrests, and drug use.

**MARITAL STATUS AND DEPENDENTS:** May be either single or married

**WAIVERS:** (case by case basis)

### **HELPFUL WEBSITES:**

www.army.com

www.navy.com

www.uscg.com

www.af.com

www.mc.com

www.ngb.dtic.com

For additional information see the Military Career Guide at [www.militarycareers.com](http://www.militarycareers.com)

## **MILITARY ACADEMIES**

For those who want to serve their country AND earn a highly regarded 4 year degree, the military or service academies are worth a look. Getting in is highly competitive, but the entire cost, including tuition and room and board, is paid for by the US government.

***For more details, contact the academies:***

US Military [www.usma.edu](http://www.usma.edu) Merchant Marine [www.usmma.edu](http://www.usmma.edu)

Naval [www.usna.edu](http://www.usna.edu) Air Force [www.usafa.af.mil](http://www.usafa.af.mil)

Coast Guard [www.cga.edu](http://www.cga.edu)

## VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

The purpose of a career or vocational-technical education is to prepare a high school graduate to obtain and hold a job. The relationship between education and work is important. The more you invest in your education, the more valuable you are to your employer and the more you will earn!

1. A good high school education is critical to whatever field you wish to enter. Employers want you to:

- Be able to read and write well
- Communicate effectively with other people
- Get along with other people and your co-workers
- Be able to think and reason in safe acceptable creative ways

2. Career educators state that high school graduates really need to continue their education and get a degree. It is no longer an option.

3. Vocational-Technical schools provide:

- Hands-on educational experience
- Classrooms that represent actual job experiences
- Instructors who are experienced in the subject area
- Assistance when entering the workforce once your training and education are complete

4. Visit the vocational or trade school of your choice and take time to:

- Speak to students who are attending classes
- Visit during class time
- Ask students why they chose that institution
- Ask students their opinion of their education

5. Continuing education throughout your lifetime will become more and more necessary as the job market becomes more competitive.

6. Students with a vocational-technical education will have the advantage when the time comes to learn new skills. Their training will provide them with basic thinking and problem-solving skills that make it possible to absorb new technologies.

# What key factors are important when applying to college?

## NACAC College Admissions Survey

*Results of a national survey of colleges and universities from across the United States*

	N	Considerable Im- portance	Moderate Im- portance	Limited Im- portance	No Importance
High school grades in college prep	185	76.8	15.1	4.9	3.2
Total high school grades (all courses)	185	74.1	18.9	5.4	1.6
Strength of high school curriculum	185	63.8	22.7	10.3	3.2
Positive character attributes	184	28.3	37.5	18.5	15.8
Essay or writing sample	185	18.9	37.3	26.5	17.3
Student's interest in attending	185	15.7	27.6	25.4	31.4
Counselor recommendation	185	11.9	40.0	27.6	20.5
Teacher recommendation	185	10.8	40.5	28.1	20.5
Extracurricular activities	185	6.5	44.3	30.8	18.4
High school class rank	183	5.5	22.4	43.2	29.0
Admission test scores (ACT, SAT)	185	4.9	25.4	38.9	30.8
Portfolio	185	4.9	10.8	24.3	60.0
Interview	185	4.3	8.6	32.4	54.6
Work	185	2.2	30.8	40.0	27.0
State graduation exam scores	185	1.6	6.5	18.4	73.5
Subject test scores (AP, IB)	185	1.1	22.2	25.9	50.8

Source: NACAC Admission Trends Survey, Freshman Class 2023

# Three Options for Submitting College Applications in Prince William County Schools



## The Common Application

- Accepted by over 800 colleges
- One profile for multiple schools + individual supplementals per institution
- Individual institution application fees
- Student must match/connect their Common Application account to Naviance Student
- Specific essay available
- Naviance application type: Common App



## The Coalition Application

- 140 approved institutions
- One profile for multiple schools + individual supplementals per institution
- Individual institution application fees
- Easy access to fee waivers
- No application matching needed in Naviance Student
- Essay available pending requirement of institution
- Naviance application type: Direct to Institution



## Direct to Institution

- Create an application on the institutions website ("apply here")
- Individual institution application fees
- Naviance application type: Direct to Institution
- Sometimes the supplemental documents must be mailed (note delivery type for letters of recommendation) this would show up as a "stamp" icon in Naviance Student

### Prince William County Schools use Naviance Student to process/send college transcripts

- Students must log all college applications in Naviance Student and request transcripts when they are required by the college in order for an official transcript and/or counselor report to be sent to colleges. Be aware of school processing window (10 school days).
- The institution will determine how and which documents (i.e. transcripts and letters of recommendation) are required for their specific admissions process.
- The transcript package includes: Initial Transcript, Mid Year Transcript, Secondary School Report, School Profile & counselor letter of recommendation (as requested by the student)
- Mid-Year transcripts are automatically submitted for any previously submitted transcripts after the first semester of senior year to include semester 1 grades and recalculated GPA/Rank and are sent mid-February.

## [Scholarship Resources](#)

- ◆ **Naviance Student** — through Naviance you will be able to view national, state and local scholarship opportunities. <https://student.naviance.com/forestpark%20>
- ◆ **FPHS College/ Career Counselor** — all scholarship applications that come to the counseling office are posted online and available in the office. Check your PWCS student email for important announcements.
- ◆ **Colleges Website**—many times scholarship opportunities are available on a colleges' website for incoming freshman; may recommend apply Early Action (EA) to qualify for consideration
- ◆ **SPARK**—Education Foundation of Prince William provides local scholarship opportunities to graduating PWCS seniors. <https://www.poweredbyspark.org/scholarships>
- ◆ **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** - provides information on federal grants, student loans, work-study and scholarship opportunities. <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships>
- ◆ **Fastweb Scholarship database**— connects students to different scholarships, colleges, financial aid, and more. [www.FastWeb.com](http://www.FastWeb.com)
- ◆ **Hispanic Scholarship Fund**— provides scholarships and support services to empower families with the knowledge and resources towards higher education. <https://www.hsf.net>
- ◆ **College Board**— provides students with information about the SAT, the College search process, paying for college, and more. [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- ◆ **Scholarships.com**—Free college scholarship directory to search for over 3.7 million scholarships and grants. [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)
- ◆ **Sallie Mae**— provides students and families with information about saving, planning, scholarships, and paying for college. [www.salliemae.com](http://www.salliemae.com)
- ◆ **Going Merry**— a \$20 billion database of scholarship information and aid. [www.goingmerry.com](http://www.goingmerry.com)
- ◆ **Career One Stop**— provides students with career and training program information and scholarship opportunities. <https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Training/find-scholarships.aspx>
- ◆ **QuestBridge Scholarship Program**— provides scholarships to high school seniors with outstanding academic ability despite financial challenges. <https://www.questbridge.org/>
- ◆ **Local Community Organizations**— such as parent employers, local churches, military organizations, sororities/fraternities, and so much more.



**Build Your College List**  
**\$500**

Open December through June of junior year.



**Practice for the SAT**  
**\$500**

Open December junior year through October senior year.



**Explore Scholarships**  
**\$500**

Open July through February senior year.



**Strengthen Your College List**  
**\$500**

Open July through October senior year.



**Complete the FAFSA**  
**\$500**

Open October through February senior year.



**Apply to Colleges**  
**\$500**

Open October through February senior year.

## College Board Opportunity Scholarships

# A Clearer Path to College

This scholarship program guides you through the college planning process and offers you a chance to earn money for college for each action you complete. Nearly \$5 million in scholarships is awarded to thousands of students each year.

[cb.org/opportunity](http://cb.org/opportunity)



**Complete Your Journey**  
by completing all six actions  
**\$40,000**



# Next Steps

*(What we strongly encourage you to start working on this spring and summer)*





- **Register to take the SAT and/or ACT** (to take the June SAT, you'll need to register by the May deadline (online) OR to take the June ACT, you'll need to register by May deadline)
  - **Create a list of colleges you plan to apply to in the fall** (visit campuses, explore college/university websites, research admissions requirements, use Naviance Student to complete a college search, etc.)
  - **Determine which teacher (s) you will ask to write you a letter of recommendation** (ask them in person and give them plenty of notice prior to your application deadlines; remember a lot of teachers are asked to write letters for multiple students...make sure you thank them!)
  - **Complete the “Self-Assessment” survey and prepare your resumé** (we encourage you to use the Naviance resumé template) **on Naviance by last day of school in June**
  - **Turn in your signed Academic Consent Form to Ms. Geisinger by last day of school in June** (You will not be able to request a transcript until this form has been signed by your parent/guardian and you)
  - **Begin drafting your college essay/personal statement** (we encourage you to work with your English 11/12 teachers to edit/proof-read your essay)
  - **Review examples of Common App essay prompts**, tips that could help in starting your college essays, visit: <https://www.commonapp.org/apply/essay-prompts>.
  - **Students planning to play collegiate sports should register through the NCAA Eligibility Center and thoroughly review the NCAA website** ([www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)).
- Important Reminder:** Prior to your senior year it is strongly encouraged to research the NCAA Student-Athlete requirements if you plan to play athletics in College.

- **Save the Date for the Senior Boot Camp:**

**August 2026— Wednesday before the First Day of School**

# OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS

**APPLY EARLY!!! - turn in ten (10) school days prior to deadline date**

1. Submit completed/signed Academic Consent Form to Mrs. Geisinger. You will not be able to request transcript(s) on Naviance Student until this step is completed.
2. Naviance Log In: Open a web browser and visit <https://login.classlink.com/my/pwcs> Enter the student's PWCS username (do not include @pwcs-edu.org). Enter the student's PWCS password, Click on Naviance app icon.
3. Requesting a transcript: Colleges – Colleges I'm applying to – click big blue plus sign – from the drop-down menu choose which college you are sending the transcript to – from the drop down menu choose type of decision – confirm how I'll submit my application (if it applies) – check the box for I've submitted my application – click on Add And Request Transcript
  -  – need to apply through Common Application, make sure to complete FERPA on Common App and match it with Naviance account
  -  – electronic submission
  -  – by mail only
  - For college application requests, select the type of application (Regular, Early Action, etc.) Selecting the correct application type is very important, it will determine which deadline is entered for your request.
4. To complete the college request, submit the Official Transcript Request form to Mrs. Geisinger, the School Counseling Secretary. If the college that you apply to accepts the application only by mail there is an envelope sign  in the Submissions Column and you will need to submit a large envelope with a return address of: (Student Name), Forest Park HS, 15721 Forest Park Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22193, addressed to the college with enough postage for FPHS to add 4 pieces of paper (3+ stamps recommended) to the School Counseling Secretary. **\*\*If applicable, when submitting envelope, attach your application, secondary school report form, recommendation(s), resume, and essay.**
5. To complete the scholarship or other request that you will pick-up, request it on Naviance Student account as "Other Transcript" and submit a regular white envelope to the School Counseling Secretary.

**\*\* Letters of recommendation from teacher(s) (if required) are sent directly to the college by your teacher through Naviance/Naviance Student. You will need to request a letter of recommendation through your Naviance Student account (Colleges Home → Apply to Colleges Tab → Letters of Recommendation → Add Requests → Select a teacher from the list and Specify the College/University you would like them to write a recommendation), inform teacher(s) if it is a Common App school, and please **follow up with teacher(s) in person and provide teacher(s) with your resume****

**\*\* Please note that official SAT/ACT scores will not be sent from Forest Park. All test scores must be sent directly from College Board or ACT.**

**\*\*the 10-school day processing time begins after all steps (#1-5) have been completed & School Counseling has received official transcript request form \*\***

**Note: Mid-Year Transcripts are automatically sent out in February & Final Transcripts are automatically sent out in June**

**\*\* Check status of Transcript Request on Naviance Student <https://student.naviance.com/forestpark> \*\***





## Forest Park High School

15721 Forest Park Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22193 703-583-3200

### ACADEMIC CONSENT FORM

I, \_\_\_\_\_, authorize Forest Park High School to  
(Parent/Guardian's Name)

release any information for \_\_\_\_\_ that is requested  
(Student's Name)

from his/her cumulative record (to include initial transcript, mid-year transcript/report, and final transcript) by any colleges/universities, employers, military branches, athletic recruiters or scholarship agencies for the purpose of furthering my education, gaining employment, or obtaining scholarships.

I have read and understand the Official Transcript Request Instructions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Date Received	Date recorded in Naviance
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**Transcript Release Form**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ NCAA ID: \_\_\_\_\_

**This form can be used to send an official transcript through grade 11 and/or the final transcript after graduation from high school. Faxed or emailed transcripts will not be accepted.**

The above student has requested academic records be sent to the NCAA Eligibility Center from your high school. Your school may use this release as authority to transmit academic records to the address listed below.

**Authorization Signatures**

I understand and agree to abide by the procedures in the NCAA Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete. I authorize the high schools listed to release to the NCAA Eligibility Center my transcripts, proof of graduation, and any other academic or school-related information or records, as requested by the NCAA Eligibility Center for the purpose of determining my athletics eligibility. I further authorize the NCAA Eligibility Center to release personally identifiable information from my education records obtained by the NCAA Eligibility Center (including this release form and resulting certification decisions) to the NCAA, to any testing service whose test scores are included in my records (e.g., ACT or ETS), to my high school(s) or to all NCAA member institutions requesting my eligibility information, to the extent that such information is necessary to report, verify or review my athletics eligibility. I also authorize the NCAA to disclose personally identifiable information from my education records to a third party (including but not limited to the media) as necessary to correct any inaccuracies reported by the media or related to my preliminary or final certification decisions, without such disclosure constituting a violation of my rights, including my rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

I understand and agree that the information provided to the NCAA Eligibility Center for the purpose of determining my athletics eligibility may be used for NCAA and NCAA Eligibility Center research concerning athletics eligibility, the academic preparation and performance of student-athletes, and related issues. I also understand and agree that such research may be published or distributed to third parties, but that I will not be identified in any such published or distributed data. I also understand that the NCAA Eligibility Center will send my eligibility status to any NCAA Division I or II college that requests it. Further, I realize that the NCAA Eligibility Center will not send my eligibility information at my request; rather, the college must make the request for that information. Finally, I am aware that if no member institution requests my eligibility status, a final certification may not be processed. By submitting this form I understand it is my responsibility to provide accurate and true information to the NCAA Eligibility Center and to provide accurate and truthful updated information as necessary.

**Student: Read and Sign Below**

I certify that I am the person whose name appears on this form and that I have read and agree to the authorization statement outlined above.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (if student  
is under 18 years of age)

**HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR ONLY**

***Please provide this form along with the above student's high school transcript to the following address:***

NCAA Eligibility Center Certification  
Processing P.O. Box 7136  
Indianapolis, IN 46207