**WATKINS MILL High School Counseling Office**

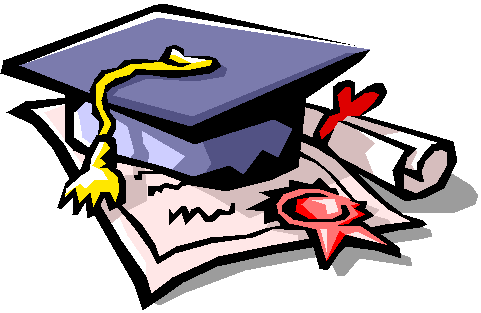
10301 Apple Ridge Rd

Gaithersburg, MD 20879

301-284-4420

Watkins Mill High School Code: **210568**

**College Application Procedures**

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**WATKINS MILL High School Counseling Office 301-284-4420**

Dear Senior:

This year will be the busiest and most important year of your high school career. Make sure that you complete all necessary courses and earn the required student service learning hours to graduate on time. If you are not sure what the required number of SSL hours is for you, ask your counselor. Work hard and smart to achieve the best possible grades and avoid the temptation to cruise through second semester! What will you do after you leave Watkins Mill High School? Inside this packet you will find the information needed to apply to college or vocational schools. Please read each section carefully. We’re here to help along the way:

**Your COUNSELOR:**

* Ensures you have all necessary courses to graduate (You must earn the credits)
* Gives advice on researching & investigating post-secondary education or careers
* Provides information about potential schools that “suit you”
* Supports and advocates for you through letters of recommendation

**The COLLEGE & CAREER INFORMATION COORDINATOR (Mrs. Heald):**

* Provides research materials and programs (catalogs, books, websites, etc.)
* Offers assistance with college and career computer program searches
* Advertises college and local scholarship opportunities, as well as financial aid information
* Provides college testing materials & career assessment test information
* Posts a wealth of information on the Watkins Mill website regarding college & careers

**The REGISTRAR (Mrs. Brown):**

* Assists with processing application materials (both college & scholarship)
* Processes Secondary School Report Form (counselor recommendation) upon request
* Provides unofficial/official student transcripts and collects fees
* Maintains deadlines (15 school days required for processing)
* Sends mid-year and final transcripts to college(s) upon request

Additional Resources:

[**College Tracks**](https://www.collegetracksusa.org/)**:** CollegeTracks is a program for juniors and seniors who need help with college access "know-how" and support to navigate the college admissions and financial aid process. College Tracks is located in **room A006**.

[**ACES**](http://acesmontgomery.org/)**:** Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success (**ACES**) is a collaborative effort between **Montgomery College**, **Montgomery** County Public Schools, and the Universities at Shady Grove to support select students at Watkins Mill and provide a seamless path to a bachelor's degree. ACES is located in **room E107**.

*Best wishes for a successful school year!*

The Watkins Mill High School Counseling Office

Watkins Mill High School Code: **210568**

**COLLEGE ADMISSION GLOSSARY**

**Early decision plans:**

* Students can apply to only one early decision college.
* If the college accepts a student and offers them enough financial aid, they must go to that college. That's why these plans are referred to as "binding."
* Some colleges have two early deadlines, called "early decision deadline I" and "early decision deadline II." They work the same way, but the second deadline gives students more time to decide whether to apply early.
* Although students may apply to other colleges through the regular admission process, they must withdraw all other applications if they are accepted by this college.

**Early action plans (may also be call Priority or Early Notification)\*:**

* Students can apply to more than one early action college.
* If they are accepted, they can say yes right away or wait until spring to decide.

**Rolling Admission**: A program in which applications are evaluated upon receipt and applicants are notified quickly of the admission decision (usually within 3-4 weeks). Applications are considered until spaces are filled. Submitting your college application early is encouraged.

**Regular Admission**: A program used by most schools. Typically, January 1st is the deadline for applications and the student is notified before the first week of April.

**Open Admission**: Most community colleges offer open admission. All students who apply are accepted, but must take a placement test (Accuplacer) prior to scheduling classes. The test scores are used for college course placement purposes.

*\*Many colleges accept the majority of their applicants by the early action, priority or early notification deadlines. Early action or priority deadlines are encouraged for students who hope to be considered for merit scholarships awarded by colleges. Be sure to check with each college to determine if there are separate applications to be completed for scholarship consideration.*

ADHERE TO ALL DEADLINES!



**College Planning Check list**

***Fall***

\_\_\_Narrow your list of colleges to between five and 10. Meet with your counselor about your college choices and, if you have not yet done so, download financial aid forms and determine whether your schools are part of the [Common Application](https://www.commonapp.org/), the [Coalition Application](http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/), or if you will need to download their application. Plan to visit as many of these colleges as possible.

\_\_\_Be sure to register for Admissions Rep visits in the career center. All visits are listed on the home page of your Naviance account in the “**What’s New**” section.

\_\_\_Create a master list or calendar that includes:

* Tests you’ll take and their fees, dates and registration deadlines
* College application due dates
* Required financial aid application forms and their deadlines (aid applications may be due before college applications.)
* Other materials you will need (recommendations, transcripts, etc.)
* Your high school’s application processing deadlines

\_\_\_Fill out your Brag Sheet online in Naviance in the About Me Section, Surveys

\_\_\_Ask your counselor to help you request a fee waiver if you can’t afford application or test fees

\_\_\_Take the ACT or SAT one more time: Many seniors retake one of these tests in the fall. Additional course work since your last test could help you boost your performance.

\_\_\_Be sure to have your SAT/ACT scores sent to the colleges to which you are applying when you register for the test. Otherwise, you will pay a fee to College Board to have them sent.

\_\_\_Complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)](https://fafsa.ed.gov/spa/fafsa/#/LOGIN?locale=en_US). To apply for most financial aid you’ll need to complete the FAFSA. October 1 is the first day you can file the FAFSA.

\_\_\_Complete the [CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE](https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/)® if necessary: Profile is an online application used by certain colleges and scholarship programs to determine eligibility for their aid dollars.

\_\_\_Prepare early decision/early action or rolling admission applications as soon as possible. Nov. 1-15: Colleges may require test scores and applications between these dates for early decision admission.

\_\_\_Ask a counselor and/or teacher for recommendations if you need them. Let your teacher know that you have completed your student brag sheet in Naviance so they can access.

\_\_\_Write first drafts and ask teachers and others to read them if you are submitting essays. If you’re applying for early decision, finish the essays for that application now.

\_\_\_Fill out the Transcript requests forms and return to Ms. Barr or your counselor.

***Spring***

\_\_\_If you are waitlisted, the college will want to know what you have accomplished between the time you applied and the time you learned of its decision.

\_\_\_Visit your final college, if possible, before accepting. You should receive acceptance letters and

financial aid offers by mid-April. Notify your counselor of your choice and ask questions you may have.

\_\_\_Inform every college of your acceptance or rejection of the offer and/or financial aid by May 1.

Colleges cannot require your deposit or your commitment to attend before May 1. Talk to your

Counselor or advisor if you have questions.

\_\_\_Send your deposit to one college only.

\_\_\_Take an AP exam(s). A successful score could earn you credit, advanced placement, or both in college.

\_\_\_Waitlisted by a college? If you intend to enroll if you are accepted, tell the admission director your

intent and ask how to strengthen your application. Need financial aid? Ask whether funds will be

available if you’re accepted.

\_\_\_Work with your counselor to resolve any admission financial aid problems.

**HOW TO APPLY TO COLLEGE **

Should I use the [Common Application](https://www.commonapp.org/), a college specific application, or the [Coalition Application](http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/)? Ultimately, the answer for this question depends on which colleges you choose to apply to. The Coalition Application encourages you to begin charting your high school achievements early and may give your college applications a more detailed, humanized picture of you as an applicant. As long as they offer those options, colleges do not penalize you for submitting the Common Application or the Coalition Application over their own version. However, be advised that state schools generally have their own application that they will require you to use. Your best bet is to check on a college’s website or to contact the admissions office to find out what each specific college accepts.

\_\_\_\_\_**Complete & submit admission application online** to each desired college. Read the directions carefully to learn what should be sent along with the application and adhere to all application deadlines. (*Make a copy of the completed application!*)

\_\_\_\_\_**Pay the application fee or submit a college application fee waiver**. [Apply for Free and Reduced Lunch](https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application) even if you never eat lunch at school. If you qualify, you will receive two SAT fee waivers and two ACT fee waivers and four college application fee waivers.

\_\_\_\_\_**Request your Official Transcript & Counselor Recommendation** Please allow the Watkins Mill Counseling Office **15 school days** to prepare recommendations and secondary school reports. Bring the following to the registrar, Mrs. Brown, in the Counseling Office:

1. Completed and Signed Transcript/Information Release Form (attached).
2. For schools that do not accept electronic delivery, a **9”x12” envelope addressed to each college with three first class stamps.** Mrs. Brown will stamp it with the Watkins Mill HS address stamp. **DO NOT** put your return address on the envelope.
3. Completed WMHS Secondary School/Counselor Report (attached)
4. Let Mrs. Brown know if a counselor recommendation letter is needed.
5. Pay transcript fee: 1-3 transcripts (free), 4 or more **($3.00 per each additional transcript).**

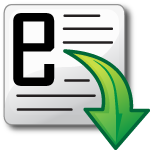
**\_\_\_\_\_ Send ACT scores** (www.actstudent.org) and SAT scores (www.collegeboard.org) directly from the website to your colleges.

\_\_\_\_\_**Request Teacher Recommendations** in person to 2 teachers using the “Request for Recommendation Letter” form (attached). Provide a stamped, addressed business envelope (4x9) to the teacher for schools that do not accept electronic delivery.

\_\_\_\_\_**If any of your colleges require a Mid-Year School Report By February 15th**, ask the registrar to submit your senior midyear report (transcript) to each school that requires it and submit one stamped envelope (business size 4x9) addressed to the college for each Mid-Year School transcript needed for schools that do not accept electronic delivery. There is no fee for requesting mid-year reports.

\_\_\_\_\_**Request Final Transcript**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Complete the Senior Survey on Naviance/Family Connection** (in the “About Me” tab in Surveys), to indicate where the final transcript should be sent. No fee or envelope is necessary. Final transcripts will be sent by Mrs. Brown, in mid-July.

**eDocs**

• **What is eDocs**? eDocs is an electronic college application tool, allowing WMHS to prepare and send college application documentation electronically.

• **What does this mean for the student**? If any of your colleges accept transcripts and documentation electronically, the student does not need to submit envelopes to the registrar.

• **What does the student need to do**?

1. Create an account at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org).
2. Complete the FERPA waiver found on the Common App under “Assign Recommenders” on the “My Colleges” tab.
3. Make sure all of your common app schools are listed in the “My Colleges” section at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)
4. Log into Naviance/Family Connection and enter your Common App email address under “Colleges I’m Applying To” and click “Match.”
5. Please note that if the common app is not completed for a common app school as indicated by  on Naviance/Family Connection, then the student must provide a 9 x 12 envelope and 3 stamps so that the documents can be mailed to the college.
6. For a list of schools who use the Coalition App visit: <http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/>
7. For Coalition App schools create and account using the link provided above and click on create account.

• **How do you know which schools accept electronic documents**?

Family Connection shows three different icons for “submissions”:

a) A computer screen means the college accepts documents electronically.

b) A computer with a “CA” means the student must complete the Common Application, [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org), in order for documents to be sent electronically.

c) A postage stamp means the student must give the registrar a stamped addressed manila envelope for documents to be sent.

**IF ENVELOPES ARE REQUIRED**

Please provide for Ms. Brown, the Registrar:

(9” X 12” manila envelope with three First Class postage stamps)

1st Class 1st Class 1st Class

Undergraduate Admissions

University Name

Street Address

City, State Zip Code

Student’s First and Last Name Only

For TEACHER RECOMMENDATION:

(4” x 9” white business envelope with one First Class postage stamp)

1st Class

Undergraduate Admissions

University Name

Street Address

City, State Zip Code

Student’s First and Last Name Only

**Students may want to write their name under the flap of the envelope.**

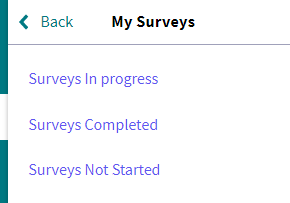
Directions: Complete Online **before the first week in October**.

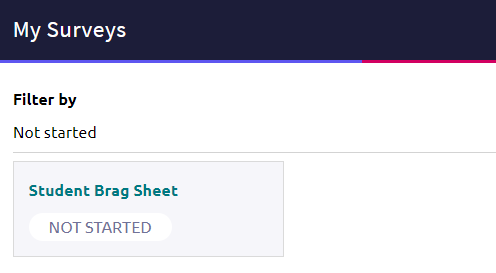
Student Brag Sheet

**FOR COLLEGE AND SCHOLARSHIP RECOMMENDATIONS**



# 





# REQUEST FOR RECOMMENDATION LETTER

**[Hand Deliver to Teachers]**

**DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**TO:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER

**FROM:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT

***Student: It is your responsibility to request letters of recommendation & follow up with each teacher to ensure that deadlines are met. Please give teachers advance notice (15 school days*).** Along with this recommendation request form, provide the teacher with a stamped addressed envelope for each letter requested for “mail” schools.

***Teacher***: Please complete your recommendation letter on **school letterhead** and either upload it to Family Connection or place it in the stamped, addressed envelope provided by the student for “mail” schools. If the recommendation letter must accompany a scholarship application, place your recommendation letter in a Watkins Mill HS envelope marked CONFIDENTIAL, seal it and return it to the counseling office for mailing.*[Please save copies of all recommendations for future reference.]*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of College or Scholarship** | **DEADLINE DATE** | **Special Instructions** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

***Information needed to write a recommendation letter:*** (student completes)

Student’s cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (*Obtain GPA from transcript*) unweighted weighted

1. Anything special to be emphasized in the recommendation letter? *(examples: financial need,*

*Non-native, first in immediate family to attend college, talents, special honors/awards, leadership roles, etc.)*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Extracurricular activities (*both in & out of school - athletics, jobs, internships, community service*): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What did you get out of this teacher’s class? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**WATKINS MILL HIGH SCHOOL**

Secondary School Report Form

*Instructions:* ***Students should complete and sign Section I*** *and submit the form to the Registrar’s Office.*

***Counselors will complete Section II*** *and forward the report form along with the transcript to each school to which the student is applying.*

**SECTION I** (*to be completed by student*)

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_S.S. Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_–\_\_\_\_\_\_\_–\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Last First MI

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Street City State Zip Code

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Student ID\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I recognize the confidential nature of this document and I waive my right to access.

Student’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION II** (to be completed by school counselor)

High School: **Watkins Mill High School** High School CEEB: **210568**

Address: **10301 Apple Ridge Road Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879**  Phone: **(301) 284-4420** Fax: **(301) 840-3974**

Counselor’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Title: **School Counselor**

Percentage of class attending: Four-Year **36%** Two-Year **64%**  institutions.

Grading scale: **4.0** Passing grade is: **D**  Student’s Unweighted GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student’s Weighted GPA\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

GPA includes: 9th grade, 10th grade, 11th grade and \_\_\_\_12th Grade (check if GPA includes 12th grade)

We do not rank our students by class

The student’s course selection is (*check one*): \_\_Most Demanding \_\_ Demanding \_\_ Average \_\_ Below Average

Distribution of Cumulative Grade Point Averages found on School Profile

Senior Year Courses: Indicated on transcript

WATKINS MILL HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

TRANSCRIPT & COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATION RELEASE FORM 2019-2020

List below the names of the colleges/universities to which you are applying**. You are to provide addressed envelopes with postage (manila envelope – 3 stamps)** for schools that DO NOT accept electronic delivery.

**Allow 15 school days to process** transcripts with counselor recommendation letters. Please be aware that failure to submit transcript/recommendation requests in a timely manner may result in deadlines not being met.

Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ID#:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Counselor:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone #:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I give WMHS staff permission to release transcripts to individuals and/or institutions listed below and to answer all questions directed to school officials that may appear on any application materials submitted to accompany a transcript for the above named student.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/201\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Application Deadline | Name of College or University | Did you use? Common App,Coalition App, University App | Is Letter of Recommendation Needed?  **Yes or No** | \*Does Transcript need to be mailed? Provide 9X12 stamped and addressed envelope for “mail schools for which you did not use Common or Coalition App  **Yes or No** | Fee | Counseling Office Use Only |
|  | 1. |  |  |  | FREE |  |
|  | 2. |  |  |  | FREE |  |
|  | 3. |  |  |  | FREE |  |
|  | 4.Montgomery College |  |  |  | FREE |  |
|  | 5. |  |  |  | $3 |  |
|  | 6. |  |  |  | $3 |  |
|  | 7. |  |  |  | $3 |  |
|  | 8. |  |  |  | $3 |  |
|  | 9. |  |  |  | $3 |  |
|  | 10. |  |  |  | $3 |  |
|  | 11. |  |  |  | $3 |  |
|  | 12. |  |  |  | $3 |  |
|  | 13. |  |  |  | $3 |  |
|  | 14. |  |  |  | $3 |  |
|  | 15. |  |  |  | $3 |  |

**\*Did you include a 9X12 self- addressed and stamped envelope (3 first class stamps) for each of the Colleges or Universities for which you are requiring transcripts to be sent?**

**The 2019-2020 Common Application Essay Prompts are as follows:**

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. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.  
  
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.

**The 2019-2020 Coalition Application Essay Prompts are as follows:**

1. Tell a story from your life, describing an experience that either demonstrates your character or helped to shape it.

2. Describe a time when you made a meaningful contribution to others in which the greater good was your focus. Discuss the challenges and rewards of making your contribution.

3. Has there been a time when you’ve had a long-cherished or accepted belief challenged? How did you respond? How did the challenge affect your beliefs?

4. What is the hardest part of being a teenager now? What’s the best part? What advice would you give a younger sibling or friend (assuming they would listen to you)?  
  
5. Submit an essay on a topic of your choice.