

College Corner

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APPLICATIONS

October was a month filled with lots of opportunities for college fairs. By now you should be the proud possessors of a stack of college information material. Many forms are complicated and require extensive preparation. We recommend that you budget your time wisely so that you have adequate time to complete these forms neatly and thoroughly. Remember, a well prepared application gives colleges a good first impression.

All forms are due in Room 306 - College Office as follows:

- Private college Secondary School Reports and/or transcript request forms with a **January 1st &/ or 15th** deadline are due by **November 18th**.
- Private college forms without a **January 1st** deadline are due by **November 23**.

COMPLETING APPLICATIONS **First:** read all the instructions and look for deadlines. **Second:** If you are applying to college with a paper application, handing in a secondary school report form, or submitting a transcript request form please **print neatly** on the original. **Appearance counts.** Don't turn in a messy application.

CUNY APPLICATIONS - CUNY Applications **ON-LINE ONLY**, visit the website:

<http://web.cuny.edu/admissions/apply.html>. **NO RECOMMENDATIONS OR ESSAYS ARE REQUIRED UNLESS YOU ARE APPLYING FOR THE MACAULAY HONORS COLLEGE OR THE SOPHIE DAVIS SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL EDUCATION.**

CUNY applications: The **sooner** you apply, the **better** your chances are of making it to the college of your choice.

RETURNING APPLICATIONS - All transcript requests and applications must be submitted to Mrs. Mastropietro or Mrs. Iocco in Room 306 as soon as possible. Please do not wait until the day before vacation to hand in requests because it will be processed **after** we return from break.

The College Office will make sure your applications are complete. We will include an official transcript, photocopies of your personal essay if necessary, and letters of recommendation. We will then mail them directly to the college for you and keep a record in your file. **YOU MUST PROVIDE POSTAGE STAMPS FOR EACH APPLICATION. THEREFORE EACH STUDENT SHOULD BRING IN A BOOK OF STAMPS.**

***CUNY ASSISTANCE -** The College Office will help you complete your CUNY On-line application. If you are planning to apply for SEEK/College Discovery, please fill out the SEEK/College Discovery Worksheet included in the packet given to you when you made the appointment or visit <http://web.cuny.edu/admissions/undergraduate/downloads/SeekCd-2011.pdf> Come in to the College Office to set up an appointment date as soon as possible. For the month of November the College Office will schedule appointments everyday periods 4, 5 & 6th. Please bring in the completed CUNY application worksheet and a major credit card if you are not eligible for a fee waiver.

Don't Let the Application Process Get You Down!

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Special points of interest:

- SAT November 5th, 2011
- November 17 through 23, Mid-Term Week
- Watch out for Application Deadlines!!!
- Financial Aid Night Dec. 6th 6:45p.m



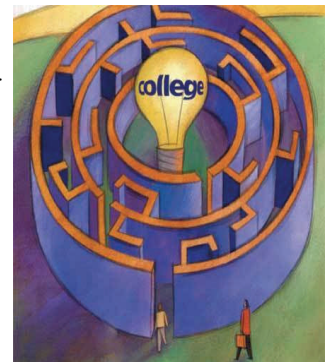
MAXIMIZE YOUR CHANCES FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION

Get good grades! If you want to stand a chance of getting into college, you need to get good grades! The higher your grades are the better. Students with high GPAs get more attention from the admissions department and more financial assistance from the financial aid office.

Score high on the SAT! With a high GPA and a high SAT score, you may not only get into college, you could also be offered a free academic scholarship. You can increase your score by picking up a good SAT prep guide or by taking an SAT prep course.

Take AP courses or advanced placement (AP) courses! These courses will allow you to earn college credits without having to pay college tuition. They will also show admissions officers that you are serious about your education.

Get involved! Participating in extracurricular activities, charities, and community events will enrich your life and your college application. When picking your extracurricular activities, choose something that you enjoy and/or have a passion for. This will make the time you spend on these activities much more fulfilling.



Do you have what it takes to be a college student?

LETTERS of RECOMMENDATION

The letter of recommendation is one of the most important parts of your college application that isn't written by you. So, Who Should Recommend You? Think about approaching teachers that can comment about your academic skills. You might also consider other people who can write about your talents and abilities, like coaches, community and church leaders. Some schools require more than one letter of recommendation from counselors or teachers in particular subjects. Carefully **read** the instructions on the application before choosing someone to write the recommendation. Give your recommenders enough time to write thoughtful and articulate letters about you. Make a list of people who could write positive recommendations based on your personal character and academic qualities. Many college applications are due in January, so if you have not already asked teachers, start asking them for recommendations now. Pick up a form in the College Office, fill it out and hand it to your teacher. Make sure your recommenders have everything they need to write your letter and submit it on time. Teacher recommendation forms are available in the College Office. Remember you must make an effort to have all **RECOMMENDATIONS** into the College Office by **November 18th**. After that, like the Holiday rush, things get lost in the mail, or they don't arrive on time. **DON'T WAIT!!**



§ SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION §

Keep researching for scholarships! It's free money to help you pay for college. Updated scholarship information can be found in the College Office in a folder called...**SCHOLARSHIPS**.

New scholarships this month:

- The Carolina Rice Scholarship Program <http://scholarship.carolinarice.com>
- Brooklyn College <http://scholarships.brooklyn.cuny.edu>
- KFC Colonel's Scholars www.kfcscholars.org.

If you have access to the WEB, you can research scholarships.

Check out the following sites www.fastWEB.com, www.finaid.org, www.cappex.com, hsf.net

FINANCIAL AID- CSS Profile/ FAFSA



Some private universities and colleges require the **CSS** (College Scholarship Service) **FINANCIAL AID PROFILE** be submitted to the in order to obtain the College or University Grant or Scholarship. To register and view the list of colleges, universities, and scholarship programs that will use the 2012 - 13 PROFILE visit <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp>

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU CHECK TO SEE IF ANY COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY YOU ARE APPLYING TO REQUIRES THE CSS FINANCIAL AID PROFILE. IF THE COLLEGE IS LISTED IN THE PROFILE, YOU MUST REGISTER WITH CSS IMMEDIATELY!!

The (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*), or FAFSA, is the first step in the financial aid process. Use it to apply for federal student financial aid, such as the Pell Grant, student loans, and college work-study. In addition, most states and schools use FAFSA information to award their financial aid.

GCHS is hosting a **Financial Aid Night, December 6, 2011 at 6:45pm**. Please come with your parents and learn all there is to know about the financial aid process. Check out their website at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.

OPEN HOUSES



Adelphi University	www.adelphi.edu	800-233-5744	11/6 & 11/11/11
Albany College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences	www.acphs.edu	888-203-8010	11/13/11
Clarkson University	www.clarkson.edu	800-527-6577	11/12/11
Cooper Union	www.cooper.edu	212-353-4120	11/8/11
Culinary Institute of America	www.ciachef.edu	800-285-4627	11/15 & 11/19/11
Elmira College	www.elmira.edu	800-935-6472	11/12/11
Fordham University - Lincoln Center	www.fordham.edu	212-636-6000	11/12 & 11/13/11
Fordham University - Rose Hill	www.fordham.edu	718-817-1000	11/12 & 11/13/11
Hamilton College	www.hamilton.edu	800-843-2655	11/5 & 11/12/11
Hofstra University	www.hofstra.edu	800-463-7872	11/12/11
Long Island University	www.liu.edu	800-LIU-PLAN	11/12 & 11/13/11
Manhattan College	www.manhattan.edu	718-862-8000	11/12/11
Manhattanville College	www.mville.edu	800-328-4553	11/12/11
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	www.rpi.edu	518-276-6216	11/22/11
Sarah Lawrence College	www.sarahlawrence.edu	800-888-2858	11/12/11
St. Bonaventure University	www.sbu.edu	800-462-5050	11/5 & 11/15/11
St. John's University - Queens	www.stjohns.edu	888-978-5646	11/19 & 11/20/11
Vaughn College	www.vaughn.edu	718-429-6600	11/12, & 11/19/11
University of Rochester	www.rochester.edu	888-822-2256	11/11/11

COLLEGE FAIRS

- **Latino College Fair** - Saturday, November 19 , 2011 at Fordham University -Rose Hill Campus (Bronx) For more info visit www.surveymonkey.com/s/2011latinoCollegeFair or call 518-436-4781 ext 23



- **NY Urban League College Fair**- Saturday, November 12, 2011 at Riverbank State Park. Located between 145th Street and Riverside Drive., NY, NY

FREE SAT, & ACT ONLINE PREP

Kaplan is pleased to offer free on-line test preparation for the SAT, PSAT and ACT. All students, freshman through seniors now have the opportunity to access the 24-7 on demand comprehensive test preparation. These lessons will guide students through instruction, practice and mastery on every skill tested on the exam. Follow the steps below to sign up:

- Visit <http://www.kaptest.com/kas/>
- Under "Free Resources" select **SAT Online**, **PSAT Online**, or **ACT Online**.
- Click **Enroll Now**, then click **Proceed** to next step
- Fill out billing information (**don't worry it is still free**). You must complete all fields, including student and parent contact information.
- In the promotion code box, enter the discounted code for the course you would like to begin: