

# Sophomore College Planning Night 2018

Sponsored by Madison High School's  
Department of Student Services

This program is an introduction to the college admission process  
for college-bound sophomores and their parents.

*Erin Slater, Director of Admissions at  
Randolph-Macon College will present valuable information on:*

- *Factors that influence college admission decisions*
- *Preparing to apply for college*
- *What to look for in a campus visit*
- *Timelines in the college application process*
- *Decision making in the college application*



## There's a lot a 10th-grade student can do to stay on the right track toward college, and a lot a parent can do to help.

Take a look at these tips for thinking about the future, managing time, taking standardized tests, and more.

### Students, To Do:

- Meet with your school counselor or mentor to discuss colleges and their requirements.
- Consider taking a practice [Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test \(PSAT/NMSQT\)](#), or check out the [ACT Aspire exam "sandbox."](#)
- Plan to use your summer wisely: Work, volunteer, or take a summer course (away or at a local college).
- Go to career information events to get a more detailed look at career options.
- Research majors that might be a good fit with your interests and goals based on your results from the U.S. Department of Labor's [career search](#).

### To Explore:

- Learn the differences between [grants, loans, work-study, and scholarships](#).

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### Parents, To Do:

- Find out whether your child's school has college nights or financial aid nights. Plan to attend those events with your child.
- Help your child develop independence by encouraging him or her to take responsibility for balancing homework with any other activities or a part-time job.

### To Explore:

- Learn about the [standardized tests](#) your child will be taking during 10th through 12th grades.
- Get a brief overview of financial aid from [Federal Student Aid at a Glance](#).

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## For both students and parents, it's crucial to stay on top of college preparation during the 11th-grade year and the following summer.

Here's what you should be doing—including looking into careers, searching for scholarships, and keeping the savings account on track.

### Students, To Do:

#### All Year

- Explore careers and their earning potential with the [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) search tool. Or, for a fun interactive tool, try this [career search](#).
- [Learn about choosing a college](#) and find a link to our free college search tool.
- Go to college fairs and college-preparation presentations hosted by college representatives.

#### Fall

- Take the [PSAT/NMSQT](#). You must take the test in 11th grade to qualify for scholarships and programs associated with the National Merit Scholarship Program.

#### Spring

- Register for and take exams for college admission. The [standardized tests](#) that many colleges require are the SAT, the SAT Subject Tests, and the ACT. Check with the colleges you are interested in to see what tests they require.
- Use a [free scholarship search](#) to find scholarships for which you might want to apply. Some deadlines fall as early as the summer between 11th and 12th grades, so prepare now to submit applications soon.

## Summer Before 12th Grade

- Create a username and password called an *FSA ID* that you'll use to confirm your identity when accessing your government financial aid information and electronically signing your *federal student aid* documents. [Learn about the FSA ID, and create yours](#). **Note: You must create your own FSA ID; if your parent creates it for you, that'll cause confusion later and will slow down the financial aid application process.** (By the way, you can [watch a video about creating an FSA ID](#) below.)
- Narrow down the list of colleges you are considering attending. If you can, visit the schools that interest you.
- Contact colleges to request information and applications for admission. Ask about financial aid, admission requirements, and deadlines.
- Decide whether you are going to apply for admission under a particular college's *early decision*, *early action*, or regular decision program. Be sure to learn about the program deadlines and requirements.
- Use the *FAFSA4caster* financial aid estimator (found in the "Thinking About College?" section on the home page of [fafsa.gov](#)), and compare the results to the actual costs at the colleges to which you will apply. To supplement any aid *FAFSA4caster* estimates you might receive, be sure to [apply for scholarships](#). Your goal is to minimize the amount of loan funds you borrow so you have less to pay back later.

## To Explore:

- Find out what government financial aid you can apply for, and how, in [Federal Student Aid at a Glance](#).
- Learn how to [avoid scholarship scams and identity theft](#) as you look for financial aid and then attend college.

REMEMBER: Register for all tests in advance and be sure to give yourself time to prepare appropriately! If you have difficulty paying a registration fee, see your school counselor about getting the fee waived.

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## Parents, To Do:

- [Create your own FSA ID](#) if you don't have one yet. (The FSA ID is a username and password that you'll use for such purposes as signing your child's *Free Application for Federal Student Aid*.) **Note: You must create your own FSA ID. If your child creates it for you, or if you create your child's, that'll cause confusion later and will slow down the financial aid application process.** (Need help? You and your child should watch the ["How to Create an FSA ID" video](#) above.)
- Take a look at your financial situation, and be sure you're on the right track to pay for college.
- Talk to your child about the schools he or she is considering. Ask why those schools appeal to your child, and help him or her clarify goals and priorities.
- Attend college fairs with your child, but don't take over the conversation with the college representatives. Just listen, and let your child do the talking.
- Take your child to visit college campuses, preferably when classes are in session.
- Make sure your child is looking into or already has applied for scholarships.
- Ask your employer whether scholarships are available for employees' children.

## To Explore:

- Get in-depth information on the [federal student aid programs](#).
- Find out [how the federal student aid application process works](#).
- Learn about student and parent loans in [Federal Student Loans: Basics for Students](#) and [Federal Student Loans: Direct PLUS Loan Basics for Parents](#).

# Colleges and universities IN VIRGINIA



## Start checking out Virginia's universities

Virginia's higher education options are as diverse as its landscape. Students can earn a certificate or transfer degree through one of the state's 2-year institutions or regional education centers, which can lead to a bachelor's degree at one of the many Virginia 4-year public or private institutions. The Commonwealth's schools offer career pathways, highly ranked undergraduate programs, competitive tuition, and financial aid programs. The campuses are beautiful, and range from metropolitan-based settings to classic college environments nestled in the mountains or along the shoreline and everywhere in between. Use the links below to start exploring!

### PUBLIC FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

- 1 CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY, NEWPORT NEWS  
[www.cnu.edu](http://www.cnu.edu)
- 2 COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY, WILLIAMSBURG  
[www.wm.edu](http://www.wm.edu)
- 3 GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY, FAIRFAX  
[www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu)
- 4 JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY, HARRISONBURG  
[www.jmu.edu](http://www.jmu.edu)
- 5 LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY, FARMVILLE  
[www.longwood.edu](http://www.longwood.edu)
- 6 NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY, NORFOLK  
[www.nsu.edu](http://www.nsu.edu)
- 7 OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY, NORFOLK  
[www.odu.edu](http://www.odu.edu)
- 8 RADFORD UNIVERSITY, RADFORD  
[www.radford.edu](http://www.radford.edu)
- 9 UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON, FREDERICKSBURG  
[www.umw.edu](http://www.umw.edu)
- 10 UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, CHARLOTTESVILLE  
[www.virginia.edu](http://www.virginia.edu)
- 11 UVA'S COLLEGE AT WISE, WISE  
[www.wise.virginia.edu](http://www.wise.virginia.edu)

- 12 VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY, RICHMOND  
[www.vcu.edu](http://www.vcu.edu)
- 13 VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE, LEXINGTON  
[www.vmi.edu](http://www.vmi.edu)
- 14 VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY, PETERSBURG  
[www.vsu.edu](http://www.vsu.edu)
- 15 VIRGINIA TECH, BLACKSBURG  
[www.vt.edu](http://www.vt.edu)

### OTHER PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- 16 INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED LEARNING AND RESEARCH, DANVILLE  
[www.ialr.org](http://www.ialr.org)
- 17 NEW COLLEGE INSTITUTE, MARTINSVILLE  
[www.newcollegeinstitute.org](http://www.newcollegeinstitute.org)
- 18 ROANOKE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER, ROANOKE  
[www.education.edu](http://www.education.edu)
- 19 SOUTHERN VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER, SOUTH BOSTON  
[www.svheducation.org](http://www.svheducation.org)
- 20 SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER, ABINGDON  
[www.swcenter.edu](http://www.swcenter.edu)

## PUBLIC TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

- 21 BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, WEYERS CAVE  
www.brcc.edu
- 22 CENTRAL VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, LYNCHBURG  
www.cvcc.vccs.edu
- 23 DABNEY S. LANCASTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CLIFTON FORGE  
www.dsicc.edu
- 24 DANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, DANVILLE  
www.dcc.vccs.edu
- 25 EASTERN SHORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MELFA  
www.es.vccs.edu
- 26 GERMANNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, LOCUST GROVE  
www.germannna.edu
- 27 J. SARGEANT REYNOLDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, RICHMOND  
www.reynolds.edu
- 28 JOHN TYLER COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CHESTER  
www.jtcc.edu
- 29 LORD FAIRFAX COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MIDDLETOWN  
www.lfcc.edu
- 30 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, BIG STONE GAP  
www.me.vccs.edu
- 31 NEW RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN  
www.nr.edu
- 32 NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, ANNANDALE  
www.nvcc.edu
- 33 PATRICK HENRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MARTINSVILLE  
www.ph.vccs.edu
- 34 PAUL D. CAMP COMMUNITY COLLEGE, FRANKLIN  
www.pdc.edu
- 35 PIEDMONT VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CHARLOTTESVILLE  
www.pvcc.edu
- 36 RAPPAHANNOCK COMMUNITY COLLEGE, GLENNS  
www.rappahannock.edu
- 37 RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE, PETERSBURG  
www.rbc.edu
- 38 SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, ALBERTA  
www.southside.edu
- 39 SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, RICHLANDS  
www.sw.edu
- 40 THOMAS NELSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE, HAMPTON  
www.tncc.edu
- 41 TIDEWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NORFOLK  
www.tcc.edu
- 42 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, ABINGDON  
www.vhcc.edu
- 43 VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, ROANOKE  
www.virginiawestern.edu
- 44 WYTHEVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, WYTHEVILLE  
www.wcc.vccs.edu

## PRIVATE NON-PROFIT FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

- 45 AVERETT UNIVERSITY, DANVILLE  
www.averett.edu
- 46 BLUEFIELD COLLEGE, BLUEFIELD  
www.bluefield.edu
- 47 BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE, BRIDGEWATER  
www.bridgewater.edu
- 48 CHRISTENDOM COLLEGE, FRONT ROYAL  
www.christendom.edu

- 49 EASTERN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY, HARRISONBURG  
www.emu.edu
- 50 EMORY & HENRY COLLEGE, EMORY  
www.ehc.edu
- 51 FERRUM COLLEGE, FERRUM  
www.ferrum.edu
- 52 GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY (VA CAMPUS ONLY), ASHBURN  
www.gwvirginia.gwu.edu
- 53 HAMPDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE, HAMPDEN-SYDNEY  
www.hsc.edu
- 54 HAMPTON UNIVERSITY, HAMPTON  
www.hamptonu.edu
- 55 HOLLINS UNIVERSITY, ROANOKE  
www.hollins.edu
- 56 JEFFERSON COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES, ROANOKE  
www.jchs.edu
- 57 LIBERTY UNIVERSITY, LYNCHBURG  
www.liberty.edu
- 58 LYNCHBURG COLLEGE, LYNCHBURG  
www.lyncburg.edu
- 59 MARY BALDWIN COLLEGE, STAUNTON  
www.mbc.edu
- 60 MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY, ARLINGTON  
www.marymount.edu
- 61 RANDOLPH COLLEGE, LYNCHBURG  
www.randolphcollege.edu
- 62 RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE, ASHLAND  
www.rmc.edu
- 63 REGENT UNIVERSITY, VIRGINIA BEACH  
www.regent.edu
- 64 ROANOKE COLLEGE, SALEM  
www.roanoke.edu
- 65 SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY, WINCHESTER  
www.su.edu
- 66 SOUTHERN VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY, BUENA VISTA  
www.svu.edu
- 67 SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE, SWEET BRIAR  
www.sbc.edu
- 68 UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND, RICHMOND  
www.richmond.edu
- 69 VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY, RICHMOND  
www.vuu.edu
- 70 VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE, NORFOLK  
www.vwc.edu
- 71 WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY, LEXINGTON  
www.wlu.edu

Please visit [www.schev.edu/students/collegeListAlpha.asp](http://www.schev.edu/students/collegeListAlpha.asp) for updated listings of Virginia's colleges, including private, for-profit institutions, and vocational schools.



State Council of  
Higher Education for Virginia

This campaign is coordinated by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) through funds received from the U.S. Department of Education's College Access Challenge Grant Program.

# College Planning: How to Get Started

## STEP 1: GET STARTED

Assess your strengths, weaknesses, goals, passions, learning style, and social skills. What is most important to you in the college-search process? What do you hope to learn from the process?

## STEP 2: MAKE SOME BASIC DECISIONS

- Where do you want to live?  
a small liberal arts college, or a historically black or religiously affiliated college?
- Will you go to college full time? Part time?
- Do you want to attend a single-sex school, a technical college, a public or private college, a large university,  
• How important is the cultural/ideological diversity of the student body?

## STEP 3: ENLIST HELP

Who do you want to assist you in this process (parents, teachers, siblings, relatives, friends)?

## STEP 4: CONSULT REFERENCES AND WEBSITES

Look at college directories (College Board's *College Handbook*, Barron's, Peterson's) and use college searches (<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>). Visit the websites of the colleges that interest you.

## STEP 5: TALK

Discuss your goals and plans with your parents, teachers, and school counselor. They can provide helpful advice.

## STEP 6: MEET WITH COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES

Visit with college representatives when they come to your high school. Make a list of your important questions to ask the representatives. Also meet college personnel at area college fairs.

## STEP 7: VISIT CAMPUSES

Try to go to the college campus and take a tour, meet with admission and financial aid representatives, and ask students what they think about the college. Can't make the trip? Many colleges provide virtual tours on their websites.

# Tips for Parents on Finding the Right College

How can your child find colleges that match specific needs? First, identify priorities. Next, carefully research the characteristics of a range of schools. Finally, match the two. Here are some college characteristics to consider.

## SIZE OF STUDENT BODY

Size will affect many of your child's opportunities and experiences:

- range of academic majors offered
- extracurricular possibilities
- amount of personal attention your child will receive
- number of academic resources

In considering size, your child should look beyond the raw number of students attending. For example, perhaps they are considering a small department within a large school. Your child should investigate not just the number of faculty members, but also their accessibility to students.

## LOCATION

Does your child want to visit home frequently, or is this a time to experience a new part of the country? Perhaps an urban environment is preferred, with access

to museums, ethnic restaurants, or major league ball games. Or maybe it's easy access to the outdoors or the serenity of a small town.

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

If your child has decided on a field of study, they can research the reputation of academic departments by talking to people in their field of interest. If your child is undecided, as many students are, they may want to choose an academically balanced institution that offers a range of majors and programs. Students normally don't pick a major until their sophomore year, and those

students who know their major before they go to college are very likely to change their minds. Most colleges offer counseling to help students find a focus.

In considering academic programs, your child should look for special opportunities and pick a school that offers a number of possibilities.

## CAMPUS LIFE

Before choosing a college, your child should learn the answers to these questions:

- What extracurricular activities, athletics, clubs, and organizations are available?
- Does the community around the college offer interesting outlets for students?
- How do fraternities and sororities influence campus life?
- Is housing guaranteed?
- How are dorms assigned?

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## COST

In considering cost, look beyond the price tag. Because of financial aid, most students pay less than the “sticker price,” so don’t rule out a college that would be a good fit for your child before you find out how much financial

aid it will offer. Most colleges work to ensure that academically qualified students from every economic circumstance can find financial aid that allows them to attend.

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## DIVERSITY

Your child should explore what the advantages of a diverse student body would be. The geographic, ethnic, racial, and religious diversity of the student body can help

students learn more about the world. Investigate which student organizations or other groups with ethnic or religious foundations are active and visible on campus.

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## RETENTION AND GRADUATION RATES

One of the best ways to measure a school’s quality and the satisfaction of its students is to learn the percentage of students who return after the first year and the percentage of entering students who

go on to graduate. Comparatively good retention and graduation rates indicate that responsible academic, social, and financial support systems exist for most students.



# Campus Visit Checklist

Visiting a college campus helps you get a sense of what a college — and life at that college — is like. This can help you decide whether the college is right for you.

## GATHER INFORMATION

Find out what you need to do to apply, and see if the college's class and major offerings are what you want:

- Take part in a group information session at the admission office.
- Interview with an admission officer.
- Pick up financial aid forms.
- Sit in on a class that interests you. If classes aren't in session, just see what the classrooms are like.
- Meet a professor who teaches a subject that interests you.
- Talk to students about what they think of their classes and professors.
- Get the names and business cards of the people you meet so you can contact them later if you have questions.

## EXPLORE THE CAMPUS

Get a feel for student life, and see if this college is a place where you will do well:

- Take a campus tour.
- Talk to current students about the college and life on campus.
- Check out the freshman dorms, and stay overnight on campus if possible.
- Visit the dining hall, fitness center, library, career center, bookstore, and other campus facilities.
- Talk to the coaches of sports that you may want to play.
- Walk or drive around the community surrounding the campus.

## CHECK OUT CAMPUS MEDIA

Tune in to learn what's happening on campus and what's on students' minds:

- Listen to the college radio station.
- Read the student newspaper.
- Scan bulletin boards to see what daily student life is like.
- Go to the career center and learn what services it offers.
- Browse the school's website and any campus blogs.
- Read other student publications, such as department newsletters, and literary reviews.

# GET THE MOST OUT OF A CAMPUS VISIT IN **6 STEPS**

## **1** DECIDE WHERE AND HOW

See if your school arranges group trips to colleges or if you could get a group of friends together and visit the campus. A family trip is another option and allows you to involve your family in the process.

## **2** PREPARE FOR YOUR VISIT

Before you set out, get a map of the college campus and pick out places of interest. Call the college's admission office to schedule a guided tour of the campus.

## **3** TAKE YOUR OWN TOUR

Just wandering around the campus on your own or with friends can be the best way to get a feel for what a college is like.

## **4** EXPLORE THE FACILITIES

Finding the spots on campus where students gather or asking a student where the best place to eat is can give you a feel for the character of the college. Visit the library and check out the gym or theater. Ask an admission officer if you can tour a dorm and a classroom.

## **5** MAKE CONNECTIONS

Talk to current students. Ask the students at the next table or sitting nearby what they like best about the college.

## **6** TAKE NOTES

During your visit, write down some notes about your experience. What did you see that excited you? Are there aspects of the college that you don't like? If so, what are they?

## Questions to Ask During Your Visit:

### ASK TOUR GUIDES/STUDENTS

- What are the best reasons to go to this college?
- What's it like to go from high school to college?
- What do you do in your free time? On the weekends?
- What do you love about this college?
- What do you wish you could change about this college?
- Why did you choose this college?
- What is it like to live here?
- What does the college do to promote student involvement in campus groups, extracurricular activities, or volunteerism?

### ASK PROFESSORS

- What are the best reasons to go to this college?
- Can a student be mentored by professors, graduate students, or upperclassmen?
- How are professors rated by the college? Does the college think mentoring and meetings for project guidance are important?
- How does the college help students have access to professors outside class? Do professors join students for lunch, help with community service groups, or guide student organizations?
- How many students do research or other kinds of projects for a semester or more?

### ASK FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

- How much has your total college cost for each student risen in the past year?
- How much do your students usually owe in loans when they graduate?
- What is the average income of graduates who had the same major that interests me?
- Will my costs go up when your tuition goes up, or can we use the same tuition rate I started with so I'll know the costs for four years? What should I expect in terms of increases in living expenses?
- How many students usually graduate in the major that interests me? How long do these students usually take to get their degrees? In what ways does the college help students graduate in four years?

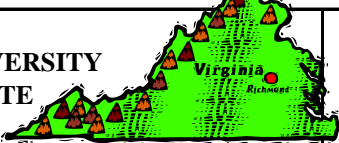


JMHS Class of 2017 ~ Top **Attending** Institutions for Where Students Applied (out of 352)

	College	Attend	Apply	Accept	Deny	Waitlist
1	Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale Campus	63	64	64	0	0
2	Virginia Tech	55	157	96	23	37
3	University of Virginia	36	116	53	40	18
4	James Madison University	32	139	97	21	22
5	Virginia Commonwealth University	17	83	70	11	0
6	George Mason University	16	108	81	15	9
7	College of William and Mary	15	71	37	12	21
8	Radford University	11	48	43	2	3
9	Christopher Newport University	10	72	60	7	4
10	Longwood University	10	29	24	1	2
11	University of South Carolina	10	31	28	2	1
12	New York University	7	22	10	3	10
13	University of Mary Washington	6	72	56	6	6
14	Auburn University	5	11	10	1	0
15	Brigham Young University	5	7	5	2	0
16	American University	4	14	8	1	5
17	Clemson University	4	27	16	4	4
18	Northern Virginia Community College - Loudoun Campus	4	5	5	0	0
19	Old Dominion University	4	19	19	0	0
20	College of Charleston	3	6	6	0	0
21	Elon University	3	10	8	1	1
22	Marymount University	3	7	7	0	0
23	Miami University, Oxford	3	10	8	2	0
24	Pennsylvania State University	3	35	26	7	3
25	Purdue University	3	13	9	2	2
26	University of Vermont	3	11	9	0	2
27	The University of Alabama	2	6	6	0	0
28	Appalachian State University	2	3	3	0	0
29	The University of Arizona	2	2	2	0	0
30	Brigham Young University, Idaho	2	4	4	0	0
31	University of Chicago	2	9	2	6	2
32	Coastal Carolina University	2	9	9	0	0
33	University of Colorado at Boulder	2	8	6	0	3
34	Emory University	2	10	3	5	2
35	Georgetown University	2	13	3	9	0
36	Georgia Institute of Technology	2	20	5	10	4
37	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	2	7	5	1	0
38	Indiana University at Bloomington	2	11	9	0	1
39	The University of Iowa	2	3	3	0	0
40	The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2	22	2	17	1
41	Northern Virginia Community College - Alexandria Campus	2	3	3	0	0
42	Roanoke College	2	6	5	0	1
43	Shenandoah University	2	4	4	0	0
44	United States Air Force Academy	2	4	2	2	0
45	Virginia Military Institute	2	3	2	0	1
46	West Virginia University	2	15	13	2	0

This data is student self-reported. Deferred/Withdrawn data not included. Related information is available in Family Connection.

## Four-Year Virginia Colleges and Universities 2017

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY CITY WEBSITE		Public/ Private M/W	Common App	Coalition App	Avg. Accepted GPA	Avg. Accepted SAT (1600)	Avg. Accepted ACT (36)	Foreign Language Requirement	<u>Early Decision</u> Early Action	<u>Deadlines</u> <u>Priority</u> Regular	Tuition + Room & Board	Freshman Retention Rate	Undergrad Enrollment
AVERETT UNIVERSITY Averett www.averett.edu		Private			3.06 (FCPS)	1053 (FCPS)	18 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	N/A	Rolling	\$43,034	55%	859
BLUEFIELD COLLEGE Bluefield www.bluefield.edu		Private			2.69 (FCPS)	943 (FCPS)	18 (FCPS)	N/L	N/A	Rolling	\$33,643	61%	968
BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE Bridgewater www.bridgewater.edu		Private			3.06	1146	21	Rec. 2 YR	N/A	Rolling	\$46,260	78%	1,882
CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIV. Newport News www.cnu.edu		Public	✓		3.63	1228	26	Req. 3 YR	<u>11/15</u> 12/1	2/1	\$24,878	86%	4,930
COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY Williamsburg www.wm.edu		Public	✓		4.24	1431	32	Rec. 4 YR	<u>11/1</u> No EA	1/1	\$33,843	95%	6,276
EASTERN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY Harrisonburg www.emu.edu		Private			3.18 (FCPS)	1099 (FCPS)	21 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	N/A	Rolling	\$46,800	74%	1,258
EMORY & HENRY COLLEGE Emory www.ehc.edu		Private	✓		3.4 (FCPS)	1151 (FCPS)	20 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	<u>No ED</u> 11/15	<u>3/1</u> Rolling	\$46,870	70%	1,024
FERRUM COLLEGE Ferrum www.ferrum.edu		Private			2.78 (FCPS)	956 (FCPS)	18 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	N/A	Rolling	\$44,085	59%	1,451
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY Fairfax www.gmu.edu		Public	✓		3.69	1264	26	<u>Req. 2 YR</u> Rec. 4 YR	<u>No ED</u> 11/1	1/15	\$23,014	87%	23,812
HAMPDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE Hampden-Sydney www.hsc.edu		Priv/M	✓		3.31 (FCPS)	1131 (FCPS)	25 (FCPS)	<u>Req. 2 YR</u> Rec. 3YR	<u>11/15</u> 12/15, 1/15	3/1	\$57,360	80%	1,027
HAMPTON UNIVERSITY Hampton www.hampton.edu		Private/ HBCU			3.26 (FCPS)	1076 (FCPS)	21 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	<u>No ED</u> 11/1	3/1	\$36,660	81%	3,836
HOLLINS UNIVERSITY Roanoke www.hollins.edu		Priv/W	✓		3.58 (FCPS)	1133 (FCPS)	23 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	<u>11/1</u> 11/15	<u>2/1</u> Rolling	\$51,405	69%	654
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY Harrisonburg www.jmu.edu		Public		✓	3.83	1286	28	Rec. 3-4 YR	<u>No ED</u> 11/1	1/15	\$20,652	91%	19,548
LIBERTY UNIVERSITY Lynchburg www.liberty.edu		Private			3.73	1262	26	Rec. 2 YR	N/A	<u>12/15</u> Rolling	\$34,154	83%	13,646
LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY Farmville www.longwood.edu		Public			3.37	1157	22	<u>Req. 2 YR</u> Rec. 3 YR	<u>No ED</u> 12/1	2/1	\$23,927	80%	4,386
LYNCHBURG COLLEGE Lynchburg www.lynchburg.edu		Private	✓		3.03	1216	24	Req. 2 YR	<u>11/15</u> No EA	Rolling	\$48,370	81%	2,079
MARY BALDWIN COLLEGE Staunton www.mbc.edu		Priv/W			3.26 (FCPS)	1040 (FCPS)	22 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	N/A	<u>4/15</u> Rolling	\$40,450	65%	1,310
MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY Arlington www.marymount.edu		Private	✓		3.19	1074	20	Rec. 3 YR	N/A	<u>3/1</u> Rolling	\$43,231	79%	2,323
NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY Norfolk www.nsu.edu		Public/ HBCU			2.82 (FCPS)	971 (FCPS)	18 (FCPS)	N/L	N/A	5/31	\$18,902	77%	5,356

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY CITY WEBSITE	Public/ Private M/W	Common App	Coalition App	Avg. GPA	Avg. SAT (1600)	ACT (36)	Foreign Language Requirement	Early D Early A	Deadlines Priority Regular	Tuition + Room & Board	Freshman Retention Rate	Undergrad Enrollment
OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY Newport News www.odu.edu	Public	✓		3.25	1174	23	Rec. 3 YR	No ED 12/1	Rolling	\$21,618	78%	19,793
RADFORD UNIVERSITY Radford www.radford.edu	Public			3.09	1137	23	Rec. 3 YR	No ED 12/1	2/1	\$19,758	74%	8,453
RANDOLPH COLLEGE Lynchburg www.randolphcollege.edu	Private	✓		3.34 (FCPS)	1070 (FCPS)	21 (FCPS)	Rec. 3 YR	No ED 11/15	3/1 Rolling	\$51,225	72%	663
RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE Ashland www.rmc.edu	Private	✓		3.46 (FCPS)	1154 (FCPS)	23 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	No ED 11/15	1/1 3/1	\$51,580	85%	1,446
ROANOKE COLLEGE Salem www.roanoke.edu	Private	✓		3.38	1246	24	Rec. 2 YR	11/15 No EA	3/15	\$55,952	84%	1,992
SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY Winchester www.su.edu	Private			3.33 (FCPS)	1101 (FCPS)	22 (FCPS)	Req. 2 YR Rec. 4 YR	N/A	Rolling	\$42,090	82%	2,099
SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE Sweet Briar www.sbc.edu	Priv/W	✓	✓	3.24 (FCPS)	1099 (FCPS)	21 (FCPS)	Req. 2 YR	N/A	Rolling	\$50,055	50%	365
UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON Fredericksburg www.umw.edu	Public	✓	✓	3.61	1235	26	Rec. 3 YR	11/1 11/15	2/1	\$23,042	83%	4,357
UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND Richmond www.richmond.edu	Private	✓	✓	4.08 (FCPS)	1343 (FCPS)	30 (FCPS)	Req. 2 YR Rec. 4 YR	11/1 & 12/1(ED) 11/1	12/1	\$62,730	93%	3,036
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA Charlottesville www.virginia.edu	Public	✓		4.35	1445	32	Rec. 4 YR	No ED 11/1	1/1	\$28,001	96%	16,331
UNIV OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE Wise www.uvawise.edu	Public			2.88 (FCPS)	1042 (FCPS)	19 (FCPS)	Req. 2 YR	No ED 12/1	2/1 Rolling	\$20,393	63%	2,221
VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIV Richmond www.vcu.edu	Public	✓		3.54	1220	26	Rec. 2-3 YR	N/A	11/15 1/16	\$23,757	86%	24,212
VIRGINIA MILITARY ACADEMY Lexington www.vmi.edu	Public			3.60 (FCPS)	1257 (FCPS)	27 (FCPS)	Rec. 3 YR	11/15 No EA	2/1	\$27,450	84%	1,713
VIRGINIA TECH Blacksburg www.vt.edu	Public			4.09	1357	30	Rec. 3 YR	11/1 No EA	12/1	\$21,920	93%	25,791
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVESITY Petersburg www.vsu.edu	Public/ HBCU			2.75 (FCPS)	970 (FCPS)	17 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	N/A	3/1 5/1	\$19,606	74%	4,165
VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY Richmond www.vuu.edu	Private/ HBCU			2.69 (FCPS)	940 (FCPS)	16 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	N/A	Rolling	\$25,284	66%	1,388
VIRGINIA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY Norfolk www.vwc.edu	Private			3.11 (FCPS)	1057 (FCPS)	20 (FCPS)	Rec. 2 YR	N/A	3/1 Rolling	\$45,603	61%	1,374
WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSTIY Lexington www.wlu.edu	Private	✓		4.36 (FCPS)	1358 (FCPS)	31 (FCPS)	Rec. 4 YR	11/1 (EDI) 1/1 (EDII)	12/1 1/1	\$61,900	95%	1,830

ED= Early Decision (binding) EA= Early Action  
HBCU= Historically Black Colleges and Universities  
W= Women M= Men

N/L= Not Listed  
Req.= Required  
Rec.= Recommended

Most GPAs, SATs & ACTs are accumulated from JMHS acceptance statistics  
OR FCPS acceptances as noted on the chart. Data compiled from College Board,  
College Navigator and Family Connection (accessible through Blackboard).

**\*\*The Document Library in Family Connection has a folder titled "12th Grade College Information" with additional college related materials\*\***

**Note: It is your responsibility to verify this informaton, including all application and financial aid deadlines and costs with the college or university.**

9/2017 JMHS



# SCHOLARSHIP Information

**Looking for Scholarships?** FCPS maintains an online scholarship database through **Family Connection**. Login to **Blackboard**, click on the **Family Connection** icon, select the Colleges tab and then click on Scholarship List. The scholarships are listed in alphabetical order. Students may use the College & Career Center's computers to access scholarships. Scholarship listings with two asterisks (\*\*) designates the scholarship as local, school or county based or only one nominee may be selected from JMHS.

**Local, School and County Based Scholarship** information will be emailed to students and parents through Family Connection.

View additional Scholarship & Financial Aid information on the **FCPS website** in the **"College & Career Planning"** section.

## Scholarship Search Checklist:

- Check Family Connection
- Community Foundations
- Service & Fraternal Organizations (Elks, Rotary, Spouses Clubs, etc.)
- Check employers of family members or large corporations in your community
- Apply for financial aid by completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at [FAFSA.ed.gov](http://FAFSA.ed.gov)

## Scholarship Scam Warning Signs

- Scholarship "Fees"
- Scholarship is "Guaranteed"
- **Exclusive** – "You can't get this information anywhere else"
- **Credit Card/Bank Account** information is needed



## Internet Sites to Begin Your Search:

- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- [www.collegeexpress.com](http://www.collegeexpress.com)
- [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com)
- [www.edupass.org](http://www.edupass.org)
- [www.chegg.com/scholarships](http://www.chegg.com/scholarships)
- [www.supercollege.com](http://www.supercollege.com)
- [www.scholarshiphunter.com](http://www.scholarshiphunter.com)
- [www.salliemae.com/scholarship](http://www.salliemae.com/scholarship)
- [www.cappex.com/scholarships/](http://www.cappex.com/scholarships/)
- <https://colleges.niche.com/scholarships>
- [www.iefaf.org](http://www.iefaf.org) International Education Finaid
- <https://collegeaccessfairfax.org> College Access Fairfax

## What Do Scholarship Committees Look For?

*Do you qualify? Is your application presented well? Did you include all required documents? Did you answer all the questions?*

## Application Tips:

- Apply early
- Pay close attention to deadline dates
- Allow enough time for recommendation letters
- Provide good contact information
- Proofread application and attachments
- Always send a thank you note if scholarship is awarded

**College Access Fairfax** provides FAFSA help sessions for Seniors, financial aid workshops and offers several locally based scholarships each year to Seniors.

<https://collegeaccessfairfax.org>

## **Master the Basics of Scholarship Essays:**

- ✓ Get organized
- ✓ Read and follow all directions
- ✓ Demonstrate originality and creativity
- ✓ Develop a theme that fits the scholarship
- ✓ Turn in a professional looking essay
- ✓ Give it the “once over”
- ✓ If possible, have someone proofread it for grammar

## **Additional Scholarship Resources**

### ***Academic Common Market*** <https://www.sreb.org/academic-common-market>

Students seeking a major/program not offered by a college in Virginia may qualify for in-state tuition rates at an out-of-state school. This website lists the agreements established between states and schools for particular programs. Students must be accepted to the school in that specific program in order to qualify for in-state rates. Agreements are updated annually.

### ***FinAid*** [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

This website offers information on countless scholarships, but also on the Financial Aid process, prepaid tuition programs and military aid.

~ Scholarships for “Average” Students [www.finaid.org/scholarships/average.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/average.phtml)

These scholarships don’t require a high GPA but excellence in non-academic areas.

~ Prestigious Scholarships <http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/prestigious.phtml>

This listing includes the most well-known and lucrative scholarships but are also the most competitive.

~ Unusual Scholarships <http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/unusual.phtml>

These are interesting and unusual scholarships, i.e. for left handed students and a contest using duct tape.

### ***Co-Operative (Co-Op) Scholarship Program*** <http://www.waceinc.org/scholarship/index.html>

### ***College Board’s Scholarship Search*** <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

### ***Peterson’s Scholarship Search*** [www.petersons.com/college-search/scholarship-search.aspx](http://www.petersons.com/college-search/scholarship-search.aspx)

### ***U.S. Dept. of Labor’s Scholarship Search:*** [www.careerinfonet.org/scholarshipsearch/](http://www.careerinfonet.org/scholarshipsearch/)



# Tips for Scholarships & Financial Aid



## 1. Attend Financial Aid Events (JMHS and/or FCPS). Check the school or county websites.

Scholarships and Grants = Free money that does not have to be paid back! To receive grants, you usually have to demonstrate financial need. To receive scholarships, you usually have to demonstrate grades and scores higher than the school's averages (merit), a talent or skill and have to maintain a certain level of performance (e.g., good grades) to keep receiving it.

Loans = Money has to be paid back after you graduate or for parent loans, while you are in school.

Federal Work Study = Part-time employment on the college campus. You will receive a paycheck and it helps offset the cost of tuition. Highly recommend this option.

**2. If you think you can qualify for merit based scholarships (based on academics), submit your application by the Scholarship Consideration deadline for each school you are applying to.** For many schools like Longwood & Radford that deadline is December 1 but GMU is November 1! The largest amounts of scholarships come from the schools themselves.

**3. Do not ignore out-of-state or private schools because of costs.** Many students do not pay the "sticker price" and some of these schools may offer you enough aid that you will pay the same amount as an in-state school.

**Tip:** Apply to private or out state schools where your GPA and SATs are above their averages. Some schools can even tell you the exact amount of scholarship money you qualify for based on your GPA and SAT scores.

**Tip:** If you apply and get accepted to any private Virginia school, you automatically qualify for the Tuition Assistance Grant, TAG, which is around \$3,200/year.

**Tip:** All colleges are required to have a **Net Price Calculator** on their website to give you an estimate of what your financial aid will be. Use the Net Price Calculator for each school you apply to (you may need to get some information, like tax records, from your parents in order to complete it.)

**4. Check Family Connection Scholarship List on a regular basis and look for Local, School-Based or County-Based Scholarship emails from Mrs. Otto. These are scholarships from outside sources (community groups, big companies, nonprofits) or School Nomination required scholarships. Most desirable are RENEWABLE scholarships!**

**Tip:** There are about 20 scholarships each year that require JMHS to nominate one student. They will be listed in the Family Connection Scholarship List as: \*(name of scholarship). Complete application and submit required information to Mrs. Otto by the deadline. The Scholarship Committee will select the JMHS Nominee.

**Tip:** Many of the scholarships listed on Family Connection you can complete and submit by the deadline yourself. You will often need a transcript and 1-2 letters of recommendation. Ask teachers to give you a generic letter that can be used for scholarship purposes.

**5. Complete and file your FAFSA as soon as possible after October 1. If you need help with this, College Access Fairfax will offer Fill-in-the-FAFSA Workshops starting in October. Check the JMHS, FCPS or College Access Fairfax websites.**

**Tip:** Both you and one parent will need a FSA ID in order to provide electronic signatures on the FAFSA. You can do this now at: <http://www.fafsa.gov/>

**Tip:** After you complete the FAFSA, you will get your Expected Family Contribution, or EFC, which is used to determine your financial aid package. Know this amount so you can make informed decisions.

**6. Scholarship searching is like taking on a part-time job, time and dedication required.**

**7. Pick up an *Opportunities* book** available in the Career Center, it includes a variety of useful information.

**8. View the FCPS Scholarship & Financial Aid information online in the "College & Career Planning" section**

**9. Apply to as many scholarships as you can.**

**10. Stay organized with deadlines!**

Opportunities offered by organizations other than FCPS are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Fairfax County School Board, the Superintendent, or this school. Additional scholarships and awards can be searched through the Financial Aid Offices of the colleges and universities under consideration.



# Family Connection

Blackboard → Family Connection → Colleges tab

Madison High School Logged in as: MHS Warhawks (log out)

## family connection

home | **courses** | **colleges** | careers | about me | my planner

search for colleges:  
   
[MORE SEARCH OPTIONS >>](#)

- resources
- > [transcripts](#)
  - > [test scores](#)

### my colleges

- > [colleges I'm thinking about](#)
- > [colleges I'm applying to](#)

**Upcoming college visits**  
No upcoming visits.

### college research

- > [SuperMatch™ college search](#)
- > [college match](#)
- > [college compare](#)
- > [college lookup](#)
- > [college search](#)
- > [college maps](#)
- > [scattergrams](#)
- > [acceptance history](#)
- > [enrichment programs](#)

### scholarships & money

- > [scholarship match](#)
- > [scholarship list](#)
- > [scholarship applications](#)

## FCPS College & Career Planning

FCPS website [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu) → Search “College and Career Planning”

**Military**  
**Financial Aid**

**2 Year and 4 Year Colleges**  
**Scholarships and Enrichment Opportunities**

# Service Learning/Volunteer/Internship Opportunities

Blackboard → Family Connection → Colleges tab → **Enrichment Programs**

The screenshot shows the Blackboard interface for the 'colleges' tab. At the top, there are navigation buttons: 'home', 'courses', 'colleges', 'careers', 'about me', and 'my planner'. Below this is a search bar for colleges with a 'Go' button and a link to 'MORE SEARCH OPTIONS >>'. On the left, there are 'resources' for 'transcripts' and 'test scores'. The main content area is divided into two sections: 'my colleges' and 'college research'. The 'my colleges' section includes links for 'colleges I'm thinking about' and 'colleges I'm applying to', along with 'Upcoming college visits' for the 03/08/18 United States Military Academy - Army. The 'college research' section includes links for 'SuperMatch™ college search', 'college match', 'college compare', 'college lookup', 'college maps', 'scattergrams', 'acceptance history', and 'enrichment programs'. A red arrow points to the 'enrichment programs' link. Below this, the 'enrichment programs' page is shown, featuring a category selection dropdown menu with options like 'academic', 'Acting', 'Adventure/Trips', 'Aerospace', and 'Agriculture'. There is also a 'Search by keywords:' field with a 'Go' button and two checkboxes for filtering results by future deadlines and last visit. At the bottom, it shows 'Results 1-50 of 963' with a list of page numbers from 1 to 20.

Blackboard → Family Connection → **x2VOL** (left side of home page) → Follow the steps to set up your account → Assign yourself to the Class of \_\_\_\_\_ (year you will graduate high school)

The screenshot shows the Blackboard 'family connection' page. At the top, there are navigation buttons: 'home', 'courses', 'colleges', 'careers', 'about me', and 'my planner'. Below this is a 'my colleges' section with a link for 'colleges I'm thinking about'. There is also a 'resources' section with a link for 'x2VOL' which is highlighted with a red arrow. On the right, there is a 'what's new' section with three entries: 'FCPS District has assigned the task Complete Career Cluster Finder Reflection to you', 'FCPS District has assigned the task Complete Career Interest Profiler to you', and 'FCPS District has assigned the task Complete StrengthsExplorer Reflection to you'. A link for 'more since last visit' is at the bottom of this section.

FCPS Service Learning → <https://www.fcps.edu/activities/service-learning>

Volunteer Fairfax <http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/> → Individuals → Just for Youth



Individuals

Corporations

Nonprofits

About Us

You can help support volunteerism! Please like and share our news. Together we build a better community.

Youth Service

Getting Started

Volunteer Now!

Educator Resources

[Home](#) > [Individuals](#) > [VolunteerNow!](#) > Just for Youth  
Youth Service Opportunities

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." - Aesop

If you're under 18 and looking to earn hours for school or – more importantly – make a difference in your community, you've come to the right place! To get started right away, click on the links below to learn more about the resources and events Volunteer Fairfax offers!

#### Resources

- [Directory of Youth Service Opportunities \(Updated 10/2017\)](#) - The best resource for youth looking for ongoing volunteer opportunities.
  - [Quick Guide to Youth Service Opportunities](#) - shortened version with tips and ideas for getting started.
- [VolunteerNow!](#) - Use the advanced search option (select great for: youth) to find one-time opportunities.
- [DonateNow!](#) and the [Donation Drive Planning Kit](#) - Perfect for schools!
- [Community Events Calendar](#)
- [Youth Service America's Tips for Parents of Young Children](#) - Great for showing children how to care about their community.

Fairfax County <https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/index.php> → Click on "Youth"

Smithsonian Opportunities <https://www.si.edu/youth-programs>

The Student Conservation Association <https://www.thesca.org/> → Click on "Serve" → "Young Adult"

White House Internship Program <https://www.whitehouse.gov/get-involved/internships/>

Idealist.org [www.idealist.org](http://www.idealist.org)

Intern Jobs.com [www.internjobs.com](http://www.internjobs.com)

Volunteer Match <https://www.volunteermatch.org/>

Career Builder <https://www.careerbuilder.com/> → Search "Internship"

INOVA <https://www.inova.org/get-involved/volunteer/index.jsp>

Reston Hospital Center <https://restonhospital.com/home/> → Search "Volunteers"

Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program (SEAP) <https://seap.asee.org/>

Stokes Educational Scholarship Program <https://www.intelligencecareers.gov/icstudents.html>

*Disclaimer: Opportunities offered by organizations other than Fairfax County Public Schools are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Fairfax County School Board, the Superintendent, or this school.*