



College Planning Night Part II

College Planning Resources | College Preparation
| College Essay | Spring 2023



College Planning Part I was in
January with the panel of
College Admission
Representatives

Academic Advising

- ★ Academic Advising is now complete.
- ★ During Academic Advising, school counselors met with students for their course selections for next school year.
- ★ As part of this meeting, school counselors also discussed plans for life after high school.
- ★ If students would like to update their courses or have additional questions, please have them reach out to their counselor.



College Planning Resources

What Should I Be Doing Now?

College Research

- ★ Explore college websites to gather information
- ★ Submit “Request Information” forms online for colleges you are interested in
- ★ Visit colleges & attend college fairs: Attend virtual or in person information sessions/college tours/open house events. Check college websites for updates and related information for the colleges you are interested in.
 - Northern Virginia Regional Fair: April 4 @ Eagle Bank Area (GMU), 6:30-8 p.m.
- ★ Follow social media outlets for colleges of interest
- ★ Enjoy the process of researching colleges
- ★ Create a system to keep college information organized, include deadlines!
- ★ Use [Naviance](#): College Search, Scattergrams, JMHS Acceptance History & more
- ★ Use the resources in [Schoolology](#)



Schoology

Parents | Students

Schoology for Parents

Select Language ▾ Español 한국어 中文 Tiếng Việt العربية

☰ FULL MENU ABOUT ACADEMICS ACTIVITIES RESOURCES CONTACT 🔍 Search

Schoology SIS Google Workspace Library Lunch Menus MySchoolBucks Employee Resources

One School | One Community | One World

Fairfax County PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ENGAGE • INSPIRE • THRIVE

Teachers, Staff, and Students use your FCPS credentials to log in. [Forgot Password?](#)

Parents/Guardians use the same username and password as their [Student Information System \(SIS\) Parent](#) account to log in. [Forgot Password?](#)

FCPS username
Password

[Sign in](#)

Visit the [Schoology support page](#) for help.

Schoolology for Parents



The screenshot displays the 'COURSES' tab in the Schoolology for Parents interface. The top navigation bar is dark teal with the Fairfax County Public Schools logo on the left and four menu items: 'COURSES' (highlighted with a red circle), 'GROUPS', 'RESOURCES', and 'GRADE REPORT'. Below the navigation bar, the word 'Courses' is displayed in a large, light gray font. A card for 'All Parents/Guardians' at 'MADISON HS' is shown, with the address '2500 JAMES MADISON DR' and the school year '2022-23' in a black triangle. Below this, the text 'All Parents/Guardians', 'Madison High School', and 'Madison High School' is listed in blue, black, and gray respectively.

 **Fairfax County**
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COURSES GROUPS RESOURCES GRADE REPORT

Courses

All Parents/Guardians
MADISON HS
2500 JAMES MADISON DR
2022-23

All Parents/Guardians
Madison High School
Madison High School

Schoology for Parents

The screenshot shows the Schoology interface for Madison High School. The top navigation bar includes links for COURSES, GROUPS, RESOURCES, and GRADE REPORT. The left sidebar contains a 'Materials' section with links to Updates (19), Grades, Lucidchart, Tutor.com, and Zoom. Below this is an 'Information' section for the 2022-2023XYYR grading period. The main content area is titled 'All Parents/Guardians: Madison High School' and lists several folders and documents. The 'College & Career Center' folder is highlighted with a red circle. Other folders include 'Schoology Resources for Parents', 'Schoology Resources for Students', 'Back to School Night Video', and 'Digital Citizenship'. Documents listed include 'Madison H.S Clubs and Activities 2022-23 (1).pdf', '22-23 Parent Checklist - BOY.pdf', and '22-23 MAD LUNCH SCHEDULES.pdf'.

Fairfax County PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COURSES GROUPS RESOURCES GRADE REPORT

All Parents/Guardians
MADISON HS
2800 JAMES MADISON DR
2022-23

Materials

Updates 19

Grades

Lucidchart

Tutor.com

Zoom

Information

Grading period
2022-2023XYYR

All Parents/Guardians: Madison High School

Madison High School

College & Career Center

Planning for College | Money for College | Career Preparation | Apprenticeships | Gap Year | Military | Standardized Testing | Tutor Info | x2VOL & Service Hours

Madison H.S Clubs and Activities 2022-23 (1).pdf 7 MB

Schoology Resources for Parents

Schoology Resources for Students

Back to School Night Video

Get to know the Madison High School Administration by viewing their Back to School Night Videos.

Digital Citizenship

Digital Citizenship week will be 10/17-10/21. You will be participating in one advisory lesson this week on 10/17 and one lesson next week on 10/26. In addition to those two lessons, we will be posting optional home connections in the student and parent all courses in Schoology.

22-23 Parent Checklist - BOY.pdf 70 KB

22-23 MAD LUNCH SCHEDULES.pdf 32 KB

College & Career Planning Folder

- ★ Apprenticeships
- ★ Career Preparation
- ★ College Preparation
- ★ FCPS Post-Secondary Week Session Recordings
- ★ Gap Year Information
- ★ JMHS College Specific Info
- ★ Military | ROTC
- ★ Money for College | Financial Aid & Scholarships
- ★ Standardized Testing
- ★ x2VOL & Service Learning

Schoology for Students



- ★ Similar to parent Schoology, but students have more folders of information

A screenshot of the Schoology Student Services page for Madison High School. The page has a teal header with the Fairfax County Public Schools logo and navigation tabs for COURSES, GROUPS, RESOURCES, and GRADES. The main content area is titled "Student Services: Madison High School" and lists various resources and folders. A left sidebar contains a "Materials" menu with options like Updates, Grades, Mastery, Members, Lucidchart, Tutor.com, and Zoom, as well as an "Information" section for the 2022-2023XYR grading period. The main list includes folders for "Jobs, Volunteer, Scholarship & Enrichment ...", "Back to School Night Videos", "Class of 2023", "Class of 2024", "College & Career Center", "Gap Year Information", "Money for College | Financial Aid & Scholarships", "NCAA | Student Athletes", "NOVA | Northern Virginia Community College", "Resources for Latinx Students", "Standardized Testing (SAT, ACT, TOEFL) & Test Prep/Tutor Info", "Undocumented Students, Eligibility for In-State Tuition | VASA Info", and "x2Vol | Service Learning | Naviance".



Naviance for College & Career Planning

Naviance

STUDENTS & PARENTS have access to Naviance, a college and career planning tool. JMHS specific college statistics are in Naviance. www.fcps.edu/naviance

The screenshot displays the Naviance website interface. At the top, the 'NAVIANCE BY POWERSCHOOL' logo is on the left, and a navigation bar contains links for Home, Self-Discovery, Courses, Careers, **Colleges** (highlighted with a red circle), and Planner. On the right of the navigation bar are icons for a heart, '11th Grade', a star, an envelope, a 'DO' button, and 'About Me'. Below the navigation bar, a dropdown menu for 'Colleges' is open, showing options: College Home, Find Your fit (with sub-links: SuperMatch College Search, Advanced College Search, College Lookup), Research Colleges (with sub-links: Colleges I'm Thinking About, College Visits, College Compare, Enrichment Programs, College Maps), Apply to College (with sub-links: Colleges I'm Applying to, Test Scores), and Scholarships & Money (with sub-links: College-Specific Scholarships, Scholarship Search, Favorite Scholarships). Below the dropdown, the 'Getting Started' section features a photo of graduation caps and the text: 'Welcome to the new **Naviance Student** formerly known as Family Connection. This is an easy-to-use 24/7 online tool for students and their parents that will guide students'. To the right, the 'My Favorites' section lists three items: 'COLLEGES I'm thinking about', 'COLLEGES I'm applying to', and 'COURSES I'm thinking about', each with a corresponding icon.

NAVIANCE
BY POWERSCHOOL

Home Self-Discovery Courses Careers **Colleges** Planner

11th Grade

College Home

Find Your fit

- SuperMatch College Search
- Advanced College Search
- College Lookup

Research Colleges

- Colleges I'm Thinking About
- College Visits
- College Compare
- Enrichment Programs
- College Maps

Apply to College

- Colleges I'm Applying to
- Test Scores

Scholarships & Money

- College-Specific Scholarships
- Scholarship Search
- Favorite Scholarships

Getting Started

English Go


Welcome to the new **Naviance Student** formerly known as Family Connection. This is an easy-to-use 24/7 online tool for students and their parents that will guide students'

My Favorites

- COLLEGES I'm thinking about
- COLLEGES I'm applying to
- COURSES I'm thinking about

Naviance | COLLEGE HOME PAGE | www.fcps.edu/naviance

[Home](#) [Self-Discovery](#) [Courses](#) [Careers](#) [Colleges](#) [Planner](#)



Longwood University
Farmville, VA, United States
longwood.edu

Communicate

[Overview](#) [Studies](#) [Student Life](#) [Admissions](#) [Costs](#)

AVERAGE NET PRICE

\$24,713

Family Income
> \$110k

[More about Cost & Aid](#)

from 2022

GRADUATION RATE

54%

[4 Year](#) [6 Year](#)

[More about learning environment](#)

from 2022

ACCEPTANCE RATE

89%

[Check out Scattergrams to see how this relates to you](#)

from 2022

NEXT DEADLINE

November
1

Fall Term Early Decision Deadline

[See all deadlines](#)

Get to know the college

Learn more about Longwood University.

Quick Facts

Website	longwood.edu
School Type	Public / Four Year School
CEEB Code	5368
ACT Code	4366
Undergraduate Enrollment	4,324
Student-to-Faculty Ratio	14 to 1
Average Classroom Size	20.7
Job Placement Rate	58% within 1 Year
Campus Surroundings	Town
Online Programs	Offered
Degrees Offered	Bachelor's Master's

Naviance | COLLEGES I'M THINKING ABOUT | www.fcps.edu/naviance

Quick Links

MORE SEARCH OPTIONS

SuperMatch®

Advanced college search

College lookup

MY COLLEGES

Colleges Visits

Colleges I'm thinking about

Colleges I'm applying to

COLLEGE RESEARCH

Scattergrams

College Compare

Enrichment Programs

Colleges I'm thinking about

Search for colleges

+ Add Colleges to List

Compare Me

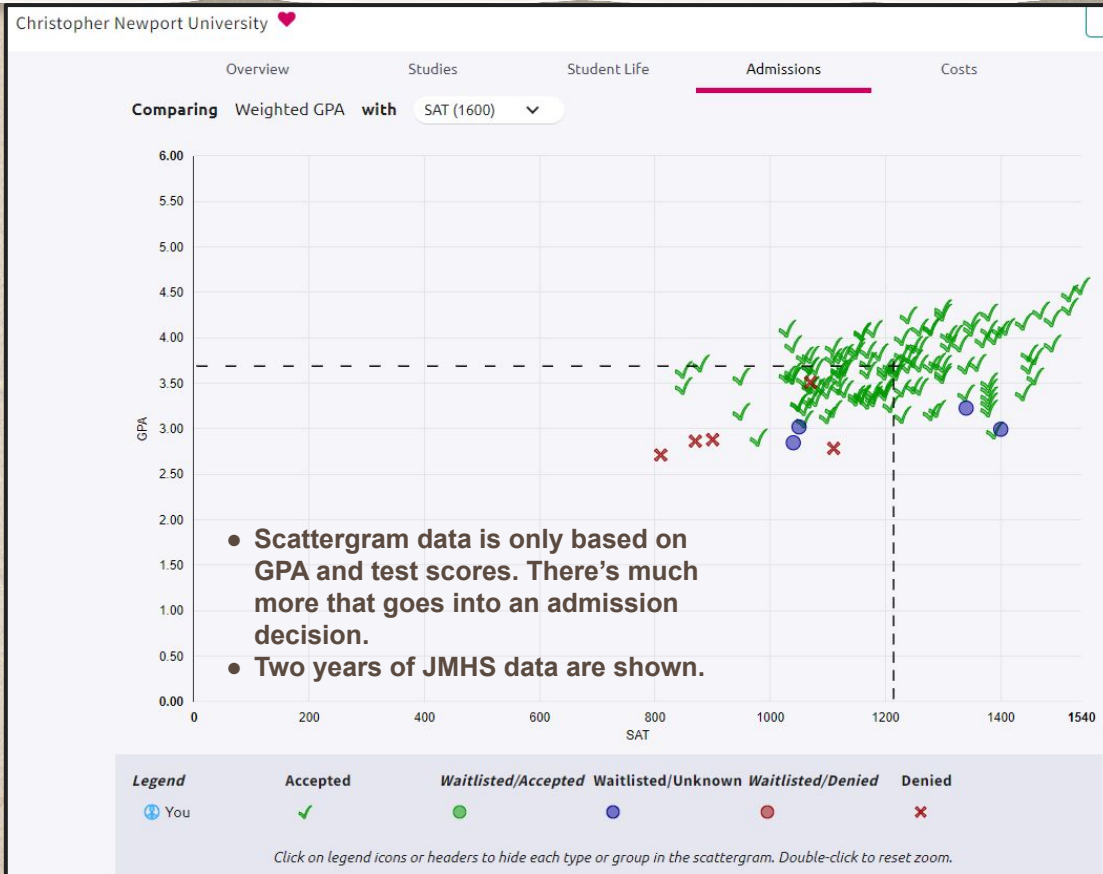
UPDATE INTEREST

REMOVE

* = extended profile available

College	Delivery type	Added By	Application Deadlines	Interest	
<input type="checkbox"/> * Auburn University	CA	Student	Deadlines ▼	N/A	▼ MORE ⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> Christopher Newport University	CA	Student	Deadlines ▼	N/A	▼ MORE ⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> * Clemson University	CA	Student	Deadlines ▼	N/A	▼ MORE ⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> George Mason University	CA	Student	Deadlines ▼	N/A	▼ MORE ⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> Longwood University	CA	Student	Deadlines ▼	N/A	▼ MORE ⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> * University of Mary Washington	CA	Student	Deadlines ▼	N/A	▼ MORE ⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> University of South Carolina-Columbia	CA	Student	Deadlines ▼	N/A	▼ MORE ⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> University of Virginia-Main Campus	CA	Student	Deadlines ▼	N/A	▼ MORE ⋮

Naviance | SCATTERGRAMS | www.fcps.edu/naviance



Naviance | COLLEGE MATCH | www.fcps.edu/naviance

College Match

Colleges Other Students Like

Colleges That Have Accepted Students Like You

Why am I seeing these colleges?

We have analyzed applications from thousands of High Schools to determine what colleges are most likely to overlap with the colleges on your favorites list when students apply.

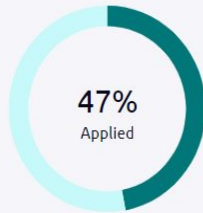
STUDENTS WHO APPLY TO

7672 applications analyzed

University Of Mary Washington

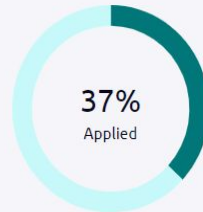


Also apply to...
James Madison University
📍 91 miles from your school



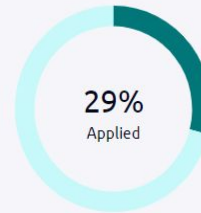
♡ Favorite

Also apply to...
George Mason University
📍 5 miles from your school



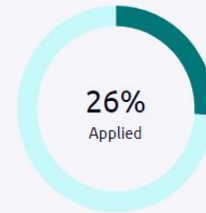
♡ Favorite

Also apply to...
Christopher Newport Uni...
📍 134 miles from your school



♡ Favorite

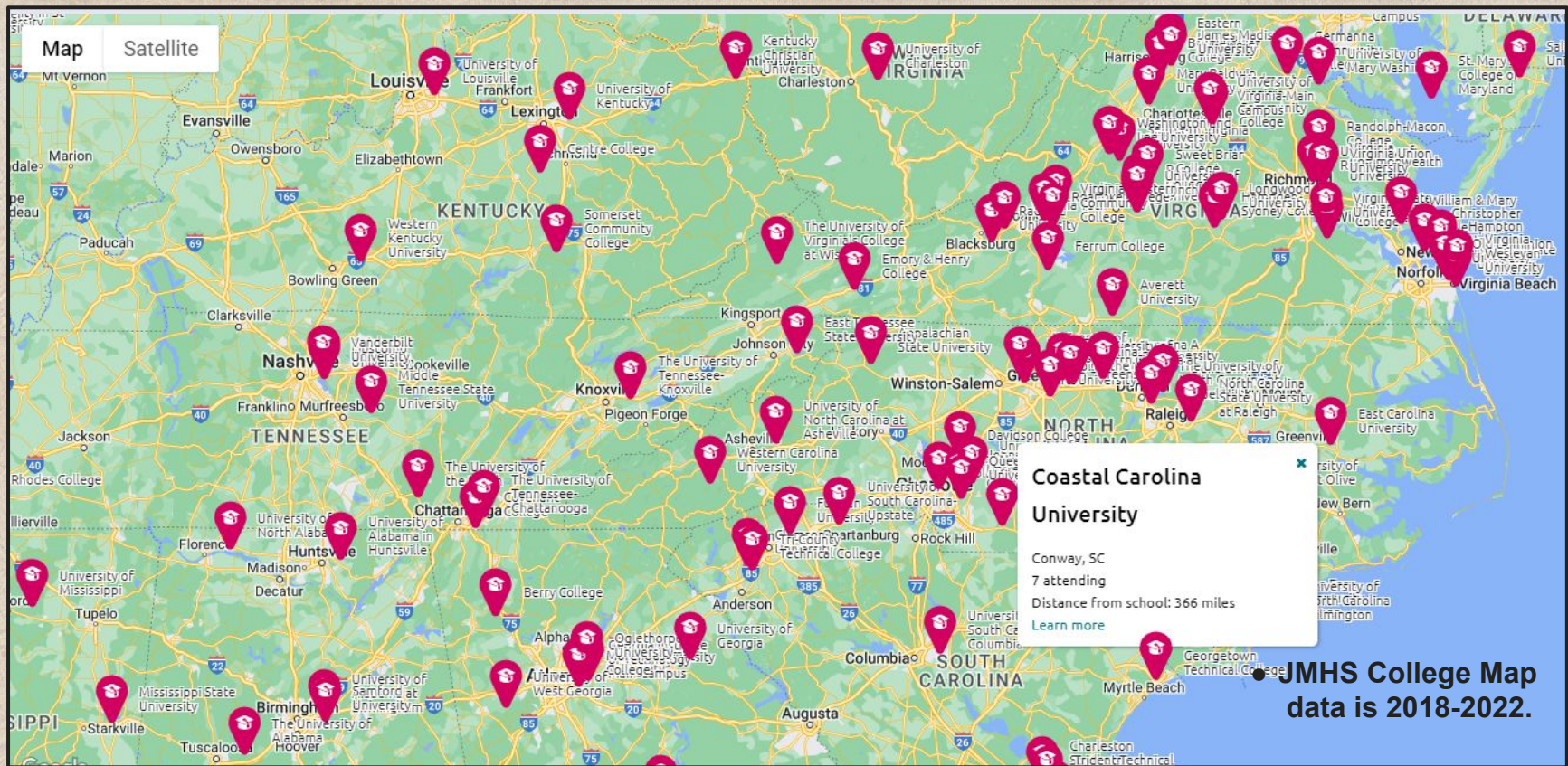
Also apply to...
Virginia Tech
📍 206 miles from your school



♡ Favorite



Naviance | COLLEGE MAPS | www.fcps.edu/naviance



FCPS College & Career Resources



College and
Career
Resources

Home

▼ College

Financial Aid

Employment

Military

Gap Year Programs



COLLEGE AND CAREER RESOURCES



College
RESOURCES



Financial Aid
RESOURCES



Employment
RESOURCES



Military



Gap Year



**Training &
Apprenticeships**

①

Service Learning

Naviance & x2VOL

x2VOL is the tool that FCPS middle and high schools use to support students with finding, tracking, and verifying service hours electronically. Students login to x2VOL through [this Naviance link](#).

- ✓ Students should track their hours in [x2VOL](#)
- ✓ Students are able to earn a diploma in the Commonwealth of Virginia without completing service hours
- ✓ 40 hours = black service learning cord to wear at graduation.
- ✓ 50 hours with additional criteria = apply for [The Board of Education's Seal of Excellence in Civics Education](#)
- ✓ 50 exclusive hours related to science service with additional criteria = apply for [The Science & Environmental Seal](#)
- ✓ Students who do not complete yearly service hours or who complete fewer than 40 hours over the course of high school will still be able to graduate

Additional places to look for volunteer opportunities:

- ★ [FCPS Service Learning website](#), [FCPS Work-Based Learning Google Site](#)
- ★ [JMHS Volunteering & Service Learning Information](#)
- ★ Follow [@FCPSServLearn](#)
- ★ [Jobs, Service Learning /Volunteering, Enrichment & Scholarships \(JMHS\)](#)
- ★ [Volunteer Fairfax](#)
- ★ [Volunteer Fairfax Directoy of Youth Serveive Opportunities 2021-2022](#)
- ★ [Fairfax County Park Authority](#)
- ★ [Fairfax County Volunteer Opportunities](#)

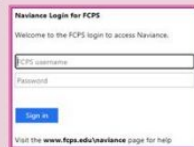
Students must use x2VOL to get credit for their service learning hours.

HOW TO ACCESS x2VOL:

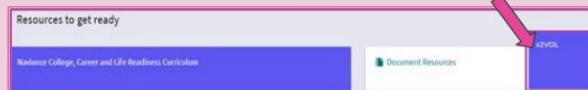
1. Go to the Naviance login page, www.fcps.edu/naviance



2. Log into your account.

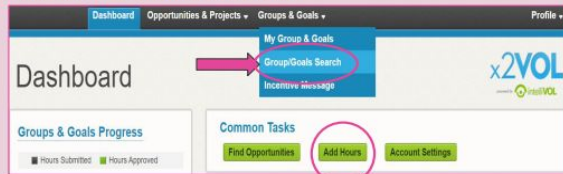


3. Scroll down on the Naviance home page and click on the x2VOL box.



If you have never signed into x2VOL, follow the prompts and complete your profile. **Assign yourself to the Class of (year you will graduate)** and this information will be verified by JMHS.

4. x2VOL Dashboard is where you will Add Hours, Find Opportunities, View Groups & Goals Progress. You can also search for a specific Honor Society and/or club to join that group..

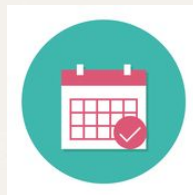


Students must use x2VOL to get credit for their service learning hours.

Student Services Newsletters

★ Emailed typically twice a month, must be signed up to receive “[News You Choose](#)” notifications. Or, view on the Madison website. *There’s a link on the Madison home page to sign up for News You Choose.*

★ Calendar of Dates/Upcoming Events for Post-Secondary Planning



★ Counseling Updates & Items to Note

★ Enrichment Opportunities

★ Scholarship Opportunities



Class of 2024 College Guide

AVAILABLE FALL 2023 | 2022-2023 version available [here](#)



Money for College

THE FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

Finding financial aid can seem overwhelming when you're trying to get ready for college or career school. The U.S. Department of Education's office of Federal Student Aid is here to help you get the money you need to pay for your education.

PREPARATION

Scholarships and state aid can help cover the cost of college or career school, but you may find yourself in need of federal assistance.



START:

Begin saving early.

SAVINGS



STATE AID

SCHOLARSHIPS

Many states have college funding programs. Ask a guidance counselor or your college financial aid office for more information.

Look for scholarships through your state or college as well as national and community organizations.

It's time to apply for financial aid.

FAFSA®

The FAFSA is the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* and is the only way to apply for federal student aid. The schools you list on your application



Each October, the FAFSA is available for the next school year. It is best to fill it out as early as you can because some aid is

CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO ENLARGE IT



Financial Aid Process Video

Federal Student Aid
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER
EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA

Money for College

School Based (JMHS) Scholarships for Seniors

These scholarships, once they become available, will be advertised to students with eligibility requirements, additional details and application due dates. **These scholarships are based on the previous school year, please note that any changes will be reflected when the scholarship application is available for the current school year.**

JMHS PTSA Making a Difference Scholarship: Three seniors will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship for "Making a Difference" (i.e. involvement at school, volunteer work, community service, paid work such as babysitting, helping their families, or other ways of enriching the lives of others). Seniors who plan to attend a two-year or four-year college or a professional/technical school. Essay (500 words or less) required explaining what you did to "Make a Difference" in the lives of others. Letter of recommendation also required.

JMHS Athletic Boosters Warhawk Pride Scholarship: Four \$500 scholarships will be presented to JMHS athletes who best exemplify Warhawk Pride. Scholarships will be awarded to four senior athletes. Athlete must be a current senior who plans to attend a two or four-year college or professional technical school. Any athlete receiving a full academic scholarship is not eligible. Minimum GPA of 2.5 through the first semester of senior year.

The **Christin Kylo Dream Big Memorial Scholarship, \$5,000** is available for JMHS seniors who are planning to attend a four-year institution. The application requires a one page typed essay about yourself, life experiences and brief description of your financial need. Clearly write about how this scholarship would make a difference for your future education. This essay should focus on you and your situation.

The **Lenny Schultz Scholarship** will award a \$2,000 scholarship to either a football player and/or a wrestler who has uplifted others in the community, school, or other involvements. The application requires a one page typed essay, resume, and a letter of recommendation.

Disclaimer: Advertisement of this opportunity does not constitute sponsorship or endorsement of the sponsoring organization or the enrichment opportunity by the Fairfax County School Board, the Superintendent, or a specific FCPS school. This opportunity may utilize a technology tool that has not been assessed by the Fairfax County Public Schools Department of Information Technology. Students should gain permission from their parent or guardian before engaging in any non-FCPS enrichment opportunity and families should review and agree to the Terms of Service and User Agreements for any technology platform that enrichment opportunity may use before participating.

★ School Based Scholarships

★ Local Scholarships

Local Scholarships

This scholarship offers up to **\$5,000 (\$2,500 per semester)** per student for distance towards an Associates Degree at NOVA or a Certificate Program as part of a need-based scholarship is to help students further their education with potential criteria is met.

Test: The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna sponsors an annual Essay Contest for high school seniors. **\$500 with potential for up to \$2,500.** Available for students in grades 9-12.

Vienna Optimist Clyde Reed and Paul Booze Vocational Scholarship, \$1,500: The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna sponsors a scholarship for students who plan to pursue an apprenticeship, trade or technical school or occupational field, such as, plumbing, auto mechanic, auto repair, carpenter, HVAC technician, electrician, cosmetologist, culinary arts practitioner/chef.

Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary Scholarship, \$1,000: Applicants must have been accepted at an accredited college, university or technical school. 500 word essay on the benefits of volunteering in a community.

Vienna Youth Soccer (VYS) Scholarship, \$2,500: <http://vys.org/offering-vys-scholarships> VYS will award two scholarships to high school seniors who have participated as players in the Club and plan to further their education at a college or university. Seniors who have demonstrated exceptional standards of sportsmanship, dedication, leadership, community service, and/or perseverance.

VVI Scholarship/MVP Awards: <http://vvi.org/Page.asp?n=5460> Visit www.vvi.org for details.

VHSL Allstate Achievement Scholarship, \$1,500: <https://www.vhsl.org/scholarships/> is awarded to seniors who have excelled in the classroom and in athletic and academic activities.

VHSL Sledge Award, \$500: <https://www.vhsl.org/scholarships/> is awarded to a senior who has participated and excelled in school publications (magazines, newspapers, yearbooks) and for at least two years demonstrated outstanding personal qualities such as leadership, writing proficiency, design aptitude, creativity, teamwork, and character.

VHSL Vito Perriello Citizenship Award, \$1,000: <https://www.vhsl.org/scholarships/> is awarded to a senior who has demonstrated outstanding traits of citizenship in their high school career. Student must have previously participated in one or more VHSL activities which can include serving as an athletic training student aide (ATSA) with a Virginia licensed athletic trainer within their high school.

Money for College

Local Scholarships (continued)

College Access Fairfax: <https://collegeaccessfairfax.org/scholarships/> College Access Fairfax offers quite a few scholarships to FCPS students.

DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Good Citizens Program and Scholarship is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. Students must actively demonstrate the qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. This award is open to all students in the senior class. Award amount is typically \$1,000 with potential to receive more. From the applicant pool, JMHS may nominate one student to receive this award.

Federal Water Quality Association (Environmental or Engineering), \$2,000: Three scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors who plan to pursue environmental careers.

Harry F. Byrd Leadership Award, \$20,000: Seniors who demonstrate a combination of accomplishment, excellence of character, qualities of leadership and good citizenship. If selected, a letter of recommendation is required to be written by the principal or school counselor. Each secondary school in Virginia may nominate one graduating senior for the Harry F. Byrd Leadership Award. From the applicant pool, one JMHS student will be selected and submitted to the sponsor. <https://byrdleadershipaward.org/>

Northern Virginia Athletic Directors, Administrators and Coaches Association (NVADACA) Scholarships: Seniors who have participated in a Virginia High School League sanctioned sport, cheerleaders or those who served as team managers or athletic trainers. Visit <http://www.nvadaca.org/scholarship-applications/> for details. Students who receive a full athletic grant are not eligible for a NVADACA Scholarship. NVADACA considers GPA, rigor or academic program, extent of athletic involvement, athletic contributions to team(s), contributions to school, community, church and work, writing skills, leadership and financial need. Financial need encompasses any family-perceived financial need. This may include other siblings in college, temporary unemployment, medical bills, overall low family income, etc. From the applicant pool, JMHS will forward selected nominees to the NVADACA Scholarship Committee. Last year scholarships were offered in the amount of \$4,000.

Note: When a scholarship comes along that is school based, county based or local, information will be advertised/posted in Naviance and the Schoology Madison Student Services Course.

Local Scholarships (continued)

Reston Hospital Scholarship, \$1,000: Seniors who will pursue a career in the health care-related field: Medicine, nursing, physical therapy, etc. One senior will be selected for this award. Students must submit a resume of related experiences in health care, such as, volunteering, coursework, efforts, accomplishments, research, etc. that you have been involved with. Only include items on your resume that are related to your efforts in health care. Be sure to include where you will be attending college and the major you will pursue. Students must also submit a brief statement about why you chose the field of study (not an essay, just one paragraph.) From the applicant pool, JMHS will forward selected nominee to the sponsor.

W. Harold Ford Scholarship Foundation, Teaching Scholarship, \$2,000: This is a local scholarship for students with at least a 2.7 GPA who plan to attend a four-year college which offers a teacher education/certification program, major in education and plan to teach after college graduation. From the completed applicant pool, two JMHS student applications will be selected and submitted to the sponsor. Visit <http://www.fcpe.org/scholarship.html> for details.

FCPS Facilitated Scholarships

These scholarships are typically submitted to the JMHS College & Career Center. From the applicant pool, JMHS will forward selected nominees to FCPS for consideration.

Emily and Fred Ruffing ACCA Scholarship, \$2,000/renewable: This is a renewable, per semester, award. Available to a senior with a disability and academic achievement. Must plan to attend college full time. JMHS will submit all applicants to FCPS.

Granville P. Meade, \$2,000/renewable: This is a renewable award for "worthy and needy" students going to a Virginia college or university. An undisclosed number of awards are available to VA seniors who are financially unable to attend college. Must attend a VA public or private college and be a VA resident. JMHS will submit all applicants to FCPS.

Laura Ashley Piper Scholarship, \$1,000: Demonstrated integrity, leadership, service to school and community, academic excellence, athletic merit. JMHS will submit one application to FCPS.

Michell Merhige, \$1,200: Provide recognition and financial assistance to a FCPS graduating senior who demonstrates academic strength and potential, an ability to overcome adversity and a financial need. Priority will be given to those who have experienced homelessness, been in foster care or lacked substantial family support. JMHS will submit all applicants to FCPS.

★ FCPS Facilitated Scholarships

★ And More!

Financial Aid Programs

College Access Fairfax

*Previously recorded sessions and presentations available online.
CAF will continue to offer programs in the Fall of 2023.*

- ★ **Scholarships 101** is an hour long overview of the scholarship application process. Learn how to search, apply and find scholarships and tips for a successful scholarship application.
- ★ **Paying for College** is designed to help current seniors and their families understand the financial aid process. Topics to be covered include the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), types of financial aid, scholarships, loans, definitions of frequently used terms, and timelines.
- ★ **FAFSA Line By Line** is an explanation of what information for each line of the FAFSA. FAFSA completion events will also be offer by College Access Fairfax.

Additional CAF Programs:

Financial Aid Nights | Understanding Award Letters
CSS Profile | FAFSA Completion





College Preparation

Factors in College Admissions

NACAC State of College Admission Report

1. Grades in All Courses
2. Grades in College Prep Courses
3. Strength of Curriculum
4. Admission Test Scores (SAT, ACT)
5. Essay
6. Demonstrated Interest
7. Counselor Letter of Recommendation
8. Teacher Letter of Recommendation
9. Class Rank (N/A for FCPS Students)
10. Extracurricular Activities

College List | Applications

- ★ Begin to finalize your list of colleges. Be prepared to share your list of colleges in the fall with your school counselor.
- ★ Enter your college list in [Naviance](#), *"Colleges I'm Thinking About"*
- ★ Identify a broad range of colleges and their admission difficulty. You want a balance and range of colleges you are planning to apply to.
- ★ Consider [NOVA](#) or other two-year college options; economically feasible, and often helpful transition to a four-year college.
- ★ Look at application requirements and get organized to complete applications in the fall. College applications for 2023-2024 will be available online typically by early to mid-August.

College Admissions Options

NACAC

National Association for
College Admission Counseling

DEFINITIONS OF ADMISSION OPTIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?

Regular Decision

DEFINITION:

Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Rolling Admission

DEFINITION:

Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Early Action (EA)

DEFINITION:

Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Early Decision (ED)

DEFINITION:

Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll and withdraw all other applications. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.

COMMITMENT:

BINDING

Restrictive Early Action (REA)

DEFINITION:

Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.

Standardized Testing

- ★ The SAT and/or ACT is typically taken in the spring of junior year and then again in the fall of senior year.
- ★ SAT School Day in the Fall of 2024 @Madison
- ★ **Students must register to take the [SAT](#) or [ACT](#)** (JMHS CEEB Code: 472-278)
- ★ [Khan Academy](#) - FREE online courses, practice & lessons
- ★ [Tutor.com](#) - FREE tutoring and test prep for FCPS students
- ★ [ACT](#) also offers FREE test prep on their website
- ★ **It is the student's responsibility to register to take a standardized test.**
- ★ Parents - ask your student if they already have a [College Board](#) account, either from taking a PSAT and/or registering for an AP Exam. You **DO NOT** want to have multiple College Board accounts!

Standardized Testing

- ★ Check college websites for admission testing requirements & updates.
- ★ Verify testing policies for each of your colleges.
- ★ Some colleges may still be determining testing policies and/or have temporary policies in place. Look on individual college websites or ASK THE COLLEGE REPS during a visit or information session. Most recent updates:
 - UVA test optional for at least two more years
 - W&M completely test optional
 - VT test optional for students entering through Fall 2025
- ★ IF you have a test score, that you feel looks favorably, ASK the colleges their opinion about submitting your score. Do your research!
- ★ ASK the colleges! VERIFY testing policies with the colleges/college websites!
- ★ [Fairtest.org](https://www.fairtest.org) - List of test optional colleges/universities - VERIFY with each individual college.

College Application Platforms

College Specific Application

- ★ Specific to the college/university

Common Application (“Common App”)

- ★ Over 1,000 colleges use the Common App - including almost all of the VA public institutions
- ★ VA: Bridgewater C, CNU, Eastern Mennonite U, Emory & Henry C, Ferrum C, GMU, Hampden-Sydney C, Hampton U, Hollins U, JMU, Longwood U, Mary Baldwin C, Marymount U, Norfolk State U, ODU, Radford U, Randolph C, Randolph-Macon C, Regent U, Richard Bland C, U of Richmond, Roanoke C, Shenandoah U, Sweet Briar C, UVA Wise, U of Lynchburg, U of Mary Washington, U of Richmond, UVA, VCU, VT, Virginia Wesleyan U, W&L, W&M (as of 3/10/2023)

Coalition for College Access (“Coalition App”)

- ★ Over 150 colleges use the Coalition App
- ★ VA: U of Richmond, VT (as of 3/10/2023)

Some institutions will still require supplemental information to be submitted.

Some institutions use more than one type, choose the application platform that works best for you!

Creating Your Common App Account

- ★ Students - now is a great time to create your Common App account.
- ★ Your account will “rollover” from year to year, using the same username and password.
- ★ There is a brief time, over the summer, when Common App is unavailable as it prepares/updates for the 2023-2024 application season.
- ★ Your college list and any other information you enter in the “general” section of the Common App will “rollover.”
- ★ Once you create an account, Common App will email you with reminders and information.
- ★ Take time over the next few months to explore and familiarize yourself with the Common App website.

Creating Your Coalition App Account

- ★ Take a look at the colleges and universities who use the Coalition App.
- ★ Students - now is a great time to create your Coalition App account if there are colleges you'll be applying to.
- ★ Once you create an account, Coalition App will email you with reminders and information.
- ★ Take time over the next few months to explore and familiarize yourself with the Coalition App website.
- ★ Depending on the colleges you'll be applying to, will help you determine if you should create a Coalition App account.

Letters of Recommendation

College Letters of Recommendations

- ★ Do I need a letter of recommendation? Who will write it? - CHECK college websites for requirements!
- ★ Think about which core teacher(s) you will ask to write you a letter of recommendation and even consider asking those teachers this spring! Each teacher has their own way handling this.
- ★ Counselor letter of recommendation
 - If a counselor letter of recommendation is required:
 - Students will complete Student Self-Evaluation
 - Parents will complete Parent/Guardian Information Form
 - We'll let you know once the forms are available

Junior Prep List for Juniors Going into Senior Year

Junior Prep List Available in:

Schoology Course(s):
All Parents/Guardians [here](#)
Student Services [here](#)

Junior Prep List ~ Class of 2024

For Juniors Going into Senior Year

Schoology | Student Services Course

College Research

- ❑ Use [Naviance](#): College Search, JMHS Scattergrams, College Overlaps and more.
- ❑ Visit colleges & attend college fairs: Attend virtual or in person information sessions/college tours/open house events.
- ❑ Check college websites for updates and related information for the colleges you are interested in.
- ❑ Follow social media outlets for colleges of interest.
- ❑ Attend fall college visits with admission representatives scheduled through the JMHS College & Career Center.

College Essay

- ❑ Brainstorm potential essay topics - Colleges want to hear your voice and get to know you.
- ❑ Visit [Common Application](#) and [Coalition Application](#) for the 2023-2024 college essay prompts.
 - ❑ Over 1,000 colleges/universities utilize the Common App and 150+ utilize the Coalition App.
- ❑ Visit the [College Essay Guy](#) - Free guide to writing a personal statement and free resources.
 - ❑ [The College Essay Guy's Blog](#)
 - ❑ College Essay Resources in [Schoology](#)
- ❑ Begin or continue the essay writing process; plan to return to school in August with at least a draft of your essay.



College Letters of Recommendations

- ❑ Think about which core teacher(s) you will ask to write you a letter of recommendation and consider asking those teachers this spring. Find out what information they will need from you.
- ❑ Complete the [Student Self-Evaluation Form](#) & [Parent Information Form](#). Submit to your counselor by the due date.

College List/Applications

- ❑ Begin to finalize your list of colleges. Be prepared to share your list of colleges in the fall with your school counselor.
- ❑ Enter your list in [Naviance](#), "Colleges I'm Thinking About"
- ❑ Research colleges and complete college searches. Identify a broad range of colleges and their admission difficulty. You want a balance and range of colleges you are planning to apply to.
- ❑ Consider [NOVA](#) or two-year college options; economically feasible, and helpful transition to a four-year college.
- ❑ Look at application requirements and get organized to complete applications in the fall. College applications for 2023-2024 will be available online typically by early to mid-August.
- ❑ [Common Application](#) and [Coalition Application](#) - Many colleges/universities participate in these application platforms which allows for students to apply to multiple colleges using one application.

Standardized Testing

- ❑ Check college websites for updates to their testing policies.
- ❑ Register/prepare to take the SAT or ACT Test (JMHS CEEB Code is 472-278)
 - ❑ SAT: www.collegeboard.org
 - ❑ ACT: www.act.org
- ❑ [Tutor.com](#): Free tutoring and test prep for FCPS students
- ❑ [Khan Academy](#): Free online courses, practice & lessons | [ACT](#) also offers free test prep on their website
- ❑ [Fairtest.org](#): List of test optional colleges/universities. Verify information with each college.

Financial Aid Information

- ❑ [Federal Student Aid](#): An Office of the Department of Education
- ❑ [FAFSA](#): Free Application for Student Aid. The FAFSA application opens up on October 1 of each year.
- ❑ [VASA](#): Virginia Alternative State Aid for students who are ineligible to complete the FAFSA. This is only for aid in the state of Virginia and does not provide federal aid.
- ❑ [College Access Fairfax](#): Financial aid workshops, scholarships and resources for FCPS students. Previous program recordings and presentations are available and can give you a sense of what to expect in the fall.
- ❑ [SCHEV](#): State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

What are you doing this summer?

- ★ Look at the Enrichment Programs that are listed in [Naviance](#) and the Volunteering & Service Learning information [here](#) on the JMHS website.
- ★ Scroll through the [Post-Secondary Planning Newsletters](#) to see what's of interest to you. Students have access to an ongoing list of opportunities [here](#).
- ★ You don't have to fill every second of every day, it's important to take time for yourself.
- ★ Have a plan in place. Get involved (or continued to be involved) with something that works for you and fits your needs, calendar, etc.
- ★ Begin to work on your college essays.

The College Essay

The College Essay

- ★ Essays are the highest ranked non-academic feature in your college application
- ★ Essays are the one thing which students have absolute control over
- ★ College admissions officers are looking for these things:
 - Who is this person?
 - Will this person contribute something of value to our campus?
 - Can this person write?
- ★ Be original. Yes, we all have things in common. How can you share your experiences in ways to make you stand out?

"Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until the faucet is turned on." ~ Louis L'Amour

The College Essay |

How many college essays will I have to write?

- ★ Will depend on the institution
- ★ Each institution will instruct you on how many essays they require
- ★ Often, it is possible to use an essay across multiple applications (or scholarship applications) with minor adjustments, depending on the prompts
- ★ If using [Common App](#), you will write one longer essay (650 max word limit, 250 word minimum) as well as other supplemental essays (~250 words) that may be required at each institution
 - Once you have added schools to your “My Colleges” tab in Common App, you will see which schools require the essay and which schools leave it as an optional writing prompt

The College Essay | [COMMON APP 2023-2024](#) [ESSAY PROMPTS](#)

Below is the full set of Common App essay prompts for 2023-24.

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. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
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.

We will also retain the optional COVID-19 question within the Additional Information section.

The College Essay | [COALITION APP ESSAY PROMPTS](#)

Below is the full set of Coalition App essay prompts for 2022-23. Likely will remain for 2023-2024 because they made changes just last year to their prompts.

1. Tell a story from your life, describing an experience that either demonstrates your character or helped to shape it.
2. What interests or excites you? How does it shape who you are now or who you might become in the future?
3. Describe a time when you had a positive impact on others. What were the challenges? What were the rewards?
4. Has there been a time when an idea or belief of yours was questioned? How did you respond? What did you learn?
5. What success have you achieved or obstacle have you faced? What advice would you give a sibling or friend going through a similar experience?
6. Submit an essay of your choice.

"While there is no perfect length for an essay, we recommend you aim for 500-650 words" ~Coalition App

Writing Your College Essay

- ★ The best ideas come when you least expect it
- ★ Don't overthink the prompt. The questions are designed to spark thinking.
- ★ Write about experiences you care about. Don't tell a story you think admissions want to hear.
- ★ The essay content should fit YOU!
- ★ Write like you speak or are talking to your best friend, let your voice come through in your writing
- ★ There is no correct format (however, spelling and grammar COUNT!)
- ★ Ask yourself the HOW and WHY and tell about it

Writing Your College Essay

- ★ Read your essays aloud. This will help you identify problem areas.
- ★ Get *some* advice
- ★ Have a trusted person read them and give you feedback
- ★ Be specific, it's a snapshot in time
- ★ Write your essays during summer
- ★ Essay resources in [Schoolology for Students](#)

JUST BECAUSE
YOU'RE NOT THE
WRITER YOU WANT
TO BE YET DOESN'T
MEAN YOU'LL NEVER
BE. KEEP WRITING.



Looking Ahead ~ Fall 2023

- ★ Senior College Planning Night
- ★ School counselors will meet with seniors individually
- ★ Counselors lessons through Government classes
- ★ Financial Aid Presentations ([College Access Fairfax](#))
- ★ College visits to JMHS in the fall for students



Student Services

COUNSELOR

Mr. Anderson

Ms. Buckley

Mr. LaLone

Ms. Bacalis

Ms. Kennedy

Ms. Anderson

Ms. Whitener

Mr. Valencia

Mr. Buckley

Mrs. Otto

ALPHA

A-Chak

Chal-Fis

Fit-Jok

Jol-Ma

Mc-Peo

Pep-Stef

Steg-Z

CSS & ELL Students

Director of Student Services
College & Career Specialist

Junior Focus Day

**MARCH 29 |
DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**

Amazing opportunity for Juniors to attend sessions of interest to help with post-secondary plans.

Session Topics Include:

- Ask the College Deans
- Apprenticeships
- Assess the College Fit
- College Essays that Wow
- Craft a Standout Application
- Explore Your Strengths
- Law Enforcement & Firefighter/EMT
- Military & ROTC
- Money for College
- Two-Year College Option
- Volunteering & Internships

Questions?

Slides will be available on the
JMHS Website > Student Services > Programs & Presentations

Thank you for attending tonight's program!