

# Sophomore College Planning Night 2024

College 101: An Introduction to the College Admission Process

Factors in College Admissions | Preparing for College | Campus Visits  
Timelines | Decision Making

Presented by Erin Slater  
Director of Undergraduate Admissions | UNC Greensboro

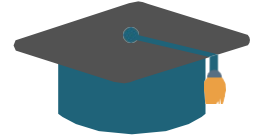
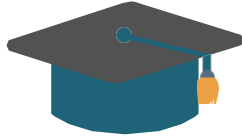
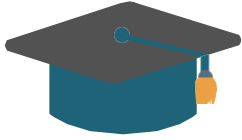
## Madison High School Student Services Department

Student Last Name	Counselor	Email
A-Burt	T.J. Anderson	tanderson@fcps.edu
Bus-Duf	Brandy Buckley	blbuckley@fcps.edu
Dug-Hel	Nicholas LaLone	nclalone@fcps.edu
Hem-Lee	Joelle Shin	jhshin@fcps.edu
Leh-Mor	Mallory Bacalis	mkbacalis@fcps.edu
Mos-Rao	Erin Kennedy	eekennedy@fcps.edu
Rap-Sua	TBD	
Sub-Z	Alice Whitener	alwhitener@fcps.edu
College & Career Specialist	Lynn Otto	lmotto@fcps.edu
Director of Student Services	Timothy Buckley	tcbuckley@fcps.edu

## Upcoming Events & Resources

- **National Association of College Admissions Counselors (NACAC) College Fairs:** [nacacnet.org](http://nacacnet.org)  
March 19, 6:30-8:00pm, Montgomery County, MD | March 24, 1-6pm, Virtual  
April 9, 9:30-12:30pm, Prince George's County, MD | April 21, 1-6pm, Virtual
- **[FCPS Virtual Military Night](#):** March 20, 6-8pm, Virtual
- **[Northern Virginia Regional College Fair](#):** April 10, 6:30-8:30pm, EagleBank Arena
- **[American Association of Pre-Veterinary Medical Colleges Career Fair](#):** April 13, Grand Hyatt Wash., D.C.
- **[College Access Fairfax](#):** Financial aid resources for FCPS students and families [collegeaccessfairfax.org](http://collegeaccessfairfax.org)
- **[Level Up Virginia](#):** State Council of Higher Education (SCHEV) post-secondary planning [levelupvirginia.org](http://levelupvirginia.org)
- **[Naviance](#):** College and Career Planning | JMHS College Specific Data | [www.fcps.edu/naviance](http://www.fcps.edu/naviance)
- **Opportunities College Planning Guides:** [English version](#) and [Spanish version](#)

# Virtual Postsecondary Event Recordings



In October 2023, FCPS students and families had the opportunity to attend 12 virtual sessions related to postsecondary success. The recordings of the sessions are below. To access, click the linked title of the session or enter the URL into your preferred internet browser.

**Paying for College**

<https://youtu.be/ON1D9AhN55o>

**Military 101**

<https://youtu.be/ID2POiLdaRU>

**Parents as Partners in Academic and Career Planning**

<https://youtu.be/4alwKH5V4IM>

**Scholarship 101**

<https://youtu.be/BL8tRWfYcfl>

**Considerations for Students with Disabilities in High School v College**

<https://youtu.be/t0mgbmksB0Common>

**Advanced Placement AP, Dual Enrollment DE, and International Baccalaureate IB in FCPS**

<https://youtu.be/XS3XpsXvMqc>

**Exploring Naviance Student**

[https://youtu.be/\\_v0cadEdmIM](https://youtu.be/_v0cadEdmIM)

**Standardized Testing in the College Process**

<https://youtu.be/106WfwZYllk>

**Are you Common App Ready?**

<https://youtu.be/yd0FwjK0dtk>

**NOVA The Community College Option**

<https://youtu.be/CP0gimU3nms>

**NOVA Certificates & Workforce Development Programs**

<https://youtu.be/iISqG3uokfg>

**NOVA La Opción del Colegio Comunitario**

<https://youtu.be/HS6pcdYyXIQ>

For more information visit: <https://bit.ly/fcpspostsecondary>

# 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?

# 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 a good fit 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 information.
- 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.



**JMHS Class of 2023 ~ Top Attending Institutions Where Students Applied (out of 422 colleges)**

	College	Attend	Apply	Accept	Deny	Waitlist	WL Accept	Defer	DF Accept
1	Northern Virginia Community College	55	60	60	0	0	0	0	0
2	Virginia Tech	49	255	96	40	115	1	10	2
3	George Mason University	41	182	155	10	14	3	1	0
4	James Madison University	38	216	144	36	27	0	30	9
5	University of Virginia-Main Campus	26	183	45	108	25	2	24	2
6	Virginia Commonwealth University	19	106	95	6	3	0	0	0
7	Christopher Newport University	13	84	78	4	1	0	1	1
8	Old Dominion University	12	42	40	2	1	1	1	1
9	William & Mary	12	84	32	27	23	5	1	0
10	University of Mary Washington	9	48	46	0	2	0	0	0
11	Brigham Young University-Provo	8	9	8	1	0	0	0	0
12	Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus	8	99	76	21	1	0	1	0
13	Purdue University-Main Campus	8	34	28	5	1	0	3	2
14	University of Colorado Boulder	7	38	31	7	1	1	0	0
15	University of Maryland-College Park	7	58	38	18	0	0	0	0
16	University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus	7	82	63	6	13	2	1	0
17	The University of Tennessee-Knoxville	7	43	20	10	16	3	6	0
18	West Virginia University	6	22	20	0	0	0	0	0
19	University of Delaware	5	45	36	5	3	0	0	0
20	Radford University	5	33	31	1	1	0	0	0
21	Florida State University	4	31	13	17	0	0	2	0
22	University of Florida	4	40	15	20	1	0	1	0
23	Georgia Institute of Technology	4	35	7	27	0	0	0	0
24	Northeastern University	4	50	18	16	11	0	9	0
25	University of Arizona	3	14	14	0	0	0	0	0
26	Clemson University	3	52	19	14	17	2	10	2
27	Longwood University	3	24	22	2	0	0	0	0
28	Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD)	3	5	5	0	0	0	0	0
29	University of South Carolina-Columbia	3	52	23	13	17	2	4	0
30	Syracuse University	3	16	12	0	4	2	0	0
31	The George Washington University	3	21	9	4	8	0	0	0
32	University of Wisconsin-Madison	3	26	7	10	10	1	3	1
33	The University of Alabama	2	7	6	0	1	0	0	0
34	American University	2	16	7	1	8	0	0	0
35	Arizona State University-Tempe	2	15	15	0	0	0	0	0
36	Auburn University	2	13	7	6	1	0	1	0
37	College of Charleston	2	25	15	2	8	0	0	0
38	University of Cincinnati-Main Campus	2	6	3	2	0	0	0	0
39	University of Denver	2	4	3	1	0	0	0	0
40	Dickinson College	2	9	6	1	1	0	0	0

This data is student self-reported. Withdrawn data not included. Related information available in [Naviance](#).

Deferred (DF) = Student applied early to the institution and was deferred to the regular applicant pool.

Institutions with less than two students attending are not listed.



**JMHS Class of 2023 ~ Top Attending Institutions Where Students Applied (out of 422 colleges)**

	College	Attend	Apply	Accept	Deny	Waitlist	WL Accept	Defer	DF Accept
41	Duke University	2	23	2	14	4	1	1	0
42	Eastern Mennonite University	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
43	Elon University	2	20	20	0	0	0	2	2
44	Flagler College	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0
45	Franklin and Marshall College	2	5	4	0	1	0	0	0
46	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	2	23	9	10	3	0	3	0
47	Indiana University-Bloomington	2	13	10	1	2	0	0	0
48	Ithaca College	2	4	3	1	0	0	0	0
49	Johns Hopkins University	2	18	2	14	2	0	0	0
50	Kent State University at Kent	2	8	8	0	0	0	0	0
51	University of Kentucky	2	11	9	1	1	0	0	0
52	Lehigh University	2	13	9	1	2	0	0	0
53	Louisiana State University	2	11	10	0	0	0	0	0
54	Loyola University Maryland	2	6	6	0	0	0	0	0
55	Miami University, Oxford	2	9	9	0	0	0	0	0
56	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	2	52	9	20	18	1	14	1
57	The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2	30	3	24	1	0	0	0
58	University of Pennsylvania	2	29	2	21	3	0	0	0
59	Princeton University	2	14	2	10	1	0	3	1
60	University of Rhode Island	2	4	3	1	0	0	0	0
61	Salisbury University	2	6	6	0	0	0	0	0
62	Ohio State University-Main Campus	2	27	15	10	2	0	2	0
63	Tulane University of Louisiana	2	12	4	4	2	0	3	0
64	United States Naval Academy	2	5	2	2	1	0	0	0
65	Univ. of Applied Sciences & Arts of Southern Switzerland	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
66	University of Lynchburg	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
67	University of Utah	2	7	6	1	0	0	0	0
68	University of Vermont	2	14	10	0	3	0	1	1

This data is student self-reported. Withdrawn data not included. Related information available in [Naviance](#).

Deferred (DF) = Student applied early to the institution and was deferred to the regular applicant pool.

Institutions with less than two students attending are not listed.