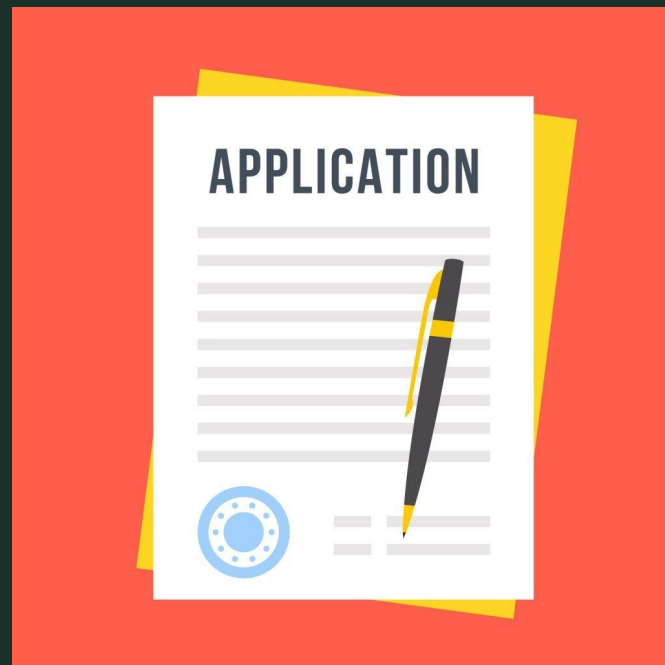

Class of 2024

Application Components

Clarksburg, Damascus, Northwest, & Richard Montgomery



Brag Sheet

The Brag sheet is done differently at each High School

*Google
Form*

*Naviance
Survey*

This gives your counselor and/or teacher a summary of everything you've accomplished and been apart of during high school. Take your time filling it out.

GO AHEAD
BRAG
A LITTLE

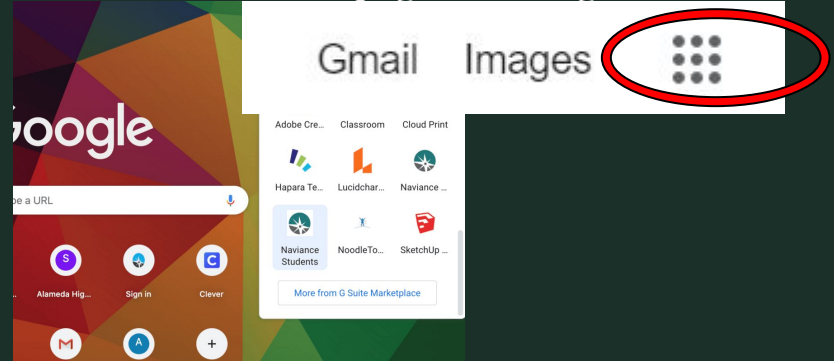
Using Naviance

3 Ways to Log In

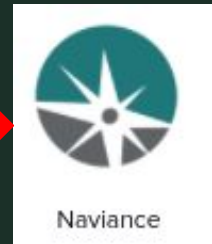
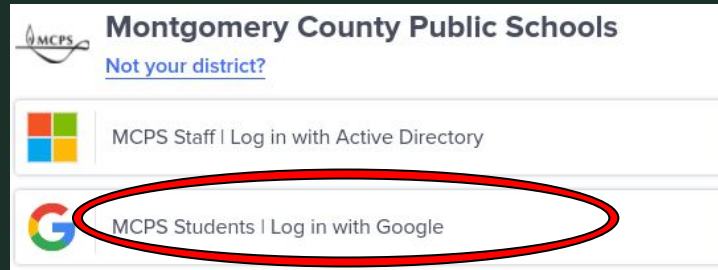
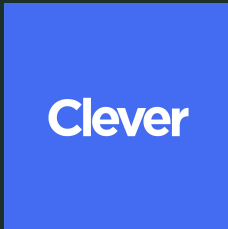
1. Log in using your school specific link. Check your school website home page or college career page:

<https://student.naviance.com/auth/fclookup>

2. Naviance may or may not be in your Google waffle



3. Log in using [Clever](#) through your chromebook. (MCPS Resources on the top left of Chrome, then Clever)



College Application Components

Mandatory

- ✓ Application
- ✓ Initial transcript*
- ✓ Letter(s) of recommendation*

College specific

- ✓ Essay(s)
- ✓ SAT and/or ACT scores
- ✓ Interview
- ✓ Supplemental writings
- ✓ List of extracurricular activities and academic honors



*- Sent by your high school

The Application

- School specific application: Found on schools' admissions website
- [The Common Application](https://commonapp.org) (commonapp.org): One app for over 900 colleges. You must pay each schools' application fee unless you have a waiver. Eligibility for a Common Application fee waiver is determined by your answers to questions asked during the application completion. Final fee waiver authorization is done by the student's counselor
- [The Coalition Application](https://coalitionforcollegeaccess.org) (coalitionforcollegeaccess.org): Same concept. Less user friendly. Only use if a school does not use Common App or school specific app.
- [The Common Black College Application](https://commonblackcollegeapp.com) (commonblackcollegeapp.com): One \$20 app fee for up to 66 schools.

Types of Application deadlines

EARLY DECISION	Binding contract
EARLY ACTION	Non-binding, but still provides benefits of applying early
PRIORITY	Non-binding, but still provides benefits of applying early
REGULAR DECISION	Final deadline. No special benefits or extra consideration
ROLLING	No fixed deadline, notifications come depending on school policies.

Transcript requests

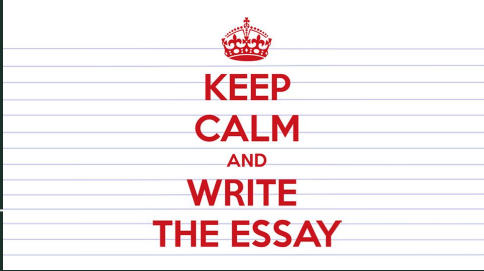


- All transcript requests must be submitted **at least 2-3 weeks before the application deadline**. Check with your school registrar or CCIC to determine how the requests should be made. Some schools are using Naviance, other schools are using a Google or hard copy form.
- The initial transcript that colleges receive will include your grades from Freshman year through Junior year and the names of your 1st semester Senior courses.
- Email your registrar for a copy of your unofficial transcript. (You may need this for the Common App)

Letters of Recommendation

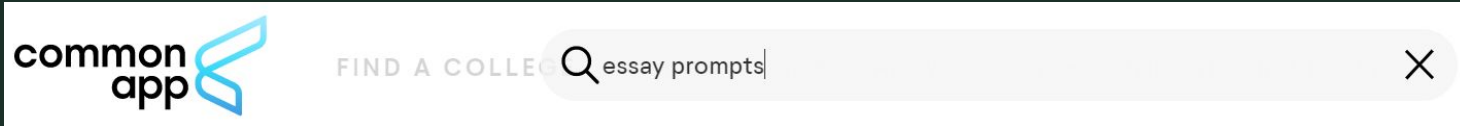
- Start to think about which teachers you're going to request recommendations from.
- Most schools require a counselor recommendation AND 1 or 2 teacher recommendations.
 - Some schools and programs require a specific academic recommendation (i.e. students applying to a journalism program may need a recommendation from an English teacher)
 - Which teachers to ask?
- Teachers that you've had multiple times know you the best.
- Teachers that taught your AP classes have a great perspective of your work ethic.
- Coaches, club sponsors, administrators, religious leaders, etc. count as "other recommendations"
- When to ask?
- **Request recommendations in Naviance at least 2-3 weeks before the application deadline.**
- Once requested, follow up with an email to your teachers saying thank you!

Application Essay



KEEP
CALM
AND
WRITE
THE ESSAY

- Visit commonapp.org and search for the essay prompts! Begin your draft.



- One essay can be used for as many applications as possible.
- Attend an Essay Writing workshop during the Summer and/or Fall.
- It is recommended that you ask your English teacher for college essay feedback. In some high schools, the essay is part of the English curriculum in senior year. At Damascus High School, send your essays to Ms. Loulou for feedback. Also ask parents or siblings for feedback if you're comfortable.
- [Tips for Writing an Effective Application Essay](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/plan-for-college/your-college-application/write-your-essay/tips-for-writing-an-effective-application-essay) available on the College Big Future website @ <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/plan-for-college/your-college-application/write-your-essay/tips-for-writing-an-effective-application-essay>

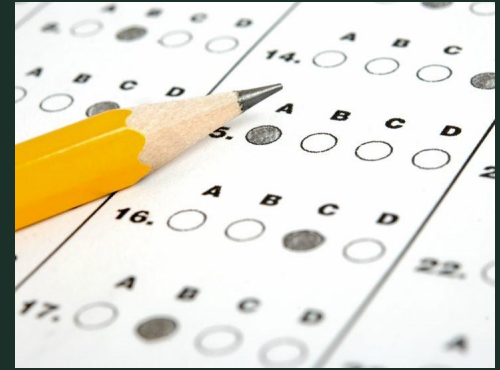
Test Scores

SAT

- Register at [Collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org)
- 4 free score reports to colleges each time you register for the SAT.
- \$12 to send to send a score report after the test
- The fee is waived if you have an SAT fee waiver
- The SAT sections include Reading, Writing & Language and Math.

ACT

- Register at [ACT.org](https://act.org)
- 4 free score reports to colleges each time you register for the ACT.
- \$15 to send a score report after the test.
- The fee is waived if you have an ACT fee waiver.
- Includes a science section.



Test Dates

SAT

- August 26, 2023
- October 7, 2023
- November 4, 2023
- December 2, 2023
- March 9, 2024*
- May 4, 2024*
- June 1, 2024*

ACT

- June 10, 2023
- July 15, 2023
- September 9, 2023
- October 28, 2023
- December 9, 2023
- February 10, 2024
- April 13, 2024
- June 8, 2024
- July 13, 2024

What is test optional?

“If a college or university has a test-optional admissions policy, that means they allow all or some applicants to decide whether to submit SAT or ACT® scores as part of their application. It doesn’t mean that schools aren’t interested in seeing all applicants’ performance and potential—but if a student doesn’t submit their scores, it won’t be considered in the application review” ([Collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org) 2020).

Extracurricular Activities/Resume

- Volunteer work
- Part-time job experience
- School sponsored clubs
- Sports teams
 - In and out of school
- Leadership experience
- SGA
- Assisting with a family business
- Volunteering in the neighborhood (shoveling and mowing)
- Religious organization activities
- National Honor Society involvement
- SSL hours
- Tutoring
- Boys/girls scout
- Music lessons
- Involvement in visual or performing arts
- Gaming

Uncommon Application Components



- Interview with an admissions representative
 - Be yourself!
 - Research the college before the interview
- Supplemental essays or short answers
 - Have at least 2 people proofread your responses

Fee waivers

- You may be eligible for a fee waiver if you:
 - Receive Free or Reduced Lunch
 - You're enrolled in a federal, state, or local program that aids students from low-income families
 - Your family receives public assistance
 - You live in federally subsidized public housing or a foster home or are homeless.
 - You are a ward of the state or an orphan.

You can request a fee waiver for the SAT, ACT, Common App, Coalition App, and school specific apps.

Application review

You submit...

- Application
- SAT/ACT official score report
- Essay
- Application fee/fee waiver

We submit...

- Transcript
- Recommendations



College Comparison and Application Tracker



- Click [here](#) for Google spreadsheet
 - “File”
 - “Make a copy”
 - Rename document



Questions?
