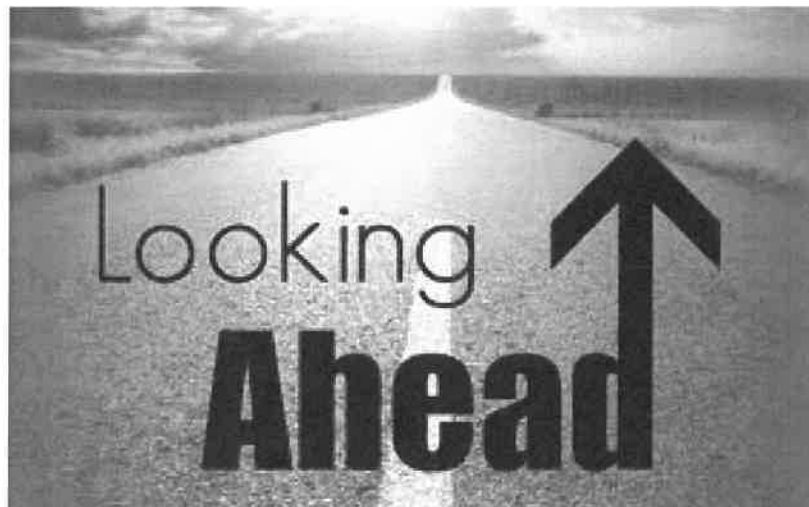


HHS GUIDANCE

11th Grade

Information

Packet



Also available on Guidance Website <http://htownguidance.weebly.com/>



College Application Timeline:

All year long:

- Keep your grades up.
- Check the Guidance Website and your Office 365 e-mail account for important information:
<http://htownguidance.weebly.com/>
- Get involved!
- Take advantage of service learning opportunities.
- Take a rigorous course load that you can reasonably handle.
- Build rapport with teachers and staff. You will need people to write you letters of recommendation when it comes time to apply to college. Having a good rapport with your teachers will help them write you strong letters of recommendation.

Winter and Spring of Junior year:



Talking with your family about how you're going to pay for college is a very important step in the college process that often gets overlooked. It is imperative that you and your family consider and discuss the impact financing college will have on the family. You and your family need to be on the same page as you start looking at colleges so that you are only looking at schools within your financial means.

- Take the SAT and/or ACT
 - Sign up for SAT on Collegeboard.org and the ACT on ACTstudent.org
 - Collegeboard and the ACT website have all kinds of help available to prepare for the SAT/ACT. Khan Academy on YouTube has also partnered with the Collegeboard to offer preparation questions, study tips, skills, etc for the SAT.
 - Note: if you are experiencing difficulty accessing your SAT or ACT scores online, you will need to contact Collegeboard or ACT directly. The school has no access to your accounts or login information. All troubleshooting will need to be dealt with the company you are using.

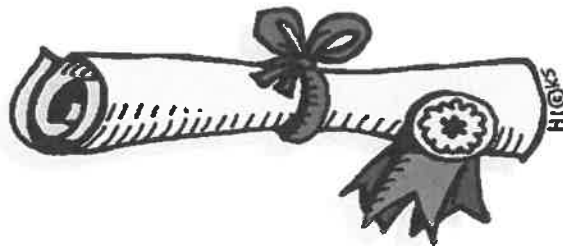


Spring/Summer:

- College visits. Meet with admissions counselors; go on tours.

Summer:

- Narrow list of colleges; intend to apply to 3-5: 1 Dream School, 1 Reach School, 2-3 solid schools, 1 safe school. If you're still looking for colleges, use the College Match tool on the Collegeboard website. It has filters that allow you to weed out schools that don't apply to you. Also, Xello has a college match tool you can use.
- Start getting your resumé together and filling out the Recommendation Request Form
 - The Recommendation Request form is what you will give to teachers/community leaders/your counselor, etc., so that they have a whole picture of you to be able to write a strong letter of recommendation.
 - You only need to fill out the recommendation request form once, then bring it in to Guidance, and we will make copies of it for you.
 - Many colleges and scholarships require letters of recommendation to be submitted with your transcript or application.
 - Note for letters of recommendation: pick someone who knows you well and will be able to speak to your character, work ethic, and strengths
 - You can get the Recommendation Request form in the Guidance office or on the HHS Guidance website.
- Check the websites of the colleges you plan to apply to and make note of their application deadlines for early decision and regular decision and decide which deadline you will use.
- Select 2-3 teachers/coaches/community leader to write you a letter of recommendation



ASVAB

If you are unsure of what path you'd like to pursue outside of high school, whether it's what to major in or if you should join the workforce right after high school, it is a good idea to take the ASVAB. While it is administered by the military, as long as you check the box stating you do not want to be contacted by the military, no one will from the military will contact you. It is an excellent test to give you an idea of where your strengths and interest join together to give you some guidance and direction on what would be a good fit for you. It is a free test, and it is administered during the school day (usually takes up until lunch) during the fall/beginning of winter every year.

College Visits

Lots of colleges come to the school during lunch to give information regarding their school. Take advantage of this! Some colleges will even guarantee admittance upon looking over the students' transcripts with them during the meeting. Even if that doesn't happen, the people who come often are on the selection committee to grant admittance, and if they have a face to go with the name on the paper, it is much more helpful and personal. This also allows you opportunities to ask questions about the university or application process.

Scholarships

These are mostly available to seniors, but there are some open to juniors. Check your school e-mail regularly for communication from your counselor and check out our Guidance blog. We regularly post local scholarships on our blog.

<http://htownguidance.weebly.com/>

COMMUNICATION

School e-mail: Every student has been given an Office 365 e-mail account. Check it regularly and frequently! Your counselor is forwarding you scholarships, opportunities, job openings, etc. regularly, and you want to make sure you're getting this information. Also, your counselor will be using this as a major form of communication during your senior year, which time is crucial to maintain open communication with your counselor!

- How to access your school Office 365 Outlook account:
 - Calvert County Public Schools website
 - Click on Students tab
 - At the bottom, in the box that says Online Tools, click on Office 365

HAC: It is important that you are checking your grades and keeping up with them just as much as your parents. All middle and high school students need to login to Home Access Center (HAC) using their Student ID and email password.

An 's' should be put at the beginning of the Student ID so a student with an ID of 12345 would login to HAC with:
UserName: s12345

Password: (email password --- same password used to login to Office365)

Guidance Website/Weebly

Documents, forms, information, and resources can be found on the HHS Guidance Weebly webpage. To visit this site, go to - <https://htownguidance.weebly.com/>

There are tabs for each grade level that has important information specific to that grade. The "blog" posts announcements, opportunities, scholarships, events, etc. for all grade levels. The blog is updated daily as new postings are received in the Guidance office.

Work Permits

The Guidance office no longer is a part of the process for obtaining a work permit. Works permits are done all online on the DLLR Maryland website.

Clubs/Sports/Organizations

Get involved! It makes your high school experience a much more pleasant one, and it makes you a well-rounded student, which is what most colleges are looking for. Once you're in a sport/club/organization, look for opportunities to lead. You don't have to be president of a club or team captain, just take responsibility willingly and head a few things up.

KEY CLUB



Tutoring options

If you're struggling in a class, see your teacher during lunch when they are available and talk to your teacher! It is important that you show your teacher that you care about your grade and that you are willing to make an effort to improve your grade.

- As a rule, all teachers from their department are available on these days:
 - Monday—Social Studies
 - Tuesday—Math
 - Wednesday—Science
 - Thursday—English
 - Friday—Electives Related/Fine Arts
- There is after school tutoring available Tuesdays from 2:30-3:30 in the Media Center. Please see your counselor for more information. Students **MUST** have transportation if they decide to stay after school for tutoring.

Service Learning

If you have service-learning hours that still need to be completed before graduation, get them done as soon as possible! Summer is the perfect time to get them done. Service-learning information, ideas, and verification forms that needs to be signed by whoever supervised you and also for a list of Calvert County Public Schools service-learning partnerships can be found on the Guidance weebly site or Schoology page. If you want to complete your hours with an organization that is not on the list, you must submit a request to the Guidance Secretary for approval. Once it is approved, you will be able to complete your hours. Don't forget to turn your Verification Form in!



There are A LOT of scholarships that require community service, so it is a good idea to go above the required 75 hours. Plus, it looks good on a resumé and college application.

Driver's Education

There is no driver's education program available through Calvert County Public Schools. You can use any accredited/certified driver's education program (a Learner's Permit is required to take the course).

Learner's Permit

If you are under the age of 16, Maryland law states, you must get the MVA verification of attendance from signed by the attendance office. You must have the top portion filled out with the applicant's signature and the parent/guardian signature before taking it to the attendance office. **DO NOT OPEN** the envelope before taking it to the MVA. The MVA will NOT accept any envelope that appears to have been opened.

Mentorship/Job Shadowing

There is a Community Mentorship and Job Shadowing program available through CCPS for 11th and 12th grade students. This is a great opportunity to gain real-world experience in a chosen career field. Click the link for more information <https://cccweb.calvertnet.k12.md.us/programs>.

The CCPS contact for this program is Ms. Michelle McGuffin. Please contact her at McGuffinM@calvertnet.k12.md.us for any questions.



FINAL NOTE: The Guidance website and blog are regularly updated with important information. Please refer to them if you have questions about upcoming dates and deadlines. Also, make sure your Parent/Guardian e-mail and phone numbers are updated in HAC in order to receive regular updates about upcoming school information.