



HIGH SCHOOL RESOURCE GUIDE



PATRICK HENRY COLLEGE
for Christ and for Liberty



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The end then of learning is to repair the ruins of our first parents by regaining to know God aright, and out of that knowledge to love him, to imitate him, to be like him, as we may the nearest by possessing our souls of true virtue, which being united to the heavenly grace of faith makes up the highest perfection.

John Milton, *Of Education*

This booklet is designed to aid you in making the most of your high school years as you prepare for college. Enclosed you will find suggested curriculum, a suggested reading list, a sample high school transcript, financial aid information, and other resources to guide you in your time of preparation. May God richly bless your study.



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I. Preparing for Academics

Overview

There are several ways a high school student may prepare for PHC's programs, but most important is to pursue a broad, rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum. An ideal high school curriculum will include a foundation in the humanities, math, and science to develop a student's analytical strength and understanding of the world. Students should take difficult subjects and will benefit from early exposure to college-level work.

While specific opportunities differ for every individual, students should also actively seek ways to grow in personal faith, to serve others in the local community, and to develop the gifts that God has given them through a balanced set of extracurricular activities.

Writing Skill

As one of our faculty members has stated, "By the time one has reached college, spelling should not be a challenge, punctuation should not be hung on a sentence like Christmas ornaments, and arguments should proceed from premises to conclusion, not from opinions to bald assertions." PHC has a writing-intensive curriculum, and the Admissions Review Committee will pay close attention to the level of grammatical, logical, and rhetorical craftsmanship in application essays.

The College uses Kate Turabian's *Manual for Writers* and *The Elements of Style* by Strunk and White as a standard for many classes. Purchasing these texts and learning to implement their principles will be of great benefit to any student. Courses which develop the arts of analytical reasoning and smooth persuasive style are also encouraged.

Classical Reading

One of the best ways a student can sharpen the mind and prepare for PHC's rigorous curriculum is by reading the classical works of Western literature. Students should follow the advice of Pliny to read not many works, but a few important works carefully. In other words, carefully reading a few works by Homer, Plato, Virgil and the Church Fathers would be better preparation than reading one hundred titles written in the last fifty years. For the best preparation, students will wish to explore a sampling of great works from each era on a variety of topics. See the core reading list on page 5 for specific suggestions.

Leadership and Service

Patrick Henry College seeks students who demonstrate their commitment to servant leadership by developing their talents in the community around them. What makes a good extracurricular resumé will vary greatly based on each individual's specific talents, opportunities, and vocational interests. What is most important is that the students honor Christ with their God-given talents.

Students should assemble a one- to two-page list or resumé of all extracurricular opportunities, awards, and employment history over the past four years. The list should include the following information for each entry:

- Organization name
- Approximate time commitment
- Positions held/responsibilities

Prior work experience or internships in a student's field of interest are extremely helpful, although not required for admission. A template is available on the PHC website under Admissions and Relevant Forms.

Spiritual Growth and Maturity

A strong, growing personal trust in the Savior, the Gospel, and the Scriptures is essential. Before applying, students should look carefully over the College's Statement of Faith, found on the PHC website's "About" page, to ensure they can sign with a clear conscience. They also must be willing to submit themselves to the College's community standards while enrolled.

Standardized Test Guidelines

While no test can provide a comprehensive picture of each student's potential, test scores are important. They provide objective verification of a student's abilities in certain key areas. (Average scores of past classes can be found on the PHC website).

Test results should be sent to the Office of Admissions directly from the testing agency. PHC's institutional code numbers are 2804 for the SAT and 4383 for the ACT.

Recommended High School Courses

There are many legitimate approaches to preparing for college. Regardless of the form of academic preparation, applicants must provide a transcript—a catalog of a student’s mastery in a variety of subjects.

General Requirements: PHC requires a minimum of 18 high school level courses to be completed. To be well prepared, PHC recommends, but does not require, the following college-preparatory courses:

English: Minimum of four courses. To be well prepared, students should pursue a well-rounded, college preparatory English program that emphasizes literature, grammar, and composition. Examples: Grammar, Literature, Composition, Speech. *Please note that competitive speech or debate may count for one English course.*

Mathematics: Minimum of three courses, which may include algebra I, algebra II, and geometry. However, students may also take advantage of trigonometry, pre-calculus, and calculus classes if available. To be well-prepared, students should consider taking courses that cover trigonometry.

Science: Minimum of three courses. Examples: biology, chemistry, and physics.

History: Minimum of two courses such as one course in U. S. history and one course in world history.

Government: Minimum of one course. The government course should cover material on local, state, and federal government.

Foreign Language: Minimum of two courses. For example: French, German, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Italian, Latin, or Greek.

Electives: Minimum of three courses. Examples include Bible, fine arts, logic, rhetoric, music, economics, geography, and computer courses, as well as courses in areas such as biblical worldview and apologetics.

PHC CORE READING LIST

	<i>The Holy Bible</i>	Goethe..... <i>Faust</i>
Homer.....	<i>The Odyssey</i>	Shelley..... <i>Frankenstein</i>
Aeschylus.....	<i>Agamemnon</i>	de Tocqueville... <i>Democracy in America</i>
Sophocles.....	<i>Antigone</i>	Dostoevsky..... <i>Crime and Punishment</i>
Aristophanes....	<i>The Clouds</i>	Marx..... <i>The Communist Manifesto</i>
Euclid.....	<i>Elements</i>	Tolstoy..... <i>The Death of Ivan Ilyich</i>
Aristotle.....	<i>Nicomachean Ethics; Politics</i>	Chekhov..... <i>The Cherry Orchard</i>
Plato.....	<i>Apology; Phaedo; Crito; Euthyphro; Republic</i>	Mill..... <i>Utilitarianism</i>
Virgil.....	<i>The Aeneid</i>	Nietzsche..... <i>Basic Writings</i>
Augustine.....	<i>City of God; Confessions; On Free Choice of the Will</i>	Conrad..... <i>Heart of Darkness</i>
Aquinas.....	<i>On Law, Morality, and Politics; "Treatise on Law," from Summa Theologica</i>	Kafka..... <i>The Metamorphosis</i>
Dante.....	<i>The Inferno</i>	Eliot..... <i>The Wasteland</i>
Chaucer.....	<i>Canterbury Tales</i>	Brecht..... <i>Mother Courage and Her Children</i>
More, Thomas...	<i>Utopia</i>	Beckett..... <i>Waiting for Godot</i>
Luther.....	<i>On Secular Authority</i>	Pirandello..... <i>Six Characters in Search of an Author</i>
Calvin.....	<i>On Civil Government</i>	Kirk..... <i>The Roots of American Order</i>
Shakespeare.....	<i>As You Like It; King Lear</i>	Lewis..... <i>The Weight of Glory; The Discarded Image; The Abolition of Man</i>
Cervantes.....	<i>Don Quixote</i>	Other..... <i>The United States Constitution</i>
Milton.....	<i>Paradise Lost</i>	<i>The Magna Carta</i>
Hobbes.....	<i>Leviathan</i>	<i>Beowulf</i>
Swift.....	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i>	<i>Mayflower Compact</i>
Voltaire.....	<i>Candide</i>	<i>The Rights of Man</i>
Locke.....	<i>Second Treatise</i>	<i>Declaration of Independence</i>
Rousseau.....	<i>Discourse on Inequality; The Social Contract</i>	<i>Articles of Confederation</i>
Burke.....	<i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i>	<i>Federalist Papers</i>
Paine.....	<i>Common Sense</i>	<i>Anti-Federalist Papers</i>
Kant.....	<i>Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals; Perpetual Peace</i>	

II. Homeschool Transcripts

Homeschool students may submit a transcript of high school course work that has been produced by their parents. In general, transcripts should follow these guidelines:

- List subjects with specific course titles, broken down into units.
- Indicate the year in which each course was completed.
- Include all high school level courses, even if taken prior to 9th grade.
- Include numerical or alphabetical grades to indicate the level of mastery the student achieved in each course.
- Include a personal hand-signature from the parent, acting as the school administrator.
- Seal the transcript in its own envelope.
- Supplement content with separate official transcripts for any courses taken through a third-party organization that issues "official" transcripts.

Official transcripts are not accepted until completion of the student's junior year. At that time, please also include a list of courses currently in process and/or planned for the senior year so evaluation can be based on the entire intended curriculum.

Optional Addenda

If applicable, make sure to include any additional information that would help the Admissions Review Committee better understand your high school preparation. It is sometimes helpful to submit a brief high school profile or addendum with your school's educational philosophy. For example, you might indicate if your curriculum followed a classical or Great Books model, emphasized interdisciplinary courses, or used a unit studies approach. *PHC does not require detailed course descriptions.*

Final Grades and Proof of Graduation

Each applicant who chooses to apply before high school graduation will need to submit two transcripts: 1. That includes grades through junior year and a list of courses intended for senior year. 2. That includes final grades for all courses taken. The final transcript, submitted after graduation, must include the month, day, and year of high school graduation, along with an ink signature from the parent acting as the school administrator. Final transcripts can only be signed after the student's official graduation date from high school.

SAMPLE TRANSCRIPT

SMITH ACADEMY OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT

STUDENT INFORMATION

FULL NAME: Jane B Smith
ADDRESS: 123 Main Street
 Anywhere, St 56879
PHONE NUMBER: 757-555-1212
EMAIL ADDRESS: janesmith@email.com
DATE OF BIRTH: 02/17/___
PARENT/GUARDIAN: Joe and Marv Smith

SCHOOL INFORMATION

NAME: Smith Academy
ADDRESS: 123 Main Street
 Anywhere, St 56879
PHONE NUMBER: 757-555-1212
EMAIL ADDRESS: smithacademy@email.com

ACADEMIC RECORD

SCHOOL YEAR: 20___-20___	GRADE LEVEL: 9 th		
	<i>Credit Attempted</i>	<i>Credit Earned</i>	<i>Final Grade</i>
Course Title			
English 9	1.0	1.0	96
Algebra I	1.0	1.0	91
Biology w/lab	1.0	1.0	88
Geography	1.0	1.0	79
Latin I	1.0	1.0	96
Logic	1.0	1.0	88
Fine Arts: Piano	0.5	0.5	85
Theology	0.5	0.5	92
Total Credits: 7.0	GPA: 3.36	Cumulative GPA: 3.36	

SCHOOL YEAR: 20___-20___	GRADE LEVEL: 10 th		
	<i>Credit Attempted</i>	<i>Credit Earned</i>	<i>Final Grade</i>
Course Title			
English 10	1.0	1.0	88
Geometry	1.0	1.0	81
Chemistry w/lab	1.0	1.0	79
World History	1.0	1.0	96
Latin II	1.0	1.0	84
Rhetoric	1.0	1.0	92
Fine Arts: Piano II	0.5	0.5	87
Old Testament Survey	0.5	0.5	89
Total Credits: 7.0	GPA: 3.14	Cumulative GPA: 3.25	

SCHOOL YEAR: 20___-20___	GRADE LEVEL: 11 th		
	<i>Credit Attempted</i>	<i>Credit Earned</i>	<i>Final Grade</i>
Course Title			
English 11	1.0	1.0	92
Algebra II	1.0	1.0	95
Physics	1.0	1.0	83
US History	1.0	1.0	97
Spanish I	1.0	1.0	82
Philosophy	1.0	1.0	89
Fine Arts: Piano III	0.5	0.5	91
New Testament Survey	0.5	0.5	97
Total Credits: 7.0	GPA: 3.57	Cumulative GPA: 3.36	

SCHOOL YEAR: 20___-20___	GRADE LEVEL: 12 th		
	<i>Credit Attempted</i>	<i>Credit Earned</i>	<i>Final Grade</i>
Course Title			
English 12	1.0	1.0	96
Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus	1.0	1.0	91
US Government	1.0	1.0	95
Economics *	1.0	1.0	88
Speech *	1.0	1.0	92
Spanish II	1.0	1.0	79
Fine Arts: Drawing	0.5	0.5	85
Apologetics	0.5	0.5	89
Total Credits: 7.0	GPA: 3.43	Cumulative GPA: 3.38	

ACADEMIC SUMMARY

Cumulative GPA: 3.38
 Credits Attempted: 28.0
 Credits Earned: 28.0
 Diploma Earned: yes
 Graduation Date: 6/15/20___

GRADING SCALE

90 – 100 = A
 80 – 89 = B
 70 – 79 = C
 60 – 69 = D
 59 – below = F

NOTES

* Coursework taken at a local community college. Official transcript from college has been requested and will be sent to you shortly.

I do hereby self-certify and affirm that this is the official transcript and record of Jane B. Smith in the academic studies of 20___ – 20___.

Signature:

Title: Principal

Date: July 2, 20___

An optional template for homeschool transcripts can be found on the PHC website at the following address: www.phc.edu/preparing-for-college.

III. College Credit in High School

Transfer Credit

Since PHC's freshman courses typically start at a sophomore level, prior learning may be helpful preparation for your time at PHC.

As a classical Christian liberal arts institution, PHC's courses emphasize learning from the great books, primary texts, and a fully integrated biblical worldview. PHC's common core curriculum builds on itself so that professors in upper level courses know the foundation laid in previous courses. As a result, students should not expect a significant number of credits to transfer from other institutions for PHC required courses. However, PHC will accept up to 50 transfer credits for open electives and some course requirements.

Students may complete their foreign language requirement prior to enrollment at PHC by completing coursework at another institution. For detailed information on PHC's credit transfer policies, language proficiency policy, and core curriculum requirements see the current college catalog: phc.edu/college-catalog.

Advanced Placement Courses

PHC awards up to 30 transfer credits for most AP exams with scores of 3, 4, or 5. For a current list of eligible AP Exams and requirements, visit our transfer credit policy webpage at: www.phc.edu/transfer. *Please note that CLEP tests are not eligible for credit transfer.*

IV. The Campus Visit

Colleges with similar reputations may reveal significant differences after a few hours of sitting in classes and chapel. The best way to know whether a college is a good fit is to schedule a visit and explore it in person.

Common Visit Times

Many students plan to visit colleges during the fall or spring of junior year, or early in the fall of senior year. Some students will follow up with a second visit senior year once they have narrowed their choices down to two or three colleges, but every student's college search is different. The goal of a college visit is to gain enough personal contact with the campus to have the confidence to spend four years there.

Open House Days and Personal Visits

Many colleges offer special visit events tailored to potential students, where they can hear from faculty and college leadership. These opportunities can be helpful, so long as they provide an authentic feel for the campus. Personal visits can provide an everyday view of the campus on normal class days.

PHC offers both kinds of visit opportunities, with regular options to visit classes and worship in chapel. Open House Days feature special sessions with college leadership, faculty, and students—including the opportunity to spend a night in the dorms. See the campus visit website for details: phc.edu/visit-phc.

V. Paying for College

College is one of the largest and most important financial investments you can make. It is never too early to start planning and saving! College costs have traditionally outpaced inflation, and tax laws and financial aid policies can change over time, so make sure to double-check all the information you gather.

Planning Ahead

Every state offers a 529 education savings plan. The accounts are regulated by individual states, and the investments are managed in a similar way to a mutual fund. Gains are typically sheltered from taxes, but you need to check with the state which holds your 529 Plan to determine exactly what its regulations are.

Merit-Based Scholarships

There are several types of scholarships available at PHC. Patrick Henry College seeks to reward students who have demonstrated excellence in forensics competition, classical education, leadership, service, or music. To apply, a student must first be admitted to the College. Check the PHC financial aid webpage for deadlines and requirements: www.phc.edu/financial-aid.

Family Assistance Scholarships

The Family Assistance Scholarship exists for students and families with demonstrated limited financial resources and/or special circumstances. Patrick Henry College does not accept any government funding and has designed a confidential, less intrusive Family Financial Profile (FFP) for your convenience outside of government and 3rd party oversight.

Outside Scholarships

Some PHC students have been able to fund a portion of their tuition through outside aid. Employee benefits, special interests, essay competitions, and speech contests are all great sources of outside scholarships. Local contests have the greatest likelihood of awarding scholarships, and the local public high school guidance counselor has a list of these opportunities if you request it.

FastWeb.com and ScholarshipExperts.com are two popular sites to explore. Make sure to plan ahead, as many scholarships have early deadlines.

Beware of scholarships which require an entry fee. The final result is often a net loss, since they use entry fees to pay for the scholarship administration costs. PHC also discourages students from paying for scholarship searches. There are many free ways to find aid.

Student Employment

Working on campus or in the local community can provide significant means to pay for college. While PHC cannot guarantee employment to every student, the College offers many opportunities to earn income during the semester. A typical workload of 10 to 12 hours can yield over \$3,000 per year, and a full-time summer job can produce several thousand more.

Education Tax Benefits

Because the College is recognized by the USDE as an eligible institution, PHC families may take advantage of benefits built into the federal tax code—including education savings incentives, tax deductions, and tax credits. Qualifying expenses include student tuition, fees, room and board, textbooks, and interest on student loans. For further information, please see IRS Publication 970.

Student Loans

Families who choose to finance their student's education costs can do so with the intention to break tuition payments into smaller installments, so any loan amount is typically only a portion of the total cost of the student's education. The College recognizes that this is a personal decision that must be made by each student and family. Since PHC does not participate in government funding, students will be limited to private loans.

For details, see our private loan options here: www.phc.edu/private-scholarships.

VI. College Preparation Timeline

Recommended College Preparation Timeline
(adapted from monster.com)

9th Grade

- Develop good study habits
- Begin a reading list
- Research the SAT/ACT/CLT
- Volunteer in the community
- Join clubs and activities
- Begin a resumé
- Build relationships with peers, teachers, mentors, and employers
- Discuss post-high school plans with parents
- Begin to plan for college costs with parents

10th Grade

- Improve study habits and note-taking skills
- Maintain reading list
- Register, prepare for, and take the PSAT/NMSQT
- Continue service activities
- Look for leadership roles in clubs and activities
- Update your resume
- Participate in a career day, if possible
- Strengthen relationships with peers, teachers, mentors, and employers—they will be writing your recommendations some day!
- Attend college fairs
- Continue discussing post-high school plans with parents
- Investigate cost and scholarships for college

11th Grade

- Take challenging academic courses, such as Honors or AP
- Plan to take the SAT/ACT and/or CLT tests
- Demonstrate leadership and responsibility in your community
- Make the most out of a part-time job
- Gather career information, take an aptitude test, or intern
- Gather recommendations from teachers, mentors, and employers
- Research colleges and develop a list of favorites
- Request information from colleges
- Schedule campus visits at your top colleges and prepare questions

- Meet with Admissions and Financial Aid, visit classes, attend chapel, meet with a faculty member in your intended field, stay in a residence hall, eat in the dining hall, and meet current students
- Attend college fairs and college information sessions
- Research outside scholarship opportunities
- Continue discussing college plans and finances with parents

12th Grade

Fall

- Finalize list of colleges where you will apply and request updated information, including applications and financial aid
- Take or retake SAT/ACT/CLT as advisable
- Develop a checklist of application requirements – MEET DEADLINES!
- Write application essays
- Request recommendations
- Send test scores and transcripts to colleges
- Submit applications early (keep copies of all submissions)
- Request college financial aid applications, if needed

January-February

- Send mid-year grade reports to colleges, if necessary
- Submit all financial aid applications or documentation
- Complete Need-Based Financial Aid Profile

March-April

- Keep senior grades up - it matters!
- Visit or revisit schools where accepted, as needed
- Make final decision - mail deposit to one school and notify all schools of your choice in writing
- If waitlisted, contact admissions to indicate continued interest
- Verify you have met all financial aid requirements
- Notify colleges of any private scholarship awards

May-June

- Submit all enrollment forms on time such as class registration, housing, and medical forms
- After graduation, have your final transcript sent to the college Admissions Office
- Create a first year college budget with your parents/guardians
- Research college town: banks, grocery stores, doctors, etc.
- Prepare for Orientation!

VII. Additional Resources

- Application
www.phc.edu/applying-to-phc
- Campus Visits
www.phc.edu/visit-phc
- Scholarships
www.phc.edu/scholarships
- Outside Scholarship Opportunities
www.phc.edu/private-scholarship-funds
www.FastWeb.com
www.ScholarshipExperts.com
- PHC College Catalog
www.phc.edu/college-catalog
- Standardized Testing
www.collegeboard.org
www.act.org
<https://www.cltexam.com/tests/>
- Teen Leadership Camps
www.phc.edu/teen-camps



Teen Leadership Camps

Another excellent way to get a taste of campus life at PHC is to attend one of the College's summer Teen Leadership Camps. Spiritually and academically stimulating, these camps allow you to get an authentic taste of campus life by exploring topics related to our major programs and by introducing you to current PHC students who serve as camp counselors each year. For more information, visit www.phc.edu/teen-camps.

REACH HIGH ✦ GROW DEEP ✦ INFLUENCE THE WORLD FOR CHRIST



for
CHRIST
and for
LIBERTY

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