

THE COLLEGE CONNECTION PROGRAM

Philadelphia Futures' College Connection Program provides options and opportunities for first-generation-to-college students attending Philadelphia's public, charter, and parochial high schools.

The College Connection Program offers students after-school academic enrichment classes, campus visits to a range of colleges, intensive summer experiences, a book award of \$3,000, and individualized staff support beginning Junior year until college completion.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Philadelphia Futures
230 South Broad Street - 7th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102
Phone: 215-790-1666 ext. 453
Fax: 215-790-1888

ELIGIBILITY

To be accepted into the College Connection Program, a student must:

- Be a **first-generation-to-college** student **and** attend a Philadelphia **public, charter, or parochial high school** from which our program recruits students;
- Hold a **cumulative 3.3 GPA or higher** and have a **desire to excel** in school, attend college, and obtain a college degree;
- Demonstrate that s/he has **achieved good grades with strong attendance and behavior marks** in school;
- Meet our test score requirements with one or more of the following:
____ 850 or higher Total Score on the **PSAT/NMSQT**
____ 850 or higher Total Score on the **SAT**
____ 19 or higher Composite Score on the **ACT**
If student has not yet taken any of these tests, s/he must participate in a special testing opportunity offered through Philadelphia Futures. Please contact us for more information.
- Be recommended** by both a **high school counselor and high school teacher**;
- Meet the College Connection **Family Income Guidelines**;
- Agree to **engage actively in year-round academic programs** after school and during the summer, along with all other program activities.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Please **fully complete** the attached application and return it to Philadelphia Futures with the following items:

- Copies of the student's most recent **report card and transcript (or equivalent)**;
- Evidence that your **family income** does not exceed the amounts shown in the Family Income Guidelines. In addition to a signed tax return, please submit any of the documents that apply to your family's situation:
 - ____ Copy of EBT Access card and benefit summary
 - ____ Evidence that your family receives SSI or TANF benefits
- A copy of the student's **signed Social Security card or Permanent Resident card**;
- A copy of the **student's school I.D. card**;
- Completed **Recommendation Forms** from a teacher AND school counselor;
- A copy of the student's latest **PSAT, SAT, or ACT scores** if available;
- Information/Photo Release Waiver.**

Because of the level of commitment expected from students in the College Connection Program, there are several steps in the application process:

1. To be considered for participation in the College Connection Program, students and their parents/guardians first need to **complete the attached application** as neatly and completely as possible. ***Please note that due to the volume of applications received, applications that are not fully completed or are missing important information will not be considered.** If you have any questions while completing this application, please contact us.
2. **Return the completed application – with all supporting materials** – to Philadelphia Futures as soon as possible.
3. Once the application is completed and returned, **College Connection will review these materials to determine program eligibility.**
4. If eligible, students and their parents/guardians will be invited to the Philadelphia Futures office for an **in-person interview. Students may also be asked to complete an SAT benchmark exam before being offered an interview.**
5. Students will be **notified** by e-mail if they have been accepted into the College Connection Program.

COLLEGE CONNECTION FAMILY INCOME GUIDELINES

The following are approximate income guidelines for College Connection families. They are based on the federal guidelines for free or reduced lunch prices. If you have questions about whether your family meets these income eligibility requirements, please call us.

Family Size:	Income Allowed:
1	\$ 22,311
2	\$ 30,044
3	\$ 37,777
4	\$ 45,510
5	\$ 53,243

\$7,733 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON

If you have any special circumstances you would like us to consider, please let us know. We want to work with you and would be happy to discuss your situation on an individual basis.



STUDENT INFORMATION

Today's Date: _____

PLEASE PRINT:

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Preferred Name: _____

Grade: _____ Gender: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

City: _____ ZIP _____

High School: _____

Cell Phone: _____

U.S. Citizen and/or Permanent Resident: Yes No

Home Phone: _____

Country of Birth: _____

Cumulative Grade Point Average: _____

Please describe your race/ethnicity:

Black Caucasian Asian Hispanic/Latino

Multi-Racial: _____ Other: _____
Please specify Please specify

Career Interest: _____

Possible College Majors: _____

What is your PSAT (Math + Reading & Writing) Total Score? _____ I have not taken the PSAT

*These scores are available from high school counselors. If you are unable to obtain them, please let us know.

RESUME/EXTRACURRICULAR LIST

On a separate sheet of paper, please list the extracurricular activities in which you have participated on a sustained basis *since 9th grade*. Include clubs, sports, community activities and summer programs. Please type or print your response and note any leadership positions held.

STUDENT ESSAYS

Please address both of the following essay questions in one essay (double spaced, 12-point font). Answers should be at least one page long. Be sure to include your full name at the top of each page.

1. Why is a college education important to you?
2. What steps are you currently taking – and what steps are you willing to take in the near future – to prepare for college?

OPTIONAL ESSAY:

3. Do you wish to provide details of circumstances or qualifications not reflected in the application? If so, please describe.



HOUSEHOLD & FAMILY INFORMATION

Guardian I _____

Relationship to Student _____

Address _____
Street Address

City, State, ZIP

Preferred Phone Number _____

Best Time(s) to Call: _____
(Please be specific)

E-mail _____

Employer _____

Did Guardian I graduate from college? Yes No
If yes, list college and highest degree earned:

College

Degree (AA, BA, MS, etc.)

School Location

Year

Major

Guardian II _____

Relationship to Student _____

Address _____
Street Address

City, State, ZIP

Preferred Phone Number _____

Best Time(s) to Call: _____
(Please be specific)

E-mail _____

Employer _____

Did Guardian II graduate from college? Yes No
If yes, list college and highest degree earned:

College

Degree (AA, BA, MS, etc.)

School Location

Year

Major

MARITAL STATUS OF GUARDIAN I AND GUARDIAN II:

- Married Single (never married) Divorced (please provide copy of divorce decree)
 Legally Separated (please provide documentation) Widowed

IF A BIOLOGICAL PARENT IS NOT PRESENT IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD:

Father's Name _____

Did your father graduate from college? Yes No

College

Where does he live? _____

If yes, list college and highest degree earned:

Degree (AA, BA, MS, etc.)

Major

Mother's Name _____

Did your mother graduate from college? Yes No

College

Where does she live? _____

If yes, list college and highest degree earned:

Degree (AA, BA, MS, etc.)

Major

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In case of Emergency, please contact: Parent/Guardian 1 Parent/Guardian 2

Please provide one additional emergency contact person (NOT a parent/guardian):

Name _____ Relationship to Student _____

Phone _____ Address _____

HOUSEHOLD & FAMILY INFORMATION, CONT.

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Including you, how many people live in your home? _____

People living in your house with you (please check all that apply):

- Mother Father Stepmother Stepfather Grandmother Grandfather Siblings
 Guardian(s) _____ Others (Make sure to include below)
(Not biological mother or father) Relationship to student (grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc.)

Do you live in a household where one or both parents are absent, or mentally or physically disabled? Yes No

Please explain: _____

COMPLETE THE CHART BELOW FOR ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN YOUR HOME.

NAMES OF ALL MEMBERS OF HOUSEHOLD	RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT	CURRENT OCCUPATION OR GRADE	HIGHEST GRADE/SCHOOLING/ DEGREE COMPLETED	AGE
1. _____ <small>(Student's Name)</small>	Self			
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
LIST OTHER FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS TO HOUSEHOLD:				
1.				
2.				
3.				

PLEASE SELECT ALL LANGUAGE(S) SPOKEN AT HOME

- Arabic Cambodian Cantonese Creole English Mandarin Polish Spanish Vietnamese
 Other: _____



COLLEGE CONNECTION

PARENT/GUARDIAN QUESTIONNAIRE

PARENT INVOLVEMENT AND SUPPORT is central to the success of College Connection students. You will be informed of all College Connection activities and will be invited to events throughout the year. We hope that you will make every effort to stay informed about your child's progress and to support his/her active participation in all College Connection events

Name of Student _____ High School _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Relationship to Student _____

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SO THAT WE MAY LEARN MORE ABOUT YOU AND YOUR CHILD:

1. What are your goals for your child?

2. What would you like us to know about your child? What makes your child special?

3. The College Connection Program requires all students to attend **year-round after-school academic classes, special evening and weekend events, college visits, and educational summer activities**. Our afterschool classes and activities begin in Center City at 4:00pm. Are there any reasons your child would not be able to participate in these activities?

I have read the eligibility requirements and information about the College Connection Program. I give permission for my child to submit application materials to Philadelphia Futures and will assist him/her throughout the application process. If my child is accepted to College Connection, I will actively support his/her participation in all program activities.

I certify that the information presented in this application is true and accurate.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

FINANCIAL INFORMATION – Please review the attached College Connection Family Income Guidelines and complete the Family Financial Information section of this application, submitting requested documentation with this completed application. Please be assured that this information will be kept confidential and will only be used to determine your child's eligibility for program participation.



**COLLEGE
CONNECTION**

INFORMATION RELEASE WAIVER

Student Name

Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Name

High School

Year of Graduation

INFORMATION RELEASE AND WAIVER

In order to assist Philadelphia Futures as it works to support the academic progress and college success of Philadelphia Futures students:

- ◆ By signing below, we give permission to Philadelphia Futures to obtain student school records and information about the student's academic performance and personal development to help Philadelphia Futures determine eligibility, monitor the student's academic progress, and provide college guidance and support as needed. All information will be kept confidential by Philadelphia Futures and will only be shared in furtherance of the student's goals in the Program.

PHOTO RELEASE AND WAIVER

Additionally, we recognize that Philadelphia Futures is very proud of its students and their families and that, from time to time, it publishes photos and images of students and their families to spread the good word of their achievements and successes. In order to assist these promotional efforts:

- ◆ By signing below, we give permission to Philadelphia Futures, as well as its agents and partner organizations to use our images and photographs in its publications and promotional materials, including printed material, videos, social media, and the Philadelphia Futures website.

This release will remain in effect unless we notify Philadelphia Futures and cancel it in writing.

Signature of Student

Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date



Name of Student _____ High School _____

The College Connection Program is looking for students who are motivated to do well in high school, attend college, and obtain their college degrees. The goal of College Connection is to expand options and opportunities for college-bound students attending Philadelphia high schools. A competitive citywide program, we seek the students who will benefit most from our support and services and who demonstrate strong academic achievement, consistent attendance, and positive behavior in school. College Connection students will work closely with Philadelphia Futures to identify colleges and universities that best suit their academic, financial and social needs – engaging in intensive efforts to support their admission to and success in these institutions. Students should be focused, hard-working, open to feedback and willing to commit to a very structured year-round college preparation, application and long-term support program, concluding at college graduation.

Thank you for taking a moment to fill out this recommendation. Your input is critical to our recruitment efforts and we value your insight about this student.

Your Name _____ Course(s) Taught _____

Daytime telephone _____ E-mail _____

WRITTEN RECOMMENDATION

Please describe the student applicant. Include examples of the student’s motivation, academic promise, ability to relate to adults, and any relevant family or personal circumstances that would be helpful for us to consider. Why do you recommend this student for the College Connection Program? Please attach additional pages if necessary.

STUDENT RATING

On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = Poor and 5 = Outstanding), please rate the student applicant with respect to the following qualities:

	POOR			OUTSTANDING	
Academic Achievement	1	2	3	4	5
Openness to New Experiences	1	2	3	4	5
Ability to Receive Criticism	1	2	3	4	5
Ability to listen and/or work with to others	1	2	3	4	5
Perseverance	1	2	3	4	5

Signature _____ Date _____