**Questionnaire for Première Parents**

Please return to Emily Parliman, University Counselor, by email: parlimane@rochambeau.org

1. What are your student’s academic strengths and weaknesses?
2. What are your student’s personal strengths and weaknesses?
3. Are there any majors/courses/academic programs to which you feel your student is well-suited?
4. What career or job can you imagine your student having someday?
5. Has your student taken any American-style standardized tests? (PSAT, SAT, ACT, AP, SAT Subject Test, etc.) If so, please list the test name and date.
6. What is your student’s first/native language? If it is not English, has your student taken the TOEFL or IELTS?
7. What are your student’s main extracurricular activities?
8. What are your student’s personal interests and hobbies?
9. List any jobs your student has held.
10. Describe any hardships your student has faced, or obstacles overcome?
11. What are your student’s biggest accomplishments?
12. What is something your student has done that has made you proud?
13. What are some words or phrases you would use to describe your student?
14. List any universities that interest your student.
15. Are there particular universities that you would like your student to consider?
16. Is distance from home a consideration for your student’s university options?
17. Is cost a consideration for your student’s university options?
18. Is your student a US citizen or permanent resident? (If so, need-based financial aid may be available.)

**2016 – 2017 Detailed Deadlines and Instructions for Terminales**

North American & UK University Application Process

These are some of the most important deadlines you may need to know, but this is not a comprehensive list. **It is your responsibility to know and adhere to the correct application deadlines.** It is not the responsibility of the University Counseling department (Ms. Parliman, Ms. Bessaha) to know every possible deadline. Check each university’s website for the undergraduate admission/application deadline and for all admission requirements.

**Student’s Responsibilities**

1. Meet with Ms. Parliman if needed to discuss your university plans and questions.
2. Get accurate application deadlines for your universities.
3. Make a university list by **September 30**: The form (“*demande d’admission*”) is available on Naviance Family Connection and from Ms. Bessaha or Ms. Parliman. The deadlines you list here should reflect the actual university deadlines for your intended program (for example, November 1 for University of Maryland).
4. Give your university list (signed by a parent) to Ms. Bessaha with payment of fees.
5. Ask two teachers for letters of recommendation by **September 30.** After talking with teachers in person, make the request through Naviance.
6. Take any required tests (SAT, ACT, SAT Subject Test, and TOEFL). Have all required test scores sent to universities so they arrive by the deadline.
	1. Suggested: Order scores by September 15 for any November 1 deadlines (such as UMD College Park). Allow four to six weeks for scores to be sent.
	2. For sending SAT scores, go to [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
	3. For sending ACT scores, go to [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)
	4. For sending TOEFL scores, go to [www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org)
	5. You can also request scores to be sent as you register for the test.
7. Submit your college applications (usually online).

**School’s Responsibilities**

* After receiving the student’s list of intended universities, the counseling department:
	+ Submits students’ grades (in the form of a translated transcript, or *bulletins* if required)
	+ Submits any required recommendations from the University Counselor and from teachers.
* For all applications except UK, both these processes run simultaneously. The universities match the student’s application and test scores (sent by the student) with the grades and recommendations (sent by the school).
* Both the student and the school send their parts of the application by the deadlines. The university counseling office uses the deadlines given by the student on the University List.
	+ EXCEPTION: For UK applications, the responsibilities are the same, but the process is sequential: First, the student finishes her parts of the UCAS application online. Then, once the student has finished and paid the application fee, the University Counseling department submits the UCAS application (including grades and recommendations) by the deadline.
	+ This means students must finish and “send” their UCAS application to Ms. Parliman well before the deadline.

**Major Deadlines**

**SEPTEMBER**

*September 2016*

* Regular registration deadline for October 1 SAT and SAT Subject Tests. Check website for exact date: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

*September 16*

* Regular registration deadline for October 22 ACT ([www.act.org](http://www.act.org)).
* Suggested date by which to have your SAT/ACT scores sent to universities with November 1 deadlines

*September 20*

If you plan to apply to Oxford, Cambridge, or medicine in the UK, or to any US universities with an October 15 deadline, by September 20 you need to:

* Bring to Ms. Bessaha (Room 224) your signed university list and payment for transcripts & administrative fees
* Ask two teachers for recommendations (for UK, recommendations should be related to the subject you want to study)

Last day to notify Ms. Parliman of your intent to register for other UK admission tests:

* BMAT (required by some medical programs in the UK; <http://www.admissionstestingservice.org/our-services/medicine-and-healthcare/bmat/about-bmat/>
* Exams required by Oxford, Cambridge, UCL, and a handful of other UK universities in various subjects (i.e. classics, English, history, math, modern languages, oriental languages, and physics)
* Some programs at Oxford, Cambridge, and UCL require the TSA (Thinking Skills Assessment)
* See <http://www.admissionstestingservice.org/for-test-takers/>

Last possible day to register for the UKCAT (medical-school exam required by many UK universities.

* See <http://www.ukcat.ac.uk/about-the-test/who-should-take-the-test/>
* A few medicine-related UK programs (biomedical science at a few universities) also require this exam.
* Anyone taking the UKCAT must do so by October 5.

*September 30*

Deadline for all students to ask teachers for recommendations

* Usually two recommendations are needed for US and UK applications. Canadian universities do not usually require recommendations.

Anyone applying with an October 15 deadline to Oxford, Cambridge, or UK medicine/veterinary programs, etc. should be finished with the student’s part of the UCAS application.

Last possible day to register (late fee) for October 22 ACT

**OCTOBER**

Submit your University List, especially if your deadlines are in November.

* Your list can be edited and added to after this date, but it should be mostly complete.
* As part of this deadline, you will need to:
1. Know each university’s application deadline
2. Know each university’s application requirements (tests, recommendations, written responses, counselor recommendation, portfolio, how to apply)
3. If any of your universities require teacher recommendations, you should have already asked your teachers for a recommendation.
4. Bring Ms. Bessaha your signed university list and payment.

*October*

* Regular registration deadline for November 5 SAT and SAT Subject Tests. Check website for exact date: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

*October 15*

* Last possible day to register (late fee) for the BMAT, TSA, and some other UK tests
* Final application deadline for any program at Oxford or Cambridge, UK vet/medical programs, etc. You will have needed to finish your portion by September 30 so Ms. Parliman can submit the complete application by the deadline.
* Early Action deadline for a few US universities, such as Georgia Tech and UNC Chapel Hill
* Some universities have major scholarship deadlines.

**NOVEMBER**

*November 1*

* Deadline to apply to the University of Maryland, College Park. Your online application and test scores (either SAT or ACT, and TOEFL or IELTS for non-native English speakers) need to be received by UMD by November 1 for best consideration for admission, scholarships, and honors programs.
	+ Anyone whose application or test scores reach UMD after November 1will be considered for admission but not for honors programs or scholarships.
	+ This is not a binding application process; it’s considered Regular Decision and does not commit you to attending UMD if you are admitted. Students are notified of their decision by February 1.
	+ We urge anyone interested in UMD College Park to apply by November 1.
* Early Decision (binding) and Early Action (non-binding) application for many US universities, including the University of Virginia, Princeton, and many others. PLEASE READ CAREFULLY each university’s rules for applying Early Action and Early Decision. Students are notified of decisions between mid-December and mid-January.
* Many universities have scholarship deadlines throughout the entire month of November.
* For any universities with December, January, or February deadlines, bring Ms. Bessaha your completed university list with fees.

*Early November*

Regular registration deadline for December 3 SAT and SAT Subject Tests. Check website for exact date: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

*November 4*

Regular registration deadline for December 10 ACT

*November 18*

Last possible registration (late fee) for December 10 ACT

*November 30*

* Application deadline for the University of California schools (UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC San Diego, and others)
* Deadline for Penn State and other US universities

**DECEMBER**

*December 1*

Application deadline for some US & Canadian universities and scholarships

*December 15*

Finish and submit your part of the UCAS application

*Late December*

Regular registration deadline for the January 21 SAT and Subject Tests. Check website for exact date: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

**JANUARY**

*January 1 to 20*

Application deadlines for most US universities, including Regular Decision (non-binding; April 1 notification) and some Early Decision (binding; late February notification).

*January 1*

Suggested deadline for University of Toronto (varies by program, but the earlier the better for non-Canadian students). See <http://www.adm.utoronto.ca/adm-awards/admissions/info/p1.action?domain=adm&page=APPLYING105>

*January 15*

* Final application deadline for UK universities. (You will have needed to finish your portion by December 15 so Ms. Parliman can submit the completed application by the deadline.)
* Deadline for McGill University and a few others in Quebec, including Universite de Sherbrooke

*Mid-January*

McGill deadline for scholarship consideration

**FEBRUARY, MARCH**

*February 1*

Application deadline for many Canadian universities, including Concordia and the University of Montreal. Check deadlines for other Canadian universities.

*February 1, February 15, or March 1*

Typical deadlines for US financial aid applications (FAFSA, CSS Profile) to be submitted to universities. Check with each university for its deadline.

**LATER**

*April 1*

US university admission decisions are released by this date

*May 1*

Students must reply to US universities, McGill, and some others by this date; often a deposit is required to hold your place (can choose only one US university).

*May 1 – early June*

UK and other Canadian reply deadlines

**Other essential information**

UK application site

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

To register:

* Choose “Register through a school or college”
* When asked for the school’s buzzword: frenchinternational
* If asked for the school’s “Centre number,” it is 45483

McGill: French *Bac* admission standards

<http://www.mcgill.ca/applying/how-we-make-decisions/minimum-grades-used-admission-previous-years/fb>

Concordia admission requirements

<http://www.concordia.ca/admissions/undergraduate/requirements-international.html>

Pay attention to “Programs with additional requirements” and to status, i.e. Quota program, Limited Enrollment, or Open.

Université de Montréal application information (For “Premiere cycle,” bachelor’s degrees)

<http://www.futursetudiants.umontreal.ca/fr/admission/dates-limites.html>

Guide to study in Canada

[www.studycanada.ca](http://www.studycanada.ca)

Search site for programs in Europe, especially taught in English

<http://www.eunicas.co.uk/index.php/eunicas/search.html>

Naviance/Family Connection, accessible to students with your password. Use for researching/comparing universities and building a résumé.

<http://connection.naviance.com/frenchis>

SAT, SAT Subject Tests, and practice tests

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

ACT and practice tests

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)

[www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org)

IELTS (International English Language Test)

[www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org)

Common Application for some 500 US colleges and universities
[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

Great site for beginning the university search

[www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org)

Excellent search site with detailed information on US universities’ admission requirements

[www.noodle.com](http://www.noodle.com)

Great search site for US universities and colleges

<https://www.chegg.com/schools>

Website listing “test-optional” US colleges and universities that don’t require SAT/ACT or have alternate test requirements

[www.fairtest.org](http://www.fairtest.org)

US government financial aid website. US Citizens and permanent residents must use the FAFSA to qualify for government-funded grants, loans, and campus jobs.

[www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)

Connected with the FAFSA, a worksheet which can help determine what kind of US financial aid you might receive

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/fafsa/estimate>

CSS Profile, another financial aid form required by many US universities (usually private colleges/universities). Non-US citizens may need to complete a university’s own International Student Financial Aid form, if need-based aid is offered.

<https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp>

List of universities that typically offer financial aid (either need-based, merit-based, or both) to international students (i.e. non-US citizens or permanent residents).

<http://www.edupass.org/finaid/undergraduate.phtml>

Website listing universities with scholarships based on “merit,” i.e. high grades or test scores, special talents, or other qualities they seek in their student body.

[www.meritaid.com](http://www.meritaid.com)

Students can register and be “matched” with colleges that offer scholarships. Some are available to non-US citizens.

[zinch.com](http://www.chegg.com/scholarships)

Great site for finding small scholarships (which can add up) <https://www.raise.me/>

**College & University Process: Timeline**

**Premiere**

*May*

Do you still need to take the SAT or ACT? Check for registration deadlines and upcoming test dates.

If you need to take an English proficiency exam, check the test dates and register. TOEFL and IELTS are the most common exams. Requirements for English language proficiency vary by university, and it’s important to check each college’s website to find out their requirement. Some universities say that if a student’s first/native language is not English, then he or she must submit test results that prove English proficiency (regardless of country of citizenship or location of the high school). Other universities (many in Canada) will waive the English proficiency requirement if a student is in OIB or Group 4 English. Check with each school to confirm requirements.

*June and July*

Visit different types of schools and see a variety of campuses.

Consider various [application essay](https://www.petersons.com/college-search/~/~/link.aspx?_id=673A6F2E5D0F4C8FBF88FC3CB32B7B34&_z=z) topics. Most US colleges and universities require a general essay (usually one to two pages), with several options of prompts. Some schools also have “supplement” essays with topics ranging from the basic (“Tell us why you want to be a student at [University Name]”) to the obscure (“What was your favorite childhood book, and why?”). Research whether your colleges have supplement essays.

If you are considering UK universities, start drafting a personal statement. This statement should explain why you are well-suited for a chosen course. It should include a description of any experiences, skills, courses taken, or ambitions that are relevant to the course. <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/when-apply/writing-personal-statement>

Visit [scholarship search](https://www.petersons.com/college-search/~/~/link.aspx?_id=92A366B742AB4755A405F79B5FA9DADB&_z=z) and [financial aid](https://www.petersons.com/college-search/~/~/link.aspx?_id=6050BF9C756244008CFDCDEBD881F736&_z=z) websites with your parents, or review comparable library resources.

Some resources: <https://www.cappex.com/scholarships/>

<http://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships>

<http://www.obrella.com/resources/insurance-scholarships/>

**Terminale**

*August*

Go over your strategy for the school year. Discuss plans and goals and review your [list of colleges](https://www.petersons.com/college-search/~/~/link.aspx?_id=77A11532049B4189AB562726F2072D94&_z=z). If necessary, find a few more colleges.

The Common Application opens in early August. Common App is an application system used by over 600 US colleges and universities. Create an account now and start filling in information. Most essay prompts are also now available from Common Application and (for supplemental essays) from individual colleges and universities.

*September*

As soon as students have decided on colleges, submit a University List with payment to Ms. Bessaha (copies available from Ms. Parliman). This list is what informs us to start preparing transcripts/bulletins, counselor recommendation letters, and other documents to be sent to universities. Turn in this list at least one month before the earliest college deadline.

Discuss plans to attend college fairs and meet with any college reps who may be coming to the school. Go over which college sites have been visited and which ones haven't. Finalize plans for [college visits](https://www.petersons.com/college-search/~/~/link.aspx?_id=555AC9BB3F4D43D99684FE6287191624&_z=z) (the fall break is a good time to visit universities).

If you haven’t already done so, start filling out their individual college applications. The UCAS system for UK applications opens September 1.

Request teacher recommendations now, if you haven’t already done so. Be respectful of teachers’ time—requests should be made at LEAST one month before the university deadline. Some teachers have been asked for letters by many students, and teachers need time to write all these letters.

Research whether your universities offer any scholarships that require separate applications. Although some universities will automatically consider all applicants for merit-based scholarships, others require separate applications. Example: Students interested in the University of Virginia can ask for a nomination to apply for the Jefferson Scholars program, which covers the entire cost of attendance for four years at the university.

*October*

Go over options for [early decision](https://www.petersons.com/college-search/~/~/link.aspx?_id=CA29F0740DAE468AA243EABCAAFB2D0F&_z=z) and early action and determine if it's an option you want to pursue.

Start making college visits to the top schools on the list of colleges, and schedule any interviews that can be completed on campus or with college alumni. Attend college fairs and gather more information.

For need-based financial aid (available to US citizens and permanent residents), some colleges require a supplemental financial aid form called the [CSS/PROFILE](https://www.petersons.com/college-search/~/~/link.aspx?_id=BFE1949FAAA64DCABFB2B129770924F0&_z=z). This form is available online through the College Board and has an earlier deadline than the [FAFSA](https://www.petersons.com/college-search/~/~/link.aspx?_id=31270447745542A98BB59539AC091E6C&_z=z). Check your universities’ websites to find out if you'll need to complete this form in addition to the FAFSA.

*November*

Be aware of early application deadlines, if applicable.

*January*

Talk to your parent or guarding about gathering tax information financial aid forms. If you have everything you need, file your income taxes and begin filling out financial aid forms, such as the FAFSA and CSS Profile. Finish these forms as soon as possible — and never late! Keep in mind that many schools list earlier FAFSA filing dates than that which is listed on the form itself.

Finish any remaining applications. Unless confirmations have arrived, check with your colleges by phone or online to check the status of your applications. Keep track of who you speak with and find out if there are any materials that still need to be sent in.

**Useful Websites and Resources**

**US**

Common Application for over 500 colleges and universities
[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org/)

Great site for beginning the university search

Has guides about types of colleges and degree options. Search by category of school. Explore careers, see which occupations have the most job openings, etc.

[www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org/)

Excellent search site with detailed information on US universities’ admission requirements

Can search by region, the rigor of courses you’ve taken, size, average SAT scores. Shows selectivity of the college.

[www.noodle.com](http://www.noodle.com/)

Great search site for US universities and colleges

Can filter by type of school (city, rural, coed, four-year). Sorts by categories like best food, most beautiful campus. Has articles about application tips, financial aid, writing essays

<https://www.chegg.com/schools>

Website listing “test-optional” US colleges and universities that don’t require SAT/ACT or have alternate test requirements

[www.fairtest.org](http://www.fairtest.org/)

Unigo: search for colleges, compare statistics, read reviews by real students

Be matched with schools based on answers about your learning style, how you prioritize school and activities, etc.

<https://www.unigo.com/>

Princeton Review: search for colleges

Articles about essay tips, recommendation letters, Early Decision vs Regular Decision, etc.

<http://www.princetonreview.com/college-education>

Center for Online Education

Listings of online degree programs

<http://www.onlinecolleges.net/>

**UK**

UK application site

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com/)

To register:

·         Choose “Register through a school or college”

·         When asked for the school’s buzzword: frenchinternational

·         If asked for the school’s “Centre number,” it is 45483

The Guardian Education University League tables

Rankings based on student satisfaction, school resources, career placement, and other factors

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/ng-interactive/2015/may/25/university-league-tables-2016>

Complete University Guide: individual subject rankings for undergrad programs

<http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings>

Unistats: compare programs

Filter results based on your answers to questions. Shows post-grad outcomes.

<https://unistats.direct.gov.uk/>

**Canada**

McGill: French Bac admission standards

Shows the minimum Bac grades for each program, and which track (S, ES, L) is required

<http://www.mcgill.ca/applying/how-we-make-decisions/minimum-grades-used-admission-previous-years/fb>

Concordia admission requirements

<http://www.concordia.ca/admissions/undergraduate/requirements-international.html>

Pay attention to “Programs with additional requirements” and to status, i.e. Quota program, Limited Enrollment, or Open.

Université de Montréal application information (For “Premiere cycle,” bachelor’s degrees)

<http://www.futursetudiants.umontreal.ca/fr/admission/dates-limites.html>

Guide to studying in Canada, and listings of universities

[www.studycanada.ca](http://www.studycanada.ca/)

Maclean's (the equivalent of US News rankings):

<http://www.macleans.ca/education/unirankings/>

**Other Sites for Researching Schools**

Search site for programs in Europe, especially taught in English

<http://www.eunicas.co.uk/index.php/eunicas/search.html>

QS: variety of articles as well as rankings by subject areas

<http://www.topuniversities.com/undergraduate-studies>

The Times of London: has a worldwide rankings site

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings>

Naviance/Family Connection, accessible to students with your password. Use for researching/comparing universities and building a résumé.

<http://connection.naviance.com/frenchis>

**Tests**

SAT, SAT Subject Tests, and practice tests

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org/)

ACT and practice tests

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org/)

TOEFL   (Test of English as a Foreign Language)

[www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org/)

IELTS (International English Language Test)

[www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org/)

**Financial Aid**

US government financial aid website. US Citizens and permanent residents must use the FAFSA to qualify for government-funded grants, loans, and campus jobs.

[www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov/)

<https://www.fsapubs.gov/>

Connected with the FAFSA, a worksheet which can help determine what kind of US financial aid you might receive

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/fafsa/estimate>

CSS Profile, another financial aid form required by many US universities (usually private colleges/universities). Non-US citizens may need to complete a university’s own International Student Financial Aid form, if need-based aid is offered.

<https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp>

List of universities that typically offer financial aid (either need-based, merit-based, or both) to international students (i.e. non-US citizens or permanent residents).

<http://www.edupass.org/finaid/undergraduate.phtml>

Website listing universities with scholarships based on “merit,” i.e. high grades or test scores, special talents, or other qualities they seek in their student body.

[www.meritaid.com](http://www.meritaid.com/)

Students can register and be “matched” with colleges that offer scholarships. Some are available to non-US citizens.

[zinch.com](http://www.chegg.com/scholarships)

Great site for finding small scholarships (which can add up)

<https://www.raise.me/>