

A message from UMD Admission Representative for prospective HCPSS students:

- Students and families should email ApplyMaryland@umd.edu if they have questions. Due to the number of inquiries that we receive from HoCo, it's a lot easier for me to ensure that I respond to them promptly if they're sent to applymaryland@umd.edu. Additionally, on the off chance that an email needs to be redirected to another member of our staff, it's much more efficient to do so from that email. **So long as a student includes "Howard County" in the subject line, the email will go to me first.**
- Students should be utilizing our Freshman admissions [website](#) for a full list of requirements in addition to the Terps Application Portal. The requirements are available on the website 24/7 and students should not be using the excuse that they were unaware of the requirements because they will be directed back to our freshman admissions website. We will not be able to make exceptions for students.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all application materials are received by the appropriate deadline - we do not reach out to individual students regarding their application status.
- Students are only considered Early Action if the application and all supporting materials **are received in our office by November 1**. Additionally, students are only considered for merit scholarships and placement in Living Learning Programs if they have a *complete* Early Action application. A complete application means that we have the following by the deadline:
 - High school transcripts from **all schools attended** (particularly for students who attended high school outside of the U.S., in which case we need the original transcript and certified English translation if the transcript is not in English)
 - Counselor and teacher letter of recommendation
 - SAT/ACT scores if a student did not apply test-optional
 - English Proficiency Exam if applicable - please utilize this [website](#) to determine whether a student needs to submit one
 - College transcripts if applicable
- We cannot change a student's test-optional status once the application is submitted. This also applies if a student applied test-optional but now wants to submit test scores. I would advise that students taking the October SAT or ACT apply test-optional, as scores from those exams will likely not arrive in our office by the November 1 deadline. Additionally, if a student chooses to send their test scores **those scores will be considered as part of our merit scholarship review process.**

- Students whose DE courses are on their high school transcript **do not need to submit a college transcript.** Additionally, students who have completed DE courses at UMD through a program such as Terps Young Scholars or Concurrent Enrollment do not need to submit that transcript to us. We also will not require a transcript if a student's only DE courses are currently in progress.
- It can take 7-10 business days for items to appear in the Terps Application Portal. It also takes longer for items to appear in the Terps Application Portal if the materials are submitted before the application, as it is a manual process to match those documents to their application. When checking for completion, **we will use to date the document was received rather than matched to the application.**
- Only grades 9-11 are considered in our admissions review.
- Students who do not have a complete application by our final Regular decision deadline of January 20 are only considered on a space-available basis.
- Demonstrated interest and legacy status are not used in our admissions review. Please discourage students from sending letters of continued interest as they will not be considered in an admissions/merit scholarship review, admission decision appeal, or waitlist review.
- Merit scholarship award notifications are sent via email by March 1 only to the admitted Early Action students who were awarded a scholarship. If a student did not receive an email about merit scholarships, they did not get awarded one. **There is no appeal process for merit scholarships.** Likewise, there is no appeal process for students who were awarded a scholarship but want a higher amount. **Please also discourage students from sending emails requesting UMD to match scholarship awards from other institutions.**