



FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions about College Board Schools: A Guide for Parents and Students

Vanguard Collegiate Middle School
Vanguard Collegiate High School

1. What is a College Board School?

College Board Schools (Vanguard Collegiate Middle School grades 6-8 and Vanguard Collegiate High School grades 9 - 12) are Baltimore public schools developed in collaboration with the Baltimore City Public Schools with the goal of connecting all students to college success.

2. How is a College Board School different from any other public school?

The mission of every College Board school is to prepare students for access to and success in college.

To drive academic rigor, students in Baltimore College Board Schools will use College Board programs and services including SpringBoard™ (reading and mathematics), College Ed™, and MyRoad™; take the PSAT® and SAT® assessments; and take Advanced Placement® courses.

3. What are the grade levels in Baltimore's College Board Schools?

Vanguard Collegiate Middle School will serve grades 6 through 8, and Vanguard Collegiate High School will serve students in grades 9 through 12. When the College Board Schools open in September 2010, 6th and 9th grade students will be admitted.

4. How many students are in College Board Schools?

College Board Schools are small, personalized environments with a maximum of 125 students per grade in the middle school and a maximum of 100 students per grade in the high school. Advisory programs to support students' academic, social, and emotional development are part of every College Board school.

5. What are the programs, curriculum and courses like?

College Board Schools are created in collaboration with the Baltimore City Public Schools, and are guided by the Maryland State standards and assessments. In addition, College Board Schools utilize all of the programs and services of the College Board including:

SpringBoard English Language Arts & Mathematics (Grades 6-12)

SpringBoard is a comprehensive and integrated curriculum program designed to increase the number and broaden the diversity of students prepared to succeed in college and Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) courses.

CollegeEd (Grades 7-12)

CollegeEd is a program designed to inspire students and their families to prepare for college success and to believe that college is attainable.



What are the programs, curriculum and courses like? (continued)

PSAT/NMSQT (Grades 9-11)

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is an assessment to help build college readiness in high school students. It measures the critical reading, math reasoning, and writing skills that students have developed over the course of their education.

SAT Readiness Program (Grades 9-11)

The SAT Readiness Program is the College Board's collection of online, print, and professional development resources to help students prepare for the SAT.

MyRoad (Grades 9-12)

MyRoad (www.myroad.com) is the Web-based tool that enables students to explore majors, careers, and colleges. It includes an online test that identifies students' strengths, learning preferences, motivators, and development opportunities, and helps counselors connect with students.

Advanced Placement (Grades 9-12)

The AP Program is a voluntary program that offers high school students the opportunity to take one or more college-level courses while they are still in high school.

Other Programs (Grades 6-12)

In addition, the College Board will assist all students needing extra support through supplementary programs.

6. Will my child receive supplemental services, like speech, in a College Board school?

Yes. Students receive all mandated services as described in his/her Individual Education Plan.

7. Do College Board Schools charge tuition?

No. College Board Schools are public schools, and are free for eligible Baltimore City residents.

8. How are students admitted to College Board Schools?

College Board Schools are unscreened and non-selective. College Board Schools participate in the BCPS choice processes for senior and middle schools. Students must identify Vanguard Collegiate as one of their choices on their application. Applications are available in your child's school and online. Students will be eligible for acceptance as long as they have met the promotional standards for their grade (as determined by BCPS and the State Education Department).

9. What is the 6th grade admissions process for Vanguard Collegiate Middle School?

College Board schools participate in the BCPS choice process for middle schools.

10. What is the 9th grade admissions process for Vanguard Collegiate High School?

College Board schools participate in the BCPS choice process for high schools.



11. Where are College Board Schools located?

Opened 2004

Brooklyn Collegiate, Brooklyn, NY
South Bronx Preparatory, Bronx, NY

Opened 2005

Academy for Scholarship & Entrepreneurship, Bronx, NY
Eximius College Preparatory Academy, Bronx, NY
Pathways College Preparatory School, St. Albans, NY

Opened 2006

Academy for College Preparation & Career Exploration, Brooklyn, NY
Math, Science & Technology Preparatory School, Buffalo, NY
Northeast College Preparatory School, Rochester, NY
Northwest College Preparatory School, Rochester, NY
Preparatory Academy for Writers, Springfield Gardens, NY
World Journalism Preparatory School, Flushing, NY

Opened 2007

The Academy for Social Action, New York, NY
The Antonia Pantoja Preparatory Academy, Bronx, NY
International Preparatory School, Buffalo, NY

Opened 2008

Academy of Medical Technology, Far Rockaway, NY
Queens Collegiate, Jamaica, NY
Palisade Preparatory School, Yonkers, NY

Opening 2010

Vanguard Collegiate High School, Baltimore, MD
Vanguard Collegiate Middle School, Baltimore, MD