

OCTOBER COLLEGE  
REPRESENTATIVE VISITS

Monday 10/03

Longwood University

College of

William & Mary

Tuesday 10/04

Roanoke College

Wednesday 10/05

Northeastern

University

Friday 10/07

University of

South Carolina

Thursday 10/13

Radford University

Old Dominion

University

Friday 10/14

Gallaudet University

Tuesday 10/25

Virginia Tech

Wednesday 10/26

Salem College, NC

(women's college)

Thursday 10/27

High Point University

Hollins University

COLLEGE FAIR  
LAFAYETTE HIGH

Thursday, Oct. 27th  
7:00-8:30 p.m.

SERVICE ACADEMY  
INFORMATION  
SESSION

Thursday, Oct. 27th  
6:30 p.m.

LHS Lecture Hall

# College Fair Issue

LAFAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2011

## Maximizing College Fairs: Advice for Students *article from Washington University in St. Louis*

College fairs are an extremely effective way to gain more information about a variety of colleges and universities. Here are some hints to help students make the college fair experience productive and informative:

Before the fair, print out labels that include your contact information, high school name, and graduation year, as well as any academic or athletic interests. These labels can be handed to college representatives rather than filling out lots of "request for information" cards at each table. Doing this will allow you to spend your time

asking questions rather than writing.

Provide a label or fill out a card for colleges even if you are already on their mailing list. Many colleges keep track of a student's contacts with them over time as an indication of his or her level of interest.

Check when you arrive at the fair to see if there is a listing of the schools in attendance and identify the schools on which you want to focus.

Stay open-minded about other colleges. This is a great opportunity to pick up more information and learn about unfamiliar in-

stitutions that may be a good match for you.

Once you're at a table, feel free to pick up copies of brochures available to you. Think ahead about specific questions you would like to ask the college representative, who may be an admissions officer or an alumnus of the university. You will often gain information beyond what is found in brochures and/or the website. Keep in mind that many selective universities cannot provide minimum or preferred test scores or grade-point averages since their selection process is based on many other factors, as well.

## Frequently Asked Questions about College Fairs

### In which grade should students attend a College Fair?

We believe the earlier the better. We encourage parents and students to investigate the college admission process as early as middle school. One of the best ways to do this is by attending a college fair.

### What can I do as to

### prepare for attending a College Fair?

If you are planning to attend a college fair, think about the following questions:

- Do you want to attend a two - or four-year institution? Co-ed or single sex?
- What size school do you want to attend?

- What programs of study are you considering?
- How far from home do you want to go?
- Do you wish to participate in any specific extra-curricular activities or athletics?

*National Association for  
College Admission Counseling*

COLLEGE FAIR  
CHECKLIST

Before the Fair

- Review the list of participants
- Locate the schools you want to interview

Questions to Ask

Admissions

- What are the requirements?
- What do you look for in prospective students?

- Which test scores do you need?
- "How can I manage a campus visit?"

Financial Aid

- How much will it cost?
- What financial aid options are offered?
- When is your financial aid deadline?

Classroom

- Average class size?
- How accessible are your professors?
- Will professors or grad students teach my courses?
- When must I choose a major?
- What student services are offered? (tutoring, career counseling, study workshops)?
- What is the school known for?

Checklist from NACAC

# U. S. Service Academies

Whether you are considering the Military Academy at West Point, the Naval Academy, Air Force Academy, Coast Guard Academy, or the Merchant Marine Academy, you will be looking at institutions that are recognized worldwide for their premier leadership programs. Students considering attending a military institu-

tion must submit applications by October of their junior year in high school, meaning they must begin the process early! In addition to good grades, high SAT or ACT test scores, and being physically fit, one of the requirements for each academy is a letter of recommendation from a member of Congress from the district the stu-

dent lives. Starting early in high school, during your *ninth* and *tenth* grade years, is important for this specific type of application process. Thursday, October 27th, a West Point liaison will be here at Lafayette High School to talk about service academies. The information session starts at 6:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.

## Questions for Students to

### Ask a College Representative

Having a prepared list of questions for college representatives can enhance a student's knowledge of the different schools she or he may be considering. Following are some examples of the type of questions that can be helpful in the college search.

What is the composition of the student body (from what states, how many undergraduates/graduates, male/female ratio, commuter vs. residential and cultural backgrounds)?

What percentage of students lives on campus? Is on-campus housing guaranteed for freshmen?

Do you offer a wide variety of majors? Can students easily change their course of study? How many students double major or pursue more than one interest?

What is the academic advising system like?

Do faculty members teach courses, or are they taught mostly by graduate students? What is the average class size?

What courses are required? Can I get credit for Advanced Placement or Dual Enrollment courses?

Are there opportunities for research, independent study, internships, and study abroad?

What choices are there for extra-curricular activities? Are students happy? (A campus visit will answer this question, too.)

Is there a public transportation system, making it easy for students to get around without a car?



US Service Academies  
Information Session  
6:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall  
Just Prior to the College Fair!