

SY25-26 and 26-27 Benjamin Banneker High School: Admissions Process Rubric

For Grades: 9 and 10*

Note: This rubric is in effect for SY25-26 and SY26-27 admissions cycles.

About Benjamin Banneker High School Admissions Criteria: At Benjamin Banneker High School, we are looking for achievers who have a passion for learning, a commitment to community, and who work through challenges. We find that the most successful applicants are those that demonstrate tenacity through achievement on their GPA.

About Benjamin Banneker High School Admissions Process: At Benjamin Banneker High School, we first review all applicants' report cards, essays, and recommendations. These components will each be scored, with no single component used as the sole determinant of the applicant's eligibility for the next stage in the admissions process. [GPA is calculated in accordance with the DCPS grading policy](#). The applicants with the highest scores are invited to participate in an interview. All recommendation content and scores are confidential and will not be shared with anyone including applicants, families, or staff at the student's current school, etc. Applicants who are invited to interview will also participate in an on-site writing sample. Accommodations may be requested for any portion of the admissions process, and families may contact the Admissions Director/POC to discuss accommodation options.

Each component of the admissions process is scored and weighed according to the chart below. Invited applicants must complete the interview component to be considered for eligibility. All applicants who receive a minimum score of 12 out of 15 points on the interview will be considered eligible for admission. For applicants who scored below a 12 on the interview, Banneker will calculate a total cumulative score based on all application components, including the interview, to determine eligibility. All eligible applicants will be ranked according to their interview scores. **Specific details related to an applicant's admissions process and eligibility results will remain confidential**

*10th grade interviews will only be conducted based on the number of available seats for the upcoming school year.

Admissions Component	Weight	Notes
Report Card Review	20/50 points	<p>Benjamin Banneker High School reviews grades only as part of the report card review. Applicants must submit their final SY24-25 report card and their SY25-26 first quarter report card. Both report cards must be submitted for the application to be considered for admission.</p> <p>GPA is calculated per the DCPS grading policy.</p> <p>Typically, applicants successful at Benjamin Banneker Academic High School have all As and Bs on both reviewed report cards. However, applicants with lower grades have been able to find success with the right academic support.</p> <p>Please note that the Banneker team may reach out to school counselors, deans, school leaders, etc., to receive conversion scales or context to aid in reviewing the report cards in accordance with the DCPS grading policy. The school reviews all applicants using the same process, including international students. Special requests for additional points will <u>not</u> be accommodated when completing the conversion to the 4.0 scale.</p> <p>GPA's are scored according to the following scale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All A's = 10 points • A's and B's = 10 points • A's, B's and one C = 6 pts • more than one C = 4pts • C average = 2pts
Essay: In My School DC application	6/50 points	<p>The essay in the My School DC application is used to assess student interest in our program, commitment to community, and experiences demonstrating personal perseverance.</p>



		Applicants will be expected to write regularly throughout high school; therefore, the scoring for the essay focuses on the techniques of writing including grammar and vocabulary.
Recommendation Letter Review	24/50 points	<p>Benjamin Banneker High School uses recommendations to better understand a student's experience at school and to provide context to their academic outcomes. Recommendations are viewed as a critical element to get to know a student and their experiences.</p> <p>Benjamin Banneker High School requests three (3) recommendations, each worth a maximum of 8 points. Recommendations must come from the student's Principal, Assistant Principal, or School Counselor and the student's Math and ELA teachers.</p> <p>All recommendation content and scores are confidential and will not be shared with anyone including applicants, families, and staff at the student's current school.</p> <p>Applicants can log into their My School DC lottery application to check the status of their recommendation submissions at any time and can send reminders to recommenders. Regular notifications are sent to recommenders and families when a recommendation is missing or incomplete. Applicants and families are strongly encouraged to follow up with the individuals submitting recommendations on their behalf and to check the accuracy of recommender emails. Missing recommendations ultimately will receive zero points.</p>
All applicants above the baseline score 42/50 will be invited to participate in the interview component of the admissions process.		
Family Interview	15/15 points	<p>Benjamin Banneker High School believes strongly in identifying applicants with a passion for learning, commitment to the community, and the tenacity to compete globally.</p> <p>The Banneker team will evaluate students on their articulation, content, and poise.</p> <p>Eligible applicants are invited to the individual, onsite, in-person student interview. Applicants must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or by another close family member (over 18 years old). Applicants should plan to bring in their most up-to-date student report card to discuss in the interview but will not be penalized if they do not bring it with them.</p> <p>Applicants will also be required to complete an onsite writing prompt as part of the interview. The writing prompt is an opportunity to provide the panel with additional information on the student's critical/creative thinking and writing skills.</p>



		<p>The accompanying parent, guardian, or trusted adult will also participate in a family informational session to learn more about program expectations, components, etc. The accompanying adult's participation is not factored into scoring in any way. Students for whom an accompanying adult is unable to participate will not be penalized.</p>
Onsite Writing Prompt (completed during the Interview)	Additional points not awarded outside of the interview	<p>Applicants will also be required to complete an onsite writing prompt as part of the interview. The writing prompt is an opportunity to provide the panel with additional information on the student's critical/creative thinking and writing skills.</p> <p>The on-site writing prompt is administered via paper to each candidate at the completion of their interview.</p>
<p>All applicants who score 12 or higher on the interview will be considered eligible for admission.</p> <p>For applicants who scored below 12 on the interview, a total cumulative score will be calculated based on all application components, including the interview.</p> <p>All applicants are ranked according to the total number of points earned for determination in the My School DC Lottery.</p>		