

## SY25-26 and SY26-27 Benjamin Banneker High School: Admissions Process Rubric

For Grades: 9 and 10

**Note:** This rubric will be in effect for SY25-26 and SY26-27 admissions.

**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. The applicants with the highest scores are invited to participate in an interview.

Each component is scored and weighted 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.

Admissions Component	Weight	Notes
Academic Criteria Review (GPA)	20/50 points	Benjamin Banneker High School reviews grades (GPA) as part of the report card review. Applicants must submit their final SY23-24 report card and their SY24-25 first quarter report card. Both report cards must be submitted for the application to be considered for admission.  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.
Essay: In My School DC application	6/50 points	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.

		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.
Recommendations	24/50 points	<p><b>Benjamin Banneker High School</b> 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 8<sup>th</sup> grade Math and ELA teachers. We strongly encourage applicants and families to follow up with the individuals submitting recommendations on their behalf and to check the accuracy of recommender emails to ensure we have the most complete picture of the student possible.</p> <p>Parents will be notified regarding incomplete or missing recommendations for the evaluation process to move on to the interview stage based on the recommendations that have been submitted. However, applicants will not be penalized for incomplete or missing recommendations and can be evaluated to move on to the interview stage based on the recommendations that have been submitted.</p>
<b>The applicants above a baseline score based on the threshold criteria outlined will continue to the interview component of the admissions process.</b>		
Family Interview (includes Onsite Writing Prompt)	15 points	<p><b>Benjamin Banneker High School</b> 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>



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 must be accompanied by a trusted adult or the interview will be rescheduled.

**All applicants who score 12 or higher on the interview will be considered eligible for admission.  
For applicants who scored below 12 on the interview, a total cumulative score will be calculated based on all application components, including the interview.**

**All eligible applicants will receive equal ranking for determination in the My School DC Lottery.**