

## SY24-25 Benjamin Banneker High School: Admissions Process Rubric

For Grades: 9 and 10

**About Benjamin Banneker Academic High School Admissions Criteria:** At Benjamin Banneker Academic 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 Academic High School Admissions Process:** At Benjamin Banneker Academic 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 students who receive a minimum score of 9 out of 15 points on the interview will be considered eligible for admission. For applicants who scored below a 9 on the interview, Banneker will calculate a total cumulative score based on all application components, including the interview. All eligible applicants receive equal ranking.

Admissions Component	Weight	Notes
Academic Criteria Review (GPA)	20/50 points	<p>Benjamin Banneker Academic High School reviews grades (GPA) as part of the report card review. There is no minimum GPA or test score required, but a report card must be submitted for the application to be considered for admission.</p> <p>Typically, students who are successful in our program have a GPA of 2.5 or higher on both reviewed report cards. However, we have also found that students with lower GPAs have been able to find success with the right support and strategies.</p>
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.

		Students 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	Benjamin Banneker Academic High School uses recommendations to better understand a student’s experience at school and to provide context to their academic outcomes. Recommendations comprise the majority of the Banneker application review criteria and are viewed as a critical element to get to know a student and their experiences. Benjamin Banneker Academic High School requests three (3) recommendations, each worth a maximum of <b>8</b> points. We strongly encourage students 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 as possible. Parents will be notified regarding incomplete or missing recommendations in order for the evaluation process to move on to the interview stage based on the recommendations that have been submitted. However, students 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.
<b>The applicants with the top scores on the threshold criteria will continue to the interview component of the admissions process.</b>		
Family Interview	15 points possible	<p>Benjamin Banneker Academic High School believes strongly in identifying students with a passion for learning, commitment to the community, and the tenacity to compete globally.</p> <p>Eligible students are invited to the individual, onsite, in-person student interview. Candidates must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or by another close family member (over 18 years old) or other important figure (coach, counselor, or mentor) who regularly supports the student. Candidates 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.</p> <p>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.

Based on health guidance and family circumstances, interviews may be conducted virtually for SY24-25 on an as needed basis and based on circumstance. DCPS remains committed to monitoring and following health guidance.

**All students who score a 12 or higher on the interview will be considered eligible for admissions. Students who score between 9-11 may be eligible. For students who scored below a 9 on the interview, a total cumulative score will be calculated based on all application components, including the interview. All eligible students will receive equal ranking for determination in the My School DC Lottery.**