

October 26, 2016

Dear CLA Students, Parents/Guardians,

Please read the following updates and reminders regarding open houses, shadow days, entrance exams, and financial aid forms. **IMPORTANT DUE DATES** are approaching! Attached is a calendar for the month of November listing Open House and Admissions Testing dates.

Applications- For those scholars applying to schools requiring applications, scholars need to **begin working on their applications**. Turn in all paper applications to Mrs. Gray. Inform Mrs. Gray if you applied to a high school online. Ask individual teachers (usually one math, one English teacher, & an Administrator/Counselor) for recommendation letters. Once the teacher has completed the form, he or she will turn it into Mrs. Gray. I will send all necessary documents together in one envelope to the schools. Applications to John Hay Architecture & Design and Early College are now available! See Mrs. Gray for applications. Apply online for John Hay Science & Medicine on the schools website at <http://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/cssm>

Entrance Exams-

Parochial Schools- Check the dates for the entrance exams for the Parochial (Catholic) Schools, remember each school has its own test and test date so visit the school websites for specific details.

Independent Schools- Students can prepare for the ISEE using the practice test. Please ask Mrs. Gray for a copy of the practice tests if you do not already have one. The ISEE is usually tied to scholarship money. It is better to take the test on one of the earlier dates before dollars have been distributed. You can visit the school website to register for the test or register at www.iseetest.org. The ISEE test can be taken at any Independent School offering the test. If you need a voucher, call the school you are applying to. If applying to more than one Independent School, you DO NOT have the take the ISEE more than once. Your scores can be sent to multiple schools.

Shadowing- Blank shadow forms are available in the main office. Students will be able to shadow at 1-2 schools. Shadowing is a great opportunity to see what it really “feels” like to be a student at the school, so help your scholar pick his/her shadow schools. Sign-up for a shadow day with the high school on the school’s website or by calling the school. Students need to **submit a completed CLA shadow form one week prior to the already scheduled shadow date.** Students will have to make arrangements with their teachers for missed work prior to the shadow date. Upon their return to school, students must submit the shadow formed signed by the high school so that the absence will not be counted against the students. Students may not shadow on the day of an assessment. It is up to the family to provide transportation for shadowing.

Financial Aid: Financial aid forms & links are available on the individual schools website.

Independent Schools- you can also apply online at <https://sss.secure.force.com/familyportal> to enter the PFS (Parents Financial Statement) Online. Create your PFS Online account with your email address and a password. **Complete only one PFS per household.** You can apply for aid to any number of schools for any number of children using just one PFS for the same flat fee.

Many schools have financial due dates in November and December. Financial aid forms must be completed by the due date in order to be considered for Financial Aid.

CLA will be hosting a **Financial Aid Workshop on October 24th from 5-6pm at E Preps Cliffs Campus.**

CLA Website: Please visit <http://citizensleadership.org> click on CURRENT FAMILIES for future newsletters, calendars and helpful information about the high school process.

If you have any further questions about the high school placement process, please contact me at Jill.Gray@citizensleadership.org or 216-229-8185.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jill Gray
High School Placement Coordinator & School Counselor
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