

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ACT	American College Test Tests skill in English, Math, Reading and Science Reasoning scored on a scale of 1-36. The optional Writing Test is recommended. The ACT is accepted by many colleges in lieu of SAT's and SAT Subject Tests. The ACT is given at Pomfret School in October and April. www.actstudent.org .
AP	Advanced Placement course/exam. Graded on a scale of 1 - 5, exam results of 3 or better are sent to the college of the student's choice. Each college decides whether or not it will grant credit or placement for AP work in high school; college policies vary widely.
CEEB Code (Secondary School Code)	The College Entrance Examination Board High School identification code used for all testing. Pomfret's CEEB code is 070615 . The same six numbers are used by the ACT. Students will enter this number on virtually every college application.
Class Rank	The numerical position of a student in his/her class based on grade point average. Pomfret School does not report to colleges an official grade point average nor do we report an official rank of each student.
College	An institution of learning that grants a bachelor's degree. A college may be a part of a university (Yale College is the undergraduate division of Yale University), or it may be independent.
College Board	The organization responsible for the administration of the SAT's, AP's, and the College Scholarship Service. www.collegeboard.com
Common Application	A single application which is accepted by over 460 colleges in the U.S. After completing the original online form, the student sends it to any colleges that accept the Common Application. <i>See also Supplements in this Glossary www.commonapp.org</i>
Core Curriculum	Specified courses required for graduation.
CSS	College Scholarship Service - the financial aid division of the College Board. <i>See also Profile in this Glossary</i>
Defer	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Students not admitted under Early Action or Early Decision may be deferred, which means that their application is then moved into the regular applicant pool to be reconsidered in March.2) A decision made by the student in conjunction with an accepting college to delay enrollment at that college for one year.
Division I, II, and III	Classifications made by the NCAA distinguishing athletic competition. Division I and II colleges may offer athletic scholarships and they require NCAA certification (<i>see also NCAA Clearinghouse</i>) for participation in the freshman year. Division III colleges do not offer athletic scholarships but allow every student to participate immediately regardless of secondary school GPA or standardized test scores.
Early Action	A competitive admissions program adopted by some colleges whereby a student can submit an application by an early deadline (often Nov. 1 or 15) and receive a decision by mid or late December. Admitted students are not required to notify the college of their enrollment plans until May 1 st and may submit regular applications to other institutions. <i>(e.g. Babson College, James Madison U)</i>

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Early Decision	A program whereby a student can apply to his/her first choice college early in the process (often by Nov. 1 or 15) and receive a decision by mid-December. If he/she is admitted under this program, he/she must attend and immediately withdraw any other pending applications. Many colleges also offer ED II options in January. (e.g. <i>Brown U, Haverford College, Rice U</i>)
FERPA	FERPA is the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and is a federal law that was enacted in 1974. FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and all educational institutions that receive federal funding must comply with FERPA. The full definition of the FERPA is available here: http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html
FAFSA	Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This application should be filed as soon after January 1 st as possible. Many colleges require only the FAFSA, but some also require the Profile , or their own institutional financial aid form or supplement. www.fafsa.ed.gov/#
“GAPPING”	A financial aid decision which leaves a “gap” between a family’s financial need as determined by the FAFSA and/or Profile and the amount of aid given by the school.
GPA	Grade Point Average. Pomfret School does not report a grade point average to colleges.
Ivy League	The Ivy League consists of Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton, and Yale. The league began as, and remains today, an athletic conference.
Liberal Arts	The liberal arts (or general) academic program is the core of most colleges, offering courses in the humanities - the study of literature, languages, philosophy, mathematics, and the pure sciences, which both train and liberate the mind. It is a four-year course of study, and leads to a B.S. or B.A. degree.
Major	The field of specialization or concentration for a college undergraduate.
Minor	A secondary area of academic concentration, which may or may not be required by an institution.
Merit Scholarship	Scholarship assistance offered on a non-need basis, usually academic, to students a college or university hopes to enroll.
NACAC	National Association for College Admissions Counseling. The parent body for both college admissions officers and secondary school guidance counselors, this group conducts national college fairs and sets policies, such as the national reply date of May 1, for the college admission process. Pomfret School is an institutional member, and Rod Eaton, Julia Kobus, and Bruce Wolanin are voting members.
National Candidate Reply Date	The date by which the student must notify the college of his/her enrollment intention: May 1st .
Family Connection	A web-based tool students use to research colleges and universities, to record their eventual applications and to communicate with the counseling office their application intentions.
NCAA Clearinghouse	The National Collegiate Athletic Association is the governing body for college athletics. The NCAA monitors the requirements for student athletes at the Division I and II levels. Students must apply for “certification” from the NCAA if they wish to be considered as Division I or II athletic recruit . http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.html

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Profile (CSS Profile)	A financial aid application from CSS (College Scholarship Service) that many colleges require in addition to the FAFSA . There is a fee for submitting the application. www.collegeboard.com/profile
PSAT/NMSQT	National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test and Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test, is a practice version of the SAT Reasoning exam. Taken in October of the Junior year, this exam is the first requisite toward recognition in the National Merit Scholarship competition. Scores range from 20-80, one-tenth of the regular SAT Reasoning rating scale.
Rolling Admissions	A system of admissions decision notification that spans October through March, whereby a college or university generally informs the applicant of the decision within six weeks after a student's file is complete. For rolling admissions applicants the sooner a student applies during his/her senior year, the more likely it is that there will be space available for him/her.
Restrictive Early Action	Restrictive Early Action is an umbrella term meant to cover any college with an EA program in which they have added additional restrictions. "EA-single choice" is one type of REA, but there are many others. <i>(e.g. Boston College, Yale University)</i>
SAT Reasoning	Scholastic Assessment Test. A test of critical reading and mathematical reasoning, plus a more recent writing assessment section. Each of the three sections is scored on the familiar 200-800 scale.
SAT Subject Tests	These one hour subject tests are scored on scale of 200-800. Not all colleges and universities require these tests.
SSR	Secondary School Report: counselor evaluation, transcript(s), teacher recommendations and high school profile.
Supplements	Some colleges require Supplements to the Common Application. A Supplement provides additional material (essays) or information about the applicant in addition to the Common Application. A Common Application will not be complete unless you submit the required Supplement(s) to each college requiring them. See www.commonapp.org/ and go to: <i>Down Load Forms, then, Deadlines and Requirements GRID to look at supplements by college</i>
TOEFL	Test of English as a Foreign Language. An examination taken by students whose first language is not English and used for admissions purposes as well as for placement in English classes. www.toefl.org
Transcript	A student's academic record, including courses and final grades. When a student applies to college, Pomfret School will submit all of his/her transcripts from grades nine through twelve.
University	A public or private institution that grants not only the Bachelor's degree, but offers one or more graduate program as well. Many universities are divided into separate schools of colleges at the undergraduate level as the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania or The Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse