



EMMA BLOOMBERG CENTER FOR  
**ACCESS AND  
OPPORTUNITY**  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

# PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PREPARATORY PROGRAM

## *SCHOLAR HANDBOOK*

### 2024-25

#### **PUPP MISSION AND STATEMENT OF COMMITMENTS**

The Princeton University Preparatory Program is a highly engaged, holistic college preparation and success program that fosters development of high-achieving students who have been historically marginalized. Our multi year, tuition-free program prepares participants for admission to and success within selective colleges and universities, and beyond.

Through our work, we develop and nurture:

- Passion for learning and a commitment to academic pursuits;
- Individual perspectives through critical and creative thinking, readings, discussions, personal interactions, extra-curricular and life experiences;
- A breadth and depth of academic experiences in writing, literature, social and natural sciences, mathematics and cultural arts;
- Leadership skills, self-esteem, intellectual courage, self-reliance, personal responsibility, wellness, and constructive relationships;
- Personal responsibility for the PUPP community both within the program, and among its constituents and partners; and
- Cross-cultural fluency, empathy and understanding.

In the pursuit of our Mission, we are committed to providing an environment and program that:

- Promotes engaged learning and enhance the talents, strengths, abilities, and interests that each scholar brings to the program, while acknowledging and supporting areas for development;
- Establishes and maintains rigorous academic, personal, and social principles;
- Forges mutually supportive partnerships that nurture growth and wellness among staff, scholars and their families;
- Engages scholars in a broad range of academic and cultural experiences;
- Works collaboratively with partner schools, community agencies, university personnel, and college access networks; and
- Provides scholars and their families with individualized information, resources, and guidance that is necessary to be successful in their highest attainable and most compatible choices for post-secondary education and beyond.
- Collaborates with community partners to shift the college bound culture of historically marginalized students in Mercer County so that these students no longer question college as an option, but consider it the next step in their preparation for adulthood

## PUPP Overview and Expectations

Founded in 2001, the Princeton University Preparatory Program is a highly engaged, holistic college preparation and success program that fosters development of high-achieving students who have been historically marginalized. PUPP selects 25 students during the spring of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year in high school to become PUPP Scholars and participate in our multi-year college access and success program. Acceptance into PUPP is contingent upon a student's academic record, state exam scores, a writing sample, small group interview, potential for selective college success, as well as community leadership, parents' educational background and household income. PUPP Scholars and their parents sign a contract at the start of their PUPP journey signifying their commitment to engage fully with PUPP through college.

Central to the PUPP Scholar experience is attention to each student's academic development and overall social-emotional, psychological, familial and physical wellness, as well as a cultivation of healthy habits of self-care. We believe that combining academic preparation with personal development and wellness is essential for our scholars to nurture their intellectual gifts and personal resilience to be successful in college and beyond.

Scholars participate in PUPP activities throughout the remainder of their high school career and continue their affiliation with PUPP throughout their collegiate journey and beyond. PUPP creates opportunities for inquiry, introspection, and interrogation of real-world problems and exploration of course content typical in college preparatory programs. PUPP Scholars are encouraged to develop their academic strengths, as well as their passion for knowledge and the habits of mind that will allow them to become successful college students and leaders in their community.

During their tenure as PUPP Scholars, students complete three intensive summer institutes at Princeton University. The summer institute begins with a leadership and community-building retreat and features a range of academic courses and a thematic focus that guides some of the core content and experiences. In addition to the academic courses, PUPP enhances the scholar experience with our college preparation track, beginning with the Personal Development course that allows scholars to examine their personal strengths, identities, aspirations, and commitments.

School-year programming includes weekly academic enrichment sessions held after school throughout the academic year, as well as weekend workshops, cultural excursions, college tours, test preparation and special events. During senior year, scholars participate in weekly workshops that cover college admissions, financial aid and the transition-to-college. After graduating from PUPP, program alumni stay connected to the community and can access support with their transition to college and guidance throughout their collegiate career and beyond.

## PUPP Priority Skills

To support the mission and goals of PUPP, we have identified a set of common skills that all PUPP Scholars should be able to exhibit upon completion of the program. We believe that these skills are essential for fostering scholarly and personal success. PUPP Scholars are given ample opportunities to develop, utilize, and apply these skills across the PUPP curriculum.

### Practices of Engaged Learning

- Cultivate effective habits of mind and learning strategies that support academic success, including effective note taking and outlining tactics, effective reading and writing strategies; organizational skills and the ability to manage materials and information from a variety of sources
- Cultivate visual literacy through exposure to a range of media and visual arts
- Build vocabulary, especially context-specific vocabulary
- Understand personal learning styles, strengths and areas for development, and seek appropriate resources

### Critical Thinking

- Construct sound and compelling arguments and positions that are supported by evidence Thoughtfully integrate new ideas into working knowledge of the outside world
- Apply knowledge and personal learning styles to problem solving and decision making
- Engage in meaningful research across a broad range of academic fields
- Develop numeracy (numerical literacy skills across academic and personal/financial realms)
- Understand cross-course connections and application of skills, content, vocabulary, etc., across academic fields
- Be a critical consumer - learn to apply an appropriate level of skepticism to academic/intellectual and social information and perceive gaps in the perspective or approach of the source

### Communication

- Develop critical communication skills: reading, writing, listening, thinking and speaking
- Share knowledge and ideas through effective writing, verbal communication and presentation skills with clarity, structure, confidence, sophistication and creativity
- Listening skills; critical listening/distillation of important facts
- Recognize and practice the communication styles (written and verbal) and behaviors in different social, academic and professional contexts
- Develop confident and judicious practices with social media
- Develop effective communication skills with regards to email, phone, and text communications across personal, academic, and professional contexts

### Attitudes/Behaviors - Internal

- Work independently with self-discipline, pride and high personal standards
- Practice creating and maintaining priorities and completing tasks
- Actively practice self-efficacy and follow-through skills
- Work cooperatively with and show responsibility for one's self and the overall PUPP community
- Learn and apply effective time and task management skills
- Develop a self-evaluative instinct and ability to critique own work and monitor/modify behavior
- Develop and nurture short- and long-term personal and academic goals
- Develop understanding of personal resilience and tenacity to support long-term work with patience and empathetic self-care
- Exhibit an intellectual curiosity and a habit of open-mindedness. Be able to answer, "Why is it important for me to engage with this topic, concept, or material?"

### Attitudes/Behaviors - External

- Take responsibility and be accountable for self and community
- Present self with a seriousness of purpose
- Develop skills for effective leadership that includes an ethic of social responsibility, flexibility, and a collaborative spirit
- Take intellectual risks and explore new ideas, inside and outside of the classroom

# NOTES ON THE HANDBOOK

PUPP believes that every student selected to participate possesses exceptional character.

PUPP is obligated to establish expressed guidelines and policies to safeguard the integrity of our community of scholars.

*\*The policies and procedures in the handbook will be updated as necessary.\**

## Academic and Personal Integrity

PUPP believes that every student selected to participate possesses exceptional character. Scholars are expected to produce and submit original work - not plagiarized or generated with AI or other technology or otherwise copied without proper attribution to sources or other scholars. Scholars are expected to adhere to the highest personal standards of integrity and honesty.

## Expectations for Scholar Conduct

PUPP strives to maintain an environment that enables learning and personal growth. We expect scholars to participate in a positive manner, behave appropriately in class, on campus, and on excursions, as well as demonstrate outstanding citizenship throughout their high school years and beyond. We expect scholars will follow the conduct guidelines in PUPP, in school and in the wider community.

In the event that a scholar commits an offense or violates any program rule, corrective disciplinary action will be taken by the faculty and/or administration. This may include faculty/administrative/parental conferences, restrictions from activities, withholding of or deductions to the summer stipend, expulsion, notification of civil authorities, or legal action. In keeping with this policy, parents/guardians are expected to guide and direct their child toward standards of good conduct in PUPP and to cooperate in the administration of preventative and corrective disciplinary measures.

### **Scholar Behavior Expectations Include, but are not limited to:**

- Taking an active role in learning
- Following directions and guidance from PUPP administration, faculty, Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows during all PUPP activities
- Practicing exemplary behavior at all times, including keeping an engaged posture and presence in all summer and academic year classes and activities, taking notes where appropriate, actively and positively participating in all classes and activities, and being courteous to classmates, teachers, assistants and others in the learning community
- Meeting class requirements and completing all assignments in a timely matter
- Using time and materials wisely
- Communicating respectfully, clearly and effectively with fellow scholars, teaching assistants, faculty, administration and the Princeton University community
- Demonstrating respect and compassion for fellow scholars, teaching assistants, faculty, the Princeton University community, family, and the broader community

**Unacceptable Scholar Behavior includes, but is not limited to:**

- Open and willful defiance or non-compliance with PUPP administration, staff, faculty, Teaching Assistant or Teaching Fellow instructions
- Conduct that is physically dangerous to other people
- Cuddling, public displays of affection (PDAs), or any other form of romantic touching
- Assault, battery, and/or verbal or written threats aimed toward any other individual, including scholars, faculty, administration, staff, or other University personnel, invited guests, or students or officials at partner institutions, colleges and universities
- Bullying or any inappropriate engagements in person, on social media or in online classrooms or virtual meetings
- Taking or attempting to take personal property or money from any other individual including scholars, faculty, administration, staff, or other University personnel, invited guests, or students or officials at partner institutions, colleges and universities by fear or force, or taking or attempting to take school property
- Willfully causing or attempting to cause damage to school or university property (scholars have a responsibility to make restitution in the event that any damage occurs)
- Making inappropriate sexual remarks or advances to PUPP scholars, faculty, administration, staff, or other University personnel, invited guests, or officials at institutions where PUPP is visiting
- Any form of harassment (verbal, sexual, etc.) and/or non-consensual touching
- Making derogatory remarks regarding race, ethnicity, religion, gender or sexuality toward any other individual, including scholars, faculty, administration, staff, or other University personnel, invited guests, or students or officials at partner institutions, colleges and universities
- The possession, sale or intent to sell and/or use controlled dangerous, illegal substances such as but not limited to: marijuana, heroin, cocaine or hashish
- The possession and/or use of any and all alcoholic beverages
- The possession and/or use of weapons of any kind

# SUMMER INSTITUTE GUIDELINES

## Academics

### Curriculum Design

The PUPP curriculum is composed of academic and cultural components and includes courses in art (studio and appreciation), literature, writing, math, science, social science, wellness, and college preparation (personal development, test preparation, college admissions). In addition, the curriculum is enhanced by excursions to local and regional cultural institutions. PUPP faculty and staff design their respective courses with an interdisciplinary emphasis.

### Completion of Course Assignments

- Scholars are expected to complete all homework assignments within the timeframe of the lesson or unit in which it was assigned
- During the Summer Institute, assignments will be posted and turned in via Google Classroom
- Submitted work by PUPP Scholars should be original – not plagiarized or generated with AI or other technology or otherwise copied without proper attribution to sources or other scholars

Failure to complete assignments is detrimental to learning experience and detracts from the continuity of courses. Incomplete work may result in exclusion from program activities and withholding of or deductions from the summer stipend.

### Assessment

PUPP faculty closely monitor and assess progress throughout the summer via class participation, homework, written assignments, individual and group projects and presentations. Major assignments across all courses will be assessed, providing scholars with feedback on strengths and areas for improvement. Scholars' assignments will be stored electronically within the PUPP Google Classroom environment. There are no grades assigned during PUPP, though rubrics are often used to assess whether submitted work meets expectations, exceeds expectations or is in need of improvement/revision.

At the halfway point of each summer institute, faculty members complete interim assessments for each scholar. These assessments are shared with scholars and parents for discussion and to keep families aware of each scholar's progress. At the end of the summer, faculty members prepare narrative assessments of each scholar's performance during the institute. These evaluations help form the basis for letters of recommendation written by program administrators for use in college and scholarship applications. Assessments are shared with families and are kept on file.

Scholars also complete a self-assessment at the end of each summer institute.

### Textbooks and School Supplies

PUPP provides a chromebook, graphing calculator and all textbooks, supplies and course materials for each scholar. Scholars are responsible for the care and upkeep of their supplies and are expected to bring textbooks and course materials to class daily.

# Attendance

## **Expectations for Daily Attendance**

Daily attendance at the PUPP Summer Institute is absolutely mandatory. Appointments or family vacations should be scheduled outside of the PUPP day (after 4:00 PM) or after the conclusion of the summer institute. Regular daily attendance has a direct relationship to academic achievement and a direct impact on the efficacy of the program as a whole.

## **Absences - In Case of Emergency ONLY**

Parents/guardians are required to call the PUPP office (609-258-3337) as early as possible to notify the program of an absence. Parents may leave a message on our voice mail before institute hours (8:30 AM). Excused absences include severe illness/hospitalization (must be certified with a doctor's note), quarantine, or death in the immediate family.

All other absences are considered "unexcused." Upon returning to class after an absence, scholars must bring a note and turn it into the PUPP Assistant Director for Family Engagement.

## **In Case of Illness/COVID Protocol**

Scholars who are experiencing severe cold or flu symptoms - sore throat, coughing, sneezing, runny nose, body aches, stomach ailments, etc., are expected to contact the office and may wear a mask or request an absence from in person programming. During the Summer Institute, students who are experiencing severe symptoms will be expected to coordinate with their TAs to log in to TA Office Hours on Zoom to get caught up on any missed assignments..

Scholars who develop flu-like symptoms while participating in PUPP activities may be quarantined and may be tested for COVID-19 in accordance with University policy. A positive test result will require a parent to pick-up the scholar from campus and a shift to remote learning for the period of illness.

## **Cutting Class**

Lack of authorization to miss a class shall be considered cutting class and will be treated as an unexcused absence with appropriate disciplinary action.

## **Completing Missed Work**

Scholars must complete all missed work due to absences. If it appears that a scholar will be absent for two or more days consecutively, parents/guardians should call the PUPP office (609-258-3337) and speak with the PUPP administration to arrange for any take-home assignments.

# General Policies

## **Participation in Online Courses - when needed**

- Scholars must use their Princeton Zoom account for PUPP activities
- Scholars must use their full name in their Zoom profiles
- Scholars are expected to log in on time; if there are technical difficulties, scholars must immediately reach out to a TA or staff member
- Scholars are expected to keep their cameras on during class sessions unless permission is granted by a teacher to turn the camera off for a short period of time
- Scholars are expected to be attentive and fully present during all online sessions
- Scholars are expected to follow the Princeton University Code of Conduct for Virtual Programming

## **Scholar Employment During the Summer Institute**

**PUPP Scholars should prioritize their engagement with PUPP during summer.** The PUPP Summer Institute requires the full commitment of scholars in their classes and to their homework. Scholars earn a stipend during the institute, in part, to replace potential earnings from a summer job.

## **Dress Code**

PUPP recognizes and values the uniqueness of each scholar. At the same time, it is important for each scholar to understand the concept of appropriate dress for particular situations, including academic and professional settings.

***The PUPP Dress Code covers all PUPP activities, including the summer institute and school year excursions.***

Special or protective clothing needed for art, science labs, and other special activities will be provided. Scholars are encouraged to bring comfortable gym clothes on the days that they are scheduled for Wellness class.

### **General guidelines for PUPP include:**

- Scholars are expected to present themselves in a neat manner at all times.
- Shoes designed for walking around campus and/or participating in physical activities are expected; open-toed shoes are not allowed in Princeton science labs
- Culturally or religiously appropriate head-wraps can be worn, but do-rags, bonnets, sleep scarves, or other cosmetic headgear are not permitted
- Baseball caps may not be worn indoors during campus programming or on excursions
- Scholars should wear their PUPP polo for all excursions and during special events during the Summer Institute

### **Inappropriate attire for PUPP includes:**

- clothing promoting profanity or obscenities
- jeans ripped above the knee
- low rider or pants worn below the waistline
- any shirt exposing midriff
- underwear or bed-wear worn as outerwear
- tube tops, strapless tops, low-cut shirts/blouses, cut-off/cut-up “muscle shirts”
- short shorts or mini- skirts/short dresses
- sheer leggings are not to be worn as pants



## **Cell Phones and Personal Electronics**

As a general rule, excluding calculators and chromebooks (as instructed by teachers), scholars are not permitted to use cell phones or other personal electronics during PUPP classes in a way that distracts from learning. **Personal electronic devices MUST be on vibrate or silent and put away while scholars are on the Princeton campus or on excursions.** On occasion, PUPP faculty may allow use of personal electronics for learning activities.

Scholars are generally not permitted to have headphones/earbuds visible during PUPP classes or activities in the summer or during the academic year; including most group meals and special events.

Scholars who are in violation of this policy may have their personal electronics held by the PUPP administration for the remainder of the day. Repeated violations of the cell phone/electronics policy may result in probation or a stipend deduction.

## **Use of Campus Facilities - Classrooms, Libraries, etc.**

As guests of Princeton University, PUPP Scholars are expected to act responsibly while using university property – including classrooms, the Frist Campus Center, the University Art Museum, and the Firestone Library. Disruptive or destructive behavior in classrooms or campus facilities will lead to disciplinary action.

## **Smoking**

No scholar may smoke on the University premises, at any PUPP event, while on any trips, or in any transportation vehicle. Possession of tobacco, e-cigarettes (vapes) or smoking paraphernalia is also a policy violation.

## **Alcohol and Drugs**

Use or possession of illegal drugs (including “look-alikes”) or alcohol is prohibited on school property or on school sponsored trips. First offenses require a parent-pupil-administrator conference and may result in dismissal from PUPP and legal action.

## **Weapons**

Weapons of any kind are not allowed in any aspect of PUPP. A scholar found in possession of a weapon during the program, whether on University grounds or on Program sponsored field trips, will be subject to immediate expulsion from PUPP. In addition, police will be notified and the offending scholar may be subject to arrest.

## **Transportation**

PUPP established the following guidelines to ensure safe and responsible transportation during all PUPP activities:

- Scholars travel to and from campus using the provided transportation during the summer institute and academic year activities
- Scholars are expected to be on time for their bus pick-up, respect the bus driver, and behave in a considerate and calm manner during all bus rides in order to ensure safe transportation
- PUPP provides transportation for all program activities. In the event that a scholar misses their scheduled pick up, the scholar is responsible for communicating with PUPP staff and initiating alternative transportation arrangements in a timely manner
- Scholars are not permitted to drive to and from Princeton University campus for regular PUPP programming; the University cannot be held liable for any unauthorized vehicles on campus; unauthorized vehicles are subject to the University parking regulations and may be ticketed or towed
- During PUPP program hours, scholars are not permitted to ride in cars around the Princeton University campus
- Scholars are not permitted to walk to or from the Princeton University campus during the summer institute unless they receive prior approval from the PUPP administration and have written consent from their parent or legal guardian
- Any alternative travel arrangements to and from the Princeton University campus must be approved by the PUPP administration and be coordinated via written and verbal confirmation with a parent or legal guardian

## **Special Arrangement for Transportation**

In the rare occasion that a PUPP scholar needs to be picked up early or to remain at Princeton University after classes end, arrangements must be coordinated in advance between the Program Coordinator and the parent/legal guardian of the participant. Arrangements must be made for supervision on campus or any other special needs.

## **Chromebooks, Computer Ethics and Network Security**

PUPP will provide each scholar with one Chromebook and one graphing calculator for personal academic use. PUPP Scholars are expected to bring their Chromebook and calculator with them each day in the summer and to occasional workshops during the school year. Scholars should maintain and protect these devices throughout their time in PUPP. PUPP will work with scholars to repair or replace damaged Chromebooks.

PUPP works to protect the security for all users of Princeton University's Wifi Networks and to prevent violations of software license agreements. Violations of the policy may result in disciplinary action. Serious violations may be punishable under criminal statutes covering unlawful access, altering or damaging any computer system, network, software or database, with the intent to interrupt the normal functioning of an organization. Disclosing a password, deliberately and without authorization, to a computer system or network is also punishable by criminal statutes.

1. Scholars may not introduce any information, including software applications, on any University computer system.
2. Scholars will not change or in any way alter any PUPP computer or tablet or Princeton network device, device or peripheral name, file and/or folder names or network zones.
3. Scholars are prohibited from copying software applications, folders, and/or files from within or between network zones or to personal flash drives without first obtaining staff approval and copyright compliance. Copying of any of the above will only be for the purpose of curriculum related projects as allowed or assigned by the teacher.
4. Passwords are assigned for each scholar and are for the individual use by that scholar. Distribution or alteration of a password is considered electronic forgery and is prohibited.
5. Network resources, including hardware, peripherals, and software, may not be used for personal entertainment and/or any private activities.

# SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM GUIDELINES

## Academic Expectations

Scholars are expected to maintain a B+ average or better throughout their high school careers and are strongly encouraged to strive for Honor Roll status at each marking period. In addition, scholars must take challenging, college preparatory courses, including honors and Advanced Placement.

## Academic Probation and Removal

PUPP staff regularly review academic progress for each scholar. Each semester, PUPP Scholars will meet with a member of the PUPP team to review high school transcripts and ensure that course selection is done with college admissions and scholar strengths in mind.

- Scholars who fail to maintain a B+ average will be given a warning and may be placed on academic probation
- Scholars on academic probation for more than one school year may be dismissed from PUPP
- Scholars can also be placed on probation for excessive absences or for inappropriate behavior during the school year (during regular school hours or PUPP events), after-school sessions, test preparation sessions or cultural excursions

## Academic Enrichment - Attendance and Participation

PUPP Scholars are required to attend and participate fully in the academic-year programming. Academic enrichment programming is an essential component of PUPP. PUPP Teaching Fellows host weekly, after-school sessions at each of our partner schools. Sophomores and juniors are required to attend and participate fully and positively in these sessions. Seniors are expected to participate in weekly College Admissions sessions throughout senior year.

If scholars are unable to attend individual sessions or meetings they must connect with a PUPP staff member as early as reasonably possible to indicate their absence. An explanation of their absences (parent note, doctor's note, or other evidence may be requested).

- **Multiple absences from enrichment sessions may result in disciplinary action or loss of stipend and could lead to dismissal from PUPP.**

Scholars are expected to prioritize attendance at after-school sessions and complete all assignments related to these activities. PUPP tracks attendance and participation at all after-school academic sessions, cultural excursions (theater, opera, etc.), test preparation, college admissions workshops and college tours. Scholars may request permission from the PUPP administration to attend a significant high school event should there be a conflict on a specific day.

PUPP Teaching Fellows complete regular progress and participation reports for sophomores and juniors. These reports are sent home and kept in PUPP files.

- **Repeated absences and/or failure to participate positively may result in disciplinary action and could lead to removal from PUPP.**

## **Saturday Workshops and Cultural Excursions**

Saturday Workshops and Cultural Excursions are an important aspect of the college preparation process, providing PUPP Scholars with unique opportunities to learn and develop new skills, as well as gain exposure to both classical and contemporary works of art, theater, opera and dance. PUPP hosts regular trips to theater, dance and other cultural events throughout the year. Most of the trips occur on Saturdays, though some may take place on weekdays (with school and parental permission). For many of the excursions, PUPP Scholars will be asked to reflect on their experience or critique the performance as part of their work with the PUPP Teaching Fellows in Academic Enrichment.

- Scholars are expected to dress appropriately for excursions (*SEE DRESS CODE*)
- Attendance at Saturday workshops and cultural excursions is mandatory
- Exemplary behavior is expected of scholars on all excursions
- Absences from cultural excursion may result in deductions in a future summer stipend at the rate of the cost of the ticket purchased for the event

For all events, PUPP will provide either refreshments or meals (lunch) and for most events, PUPP will provide transportation to and from our partner schools. Some local excursions may also include opportunities for parents or other family members to attend. Reminders will be sent to scholars in a timely manner prior to each event.

If a scholar is unable to attend an excursion due to school-related conflicts, they should notify the PUPP Director at least **one week** in advance and request an alternative arrangement. When available, arrangements could be made for an alternative excursion or experience. PUPP will work with scholars on a case-by-case basis to make accommodations if an alternative excursion is available.

## **Junior Year College Preparation Activities**

PUPP juniors take part in up to two rounds of preparation classes for the ACT exams during the junior year, one in the winter and another in the spring. Scholars are required to attend all test prep sessions and are excused from their regularly scheduled after-school enrichment during the weeks where there is overlap. Test preparation courses also include mandatory Saturday practice tests. Scholars will register for the ACT using a fee waiver provided by PUPP. Additional test preparation sessions may be available for scholars during their senior year.

- Absences from test preparation activities may result in deductions in a future summer stipend at the pro-rated cost of the course/activity missed

Juniors participate in fall college tours and other college preparation activities throughout the year.

## **Senior Year Expectations & College Preparation Activities**

During senior year, PUPP Scholars are required to take part in all PUPP cohort meetings, Saturday Workshops and Cultural Excursions. Seniors serve as positive role models for younger scholars and for their high school peers.

### **College Admissions 101**

The College Admissions 101 course for PUPP seniors continues from the summer into senior year of high school, in addition to a series of college tours and college application workshop days. College admissions activities include:

- Weekly after school sessions focused on college applications, financial aid, scholarship applications, and transition-to-college topics
- Test preparation classes and Saturday practice tests
- College tours and workshops on any school holiday
- Fall overnight college tour

PUPP seniors are expected to apply to at least nine (9) colleges and universities, including at least one (1) in-state institution (unless a scholar applies and is accepted early decision). PUPP will assist scholars with fee waivers for college application fees and, if necessary, will reimburse scholars for up to five (5) college application fees. Scholars can expect the following support from the PUPP Team:

- Scholar and family 1:1 meeting to discuss college application plans
- Support with college list development to include target, reasonable reach, and reach schools
- Application essay consultation, drafting and editing
- Financial aid application completion workshops
- Letter of recommendation from PUPP
- Assistance with college visits to accepted schools
- Final scholar and family 1:1 meeting to discuss financial aid packages and enrollment decision

### **Financial Aid**

PUPP seniors typically complete their financial aid applications by the end of October in their senior year. (For the Class of 2025, the timeline may be altered due to updates to the FAFSA.) PUPP assists scholars and their families with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the CollegeBoard's CSS Profile, and any additional school-based aid forms. PUPP seniors are also expected to apply for a range of local and national scholarships (e.g. Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship, Coca-Cola Foundation, Gates Scholarship and others).

### **PUPP Transition-to-college Programming**

PUPP continues for a **fourth summer** - between high school and college. PUPP Scholars are expected to take part in summer "bridge" programs at their respective colleges (if available) or a Princeton University academic course offered as a blended "on-line/in-person" offering the opportunity to earn course credit from Princeton. PUPP Scholars can request to participate in alternative academic opportunities during this "fourth summer" and requests will be decided on an individual basis. There may also be the opportunity to participate in an Alumni Transition Seminar in August focused on final preparations for college student life.

PUPP Scholars have the opportunity to earn a final stipend at the end of their senior year split into two payments; one distributed at the PUPP Graduation Ceremony held each spring; and the second payment after the successful completion of the summer transition seminar and the required summer academic experience.

### **PUPP Alumni Programming & Engagement**

PUPP supports PUPP Alumni through college and beyond through a range of activities including:

- Support during the transition to college including navigating enrollment logistics, course selection, financial aid, transportation, and other related concerns
- Periodically host virtual and/or in person check in's with alumni
- Guidance with career exploration, summer opportunities, and professional development
- Support for scholars who seek to transfer from their current institution
- Support with planning and preparing for graduate and/or professional school admissions, including GRE Prep courses, graduate school application workshops, and other resources
- Host alumni gatherings and networking events
- Provide opportunities for alumni to serve as guest speakers for PUPP Summer Institute courses or special events

## **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

PUPP will always operate in a proactive manner to provide a safe and positive learning environment for all scholars. However, if a scholar is not able to abide by the set guidelines and expectations, or if he/she is not able to fulfill his/her academic obligations in a satisfactory manner, these action(s) could result in the following:

- Verbal or written warning
- Conference with faculty member, TA, and/or PUPP Administrator
- Call to parent
- Exclusion from excursions
- Parent conference
- Withholding of all or portions of the summer stipend
- Probationary Period
- Discipline or Status Hearing
- Dismissal from PUPP and the denial of any future stipends or program participation

Any action(s) taken by the PUPP administration will be based upon the severity of the situation, repeated occurrences related to the same issue or the cumulative impact of policy violations. We expect scholars to take responsibility for their actions and must uphold our policies at all times.

## **PUPP SCHOLAR OATH**

I am a PUPP Scholar.

I am here because I am supposed to be here.

I represent my community, my school, my family, and myself.

I commit to accomplish all that is required of me.

I commit to hold myself to a standard of excellence.

I commit to work hard to fulfill the goals I set for myself.

I will achieve what is destined for me.

I will invest in my own growth and development.

I will strive to be the best PUPP Scholar that I can be.

Today, I join a community of scholars, who will support, encourage, and uplift each other. I will hold myself accountable.

We will hold each other accountable.

We are PUPP Scholars.

## **PUPP SCHOLAR CONTRACT**

At the start of the PUPP journey, a letter of agreement will be signed by the scholar and their parent/guardian. PUPP Scholars agree to the following:

- Abide by the guidelines set forth in the PUPP Scholar Handbook
- Attend and actively participate in three consecutive six-and-a-half week summer institutes of PUPP
- Attend and actively participate in all PUPP functions and activities during the academic school year, including weekly academic enrichment, monthly PUPP cohort meetings, cultural excursions, college fairs, college admissions and financial aid workshops
- Enroll in academically rigorous courses in high school
- Exhibit outstanding citizenship in school, at PUPP, and in the community at large
- Maintain honor roll status or a B average during their sophomore, junior and senior years of high school
- Be an active and engaged learner in all PUPP courses and in all school classes
- Fulfill necessary requirements for college admissions – including taking ACT preparation courses; taking required college entrance exams (ACT, SAT Subject Tests); applying to colleges and universities; attending PUPP sponsored college visits; completing financial aid and scholarship applications; and taking advantage of all additional college preparatory activities offered by PUPP
- Participate in an alumni transition workshop and take advantage of summer-bridge programming or college course in the summer between senior year of high school and the first year of college
- Practice appropriate and respectful behavior at all times, and especially toward PUPP faculty, staff, fellow scholars, invited guest lecturers, other Princeton University officials, and members of school and local community

# ACT Test Information - 2024-25

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
September 14, 2024	August 9, 2024	August 25, 2024
October 26, 2024	September 20, 2024	October 7, 2024
December 14, 2024	November 8, 2024	November 22, 2024
February 8, 2025	January 3, 2025	January 20, 2025
April 5, 2025	February 28, 2025	March 16, 2025
June 14, 2025	May 9, 2025	May 26, 2025

## College Search & Financial Aid Resources

- [College Results Online](#)
- [The Common App](#)
- [The Coalition for College](#)
- [FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#)
- [NJ Higher Education Student Assistance Authority \(HESAA\)](#)
- [Fastweb - Scholarship Search](#)
- [Collegevine - Schools that meet 100% of Student Need](#)
- [Greater Trenton College Access Network](#)



# Additional Information

## **PUPP Friends and Family Engagement Opportunities**

PUPP welcomes the occasional engagement of friends, siblings and other family members to selected PUPP events, including college tours, test preparation courses, and weekend excursions.

If a scholar, staff member or faculty member would like to bring a guest to a PUPP event, they must request permission from the PUPP leadership team. Most of these engagements will be at no cost to the guest, though some items (food, admission tickets, etc.) may be the responsibility of the guest.

During the academic year College Admissions workshop days that are held at our local partner high schools, PUPP welcomes the participation of friends of current scholars and other students from first generation and/or lower-income families.

## **Visitors**

Parents/guardians and guests are welcome to visit PUPP. Please contact the PUPP office to arrange any visit.

**PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PREPARATORY PROGRAM**  
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