

**The Howard County Public School System
The College and Career Advantage**

The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) partners with families and the community to ensure that all students develop the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in the 21st century. The school system's mission states that HCPSS expects each student to graduate ready "to participate responsibly in a diverse and changing world." Although there is no single pathway to college and careers, achieving the readiness indicators listed below gives students the college and career advantage.

Readiness Indicators

	Ready for K <i>Early Childhood Beginnings</i>	Ready for Grade 3 <i>Laying the Foundation</i>	Ready for Middle School <i>Strengthening the Foundation</i>	Ready for High School <i>Building for Success</i>	College/Career Ready <i>Making the Most of High School</i>
Academic Achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified as fully ready across the seven domains of the Maryland Model of School Readiness (Language and Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Personal/Social, The Arts, Physical Development and Health) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marked on or above grade level in reading and mathematics by end of grade 2 At or above national norms on SAT-10 (Stanford Achievement Test) for grade 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marked on or above grade level in reading and mathematics in grades 3–5 Scored proficient or advanced on reading and mathematics MSA/Mod-MSA/Alt-MSA for grades 3 to 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marked on or above grade level in reading and mathematics in grades 6–8 Completed mathematics needed to take Algebra II in or before grade 12 Scored proficient or advanced on reading and mathematics MSA/Mod-MSA/Alt-MSA for grades 6 to 8 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met HCPSS graduation requirements, choosing rigorous courses and electives** Completed at least Algebra II and took mathematics each year of high school Passed HSAs/mod HSAs on first administration or scored proficient or advanced on Alt-MSA Earned 500 or higher on each SAT subtest or earned a composite score of 22 or higher on the ACT
Academic (Learning) Behaviors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified as exhibiting satisfactory or outstanding learning behaviors on the Prekindergarten Report Card* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified as exhibiting satisfactory or outstanding learning behaviors on the primary report cards (K and grades 1-2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified as exhibiting satisfactory or outstanding learning behaviors on the intermediate report card (grades 3-5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed satisfactory or outstanding organization and time management skills, as well as the motivation to succeed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified career goals and steps necessary to achieve them Developed work ethic and employability skills
Extracurricular and Community Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in community activities of interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in school and/or community activities of interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in school and/or community activities of interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Service Learning requirement Participated in school and/or community activities of interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in school and/or community activities of interest
Attendance and Punctuality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended prekindergarten 96% or more of school days* Arrived at school on time each day* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended school 96% or more of 180 days Arrived at school on time each day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended school 96% or more of 180 days Arrived at school on time each day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended school 96% or more of 180 days Arrived at school on time each day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended school 96% or more of 180 days Arrived at school on time each day
Responsible Behavior and Positive Attitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interacted appropriately with other children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Followed schoolwide behavioral expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Followed schoolwide behavioral expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Followed schoolwide behavioral expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Followed schoolwide behavioral expectations

* Not all students enroll in a prekindergarten program; other indicators may be used for students in other programs/settings.

**Honors course, G/T course, AP course, Independent Research, G/T Intern/Mentor Program, or a high level course in the fine arts.