

# **Common Application FAQ**

Can also be used for Coalition Application

## **Does Washington-Liberty weight its GPA?**

- Yes.

## **What GPA scale does W-L use?**

- 4.0 weighted scale.

## **What is my Cumulative GPA? What is my rank?**

- You will find your cumulative (middle school grades through the end of your Junior year) GPA and your class rank on the bottom of your transcript or in your Naviance Account.

## **Does W-L rank its students?**

- Yes. We have a weighted rank. Anyone with a 4.0 GPA or higher is ranked 1.

## **How is rank reported?**

- We use an exact rank (not a percentile, etc).

## **How do I unweight my GPA or rank?**

- W-L does not report unweighted GPA or rank.

## **How many students in the graduating class?**

- As of 9/3/2024 there are 592 students in the senior class. \*\*\*Please note rank will not be officially set until mid-September after the final Middle School Elimination Request date of August 30, 2024.

## **How do I know my Counselor's email, fax, and phone number?**

- Specific Counselor's emails and phone numbers can be found on the Counseling website or ask your Counselor for a business card. The Counseling fax number is 703-841-1046. Contact information is also listed in the College Application Guidebook.

## **Should I self-report my SAT scores?**

- Yes, you can self-report, but you should still send an official score report through College Board or ACT.org to the schools you are applying to if requested from the college.

## **Does W-L send SATs or ACTs scores to colleges or scholarships?**

- No. Scores are not considered official unless sent directly from College Board or ACT.org. We are not able to send scores to scholarships, so print the score sheet from your student access, but make sure it displays your name and all scores. Counselors can sign off or initial to validate.

## **What is a secondary school report?**

- A Secondary School Report (SSR) is a form that your school Counselor or another School Official will be asked to fill out. It usually asks for GPA and rank. The Common Application has one that can be used for all Common App schools and will be filled out by your

Counselor in Naviance. \*\*Non-Common App schools may have their own school-specific SSR. Please look in your application to see if this applies.

**The question on Common App that asks “If you have taken a college course beginning in 9<sup>th</sup> grade...”**

- refers to a Dual Enrollment course.

**What day is graduation?**

- June 4, 2025\* date pending

**How does FERPA relate to your college application?**

1. FERPA gives you the right to review confidential letters of recommendation under certain circumstances IF:
  - You are enrolled in college and that college saves the recommendations for enrolled students, OR
  - You are 18 or older.
2. In the application you'll be asked if you want to waive this right. Why would you want to do that?
  - Waiving your right lets colleges know that you do not intend to read your recommendations, which helps reassure colleges that the letters are candid and truthful.
  - Some recommenders may refuse to write a letter for you unless you waive your rights. Check with your counselor or teachers to see if any of them follow such a policy.
3. Still unsure how to respond?
  - That's OK. Many students are. Before you respond to the FERPA waiver question, take a moment to discuss your decision with your counselor, another school official, or your parent/legal guardian.
  - For more information on FERPA follow this link: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>

**\*Please do not add W-L teachers or Counselors directly to your Common App. It freezes your account and may take days to weeks for Common App to unfreeze your account. We have no control over it!**

**\*We suggest that you wait and not connect your Common App account with Naviance until we provide directions to do so. There are certain steps that need to happen in a certain order for the connection to happen smoothly.**

**\*Please wait to add your teachers to your Naviance account, we will provide instruction on how to do this.**

