



Fall 2008



## Communicating With Your Child's School

By GreatSchools Staff

### Fall Tutorial Dates

#### SENIORS

October 11

November 8, 22

#### 10th/11th GRADERS

October 4, 25

November 1, 15

#### NEW STUDENTS

October 11

November 8, 22

### Fall Workshops

#### Senior Work Overload Workshop

October 11

#### Junior College Planning Workshop

October 25

\*workshops take place during  
tutorial

Knowing who does what in your child's school--and figuring out the best ways to communicate with school staff--can help you to be effective in supporting your child's success.

It used to be that parents called the school secretary or PTA president for basic information about what was going on at the school. While the school secretary still provides important information, many schools now have additional ways of communicating with parents.

For instance, a growing number of schools are using Web sites, voice mail systems and email to provide parents with information on upcoming school events, testing dates, school policies, and academic programs and more. An increasing number of teachers also email information to parents regarding homework assignments, field trip notices and class projects. At the elementary and middle school levels, many schools send home with students a weekly newsletter containing a full list of

things going on at the school. At the high school level, the PTA often takes on the task of communicating with the parents.

Sometimes you'll want to talk to the school to address problems or express concerns. A good rule of thumb is to begin by communicating with the person closest to your concern. For instance, if your child does not seem to have homework, it makes sense to ask the teacher for an explanation. If you don't get an adequate response, try contacting the principal.

Sometimes you may want to call someone at the school about a highly emotional issue, such as a conflict your child may be having with another child. As a general rule, avoid calling when angry; always allow yourself a "cooling off" period before addressing a potentially divisive issue unless it's an emergency. And remember that no matter how the situation may feel, school personnel do want to work with parents to resolve problems for students.

*Check Out Key Contact Information on page 2*

# EVENTS

## Baltimore College Fair

October 1, 2008

9am-1pm

Patapsco Arena

3301 Annapolis Rd, 21230

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annapol "How to Pay for College" Seminar

October 20, 2008

6pm-8pm

Enoch Pratt Free Library

Central (Downtown)

## NCACAC College Fair

November 11 & 12, 2008

9am-1pm, (12th) 9am-12pm

Baltimore Convention Center

## Senior Applications Due

November 26, 2008

All day

UMBC, Math/Psych 007



*Continued from Page 1*

### Key Contact Information

At the start of each school year, gather the information in the list below; keep it on hand so that when issues arise you can go straight to the right person. Some of the information below can be found on a school's GreatSchools.net profile; other details you can learn by contacting the school itself.

**Information YOU  
need >**

-School telephone number and school secretary name

-PTA president name, telephone number and email address

-School newsletter frequency

-Principal email address

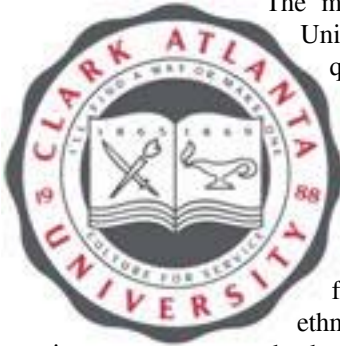
-School Web site URL

-Teacher email addresses and voice mail telephone numbers, if available

# COLLEGE

## focus

### Clark Atlanta University



The mission of Clark Atlanta University is to provide a quality undergraduate, graduate and professional education to a student body that is predominantly African-American and also diversified by students from various other racial, ethnic, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. As an institution grounded in the liberal arts, the University is committed to the development of productive and creative students who excel in their chosen careers and who become responsible citizens in their communities and the world.

To achieve its mission, the University attracts and maintains a dedicated faculty that meets high professional standards in teaching, scholarship, research, and service. The University also provides an educational environment in which its students thrive, learn, and develop their potential for leadership and responsible citizenship, and the pursuit and creation of knowledge.

The University maintains an historic relationship with the United Methodist Church and emphasizes sound ethical and moral principles that promote personal integrity and understanding of others.

223 James P. Brawley Dr., SW  
Atlanta, GA 30314-4391  
Phone: 404-880-8784 Fax: 404-880-6174  
<http://www.cau.edu>

Average High School GPA: 2.9  
Regular Application Deadline: 06/01  
Priority Application Date: 03/01  
Notification Begins: 01/01

Total Undergraduate Enrollment: 3,533  
Female: 72.6%  
Out of State: 68%  
Freshman Enrollment: 1,061

Campus size: (number of acres): 126  
Campus-wide Internet Network: Yes  
Registered Student Organizations: 60

Tuition: \$16,328.00  
Undergraduate receiving need-based financial aid: 98%  
Direct Lender: No

Academic Criteria: Importance  
Rigor of Secondary School Record: Very important  
Class Rank: Not Considered  
Academic GPA: Very important  
Standardized Test Scores: Very important  
Application Essay: Important  
Recommendation(s): Important  
Non-Academic Criteria: Importance  
Extracurricular Activities: Not Considered  
Talent / Ability: Important  
Character / Personal Qualities: Very important  
Religious Affiliation / Commitment: Not Considered  
Racial / Ethnic Status: Not Considered  
Volunteer Work: Not Considered  
Work Experience: Important  
Level of applicant's interest: Important



Federal Student Aid

**FAFSA4caster** 

Preparing for college takes planning and organization.

Paying for college takes financial aid.

FAFSA4caster will help you get an early start on the financial aid process by providing you with an early estimate of your eligibility for federal student aid.

In addition, FAFSA4caster will increase your knowledge of the financial aid process and provide information about other sources of aid.

Another feature of FAFSA4caster is the “FAFSA4caster Tip”. These tips appear throughout the site and provide you with information that will help make preparing for college and the financial aid process easier.

But that’s not all. If you use FAFSA4caster, when you’re ready to officially apply for aid, FAFSA4caster will transfer all of your data to the FAFSA on the Web application, making the experience of applying for federal student aid a lot easier for you.

So help make your forecast a bright one by not only planning for college but by preparing for the costs of a college education.

Go ahead and get started... use FAFSA4caster now!

**<http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov/>**

**KnowHow2GO**

Young people in all socio-economic groups have college aspirations. In fact, eight out of 10 expect to attain a bachelor’s degree or higher, according to the U.S. Department of Education. But despite their aspirations, low-income students and those who are the first in their families to pursue higher education are severely underrepresented on college campuses.

In order to turn these students’ college dreams into action-oriented goals, the American Council on Education, Lumina Foundation for Education and the Ad Council launched the KnowHow2GO campaign in January 2007. This multiyear, multimedia effort includes television, radio and outdoor public service advertisements (PSAs) that encourages 8th through 10th graders to prepare for college using four simple steps.

**The Four Steps to College**

Be a pain – Let everyone know that you’re going to college and need their help.

Push yourself – Working a little harder today will make getting into college even easier.

Find the right fit – Find out what kind of school is the best match for you and your career goals.

Put your hands on some cash - If you think you can’t afford college, think again. There’s lots of aid out there.

To ensure that students and adult mentors who connect with the powerful messages of the PSA campaign can easily find real-time, on-the-ground assistance, we have built and continue to support a strong grassroots network of partners.

**<http://www.knowhow2go.org>**

# career focus

## Upward Bound Educator

A lot of students have asked questions about working for Upward Bound, so here's some information on the process.



Upward Bound is part of TRiO. The TRiO projects were created by the U.S. Department of Education as part of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Though programs are housed at various universities and colleges across the country, TRiO programs are under the authority of the Office of Post Secondary Education in the U.S. Department of Education.

If you plan to work for Upward Bound, you need to be extremely passionate about helping students and parents. You also have to be willing to go the extra mile for students, even if it falls outside of the normal 9 to 5 office hours.

### Education

Most Upward Bound Educators hold Bachelor's degrees in Sociology, Social Work, or Psychology. Most directors and counselors also hold Master's degrees in the same disciplines.

### Experience

Many Upward Bound employees were tutor/counselors or interns for a program prior to becoming full-time staff members. Try to get experience with students from low-income areas. You can tutor at your high school and vol-

unteer with outreach programs, and once you get to college you can work for Upward Bound as a tutor.

Corris Davis, Director

3 years as a tutor/counselor, multiple years as Office Coordinator and Assistant Director

Bachelor's: Biology

Master's: Information Technology

Kerra Trusty, Senior Counselor

Morgan U. Upward Bound intern, multiple years working with outreach programs

Bachelor's: Social Work

Master's: Social Work

Janelle Price, Academic Coordinator

3 years as a tutor/counselor, multiple years as Program Assistant and Office Coordinator

Bachelor's: Information Systems/ Sociology

Master's: Information Tech. Project Mgmt. (2011)

Richard Moore, Academic Counselor

Bachelor's: Biology

Multiple years working with outreach programs and teaching

# Parents

Understanding Learning Styles

# NEWS

The State of the HSAs

---

Fall Birthdays