

# QUEST BRIDGE

## National College Match: How To Apply

**Deadline: September 27, 2017**

Quest Bridge is a powerful platform that connects the nation's brightest students from low-income backgrounds with leading institutions of higher education and further opportunities. We are an aggregator of excellence. By facilitating these exchanges, Quest Bridge aims to increase the percentage of talented low-income students attending the nation's best universities and the ranks of national leadership itself.

### **Before you apply**

1. Review who should apply to make sure you qualify.
2. Learn how the National College Match works.
3. Carefully consider our college partners, including their testing requirements to make sure you are on track to rank these colleges.

### **Application Requirements**

- A free, online National College Match application, including information on your academic and extracurricular accomplishments, financial background\*, two essays, short answer questions
- Two letters of recommendation from teachers in core academic subjects
- A Secondary School Report from your high school counselor
- A School Profile (optional, but recommended)
- A high school transcript and additional transcripts (if applicable)
- Any standardized test score reports to-date. We accept SAT, ACT, Subject Tests, IB, or AP test scores. SAT and/or ACT test scores are highly recommended.

### **Academic Criteria**

- Grades and rigor of high school curriculum: Primarily A's in the most challenging courses available (usually including Honors, AP, and/or IB level courses.)
- Class rank: Top 5-10% of your graduating class.
- Standardized test scores
- SAT or PSAT scores > 1310
- ACT composite score > 28

- We also recommend submitting any AP, IB, or SAT Subject Test scores. Review the standardized testing requirements for each college.
- We also look for evidence of strong writing ability, intellectual spark, and determination through essays and teacher/counselor recommendations.

**Financial Qualifications:** Finalists typically come from households earning less than \$65,000 annually for a family of four, and often less. This is not a strict cut-off and we encourage students who feel they have faced significant financial hardship to review these financial details carefully to see if they may qualify.

### **Personal Circumstances**

The following factors are taken into account when reviewing applications:

- Parents' level of education: 70% of Finalists are among the first generation in their family to attend a U.S. four-year college.
- Extenuating circumstances: If students have an unusual level of responsibility, such as part-time jobs to help their parents pay the bills, or caring for siblings if their parents are absent or at work.
- Extracurricular achievements: Accomplishments and leadership roles in extracurricular and community activities.

*\*Access to previous year tax returns and other financial documents is highly recommended and will help you complete the application.*

For additional information visit: <https://www.questbridge.org/>