

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guidance Counselor's Name \_\_\_\_\_



**CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL  
PRE-APPLICATION PAPERWORK**

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In order for your guidance counselor to prepare the best possible letter of recommendation for you, please complete and submit the attached forms to the CHS Guidance Department.

- AUTOBIOGRAPHY (completed by you and submitted to your guidance counselor)
- SENIOR INFORMATION SHEET (completed by you and submitted to your guidance counselor)
- PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE (completed by a parent/guardian and submitted to your guidance counselor)
- PEER REFERENCE (completed by a peer who knows you well and submitted to your guidance counselor)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## AUTOBIOGRAPHY

As part of your college application, your guidance counselor is responsible for completing a "Secondary School Report" which includes a letter of recommendation. The guidance counselor hopes to present some sense of your promise for further personal and intellectual growth. In order to convey the unique qualities that make you "you", we need an honest assessment of yourself, what you have done, and what you have left to do.

Please take the time to think about who you are and where you are headed. Don't limit yourself to discussing only what has happened to you at school; incorporate experiences and activities drawn from any part of your life, and please be specific.

**We recommend that you make a copy of this autobiography to assist you in writing your college applications. PLEASE USE BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY.**

1. Which courses have interested you the most? Please explain.

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2. Which course has given you the most difficulty? Please explain.

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3. What do you **choose to learn** when you can learn on your own? Consider interests pursued beyond class assignments: topics chosen for research papers, lab reports, individual projects, independent reading, jobs, volunteer work or hobbies. What do your choices show about your interests and the way you like to learn?

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4. List 2-3 books you have read in the last 12 months (preferably not books assigned to class).

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5. What has been your **most stimulating intellectual or academic experience** in recent years outside of school? (Summer experiences, travel) Explain how it influenced your personal growth.

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6. Do you feel your high school grades reflect your ability? Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_  
If not, what circumstances have prevented you from realizing your full potential?

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7. Are there any **outside circumstances** (in your recent experience or background) that have interfered with your academic performance? (Physical disability or difficult circumstances outside of school which may have affected you).

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8. If you have traveled or lived in different localities, comment on those **significant** experiences.

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9. **What do your parent(s) expect of you?** Have they expressed specific plans/ambitions, goals for you?

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10. What 2 or 3 issues in the world are you the most concerned about or interested in? Explain why.

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11. What out-of-school activities have helped you develop better interpersonal skills? Give examples.

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12. Please give 3 words to describe yourself academically and 3 words to describe yourself personally:

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13. What is your possible college major? \_\_\_\_\_

14. What do you consider your greatest strengths? Please elaborate

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15. What do you consider your weaknesses? Please elaborate.

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16. How would people who know you well describe you? Would you agree with their assessment? How have you grown or changed during your high school years?

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17. Who has had the greatest impact on your life and why?

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5. Please describe your child in terms of achievement in school. What examples would you use to describe your child at his or her best in the school setting?

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6. Please describe your child as a person. What qualities do you most admire? What anecdotes might illustrate your child at his or her best?

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7. What would you most like a college admissions officer to know about your child?

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Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL  
30 FAIR STREET  
CARMEL, NY 10512

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT  
PHONE: 845-225-8441  
FAX: 845-228-2307

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### *PEER REFERENCE*

*Please ask a peer who knows you well to complete this form on your behalf.*

*Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ is applying for admission to college. Please use the questions below as a guide to tell us of your impressions. You are encouraged to cite examples that would help support the information you provide. Return this form to your friend or directly to the CHS Guidance Department as soon as possible.. All information provided is confidential and will be used by his/her Guidance Counselor only. Thank you for helping us to better appreciate this special friend.*

*1. How long and in what context have you known the student?*

*2. What do you feel are this person's strengths and weaknesses? Why do you value knowing this person? Does he/she have any special talents or abilities? What qualities do you feel this person will bring to a college campus?*

