Thank you for your interest in applying to the Exploring Transfer Program. This packet contains all the necessary forms for application.

About the Exploring Transfer Program

For over twenty-five years, the Exploring Transfer summer program has given community college students the chance to live and learn at Vassar College. In addition to rigorously preparing students for transfer to four-year institutions, the program provides students with a stimulating experience that enables them to decide if they would prefer to attend a challenging four-year liberal arts college. Correspondingly, students participating in the Exploring Transfer Program are immersed in an academically intensive five-week program, designed to foster the type of intellectual growth for which Vassar is known. Each student takes two 100-level Vassar courses which are team-taught by a Vassar professor and a community college professor; lives on the Vassar campus in dormitory housing and takes meals in the campus dining halls. Vassar covers the cost of the courses, housing, food, and books. In return, the program asks that students come with an eagerness to learn and a desire to challenge themselves academically, transcending boundaries previously thought impassable.

About Vassar College

Founded in 1861 and situated in the Hudson Valley, Vassar College is a highly selective, residential, coeducational liberal arts college. Consistently ranked among the best liberal arts colleges in the country, Vassar is renowned for pioneering achievements in education, for its long history of curricular innovation, and for the beauty of its arboreal campus. The unique traditions upon which the college was founded continue to be cornerstones of the Vassar ethos: a determination to excel, a willingness to experiment, a dedication to the values of the liberal arts and sciences, a commitment to the advancement of equality between the sexes, and the development of leadership. The Vassar curriculum is characterized by boldness, breadth, and flexibility. Vassar graduates are recognized as a “breed apart” for their independence of thought. Vassar College continues to stand at the forefront of liberal arts institutions.

Application Instructions

The Exploring Transfer packet contains four parts, with each part being labeled in the upper-right-hand corner of the page. Please prepare the forms in their entirety using black ink, carefully following the instructions in each section. Alternatively, you may download the forms to your computer and prepare them electronically. Throughout the application process, you should be working with a coordinator from the Exploring Transfer committee at your respective community college. They will help ensure that your application is complete and that you have met all the necessary application requirements. A complete application packet must contain all of the following:

- One copy of forms 1, 3 and 4
- Two instructor evaluations (form 2) – note: Please provide us with the names of the evaluators since faculty may opt to send this form independently. Also it is your responsibility to follow-up with the evaluators to make sure they have submitted the evaluation.
- One official copy of your community college transcript
- One copy of your personal essay. Use one side only for each page of the essay.

Please do not staple any portion of your application.

Applications are due at Vassar no later than March 31. FOR SUMMER 2011 PROGRAM DATES ARE JUNE 17 – JULY 22.
PERSONAL INFORMATION

Legal Name: ____________________________________________

Preferred to be called: ________________________________ Birthdate: ____________ SS# [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Home Address: ________________________________________

Telephone: ________________ Cell: ________________ Email: ________________________________


Ethnic Background: Please identify your racial or ethnic status

☐ Asian American ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Black
☐ Chinese ☐ Central or South American ☐ African
☐ Japanese ☐ Mexican or Chicano ☐ African-American
☐ Korean ☐ Puerto Rican ☐ West Indian
☐ Pacific Islander or Filipino ☐ Other Latino: [ ] ☐ Other Black: [ ]
☐ Other Asian: [ ] ☐ Please Specify ☐ Please Specify

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other: [ ]

What is your primary language? __________________________ Language spoken at home? __________________________

Place of birth: ______________________________________

Occupation: ______________________________________ Number of hours worked/wk: __________________________

Employer Name: ____________________________________ Employer phone number: __________________________

Employer Address: __________________________________

Primary Means of Support: ____________________________ Please Describe

Marital Status: ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated

How did you learn of the Exploring Transfer Program and what aspect(s) of it appealed to you?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Photograph (Optional)
EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Please indicate your current enrollment status: □ Full Time  □ Part Time  Current G.P.A  _________

Please indicate the number of credits that you have earned by January of the year for which you are applying:  ________

In the box below, please list the courses in which you are currently enrolled (Spring term):

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<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>No. Credits</th>
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Please list in chronological order the secondary school(s) you attended from grade nine:

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<th>Name of School</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State/Nation (if not US)</th>
<th>Dates attended</th>
<th>Diploma/Degree</th>
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Please list in chronological order the colleges/universities you attended (are currently attending):

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<th>Name of School</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State/Nation (if not US)</th>
<th>Dates attended</th>
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If there are gaps in your educational record or if there are other special circumstances in your educational history, please briefly describe the details below:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

FUTURE EDUCATION

Will you be returning to your community college in the Fall, or will you be enrolled at a four-year school?

________________________________________________________________________

If you intend to be enrolled at a four-year school, to which schools have you applied, if any?

________________________________________________________________________

Have you been accepted to any four-year school(s)? Which?

________________________________________________________________________

What is your proposed major at a four-year school?

________________________________________________________________________
FAMILY INFORMATION

Parent 1:

Full name: ____________________________________________ Gender: _____ Living: _____

Home address: ____________________________________________

Occupation: Position __________________________ Name of business or organization __________________________

Name of college (if any): __________________________ Degree and year: __________________________

Parent 2:

Full name: ____________________________________________ Gender: _____ Living: _____

Home address: ____________________________________________

Occupation: Position __________________________ Name of business or organization __________________________

Name of college (if any): __________________________ Degree and year: __________________________

If you have any siblings, please list their names and ages. Please include the names of colleges each has attended (if any), degrees earned, dates of enrollment, and/or their occupations:

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

Names and ages of children (if any):

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Place of residence</th>
<th>Supported by you?</th>
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Others that you support: _______________________________________________________

My signature below indicates that all information contained in my application is complete, factually correct and honestly prepared.

Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________

Please return this completed form no later than March 31, to: Exploring Transfer Program, Vassar College, Box 3755, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604.
TO THE INSTRUCTOR:

Dear Colleague:

Instructor recommendations are a critical component of the student’s application because they provide the admissions committee with insight that extends beyond the student’s grades, allowing us to learn about the student’s distinct personality and learning style. Please complete the brief questionnaire below, and then provide additional written comments or information that you think might be helpful to us. In your response, please discuss the following: What is the student’s capacity for functioning in an intensively challenging academic environment that involves critical thinking and rigorous analytical writing? How well does the student write? What would you consider the student’s greatest strengths and weaknesses? In what areas does the student need the most improvement? You may either use the space provided or attach a signed copy of your evaluation.

What three words best describe the applicant? ____________________________________________

I recommend this student to the Vassar Exploring Transfer Program:

For academic qualities: □ enthusiastically  □ very strongly  □ strongly  □ fairly strongly (top few)
□ strongly  □ fairly strongly (top 10%)

For personal qualities: □ enthusiastically  □ very strongly  □ strongly  □ fairly strongly (top few)
□ strongly  □ fairly strongly (top 10%)

Name and Title: ___________________________  Department: ________________

(Please print)

Signature: ___________________________  Date: ___________________________

Please return this completed form no later than March 31, to: Exploring Transfer Program, Vassar College, Box 3755, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604.
The reasoning and writing skills demanded by an analytical essay are central to a liberal arts education. We are interested in knowing more about you as an individual. The questions below provide you with an opportunity to tell us about yourself and your aspirations. It also allows you to demonstrate your ability to organize your thoughts and express yourself. We assume that your essay will be your own original work. On separate sheets of paper, please compose an essay of approximately 500 words (2-3 pages), and be sure to label it with your name. Your essay must be typed (Times Roman 12pt and double spaced and single-sided) well structured and analytical, evaluating all aspects of your experience. Please be sure that you address each of the following questions below. You do need to do so in the order in which they are presented.

Exploring Transfer students have, in their academic and life achievements, demonstrated the personal authority and ability to strive for academic success, despite the educational limitations often imposed on them by realities such as race, gender, and financial constraint.

- How have your life experiences affected your access to education and other opportunities?
- How has the academic experience at your community college challenged you intellectually, and in which areas do you aspire for even greater challenge?
- What factors spurred your desire to apply to this program?

**YOUR SPACE (Optional)**

Your Space is your opportunity to allow the admission committee to learn something about you that you have not addressed in another section of the application. Please feel free to use space below in your own way, or include the Your Space submission, labeled with your name, with your application. Due to the volume of submissions, we will be unable to return your work. Please do not send in anything that is irreplaceable.

Please return this completed no later than March 31, to: Exploring Transfer Program, Vassar College, Box 3755, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604.
EXPLORING TRANSFER PROGRAM

MID-SEMESTER GRADE REPORT

Name: ____________________________

Last      First       M.I.

Community College: ____________________________

Please Specify

TO THE STUDENT:

The mid-semester grade report is an important part of your application packet. It gives the admissions committee a general sense of your current academic performance. Please prepare this form with the names of the courses in which you are currently enrolled (Spring term). Then, bring it to each of your instructors, have them enter the appropriate grade and ensure that they sign in the space provided.

TO THE INSTRUCTOR:

Dear Colleague:

Please assist us in evaluating the student’s current performance. In the space below, please estimate, to the best of your ability, the student’s current grade average in your course. We understand that this may be difficult given the amount of work completed at this point in the semester. If you are unable to provide us with a grade (i.e. because no graded work has been completed), please indicate the student’s performance by writing “S” or “U” for satisfactory or unsatisfactory, respectively.

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