

## The Howard County Striders Scholar/Athlete Award Suggestions and Guidelines.

Verification of Residency. You must sign the statement at the end of the application, but nothing more than your signature is required.

Transcript. You (your high school Guidance Office) must provide an official, stamped transcript of your first three years of classes, grades and class ranking (if your school produces it) in an official sealed envelope. **You must also request and provide an official list of senior year classes and grades for the first half year.**

Verification of varsity letters earned. Your school's Activities and Athletics Manager or Athletics Director must provide a signed statement detailing the number of varsity letters earned, by sport, by year. Coaches may not serve as a substitute.

Recommendations. You should be careful about requesting recommendations, as many are not useful. Since you are limited, choose carefully. The Selection Committee is interested in learning things about you that are not readily apparent from your transcript or from the number of earned varsity letters. If you have recommendation letters that were prepared for college applications, they are fine if they convey your personal attributes and accomplishments. The Selection Committee is composed of individuals from the local community and includes former and current Strider officials as well as parents of previous Scholar/Athlete award winners and current and retired teachers. They are familiar with your school, its academic standing and its athletic programs and coaches. A generic recommendation from your Guidance Counselor is, most likely, of no use to us. Since these awards are for scholastic and athletic performance (each counts equally), we expect recommendations from at least one of your teachers and one of your coaches. (Note: Please be considerate and request your recommendation letters well in advance.)

Awards. Be very specific when claiming an award. For example, if you put down National Merit Scholar, then identify whether or not you were Commended, semi-Finalist or a Finalist. If you claim All County sports status, identify the source and whether first team, second team or honorable mention.

Captaincies. Different schools treat team captains differently. If you list a captaincy, identify whether you were chosen by teammates or by the coach. If your team or school doesn't always have captains, that's worth noting.

Questions or Problems. If you have any questions or problems, contact David Tripp, 443-745-3493 or [davetripp1@gmail.com](mailto:davetripp1@gmail.com).

Submission. The earlier you submit your application, the more time there will be to correct mistakes or add missing information or documents. **Please note that the due date is when the applications are received by Mr. Tripp, not the date of postmark. Also, April 3, 2020 is a half day of school and the beginning of Spring Break.**