

# THE COMMON APPLICATION

## Profile

### Personal Information

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**Name** Morris, Calvin  
**Sex, Birthdate** Male, 01/01/2002

### Contact Details

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**Email, Phone** calvinmorris90@gmail.com, +1.779-555-5555, Mobile, No other telephone  
**Permanent Address** 24 N Center St Joliet, IL, 60435-7408, USA

### Demographics

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**Religion** Other - Christian  
**Military Status** None  
**Hispanic or Latino** No  
**Race** White (Europe)

### Language

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**English** First Language

### Geography & Citizenship

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**Citizenship Status** U.S. Citizen or U.S. National  
**Birthplace** Joliet, Illinois, United States of America (17 Years US, 0 Years Non-US)  
**SSN** XXX-XX-8756

### CA Fee Waiver

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**Fee Waiver Requested** No

## Family Household

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**Parents** Married  
**Home** Both Parents

### Parent 1

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Father  
**Name** Mr. John Morris  
**Birthplace** United States of America  
**Email, Phone** jmorris@gmail.com, +1.546-238-0098, Mobile  
**Address** the same as my home address  
**Occupation** Business owner or proprietor, Employed, Owner, Morris Custom Building  
**Education** Some trade school or community college Associates (1990), **Illinois Valley Community College, Oglesby, IL, USA**

### Parent 2

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Mother  
**Name** Mrs. Katherine Morris  
**Birthplace** United States of America  
**Email, Phone** +1.897-564-3333, Mobile  
**Address** the same as my home address  
**Occupation** Teacher or administrator (secondary), Employed, Elementary teacher, T E Culbertson Elementary  
**Education** Graduated from college/university Bachelors (1994), **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL, USA**

### Siblings

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1. Jack Morris, Age 14, Brother, Some high/secondary school
2. Molly Morris, Age 10, Sister, Some grade/primary school

## Education

### Current or Most Recent Secondary School

Monument High School, 41 Main Street, Joliet, IL, USA, Public (08/2015 - 06/2019)

**Counselor** Ms. Eva Baumert, Guidance Counselor  
**Email, Phone** ebaumert@MHS.edu, +1.456-876-9999  
**Progression** No change in progression  
**Graduation Date** 06/2019

### Colleges & Universities

**School** **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL, USA** Summer program (06/2018 - 08/2018)

### Grades

**Rank** 191 / 845, Unweighted  
**GPA** 3.0 / 4, Unweighted

### Current or Most Recent Year Courses

First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
AP Statistics - (AP)	AP Statistics - (AP)	AP Statistics - (AP)	AP Statistics - (AP)
AP Calculus AB - (AP)	AP Calculus AB - (AP)	AP Calculus AB - (AP)	AP Calculus AB - (AP)
English Composition - (REG)	English Composition - (REG)	English Composition - (REG)	English Composition - (REG)
Music Theory: Advanced Study - (GFTED)	Music Theory: Advanced Study - (GFTED)	Music Theory: Advanced Study - (GFTED)	Music Theory: Advanced Study - (GFTED)
Physics - (HON)	Physics - (HON)	Physics - (HON)	Physics - (HON)
Concert Orchestra/Composition - (REG)	Concert Orchestra/Composition - (REG)	Concert Orchestra/Composition - (REG)	Concert Orchestra/Composition - (REG)

### Honors

<b>Illinois Districts: 1st Chair, trumpet</b>	State/Regional	10, 11, 12
<b>Illinois All State: 2nd chair, trumpet</b>	State/Regional	11, 12

### Future Plans

Musician (performer, composer), Masters

## Testing

### SAT (March 2016 or after)

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<b>Evidence-based Reading and Writing</b>	580	12/02/2017
<b>Math</b>	700	05/05/2018
<b>Taken</b>	2	
<b>Planned</b>	0	
<b>SAT Essay</b>	No	

### AP Subject Tests

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<b>Music Theory</b>	5	05/2018
<b>Calculus AB</b>		05/2019
<b>Statistics</b>		05/2019

## Activities

### Music: Instrumental

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11 National Music Festival, MD  
 Break Mentored by professional musicians; play 30 concerts over 2 weeks; attend master classes  
 40 hr/wk, 2 wk/yr  
 Continue

### Music: Instrumental

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11, 12 Joliet Jazz  
 Year Founded and lead an after school jazz band. We play from the Real Book and perform at some school events and in town.  
 4 hr/wk, 40 wk/yr  
 Continue

### Music: Instrumental

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9, 10, 11, 12 Private Lessons: trumpet  
 Year Study with Mark Ridenour, Assistant Principal for Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
 2 hr/wk, 52 wk/yr  
 Continue

### Music: Instrumental

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9, 10, 11, 12 Joliet Pep Band  
 School Play for schools sporting events and homecoming; march in local parade.  
 14 hr/wk, 35 wk/yr  
 Continue

### Music: Instrumental

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10, 11, 12 JCHS Drama Pit Orchestra  
 School Play in the pit orchestra for 3 shows per year.  
 10 hr/wk, 20 wk/yr  
 Continue

### Family Responsibilities

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9, 10, 11, 12 Morris Custom Building: clean up  
 Break Help clean work sites.  
 15 hr/wk, 12 wk/yr

### Work (Paid)

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11, 12 Jimmy's Bar and Grill  
 Break Bus tables; wash dishes; help set up and break down special events.  
 30 hr/wk, 12 wk/yr  
 Continue

# Writing

## Personal Essay

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**Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.**

I have spit on many indoor floors.

Wait, I should back up.

As a trumpet player, my spit collects in the main valve reservoir of my silver Bach, large bore trumpet. Sometimes, I drain it into my spit rag. That is pretty gross. But, often I forget to bring my spit rag and that is when I release the bubbly saliva onto the floor. I have spit in at least four high schools classrooms, countless practice rooms, and concert halls in three different states.

The reed players are much grosser. They suck on the same reed for weeks on end like a lifesaver. In my Biology class sophomore year, I tested my friend's oboe reed for bacteria during a lab about everyday items. His reed was dirtier than a door handle. When I told him, he said it was just making his immune system stronger, proving that woodwinds are better than brass players. He is wrong, of course, and possibly suffering the effects of some unidentified bacteria influence!

If I don't empty the spit, it cracks and pops making my sound less pure. It means all of those hours I spent practicing don't matter when it sounds like I'm gurgling through an entrance after counting 100 bars of rests. It is funny how something so simple can undo thousands of hours of rehearsal.

Lots of spit means that I have been playing for a long time. It means I had a solo, fanfare, or an exciting passage to play. It means I have been spending time on my passion. When I have to empty the spit valve, it means I have had a chance to share something I love with people who enjoy music. It means I am connecting with my fellow band mates and we are working together to create something beautiful.

Trumpet players are a big community of spitters. I am sure Charles Schlueter spit on many concert hall floors. Winton Marlsalis definitely left spit behind at Lincoln Center. But they also left legacies of music for us all to enjoy. It shows that when you make something amazing, you need to put a little spit into it.

## Education Progression

### Education progression details

No change in progression

## Disciplinary Information

**Have you ever been found responsible for a disciplinary violation at any educational institution you have attended from the 9th grade (or the international equivalent) forward, whether related to academic misconduct or behavioral misconduct, that resulted in a disciplinary action?**

No

**Have you ever been adjudicated guilty or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony?**

No

## **Fitch College – Supplement to the Common Application**

**Applicant Name:** Calvin Morris

**Address:** 24 N. Center St,  
Joliet, IL 60586

**Current High School:** Monument High School

**Have you ever visited the campus?:** Yes

**Have you had an interview?:** Yes

**Preferred admission plan?:** Early Action

**Briefly describe your reason for applying:**

When I visited campus for my audition to the Chestnut School of Music, I knew I had found the place I want to be. Chestnut has professors who have real world experience in performance. They have sat principal with orchestras and played solo performances at renowned concert halls. They know what it means to practice a lot and feel those pre-concert jitters. But, those same professors also chose to be in the classroom more than they are on stage. I value the attention and support built into a small community like Fitch. While my high school is very large, the music department I work with is small and I like that experience. I am excited to learn from my fellow musicians and professors as I work towards a career in trumpet performance.

**School Information:**

Monument High School  
 41 Main Street  
 Joliet, IL 60587  
 (333)-444-5555

**Student Information:**

Calvin Morris  
 24 N. Center Street  
 Joliet, IL 60586

Principal: Jeff Wise

DOB: 01/01/2002

Superintendent: Dr. Margaret Desmond

Parent/Guardian: John/Katherine Morris

*MHS offers AP and Honors courses for students on the college track. There is also a house building program, technical school, and arts program. There is a 27:1 student/teacher ratio and an 81% graduation rate. Grades are unweighted. Passing grades range from 60 to 100. Graduation credit requirements: 3 math; 2 language; 4 English; 2 history; 3 science; 2 electives; 16 total credits.*

**Academic Information:** Rank: 191/845 Cumulative unweighted GPA: 86.20

Credits Attempted: 24 Credits Earned: 18

Grade: 12	Credit	First Quarter
English Composition	1.00	75
Music Theory: Adv. Study	1.00	94
AP Statistics	1.00	89
AP Calculus AB	1.00	91
Hon. Physics	1.00	79
Concert Orchestra/Comp	1.00	96

Grade: 11	Credit	Final Grade
American Literature	1.00	78
U.S History	1.00	81
Hon. Pre calculus	1.00	92
Chemistry	1.00	80
AP Music Theory	1.00	97
Adv. Orchestra	1.00	98

Grade: 10	Credit	Final Grade
British Literature	1.00	82
European History	1.00	79
Hon. Algebra II	1.00	95
Biology	1.00	82
Spanish 2	1.00	75
Orchestra 2	1.00	97

Grade: 9	Credit	Final Grade
World Literature	1.00	78
Ancient History	1.00	80
Hon. Geometry	1.00	93
Earth Science	1.00	86
Spanish 1	1.00	80
Concert Band	1.00	92

Official Signature: *Walter Few*

Title: Registrar

Date: September 14, 2018



Guidance Office  
41 Main Street  
Joliet, IL 60587

## Monument High School



Calvin Morris (DOB: 01/01/2002) followed the **college bound track**, which includes honors, AP, and Advanced courses. Advanced courses are reserved for students who have completed the proper prerequisites and earned competitive grades. Calvin's **transcript is rated: demanding**. Calvin also focused his studies in music (trumpet) – and has taken all of the courses we offer in that discipline.

Calvin is a talented and dedicated trumpet player. He performs with our various music groups including the concert band, pep band, pit orchestra, and orchestra. This year, he started composing, and one of his short pieces was performed by the concert band during the fall. Calvin started a jazz group with his friends – the band was a big hit at the most recent school showcase. Out of school Calvin takes private lessons and spends a great deal of time in the practice room.

As reflected in Calvin's transcript, he has done strong academic work. He is polite, independent, and hard working. He is ready to do college-level work.

I recommend Calvin enthusiastically for your institution.

Sincerely,

*E. Baumert*

Ms. Eva Baumert  
Guidance Counselor  
ebaumter@MHS.edu

Guidance Office  
41 Main Street  
Joliet, IL 60587

## Monument High School



To Whom It May Concern,

**I have known Calvin Morris for two years as his math teacher. I taught him Honors Pre calculus. I am now teaching him AP Calculus AB.**

Calvin is a diligent, focused, talented math student who regularly scores in the top 15% of the class. He always completes his homework thoroughly, and he is excited to share solutions on the board during an exercise called “Real Application” – a 10 minute daily lesson showing students how certain formulas are used in the real world. Calvin enjoys putting theory into motion. It allows him to be creative, improvise, and think outside of the box.

Perhaps Calvin’s best talent: his ability to perform mental math rapidly and accurately. While many students become consumed by what the calculator says or does, Calvin prefers to estimate on the fly and ballpark his answer before he does specific calculations. He always impresses his classmates with this ability.

I do think Calvin could do well in the STEM field. His tests demonstrate a solid grasp of the material – and to be honest, I think he should have an even higher test average. Sometimes he rushes to finish exams (and makes silly mistakes) so that he can leave class a bit early to set up for band practice.

Calvin is a respectful, nice young man with a bright future and I recommend him for admission to your institution.

Sincerely,

John Boyce

[jboyce@MHS.edu](mailto:jboyce@MHS.edu)

Guidance Office  
41 Main Street  
Joliet, IL 60587

# Monument High School



To Whom It May Concern,

**I have known Calvin Morris for three years as his music teacher and conductor**, and I can safely write that he is one of the most dedicated, inventive, talented trumpet players I have worked with in over 20 years. I met him when he was a sophomore in my course, Orchestra 2, a class reserved for those students who are serious about studying music. Calvin stood out among his peers. He easily earned the principal chair – and by the spring, he was so good that I had him perform the first movement of Haydn’s *Concerto per il Clarino* with orchestral accompaniment. Needless to say, Calvin spent long hours in the practice room to prepare and gave an impressive, clean, emotive performance.

Each time Calvin joins a musical group – the pep band, a guest spot in a rock band, a small combo – he elevates the group’s level of play. He knows how to blend his sound because he listens carefully. He comes prepared – knowing all of his runs and difficult passages – and he is patient with those who need help and support. He is the first to arrive for rehearsal and he is the last to leave – often helping breakdown the room as we have to share this space with a few other departments. He was also bold enough to start his own group – a jazz ensemble – and he has done great work in his roles both as conductor and improv player. I am impressed with his professionalism and leadership.

Calvin has been successful at the Illinois Districts Competition, winning principal chair in the concert band. And, he was selected as second chair orchestra at the Illinois All-State Competition. This year, I expect Calvin will score high enough to make him eligible to try out for the All-National Honors Ensemble (NAfME).

As a composer, Calvin has also done excellent work – and it is no surprise that he earned a 5 on the AP Music Theory exam. He well understands counterpoint, melodic/harmonic dictation, figured base, and sight transposition/singing. As a matter of fact, the band performed one of his scores recently. You are getting a musical standout by admitting Calvin. We will miss him next year.

Winston Jeffs  
wjjeffs@mhs.edu

## **FITCH COLLEGE – Interview Notes**

**Candidate Name:** Calvin Morris

**Date of Interview:** 10/4/2018

**Interviewer:** Francis Cyr

### **Notes:**

Calvin has a clear and directed interest in music. He was a bit reserved at first, but once we started talking about music (and trumpet playing), he lit up with excitement. He had done his research—and he knew exactly how Chestnut approaches performance and composition. I do wonder what else Calvin would engage in on campus; but I also appreciate that the music track is rather consuming.

Notes from audition judges: Calvin would be an asset to the program and would likely be 1<sup>st</sup> chair in the trumpet section. He struggled a bit with one of his prepared pieces—the Hummel—but his other piece (Haydn), his sight playing, and scales were all solid.