

COLLEGE APPLICATION

Applying to college? Not sure where to start, well no worries, check out the timeline to get ready to apply for college



SUMMER TIME

It is never too early to start the application

process



The college essay can be the most time consuming aspect of the college process, so get to it!

- WRITE ABOUT YOUR PASSION, SET YOUR ALARM FOR 10 MINUTES AND TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT.

REVISIT YOUR ESSAY EVERY 3 DAYS!

- START YOUR COMMON APPLICATION OR UNIVERSAL APPLICATION & EXPLORE THE SITE, THEY HAVE SOME GREAT ESSAY QUESTIONS TOO

- INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN YOU ON A VISIT, CHECK OUT THE ADMISSION FOR A CAMPUS TOUR, ALSO CHECK OUT VIRTUAL TOURS ONLINE



Think about what you want to get out of your college experience, small or large school? private to public? in-state or out-of-state?

Visit your local college private & public and see what they have to offer

Ask family & friends who are in college about their process & any advice they may have

SCHOOL YEAR



September

- Meet with your Counselor about your college process
- Create a spreadsheet that lists all your schools requirements & deadline
- Find out which school use common app or universal application + **START YOUR APPS!**
- Request recommendations from your teacher, community members, find some one who can speak on your abilities
- Register for the SAT if needed + send score to schools
- Research scholarships



October

- Your FINAL essays should be completed
- Look through the financial aid process for each school to determine if you will have to fill out the CSS/ Financial Aid Profile
- Request transcript from your counselor
- Collect letter of recommendations from teacher



November

- Take the SATs if needed
- make sure your school counselor is sending out your transcript
- Keep working on your applications!!!
- Some deadlines are fast approaching



December

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATIONS!!!!



January

- **COMPLETE YOUR FAFSA!!**
- Send your mid-year report card to your colleges
- Keep applying for scholarships



February

- Keep applying for scholarships
- Check on the status of your application to make sure all forms have been submitted



March/April

- Colleges will begin sending out acceptances
- Submit proper paper work once you make your choice
- Analyze your Financial Aid package
- Keep applying for scholarships



- Explore options to pay for college, if needed
- Check in with scholarship applications

CONGRATS!!! YOU HAVE DECIDED
&
WILL BE OFF TO COLLEGE IN THE FALL

TIPS



1. Find out the **Cost of Attendance (COA)**
-includes tuition, fees, room & board books, insurance supplies, transportation & personal needs
2. Add up all the **FREE** money (FM)
-grants, scholarships, gifts & any money that you will NOT have to pay back when you graduate
3. Add up loans (**LOANS**)
-Subsidized (best), Unsubsidized, Parent Plus, university Loans for more information on loan types :<https://studentaid.ed.gov>

Let's do some math

$$\text{COA} - \text{FM} = \text{Your Gap}$$

Before you accept any loans write a letter to your school explaining your family's financial situation and request more aid in the form of grants

Your gap can be met by accepting outside scholarships, family contributions or loans

Finding your



1. Look for prospective student programs to visit the school for free
2. Look for summer programs that support First Generation college students
3. Join a student organization or connect with an office
4. Remember you are not alone in this experience