

I've Applied to College! What's Next?

Congratulations! You have taken the first step toward going to college—applying! Once you submit your application, colleges should contact you to notify you of your status. **Make sure to check your email.** If the college has not contacted you about your submission, contact the admissions office to ask about the status of your application.

With the online portion of your application complete, there are a few more steps you need to finish. You need to submit:

- Official high school transcripts (signed and with a school seal or electronically sent from the high school registrar)
- If you are applying for tuition waivers (for non-resident students), talk to your high school counselor about the additional information that you need to submit.
- Application fee for private colleges or out-of-state colleges (if you chose the pay later option)
- College transcripts from Concurrent Enrollment (CE) courses or AP test scores (if required)
- ACT scores (if required)
- Letters of recommendation (if required)
- Essay (if required)

After you're accepted, consider the following to make your final decisions and prepare for college expenses:

- After completing the FAFSA, you will receive a financial aid offer letter. Review your offer letter and decide what financial aid and scholarships you will accept.
- Decide if you want to live on campus, off campus, or commute. Remember to do this EARLY! Most colleges have early deadlines for on-campus housing.
- Attend new student orientation.
- Schedule a meeting with the college's academic adviser to discuss first-year coursework.
- Register for classes as a new student.

Financial Aid

Seniors graduating high school in 2027 should file the 2027-28 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You must complete the FAFSA to be considered for federal grants, work-study funds, student loans, and some scholarships. You should complete the FAFSA early to meet deadlines and maximize your financial aid eligibility. To create a StudentAid.Gov account, visit studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account. Save your username and password in a safe place. You will use the same login to renew your FAFSA every year. Parents who do not have access to a Social Security number can create a StudentAid.Gov account. Talk with your school counselor or college advisor for more information.



Scholarships

Resources for Finding Scholarships

Scholarships are a great way to pay for college because they do not require repayment. You must dedicate time and energy to submit additional scholarship applications. **Read all requirements** and instructions carefully and **meet all deadlines**. Lean on the help from counselors, teachers, and college advisers who can support you in applying for scholarships!

Here are a few places to search for scholarships:

- Ask your high school counselor or scholarship coordinator.
- As your college advisor.
- Search your college's website for scholarship opportunities.
- Explore options through you or your parents' employers.
- Explore local and community scholarships.
- Search for scholarships online.
- Explore the state of [Utah's scholarships and aid programs](#).
- [Keys to Success](#) connects students with local scholarships, internships, and other opportunities.

2027-28 FAFSA

Before you apply for financial aid, create a StudentAid.Gov account (aka the FAFSA username and password) for you, the student, and your parents (for dependent students) studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account.

Click the following link or scan the QR code to see what items students and parent(s) may need to gather for the 2027-28 FAFSA: https://ushe.edu/wp-content/uploads/pdf/k-12/ucaw/2025/FAFSA_checklist.pdf

