



TRAVIS HIGH SCHOOL

College Planning Guide



www.connection.naviance.com/wtravishs



@Tracks4Tigers

What Can I Find in this Guide?

The College Application Process.....	3
• Application	
• Sending Scores	
• Transcripts	
A Guide to College Testing.....	4
• PSAT	
• SAT	
• ACT	
• TSI	
• AP	
SAT vs. ACT.....	5
Choosing a College.....	6
Transcript Request.....	7
Letters of Recommendation.....	8
Fee Waivers.....	9
Resume.....	9
College Visit.....	9
Essays.....	10
• Apply Texas Essay Prompts	
• Common Application Essay Prompts	
FAFSA/Scholarships.....	11-14
Naviance - “How To Guide”.....	15-17
The Main Types of College Admission.....	18
Early Admission Option.....	19

The College Application Process- The Basics

Every school has different requirements for their application process. Students should check with the school(s) they are applying to for what is required for a complete application file. The following are the basics required by all schools

Application

Apply Texas - www.applytexas.org

This is used by all public schools in Texas.

Common Application - www.commonapp.org

This is used by most private schools and many out of state schools.

Note: If a student is using the common application, they must link their common app account to Naviance. See info in the "How To" section. Students using the common app must also request letters of recommendation & the common app form to be prepared by their counselors and teachers.

College Specific Application -

Many out of state schools will use applications directly from their university website.

Note: Most colleges require an application fee. Many schools accept fee waivers for those students that qualify. For information on fee waivers see page 9.

Sending Scores

All schools require some type of college admissions test or placement test.

SAT/ACT - 4-year colleges require SAT or ACT official scores:

SAT sign up, send scores, & testing dates: <https://www.collegeboard.org/>

ACT sign up, send scores, & testing dates: www.actstudent.org

Placement Tests - 2-year colleges require a placement test if the student did not take an SAT or ACT. For schools in Texas this is call the TSI see page 4.

High School Transcripts

Once you complete your application, you must request your transcript via Naviance. Learn more about sending transcripts, see page 7.

A Guide to College Testing

<p>PSAT/ NMSQT</p> <p>www.collegeboard.com</p>	<p>Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is a practice test used to assist students in preparing for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (the SAT). The PSAT is administered to pre-registered 11th grade students on a nationally-set test date. Colleges do not see a student's PSAT/NMSQT score. A student who does well on this exam and who meets other academic performance criteria may qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program.</p>
<p>ACT</p> <p>www.actstudent.org</p>	<p>This is a college admission test published by American College Testing and is designed to measure a student's academic achievement through English, Math, Reading, Science Reasoning and Writing subtests. Most colleges will accept either the ACT or the SAT. The ACT is usually taken during the second semester of junior year, although it can be taken senior year in the fall as well. At the time that you register for the test you can select up to four colleges to receive your test scores for free. If you do not wish to send your scores at that time you can always log back in at a later date and request your scores to be sent. However, after you have taken the test it costs additional money to send your score reports.</p>
<p>SAT</p> <p>www.collegeboard.com</p>	<p>The Scholastic Aptitude Test is a college admission test which measures critical thinking and problem solving in Reading, Math and Writing. Most colleges will accept either the ACT or the SAT. The SAT is usually taken during second semester of junior year, but may also be taken during the first semester of senior year. At the time that you register for the test you can select up to four colleges to receive your test scores for free. If you do not wish to send your scores at that time you can always log back in at a later date and request your scores to be sent. However, after you have taken the test it costs additional money to send your score reports.</p>
<p>SAT Subject Tests</p> <p>www.collegeboard.com</p>	<p>The SAT Subject tests are achievement tests designed to measure knowledge a student has already acquired. They are offered in areas of study including literature, history, math, science, and foreign language. Some highly selective schools require students to take one or more SAT II Subject tests when they apply for admission. SAT subject tests may be used for admission or for placement purposes. Students who anticipate the need for Subject tests should take these as they complete the final course in the subject area while it is still fresh in their minds. At the time that you register for the test you can select up to four colleges to receive your test scores for free. If you do not wish to send your scores at that time you can always log back in at a later date and request your scores to be sent. However, after you have taken the test it costs additional money to send your score reports.</p>
<p>TSI</p>	<p>The TSI Assessment is an assessment used by public institutions in Texas to determine if you are ready for college-level coursework in the general areas of reading, writing and mathematics. All students attending a public school in Texas are required to take the TSI if they are not exempt. Based on how you perform, you may either be enrolled in a college-level course that matches your skill level or be placed in the appropriate developmental course or intervention to improve your skills and prepare you for success in college level courses.</p> <p>For more detailed information on the TSI and exemption criteria please see the TSI Assessment page in Naviance.</p>
<p>AP</p>	<p>Advanced Placement is a program run by College Board (the makers of the SAT) that allows you to take courses right in your high school that can earn you college credit and/or qualify you for more advanced classes when you begin college.</p>

SAT vs. ACT

	SAT	ACT
Widely accepted	All U.S. colleges	Almost all U.S. colleges
Tests the vocabulary you'll use	Yes	Yes
Everyday math formulas provided	Yes	No
Essay is optional	Yes	Yes
Penalty for guessing	No	No
Cost	\$54.50 (\$43 without essay)	\$56.50 (\$39.50 without essay)

Testing time	3 hours + 50-minute essay (optional)	2 hours 55 minutes + 40-minute essay (optional)
Structure	3 tests + optional essay	4 tests + optional writing test
Number of questions	154	215
Time per question	1 minute, 10 seconds	49 seconds
Score range	Composite 400–1600 (SAT Essay: reported in 3 dimensions, each 2–8)	Composite 1–36 (writing domain scores: 2–12)

Colleges will accept either the SAT or the ACT, so which should I take? It's all about the numbers. Some students end up scoring substantially higher on the SAT while others do better on the ACT. Therefore, it's highly recommended that juniors take BOTH the SAT and the ACT. Determine which test you did better on and prepare to retake that test one more time your senior year. It is also recommended that you take any of the tests WITH the essay. Colleges may not use it while determining your acceptance, but may require you to have it on file.

How to Choose a College

Students primarily choose colleges based on their major of choice and whether or not they fit the admission criteria. Other factors **include level of prestige, cost, location, size, and extracurricular activities.**

It is important for students to set realistic goals for themselves and apply to schools that are within or a little above their reach. Students should sort and classify the schools they apply to ensure they are setting realistic, possible college goals. Read the criteria below to determine if you are choosing colleges that within a reasonable set of expectations.

Match A match school is one where your academic credentials (GPA, SAT or ACT scores, and class rank) fall well within (or even exceed) the school's range for the average freshman. There are no guarantees, but it's not unreasonable to be accepted to several of your match school

Reach A reach school is one where your academic credentials fall below the school's range for the average freshman. Reach schools are long-shots, but they should still be possible (and not a dream).

Safety A safety school is one where your academic credentials fall above the school's range for the average freshman. You should be reasonably certain that you will be admitted to your safety schools. Like the rest of your list, these should also be colleges you'd be happy to attend. In addition to an admissions safety school, it's a good idea to include a financial safety school on your list, one that you and your family can afford even if you received no aid at all.

SuperMatch: A great tool to use when searching for a college/university is SuperMatch on Naviance.

To access the Supermatch search tool in Naviance, click on colleges → SuperMatch college search



Naviance College Comparison: In addition, students can use NAVIANCE College Comparison to compare institutions side by side.

Transcript Requests

Unofficial Transcripts

Students may need to request unofficial transcripts for scholarships, summer camps, to have for their own records, or, sometimes, for employment. Go to [Naviance](#) click on the colleges tab, click transcripts on the left, click request a transcript for scholarships or athletics. You will find where it says **RECIPIENT** & type in your name. You are then able to pick up your unofficial transcript from the registrar's office 2-3 business days later.

Official Transcript Requests:

All official transcript requests for college admission need to be made in [Naviance](#) under the tab, "Colleges I'm Applying to." Allow 2-3 business days for the registrar's office to process requests. An official transcript is sent directly from Travis High School to the college or university you chose in Naviance.

Official Transcripts for Scholarships:

All official transcript requests for scholarships should be made in [Naviance](#). You will submit your scholarship application and all supporting documents to the registrar's assistant, Ms. Minear, in a large envelope that is **addressed and stamped**. On occasion, a scholarship application will be completed online, you will still need to request your transcript in Naviance and then contact Ms. Minear for specific details on how it needs to be sent.

Official Transcripts for mid-year and final requests:

Students should email their counselor and copy the CCR becky.martinez@fortbendis.com letting them know when they need a mid-year transcript sent. Note, most students using the Common Application will need to have a mid-year report and mid-year transcript sent. ALL students applying to college will need to send a final transcript. Students will follow the directions posted at the end of May in Naviance to request their final transcript. Transcripts will not actually be sent to the university by the registrar's office until a couple weeks after graduation.

Note About Deadlines & Requests:

Transcripts are only sent on days the school is open Monday-Friday. Students should check their college and scholarship deadlines carefully. If a deadline is after a long break, students should not make transcript requests over the break with the expectation that the registrar's office will be sending transcripts. For official transcript requests for scholarships, students should ensure they submit to the registrar's office at least 4 days before the scholarship deadline.

Important Reminders

All transcript requests will be processed within 2-3 business days. It is important to request transcripts several days before postmark deadlines. Transcript requests are not automated within Naviance. Transcripts are still processed and sent through the registrar's office, either electronically or by mail to the institution. Further questions? Contact the Registrar's office.

Recommendation Letter Instructions

Not every school requires letters of recommendation by a teacher or counselor. Research the school you are applying to before you request a letter. If you know you need a letter/form, you should speak with or email your counselor/and or teacher at least **three weeks before the deadline. (business days)** It is best to communicate this information before senior year as counselors and teachers are incredible busy when the school year begins.

It is recommended that you not only request the recommendation in Naviance, but you also speak to your teacher/counselor in person to request a letter of recommendation. At this time, please provide them with a “brag sheet” or a resume to help them write a powerful letter for you.

Students using Apply Texas: (State Schools)

If a state school requires/allows a letter of recommendation, this should be done by your teacher, and it will be mailed or sent electronically in Naviance depending on the symbol found next to the school in Naviance. See the Naviance “How to Guide” on page 16 for more info. **If the school(s) you are applying to does not accept electronic communication indicated by a stamp symbol, you will need to provide a stamp and envelope to your teacher addressed to the school it will be sent to.**

Students using the Common Application (Private or Prestigious Universities)

If you are using the Common Application, first, link your Common App account to Naviance. View the “How to” guide on page 16 for more information. You will then ask 1 teacher and 1 counselor to write and upload a letter of recommendation and complete the Common App form in Naviance. It is your responsibility to communicate with your teachers and counselors that you are using the common app and need a letter of rec and a common app form to be completed in Naviance. **Do not just expect them to know this as they may be unfamiliar with the Common App.**

Requesting Teachers to Upload Letters Electronically in Naviance: Once a teacher has agreed to write a letter, and you know it can be submitted in Naviance, you will follow this procedure:

Submitting an upload request in for TEACHERS in [Naviance](#)

- Under the College Tab, select “Colleges I am applying to”
- Scroll down to Teacher Recommendations and click on “add/cancel requests”
- Select a teacher and in the “Notes” remind them of the information above that you have already given them.
- Click on “update requests” at the bottom

Make sure you speak to your teacher before requesting any letters.

After requesting an upload in Naviance:

Ensure the teacher received the request & kindly remind them when the due date is nearing. Write a thank you note to the teacher/counselor even if you’re not accepted to the university.

Fee Waivers

To be eligible for fee waivers, students must be on free and reduced lunch. If you know you are eligible, but you are not on free and reduced lunch, you must complete the online application on the [Fort Bend ISD under Food and Nutrition](#). To get a fee waiver, you may go to the Counselor's office and request a waiver from **Ms. Olivacee**. After the ¼ sheet request is filled out, the student can return to the Counselor's office 1-2 business days later to pick up the waiver(s). Travis High School gives 2 waivers for the SAT and 2 for the ACT test. After a student uses one waiver to take the SAT test, College Board places electronic waivers in their College Board account for students to use to apply to college.

The College Resume

Students can build resumes in Naviance:

Students can also easily create resumes using the Resume Builder in [Naviance Family Connection](#) under the "about me" tab. Once you've completed your resume, please upload it to the journal tab.

College Visits

There are many ways to find out about a college, from online sites, to brochures, to college fairs, but there is no substitute for seeing the campus yourself. Individual visits can also be arranged.

Before you go:

- Call the Admission Office in advance, tell them the date you'd like to visit, and the time of day you expect to arrive. Many colleges also offer online campus registration for visit days.
- Inquire about scheduling an interview, attending an information session, visiting classes, and talking with faculty.
- If you want to stay overnight in a residence hall, ask if they can make arrangements.
- Make a list of questions that you want answered

Colleges Visiting Travis High School:

All colleges coming to Travis will be posted in Naviance under "college visits" for the day they are coming to our campus during either 4th period, lunch or both. Travis hosts a mini college fair twice during the year to accommodate many local institutions. Students should take this opportunity to meet their representative, get their contact information & establish a relationship. This person can advocate on the student's behalf for admission & scholarships.

Travis Policy for College Visits

Students may miss up to **TWO days a year** for a campus visits. Students turn in a **signed letter** from a university official **on university official letterhead** verifying the student's campus visit to the attendance office within **2 days of the absence**. These visits do not count toward exemptions, but consider making college visits in the summer, before second semester begins, on spring break, or weekends. Most colleges have big Saturday events in which you can visit the campus with other prospective students.

College Essay Prompts

Reminder: Not EVERY college requires an essay. And, certain colleges require different essays than others. Make sure you check on the website of the college you are applying to before you start writing.

Apply Texas Essay Questions

Check with your university to see if your school requires an essay, and, if so, which essay they require. Think through this essay thoroughly and make sure you have several people proof read before you submit.

Essay A: What was the environment in which you were raised? Describe your family, home, neighborhood, or community, and explain how it has shaped you as a person.

Essay B: Most students have an identity, an interest, or a talent that defines them in an essential way. Tell us about yourself.

Essay C: You've got a ticket in your hand – Where will you go? What will you do? What will happen when you get there?

The Common Application Essay Topics

Check with your university to see if your school requires an essay, and, if so, which essay they require. Think through this essay thoroughly and make sure you have several people proof read before you submit.

Topic 1: 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.

Topic 2: The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?

Topic 3: Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?

Topic 4: Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma—anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.

Topic 5: Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

FAFSA

What is FAFSA? The [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) (known as the FAFSA) is a FREE online form that can be prepared annually by current and prospective college students (undergraduate and graduate) in the United States to determine their eligibility for student financial aid (including the Pell Grant, Federal student loans and Federal Work-Study). This free form can be found at fafsa.ed.gov, and it becomes available for seniors to fill out beginning on October 1st.

Before you start

Applying online through [FAFSA on the Web](#) saves time and simplifies key parts of the process, like submitting your data to schools. The online FAFSA also offers built-in edits that can correct errors and guide you through the application. You can simplify things even more by having certain information ready. Here's what to gather or know ahead:

- Your Social Security Number (SSN) and the SSN of your parents, if you are a dependent student. [Find out if you are a dependent student](#). Applying as an undocumented student? [Know your options](#).
- Your driver's license number, if you have one
- Tax records from last year; if you've filed your taxes this year, you might be able to import your tax data using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool
- Records of untaxed income, that is, checking and savings account balances, interest income, investments, and other assets
- Your [FSA ID \(this replaced the old Federal Student Aid Pin\)](#), which you'll need to sign your application electronically
- A list of schools that you're interested in attending; your FAFSA data will be sent to these schools to help them put together a [financial aid package](#) for you.

How to complete

Set aside about 45 minutes to an hour to complete the [FAFSA on the Web](#). Here are a few details to keep in mind about key steps in the process.

- Providing personal information: If you're completing the FAFSA for the first time, you'll have to log in using a password you create. You can save your application if you need to stop in the middle and return later to complete it. You'll need your password in that case.
- Choosing colleges, universities, and institutions: Your FAFSA data will be sent to schools you're interested in attending. You have to select at least one school but can choose up to ten. Schools use your FAFSA information to craft a financial aid package that can help you pay for school expenses at their institution.

- Determining dependency status: If you are considered a dependent student according to the FAFSA, you will need to provide financial information for one or both parents. [Learn how your dependency status can affect completing the FAFSA.](#)
- Reporting your parents' information: If you're a dependent student, you'll need to report your parents' information. Have questions about your family situation and how it might affect completing the FAFSA? See [Providing parent information on the FAFSA.](#)
- Providing financial data: Make sure you have any IRS W-2 forms handy as well as your previous year's tax records. You'll need this information along with data on untaxed income like bank account balances, investments, and other assets. Already completed your tax returns for the year? You might be able to import some financial information using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.

Signing and submitting your FAFSA

Before you submit your FAFSA, you'll need to sign it using your [FSA ID](#). If the application was accepted, you should receive a confirmation email. Here's what happens next.

The Department of Education processes your FAFSA data, calculates the amount of money your family can contribute to your education, and sends you back a summary called the Student Aid Report (SAR). At the same time, the Department sends your data to schools you're interested in. Schools use your FAFSA data to estimate your financial need and put together a package of financial aid to help you meet that need. Your schools will send you this information in [financial aid award letters](#). Look for these in the March to April timeframe if you're applying for the next fall semester and completed your college application and FAFSA earlier in the year.

Next steps

There's still work to be done after you complete the FAFSA. Here's a summary of what to do.

- [Weigh your financial aid offers](#) along with other factors in deciding where to go to college. Note that you can accept all, some, or none of the award offered you depending on your preference.
- Apply for institutional aid at the college of your choice.
- Apply for state and federal grants. The FAFSA often serves as the first step in the application process for various forms of aid, including state and federal grants. You may need to fulfill other requirements to be eligible for state aid. Find out specific Texas grant eligibility and application requirements [here](#).
- Apply for Texas financial aid if you are classified as a Texas resident but not considered a U.S. citizen. Visit [College for All Texans](#) to complete the Texas Application for State Financial Aid, or TASFA.
- Search for scholarships. Check Naviance [Scholarship List](#) and [Scholarship Search](#) tool to find money for college you don't have to repay.

- Has your FAFSA been chosen for verification? The Department of Education and some schools select FAFSAs to verify for their accuracy. If your FAFSA has been picked, provide requested information as soon as you can so you expedite the process and don't lose out on possible aid.

Get help

If you have questions or need guidance as you complete your FAFSA, there's plenty of help available. Here are a few experts to turn to online or by phone.

Texas Financial Aid Information Center (TFAIC) — TFAIC can answer questions about every phase of the college admissions and financial aid processes. The team provides a free public service to all Texas students pursuing a higher education and to the families helping them. TFAIC can be reached at (888) 311-8881 or by email at TFinAidInfo@tgslc.org.

[FAFSA Help on Federal Student Aid](#) website — The Department of Education offers a comprehensive database of questions on the FAFSA process.

More resources

Your FAFSA Connection offers lots of information that can help you as you complete the FAFSA. Explore any or all of these resources.

[A Video Guide to Completing the FAFSA](#)

[Are You On Track to Apply for Financial Aid?](#)

[Ten Tips for Applying for Financial Aid](#)

[FAFSA Fact or Fiction](#)

[A Video Guide to Completing the TASFA](#)

[4-Year Colleges Offering Free Tuition Based on Family Income](#)

Scholarships

There are two main types of scholarships:

School Specific Scholarship - every school has scholarships specific to their school. Sometimes the admission application and scholarships application are the same. However, some schools require you to complete a separate scholarship application and there may be a different deadline for scholarship applications than admissions. Please be sure to research these deadlines.

General Scholarships - these are scholarships which can be awarded and used at ANY college/university. Criteria and deadlines vary for each. A good place to start in your scholarship research is on Naviance. Click on the Colleges tab then the Scholarship List can be found towards the bottom. Under the scholarship list you will also find links to credible scholarship search engines.

Note: Often the CCR will email you information on a scholarship you may qualify for. Please complete the **THS Scholarship Interest Survey** found in [Naviance](#) under the “about me” **tab in the top left corner** to ensure we know all we can to send you the most accurate scholarships.

****At the end of the year, all scholarship offers must be turned into Mrs. Martinez. Please feel free to turn in any and ALL offers to Mrs. Martinez either in person or via email becky.martinez@fortbendis.com all year long to assure your name is included in senior awards ceremony as well as the graduation program.**



HOW TO GUIDE

Naviance Login Instructions:

Go to the [FBISD Homepage](#)

Select the tab that says students

On the left side, click Naviance Student Login

Select WTravisHS

You will be re-routed to the Naviance Login Page

Students use their FBISD username and password to log in

Quick log in click here - www.connection.naviance.com/wtravishs

Colleges I'm Applying to List

The *Colleges I'm Applying to List* is only for those schools that you are working on applications for; if you are still undecided leave the school in your *Colleges I'm Thinking About List*.

- 1) Apply and submit your application to the school. Do this through the school's preferred application method: Apply Texas or Common App
- 2) Login to Naviance – Family Connection
- 3) Go to your *Colleges I'm Applying to list*
- 4) Add the school to your *Colleges I'm Applying to list*
 - a. If you have not added the school to your list yet click *+add to this list* and add your school
 - b. If the school is in your *Colleges I'm Thinking About list*, select the school and click *Move to Application List*.
- 5) From your *Colleges I'm Applying to list* click on the pencil icon to edit applications. Info needed:

Application submitted

Click the box to indicate that you have submitted your application

App Type

Select what type of application you are completing (Regular, Rolling, Early Action etc.) – this is **VERY** important because it will determine the deadline.

Click *Update Application*

Requesting Transcripts for your Colleges

- 1) Go to your *Colleges I'm Applying to* list
- 2) Click on *request transcripts*
- 3) Click the box *add request* for those schools that you have submitted an application to
- 4) Click *Request Transcripts*

Matching Common Application Account

If you are applying to a school using the Common Application you **MUST** match your Naviance Account with your Common App Account first. (Video tutorial: <https://vimeo.com/102639828>)

- 1) Go to www.commonapp.org and log in to your Common App account
- 2) The email that you use must be the same email in both Common App and Naviance
- 3) Complete the current or most recent school segment of the Education section under the *Common App* Tab
- 4) Add at least one college to your *My Colleges* list under the *My Colleges* Tab. You can search for schools under the *College Search* Tab
- 5) Read and sign the FERPA Release Authorization under the *My Colleges* Tab
- 6) Click the *Colleges* tab find the Common App Account Match and enter your email and date of birth and click *match*
- 7) Review your *College's I'm Applying to* List and check under the *Applying via Common App* column. This is where you indicate if you are using the Common App for that school. If you see *Unknown*, click the *Unknown* link and update the status to *yes* or *no* using the drop-down menu. This is **VERY** important – if the counselors do not know if you used the Common App for that school then they do not know how to send your documents.

Requesting a Letter of Recommendation in Naviance:

- 1) Go to your *Colleges I'm Applying to* page
 - 2) Under *Teacher Recommendations* click *add/cancel requests*
 - 3) From the dropdown menu select your teacher
NOTE: All Common Application schools require a counselor letter of recommendation. You **MUST select your counselor if you are applying to any schools via the Common App.
 - 4) In the *Personal note to teacher* explain the following:
 - a. What school(s) this is for
 - b. List the deadline for each school
 - c. If any of the schools have the postage stamp icon tell them you will provide an envelope for them
 - d. Say thank you!
-

Teacher and Counselor Letters of Recommendation

Before you request a letter in Naviance do the following:

- 1) Ask your teacher and/or counselor in person
**This is essential! Asking for a letter of recommendation is a request and it is important to make personal contact with the person so they can ask you any questions that they may have.
**NOTE: if you are applying to any schools using the Common App you MUST have a counselor letter of recommendation. You need to ask in person or by email.

- 2) Complete your Resume in Naviance.
You MUST provide your recommender with a resume.
- 3) Check the *Submission* type for the school you are requesting a letter for



This icon represents schools that only accept documents submitted via mail. You will need to provide the teacher/counselor with a stamped envelope addressed to the admissions office of the school.



This icon represents electronic destinations that accept documents electronically via Naviance. Once you have requested the letter in Naviance the teacher/counselor will be able to send the letter electronically.



This icon represents Common App destinations that accept documents electronically via Naviance. Once you have requested the letter in Naviance the teacher/counselor will be able to send the letter electronically.



This icon is displayed when a student has selected a Common App college and has indicated that he or she is not applying via the Common App Online. However, this school still accepts electronic submissions so your teacher/counselor will be able to send the letter electronically.

The Main Types of College Admissions Options

Different types of schools generally offer various types of college admissions options.

Regular Admissions	This is the most common option for four-year colleges and universities . All students must submit their applications by a specific date, usually between November and January. The admissions board then reviews all the applications and sends out acceptances and rejection letters on the same date.
Rolling Admissions	Common at large state universities, schools that provide rolling admissions allow students to apply at any time during their admissions period; typically, September through July. The school then evaluates each college application as it's received and sends acceptance letters to students who meet their requirements. Since admission is granted on a first-come, first-serve basis, you'll want to submit your application as early as possible.
Open Admissions	Typically, community colleges, online schools and distance learning programs offer this type of enrollment. Open admission means that nearly all high school graduates are admitted, provided they have a diploma or a General Educational Development (GED) certificate. Students who have a lower than average GPA in their high school courses may want to find a college with this policy.

Early Admissions Options

If you have one or two schools that are your absolute dream colleges, you should consider one of the early admissions options. Learn more about the different options and how your admission works with these methods.

Early Decision	Under this admissions program, you agree to attend this school if accepted, and you can't apply to any other college or university. If you receive an acceptance letter, you must withdraw any other applications to other schools. Since this option is binding, you need to be sure about your choice and realistic about your application. Make sure you get your guidance counselor's opinion before you submit an application with early decision.
Early Action	Like early decision, you are applying only to your top-choice school. However, unlike early decision, you are not bound to attend if accepted and you can apply early action to more than one university. You can accept an offer as soon as you receive it or wait to make your final selection in the spring after you've found out where else you've been accepted.
Early Evaluation	Selecting this choice means you can apply early to find out whether your chances for acceptance are good, fair or poor. Your application usually needs to be submitted by November, and you'll be sent a determination by December or January.