



# THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

PRESENTED BY:

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# HOW TO PREPARE OVER THE SUMMER

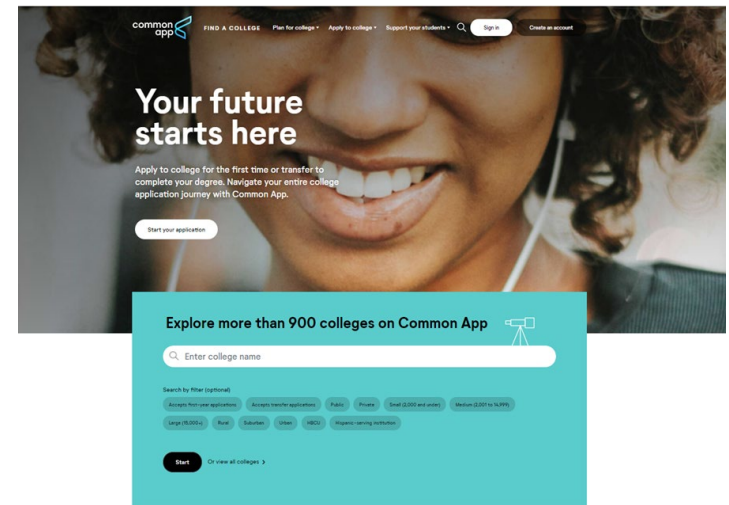
- **START YOUR COLLEGE ESSAY**
  - Attend Writing Camps
- **CREATE A COMMON APPLICATION ACCOUNT**
  - Application opens on Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>
- **ASK FOR LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION BEFORE YOU LEAVE FOR SUMMER BREAK**
- **BEGIN TOURING COLLEGES**
  - Attend Open Houses
  - Summer Events
  - Narrow down your list
- **START RESEARCHING DEADLINES**
  - Each college will have their own deadlines for financial aid and admissions application





# WAYS TO APPLY TO COLLEGE

- **Common Application**
  - Opens August 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Accepted by over 900 schools
  - Fee waivers available
- **Coalition Application**
  - Opens August 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Required by 150 colleges
  - Fee waivers available
- **College-Specific Application**
  - Found on college website
  - May waive application fee





# DEADLINES

- Pay attention to both **application** and **financial aid** deadlines for each school
- Majority of deadlines are between December 1<sup>st</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup>
- Decide YOUR method of keeping track of all college-related deadlines
  - Spreadsheet
  - Paper or online fillable calendar
  - Folders
  - Phone app





# WHEN TO APPLY

Admission Type	Details	Deadline	Commitment
Rolling Admission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- First come, first served</li><li>- Applications are reviewed as they are received, so applying later may mean you miss out (even if you are a qualified candidate)</li></ul>	Within specified time frame until a class is filled	Non-binding
Regular Decision	All applications are reviewed prior to a decision being made	November-January	Non-binding
Early Action (EA)	Receive a decision well in advance of the institutions regular response date	October-December	Non-binding
Early Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Cannot apply to more that one school ED</li><li>-If admitted, student agrees to enroll and withdraw all other applications</li></ul>	October-December	Binding



# ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE APPLICATION

What is your college requiring from you?

- High School Transcript
- College Essay
- Extra-Curricular Activities
- Letters of Rec
- SAT/ACT Scores

**\*Additional things to consider:** Athletics, Auditions, portfolios, different major requirements...all will depend on your college!



# STUDENTS TAKE THE LEAD

Email or speak to college admissions representatives

Fill out college applications and paperwork

Develop strategies for staying organized

Check email regularly

Stay in communication with parents, school counseling office, college admissions, and financial aid offices

- **Parents**: consider creating a “college free zone” – a time (like during car rides, dinner) when college admissions talk is off limits!
- **Students**: answer your parents’ questions! They are excited for you!



# HELPFUL TIPS

- Create one **professional** email address for all things college-related and check it often! (not your school email)
- Track your applications via online portals, if offered. It is up to YOU to make sure your applications are completed.
- Ask lots of questions, you are not alone in this process!
- Start early. Give yourself **PLENTY** of time to complete your applications



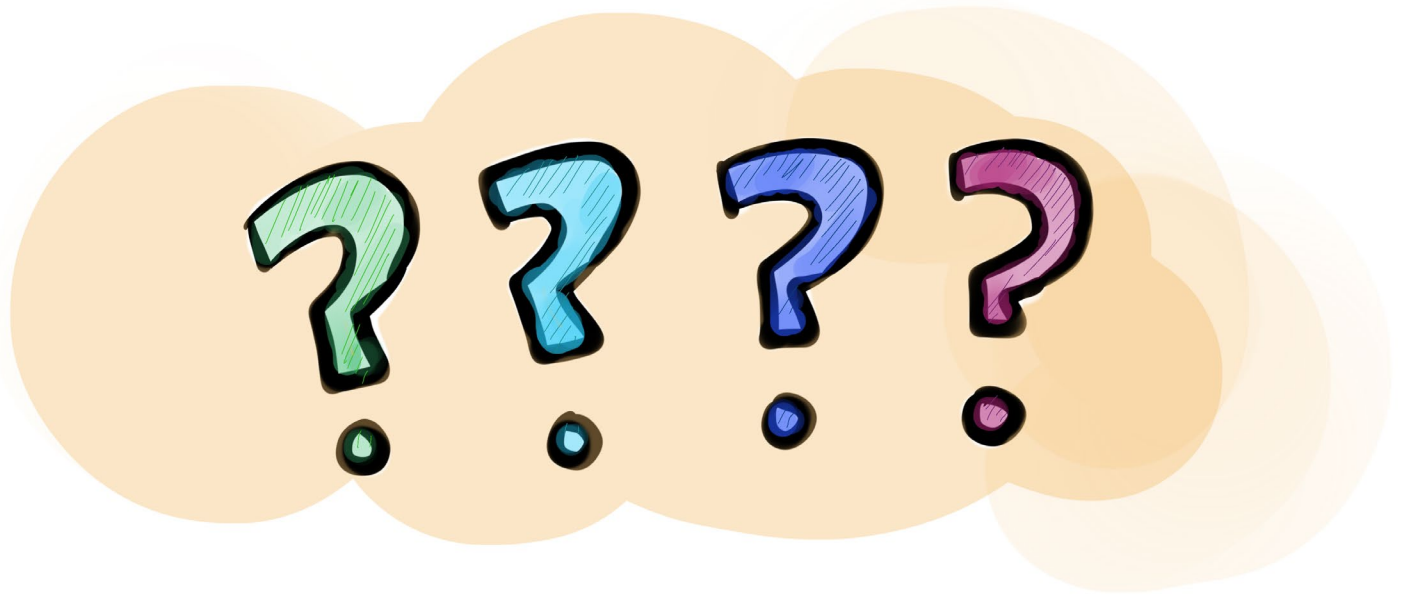


# AFTER YOU APPLY

- File your **FAFSA** and **CSS Profile** (if required)
  - Check school deadlines
- Admission decisions will arrive, depending on how you applied (EA, ED, RD)
- Once accepted, and FAFSA/CSS are complete, you will receive financial aid offer
- National Decision Day is **May 1<sup>st</sup>**
  - Deposit must be submitted to secure spot at college/university



# QUESTIONS?





# THANK YOU!

**Center for College Planning**  
**603.227.5444**

**collegeplanning@nhheaf.org**

Schedule an appointment online:

**[Calendly.com/nhheaf\\_ccp](https://calendly.com/nhheaf_ccp)**



Book an appointment