

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS FAQs

Question: What is the Common Application? What is it for?

The Common Application is a single application that can be completed once and submitted to many– but not all– colleges and universities by mail or electronically. The Common Application helps to standardize and organize the applications process and ease the stress of that process.

Question: Where do I get application for a college?

The easiest and most direct way is to go to the college's web site and click on the admission tab. Make sure you use the Undergraduate student application and apply as a freshman/first year student.

Question: What are “rolling admissions” or “rolling deadlines” and how do they affect me?

“Rolling admissions” or “rolling deadlines” indicate that a college– Northern Illinois, for example– has no set deadline for submission of applications. It is still in your best interests to complete and submit applications for schools with rolling deadlines as soon as possible during Senior year, and no later than December 1, because once these schools have met their enrollment goals there will be no spots left!

Question: When the applications or letters of recommendation ask me if I “waive my rights” to review my application, how should I respond?

Always say YES and waive your rights to review your application. When an application or letters of recommendation are confidential, the colleges may consider such material as more honest and critical and therefore of greater value in considering you for admissions.

Question: What are Early Decision and Early Action applications?

If you apply Early Decision and are accepted, then you must attend that college regardless of ability to pay for that college. Early Action means that you are the first group of students to apply to a University and potentially qualify for the most school scholarships you would also have a stronger chance of being admitted. Applying to school before the Early Action Deadline is strongly recommended.

COLLEGE OFFICE PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES FAQs

Question: How do I send schools my transcripts?

Go down to the Counseling Office in room 112 and bring proof of a completed college application. You will fill out a transcript request form and pick it up later. It is your responsibility to mail out the transcript to each college. If you need any help please see Ms. Arambula in the College Lab room 238.

Question: What do I do if a college indicates it is missing some document(s) related to my application?

Regularly review the progress of your individual applications via the web sites of individual colleges; if any application material is listed as “missing,” contact the individual schools to verify this and then– if necessary– visit the College Lab or individual teachers to send duplicate material.