

SHS Tips on Applying to University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- We strongly recommend applying by the November 15th **Early Action Deadline**. *This means all parts should be completed by October 15th.*
- Due to COVID, and the holistic review process, all students will hear back by mid-February.
- Possible decisions could be: Admitted, Denied, or Wait Listed.
- ***U of I allows for self-reporting of ACT/SAT Test Scores.*** Students do not need to request and pay for scores to be sent from the testing agencies unless/until they enroll at UIUC.
- Students ***should not*** send transcripts through Parchment, they will be self-reporting their grades.
- ***U of I is test-optional this year. Once the decision is made within the application, students cannot change their decision.***
- Though it is an option to upload a photo, there is no need to do so.
- You will need to “submit” each page once it is complete to receive a checkmark. You may still go back and edit the page as needed after you submit it. The application should take about 45 minutes to complete (not including writing any essays or self-reporting academic history).

Contact Information

- If you have questions about citizenship and/or residency, feel free to come and speak to us.

Education

- Start Date: August 2017 (unless you transferred)
- GPA: Weighted and report your weighted GPA
- Note: A-F Grading Scale
- Graduation Date: May 28, 2021
- Class Rank: No

Self-Reported Academic Record (SRAR)

- This process could take 30 – 45 minutes. Attention to detail is very important.
- Have your high school transcript with you when filling out the Courses Section, entering all information exactly as it appears on your document (you can skip the course codes). You can print your SHS transcript from your Infinite Campus Portal.
- “Enter the dual credit course(s) under the college record only. If you did not create a college record, return to the Education section and add it. Do not enter the dual credit course(s) under your high school record even if the class will appear on your final high school transcript.”
- Most electives are considered “other” (i.e. Fine Arts, Dr. Ed, PE, Business, Music).
- Technical would include PLTW, Computer Science, Applied Arts, and Tech Campus Courses.
- “Pass/Fail - Pass” classes could be PE, Dr. Ed., Travel through SHS.
- Under Type, classes for SHS can be considered Regular or College-Prep if not Accelerated, Honors, or AP. All other types, for SHS courses, can be ignored.
- If you have a PE Waiver, do not report the course.
- If you completed summer school prior to 9th grade year, list “Term” as “9th grade” and “Summer.”
- Student can list Dr. Ed (either from SHS or privately). If taken at SHS, include the grade earned.
- After submitting, if you have an update to your senior year schedule, test scores, or you find an error, complete the Course Change Form in your myillini account.

- If you're admitted and plan to enroll, your final, official transcript must match the information in the Courses Section. If it doesn't, your admission offer may be rescinded.

Other Academic Information

- For **Language Other Than English** section, under "Level," indicate the YEARS you have taken language. Please note: AP Spanish 5 = 4 years, Spanish 2/3 = 2 years, Spanish 3/4 = 3 years, Spanish 3 = 3 years, and Spanish 2 = 2 years.

Exams:

- Students should decide if they are going test-optional. If students don't have any scores yet, you can still submit your application by listing your future test date on the application. However, your application will remain incomplete until we either receive official scores or you submit the Test Score Change Form in myIllini with scores you've earned.
- Students will self-report their ACT/SAT Test Score.

Challenges (Select Yes/No):

- Indicate any personal challenges you have faced in regards to Covid-19. Select the explanation box at the bottom if you want to include more details (up to 300 words).
- Students can share about certain situations they have encountered while in high school that has impacted their transcript. Topics may include: disability, chronic/severe illness, family/home issues, death of a family member or friend, or additional info. Feel free to speak with a post secondary counselor if you would like to discuss your topic.
- Students can explain a low grade, drop in grades, or any other challenges they encountered.

Choose Two Majors

- If you know Illinois is where you want to call home, choosing a second choice major will ensure that they consider you for all avenues of admission.
- They will consider you for your first-choice major, but if you are not admissible to that major, you'll be considered for your second-choice major.
- If you are not admissible to either one, you'll be considered for any other avenue of admission, including the Division of General Studies (DGS).
- If you select your first major within engineering, and select a second choice major (in any college), you will also be considered for PREP (Pre-Engineering Program). This is by invite only.
- You can still be considered for your first choice if you are waitlisted.
- If you only choose one major for consideration, you will not automatically be considered for DGS.
- No additional essay is required if you list Undeclared in DGS as your second choice.

Essay(s)

- You will submit an essay that discusses your interest in the major you have selected. U of I wants to know why you have chosen that major, and if you have any experience related to it.
- U of I would like separate responses for each essay. When evaluating your essays, they are looking for the reasons you're interested in the major you selected - whether it's your first choice or your second choice. If you feel that your second choice corresponds with your first choice, it's possible to reuse portions of your first-choice essay. However, they still want to see a true interest and understanding of your second-choice major through your essay.

Activities

- List up to eight activities in order of importance to you and up to five honors (optional).
- Be sure to include a small description (a few sentences) either with the title or in the position field.

