

Crusader Connections

College Paperwork/Preparation



December 15, 2020

Road Map

1. Application Types
2. Transcripts
3. Letters of Recommendation
4. Counselor Evaluation
5. Student Essay(s)
6. FAFSA and other financial considerations
7. NCAA/NAIA eligibility and registration
8. Course Selection at SCLA
9. Admissions Testing



Application Types

1. Direct to the Institution (School Website)
2. Common App
3. Paper

**Some schools allow either direct or Common App. There is no advantage/disadvantage for admission based on app type.*



Profile

Family

Education

Testing

Activities

Writing

Courses & Grades
2 college(s) require



Reporting activities can help colleges better understand your life outside of the classroom. Examples of activities might include:

- Arts or music
- Clubs
- Community engagement
- Family responsibilities ([learn more](#))
- Hobbies
- Sports
- Work or volunteering
- Other experiences that have been meaningful to you



The essay demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores? Choose the option that best helps you answer that question and write an essay of no more than 650 words, using the prompt to inspire and structure your response. Remember: 650 words is your limit, not your goal. Use the full range if you need it, but don't feel obligated to do so. (The application won't accept a response shorter than 250 words.)

- 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.
- The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
- Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
- 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.
- Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.



Transcript

1. Initial Transcript / Midyear Transcript / Final Transcript
2. For most schools, the guidance office sends transcripts to each school.
3. Some schools require students to input their courses & grades



Letter(s) of Recommendation

1. Most schools allow at least 1 teacher letter of rec
2. Requirements and allowances vary
3. Non-teacher letters are *sometimes* allowed

Tell about the student, not about the student's grade.
Provide proof/anecdote of student's ability.



Counselor Written Evaluation

Some schools require the counselor to write an evaluation / recommendation.



Student Essay(s)

Many schools require or prefer a writing sample.

1. Allows the school to see student writing ability
2. Allows the student to demonstrate maturity and creativity



FAFSA and Other Financial Documents

FAFSA opens October 1 for 12th grade students

1. Previous year tax documents
2. Forms for change of income or job
3. Information on tuition “supporters” (parents, student, other relative, etc.)



NCAA/NAIA Eligibility & Registration

Students wishing to play college sports must register with the NCAA and/or NAIA

1. Proof of eligibility (GPA and core course requirements)
2. Demonstrates readiness to potential colleges/coaches
3. Official visits (D1 & D2) allowed *after* registering
4. Official scholarship offers *after* registering

**College coaches do not go to the eligibility center to find athletes. They find athletes, and then they go to the E.C. to see if the athlete is eligible.*



Course Selection at SCLA

Course selection occurs in February/March.

Considerations:

1. Potential majors/interests
2. Prerequisites
3. AP courses
4. PSEO courses

Special meeting for each grade level prior to course selection. Course selection done with advisor.



Admissions Testing

ACT and SAT are still around. Things to know:

1. Test dates
2. Test centers
3. Registration deadlines
4. Reporting times
5. Fee waivers



Questions



Contact Us!

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