

# The College Application Checklist



**Did you know?** Naviance College, Career, and Life Readiness lessons (purple box at the bottom of your Naviance homepage) can help you navigate the major milestones of your senior year.

Spring - Summer

Student Checklist	Parent or Guardian Checklist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Engage with admissions reps in-person, over the phone, and through email.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Work with your student to plan spring &amp; summer visits to the colleges they are most interested in.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Go to <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> to register for the spring SAT. You can always take it again in the fall if you want a better score.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Come up with a study plan and stick to it!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Talk to your student about paying for the SAT (\$50-65). Register early to avoid paying an extra \$30 late fee.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">**fee waivers are available**</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Go to <a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a> to register for the spring ACT. You can always take it again in the fall if you want a better score.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Come up with a study plan and stick to it!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Talk to your student about paying for the ACT (\$52-68). Register early to avoid paying an extra \$30 late fee.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">**fee waivers are available**</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Carefully consider the criteria you are looking for in a college and the admissions requirements for each school to finalize your college list and which deadlines you want to shoot for.</li> </ul> <p>**Use Naviance &amp; college websites to help you make informed decisions about where to apply.**</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Talk to your student about where they are planning to apply and what criteria matters to them most.</li> </ul>

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**Did you know?** You are twice as likely to get into a college if you apply for Early Action rather than Regular Decision.

		Student Checklist	Parent or Guardian Checklist
Fall - Winter	Apply to College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to college admissions websites for more information on how to apply. Most colleges begin accepting applications on <b>August 1<sup>st</sup></b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talk to your student about how to pay for college application fees. Fees can range from \$25 to \$90 per application. <b>**fee waivers are available**</b></li> </ul>
	Request Recommendations and Transcripts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speak to teachers directly to find out what they require in order to provide you with a written recommendation</li> <li>Use <u>Naviance</u> to request ALL letters of recommendation and transcripts for colleges you are applying to.</li> </ul>	
	Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Go to <a href="https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid">https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid</a> to learn more about the FAFSA.</li> <li>Submit your FAFSA application as early as <b>October 1<sup>st</sup></b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents and guardians should go to <a href="https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out">https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out</a> to identify what financial information is needed to complete the FAFSA successfully.</li> </ul>
	Apply for Scholarships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use resources like the Naviance Scholarship Search to find out which scholarships you're eligible for.</li> <li>Apply well in advance of scholarship deadlines.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss finances with your student. Let them know if there is a "financial gap" between the costs of college that would not be met by household contributions + federal financial aid. How much will the student need from other sources in order to attend college?</li> </ul>
	Commit to a College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College Decision Day is <b>May 1<sup>st</sup></b> but many colleges would like you to commit earlier!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talk to your student about each college they are accepted to. Is it a good fit for them? Academically? Culturally? Financially? Help them make their final decision.</li> </ul>