

College Application Process

1. **What is your post grad plan?** Research your career interests to determine what the best education path is for you. Do you need a Certificate, Associates Degree, Bachelor's degree, or higher? Use the [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) and [My Colorado Journey](#) to learn more. *Schedule a Senior Planning Meeting with your counselor to talk about where you're at in the process. We can answer questions and help you out along the way!*
2. **Research schools you're interested in.** Pay attention to each schools individual admissions requirements. Some things to consider: *Are there certain course requirements? (For example Foreign Language or Visual Arts) What GPA is needed? Are standardized test scores required?*
3. **Think about your budget!** Are you wanting to go out of state? Are the schools you're interested in part of the [Western Undergraduate Exchange Program](#)? Prepare your [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#). Sign up for the [College Opportunity Fund](#).
4. **Make a list of schools you'd like to apply to.** Be sure to include schools you are confident you can get into along with your dream or reach schools. Make sure to include some in state schools as well.
5. **Organize!** Make a list of application deadlines and requirements. Are you able to use the [Common App](#) for all of your applications? Will you need to submit an application directly to the institution?
6. **Learn to navigate Naviance.** Check your Senior Seminar classroom resources for detailed instructions.
7. **Add colleges you're applying to onto your Naviance account.** Make sure you match your Common App account.
8. **Do you need recommendation letters?** If you do, talk to your teachers in person and then request the letters in Naviance once they agree. Teachers may request you complete a Student Personal Profile. You can find this in your Senior Seminar Google Classroom as well.
9. **Finalize your application essays.** Talk to your teachers, families and counselor for support and revisions.
10. **Prepare and submit your application, application fees and any other requirements on or before the due date.** Late submissions will not be accepted. Don't forget to request your transcript through Naviance.
11. **Research Scholarships!** Use tools such as Naviance and [College Board](#) to see what scholarships are a good match. There are additional resources available on the [Columbine Counseling Website](#).

Special considerations:

- *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Opens 10/1. Fill this out with a parent or guardian as soon as you can.*
- *[Colorado Free Application Days](#) allow you to submit your Colorado State School applications for free with a special waiver code. Free Application Days are October 17th through 19th, 2023*
- *CHS [College Planning Website](#)*

Senior Seminar Google Classroom Code: ikek5v