

College Application Checklist

Your guide to a successful application process

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Research Colleges and Universities: Consider factors like location, size, majors offered, extracurricular activities, and financial aid opportunities. Schoolinks is a great resource, and allows you to favorite and add the schools you are interested in to your list.

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Visit Campuses: If possible, visit the campuses of your top choices. This can give you a feel for the environment and help you decide if it's a good fit. A lot of times you will "get a feeling" when you are in the right place for you!

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Ask for Teacher Recommendations: Ask your teachers early for teacher recommendations. We utilize Schoolinks for teachers to submit these. Make sure you give them a Brag Sheet or Resume to help them right your recommendation.

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Application Time: Create your Common App account and connect it to Schoolinks. Begin filling out all the information that is required. Pay attention to each college's requirements and deadlines! It's a good idea to have all applications ready to submit during Virginia College Application Week in October. (Tip: If you were born in the US, you are a "US Citizen," not "Legal Resident"

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Apply for Financial Aid: Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible (it opens in December). Begin looking for Scholarships and Grants as well. Our local Scholarships begin coming out in late January and finish up at the end of April/beginning of May.
