

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

APPLYING TO COLLEGE: RECOMMEND APPLYING EARLY (NO LATER THAN MID OCTOBER)

The number of colleges to which you should apply depends on several factors: the educational opportunities for you at individual colleges; your chance for admission; and in some cases, your possibilities of financial aid. If, after a careful study of colleges, you find your first-choice college fits within your financial resources and there is no doubt about your admission there, you may need to apply only to that school. On the other hand, you may find that your first-choice college cannot accept all qualified applicants. In that case, you will want to apply to one or more second-choice colleges as well. It is important to include at least one college that is a “sure thing” for you in terms of admission standards and costs. Don’t rule out applying to a college that seems to be out of your price range if you qualify for admission and the college meets your other requirements.

OBTAINING APPLICATION MATERIALS

Most colleges recommend applying online. Some applications are available in the guidance office. Also, the student can write directly to the Director of Admissions at the individual college to request an application.

COMPLETING APPLICATIONS

When the information requested is received, read it carefully. Complete the application forms carefully, accurately, and on time. Read directions thoroughly before beginning. One part may require an essay by the applicant. Some require an autobiography or description of a memorable event or a summary of the applicant’s ambitions in higher education. I would encourage the applicant to write a rough draft first, proofread, and then write the final copy. Prepare each part of the application carefully. Remember, this is the initial contact between you and the college – make it a good first impression!

Most colleges prefer that students complete an online application. Some online applications are free. When you have completed your portion of the online application, print the page for the counselor to complete and bring it to the guidance office. Your application and transcript (academic record) will be mailed to the college.

If you are completing a paper application, bring the counselor portion to the guidance office. This form will be mailed along with your transcript.