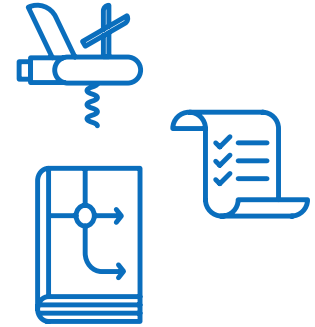


Common App for international students



If you are an international student applying to a university in the U.S., you are not alone! In fact, 1 in 10 applicants using Common App are just like you.

This resource will review some common questions international students have when preparing to apply to a U.S. college or university.

Did you know?

Students from over 200 countries use the Common App to apply to college each year.

Common questions

How do application fees work with Common App?

Each college decides the fee that they will charge to process your application. Not all colleges require applicants to pay a fee. In fact, you can search specifically for colleges that don't charge a fee. You can find application fees on the "Add Program" tab in your application.

Tip: On commonapp.org, you'll find helpful resources like the [Application Guide](#) and [Application Dictionary](#). The [Transfer Application Requirements grid](#) also lists deadlines, fees, and other program requirements.

What are application fee waivers?

International students may be eligible for a need-based Common App fee waiver. You can find the Common App fee waiver in the Profile section. Some colleges may also offer their own application fee waiver. It's important to check each university's fee waiver policy for international applicants.

To learn more, check out our resource on application fees and fee waivers at commonapp.org/ready.

What is the deadline to apply to a college or university?

Each college can choose their own program deadlines. You can find deadline information when you add a program, in the Program Materials section, and on the Submit Application tab.

Keep in mind that to meet an application deadline, you must submit your application materials by 11:59 pm in your local time zone, not the college's time zone or any other time zone.

How do I send my transcripts to Common App colleges?

In the Academic History section, you will report all colleges where you have taken a course.

For official transcripts, you only need to submit one transcript from each college or university you have attended, regardless of the number of programs you're applying to.

Common App can only accept transcripts from U.S. and English Canadian institutions. If you list a U.S. or English Canadian institution, you will be able to click on "Order" under the name of the school. You can then select if you are ordering an electronic transcript (recommended) or submitting a transcript via mail to Common App's Transcript Processing Center.

If you attend a school or earned your degree outside of the United States, your program may require that you submit your international coursework to a [US-based evaluation service](#) for a course-by-course U.S. equivalency report. This report should then be mailed directly to the Common App Transcript Processing Center from the evaluation service.

Do not send international transcripts to Common App, including those printed in English or translated into English; they will be discarded.

When sending foreign evaluations by mail, use the following address:

Common App Transcript Processing Center
PO Box 9135
Watertown, MA 02471

Be sure to contact the transcript evaluation service as early as possible, as it can take several weeks to process your transcript(s) once received.

What are credential evaluation services and how do I select one?

Credential evaluation services are independent organizations that perform analyses of non-U.S. qualifications and issue recommendations as to how a particular qualification compares to a similar qualification or set of qualifications in the U.S. education system, labor market, or profession.

Please check with the international admissions office at the U.S. institutions where you are applying. The school may recommend that you use a specific credential evaluation service.

If no particular service is recommended, you can select a credential evaluation service on your own. Below are two national associations of credential evaluation services that are frequently used by federal agencies, state agencies, educational institutions, and employers.

- National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) is an association of 19 credential evaluation services
- Association of International Credentials Evaluators (AICE) is an association of 9 credential evaluation services

Are there any additional forms I need to submit?

Some programs may ask you to submit the following forms, which must be downloaded and given to school officials at the college or university you are transferring from.

The [College Report](#) collects information about your standing at your current institution. You may need to gather this information from more than one official at your institution, such as an advisor, dean, or registrar. Please print the form and follow the instructions provided before mailing to each of your colleges.

The [Mid-Term Report](#) collects information about courses in which you are currently enrolled. Please print the form and follow the instructions provided before mailing to each of your colleges.

What should I do if I need help with my application?

Common App support is available 24/7. Visit the [Transfer Help Center](#) to view answers to common questions, or contact a support team member. You can also email us at thecommonapplication@liaison.com.

What should I do if I have a question specific to a college I am applying to?

While Common App can assist with application-related questions, sometimes you may need to reach out to a college directly for answers specific to the program you are applying to. If you can't find the answer you need on the college's admissions website, contact the admissions office.

Some questions that vary by college include:

“Do I need to take any English proficiency tests?”

“Is it okay if my transcript is not in English?”

“Does this college offer financial aid for international applicants?”

Is there support for my recommenders?

Whether it's an academic, personal, professional, or school official providing a letter of recommendation on your behalf, we are ready to assist when questions arise. Recommenders can visit the [Transfer Help Center](#) to find answers to frequently asked questions, access live chat, or schedule an appointment with our support team. They can also email us at ca_transferrecs@liaisoncas.com.