Counselor conversations with Common App: Account rollover

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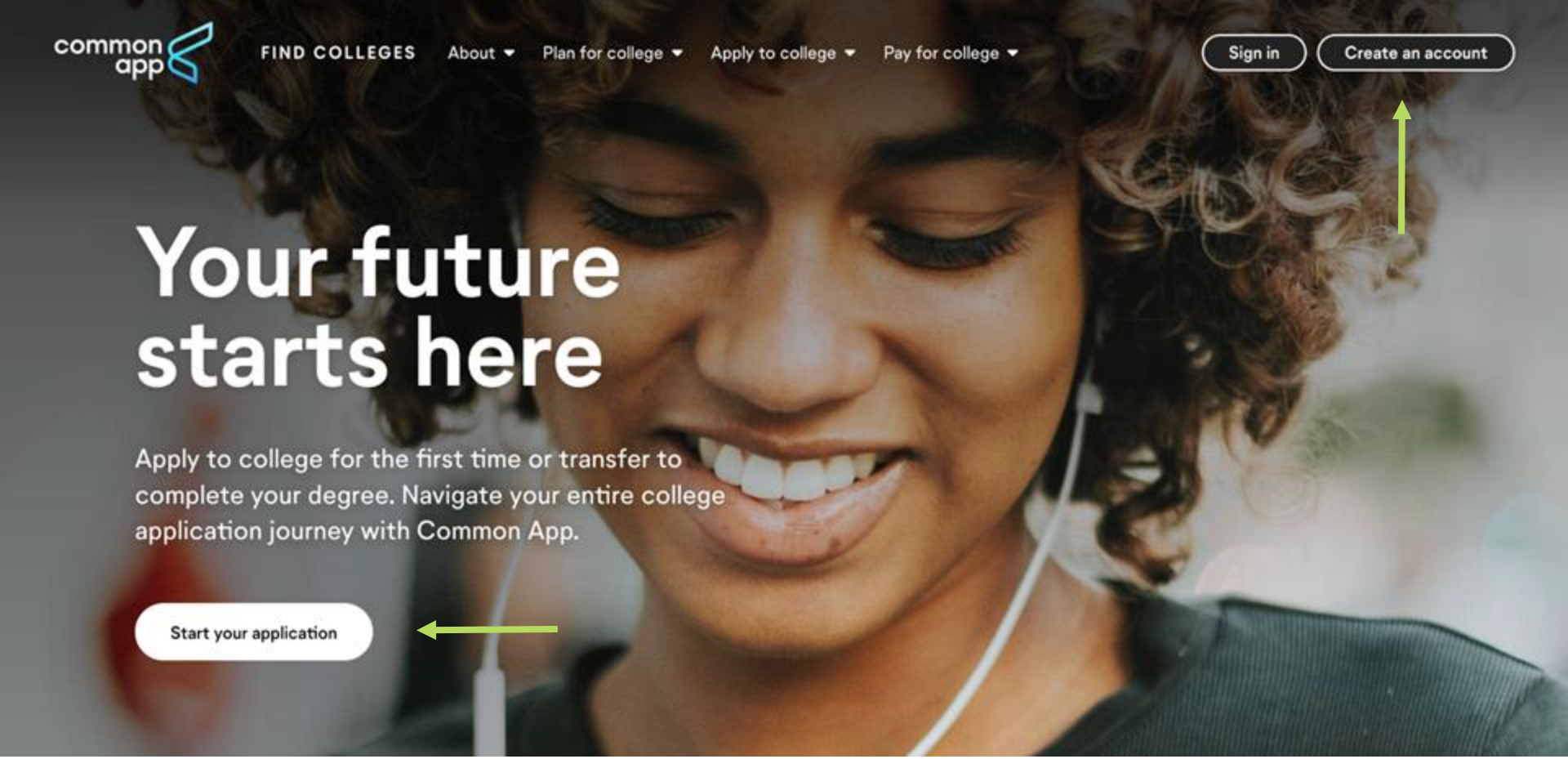
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Common App provides an online application that makes applying to college easy.

Each year, more than one million students — a third of whom are first-generation — explore and apply to over 1,100 member colleges and universities worldwide.

commonapp.org





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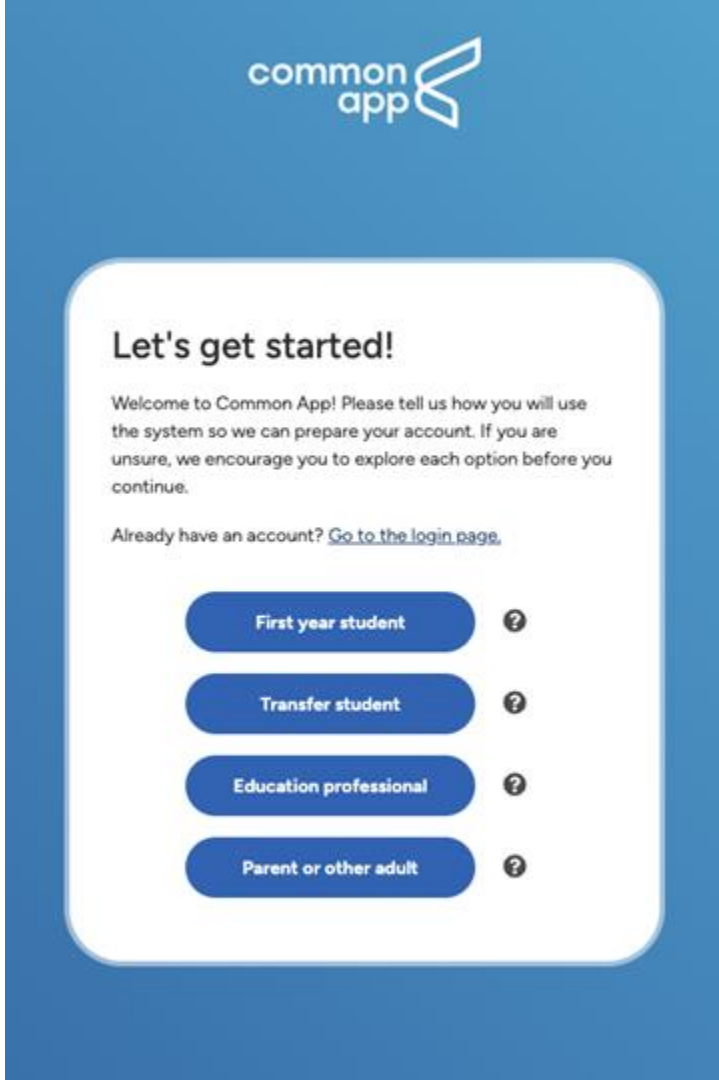
What is account rollover?

Anyone age 13 or older can create a Common App account at any time and start exploring the application.

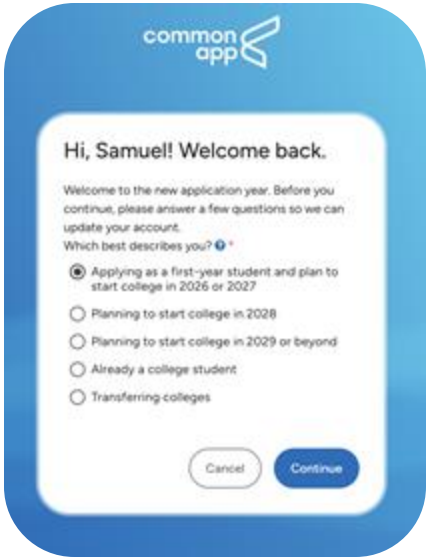
Common App gets a refresh on August 1 each year. During this refresh, we roll over existing accounts for the new application year.

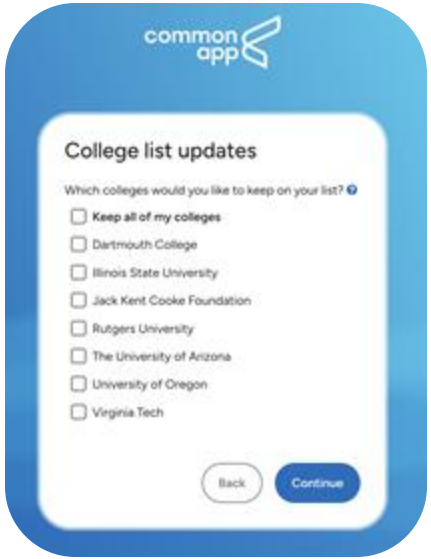
Account rollover is a way for students to keep their Common App account from year to year.

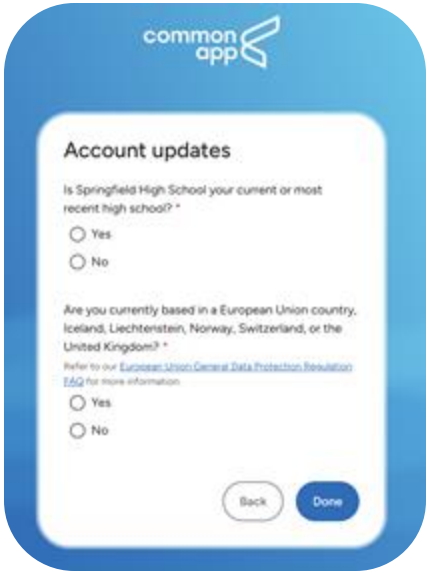
[Account rollover FAQ]

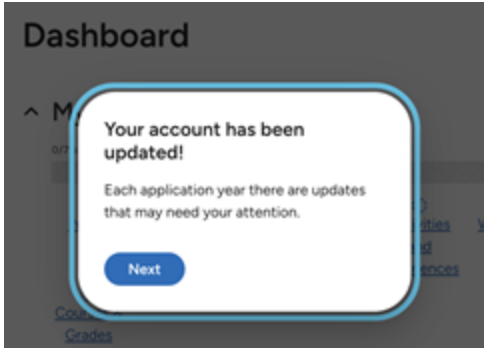


Account rollover steps









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Account rollover overview

The Common App launches on August 1 each year, but students don't have to wait until then.

Username and password

remain the same.



What rolls over?

- A student's college list
- Answers to questions in My Common Application
  - Profile
  - Family
  - Education
  - Testing
  - Activities
  - Writing
  - Courses & Grades
- Advisor invitations

What does NOT roll over?

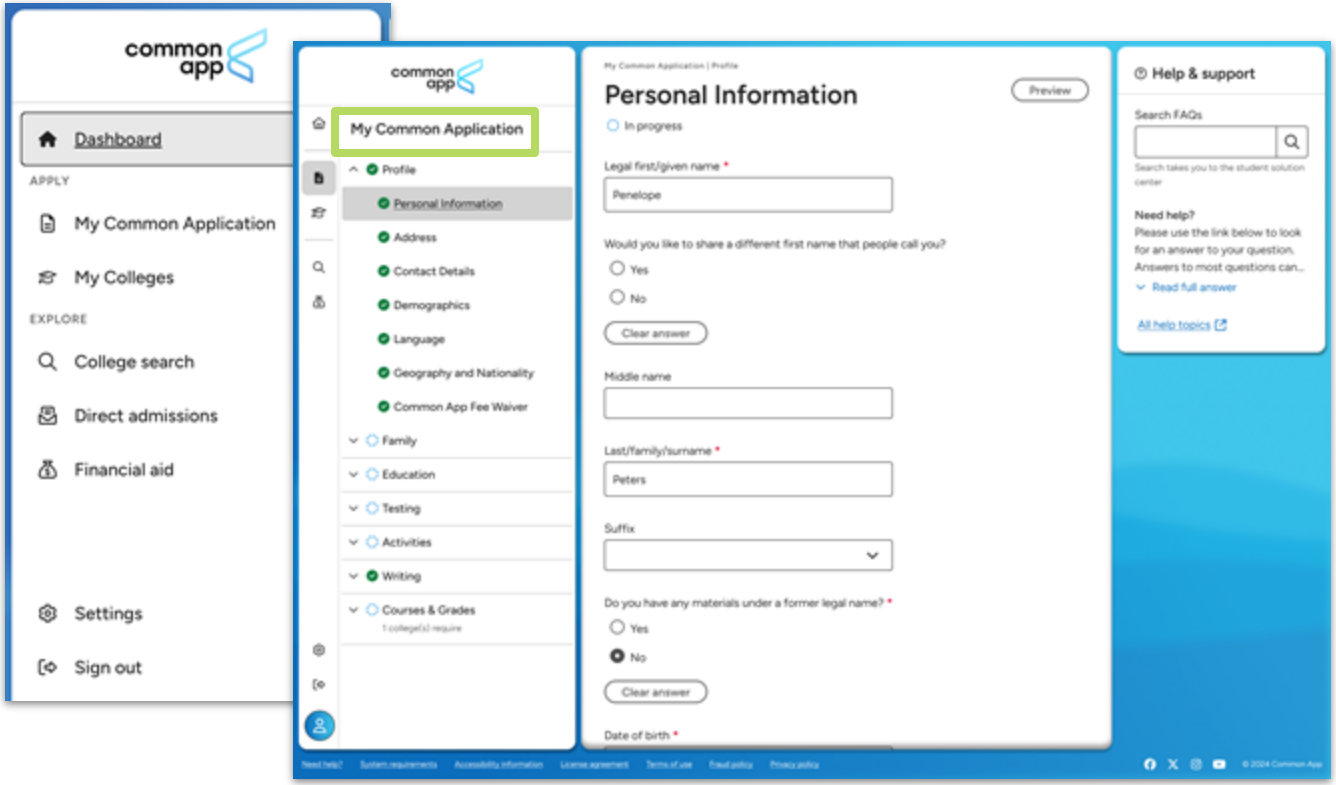
- Responses to questions that are edited or removed
- Direct admissions offers, scholarship matches
- My Colleges question responses
  - College-specific questions
  - FERPA release authorization
  - Recommender invitations (counselors, teachers, other recommenders)

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My Common Application

My Common Application is where students complete the main sections of the application.

Student responses to questions in My Common Application **roll over** with account rollover.



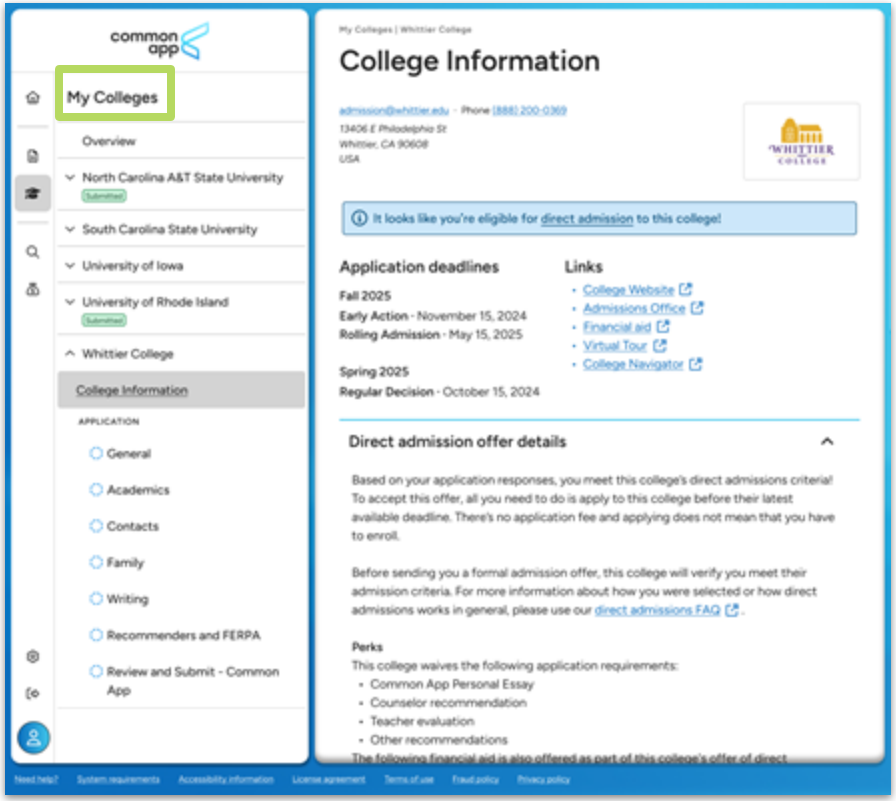
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My Colleges

My Colleges includes detailed information and requirements for each college on a student's list.

- College-specific questions
- FERPA Release Authorization
- Recommender invitations

Student responses to questions in My Colleges **do not roll over** with account rollover.



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Frequently asked questions



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QUESTION

I am supporting rising seniors. Can they create their accounts now?

Yes! The Common App launches on August 1 each year, but students don’t have to wait until then. With account rollover, anyone can create a Common App and get started, even if they aren’t applying for a few months or even years.

Can I create my account now FAQ



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QUESTION

A student just created their account for next year. Should they invite their counselor and teachers now?

No. Recommender invitations for counselors, teachers, and other recommenders will not carry over with account rollover.

Students should wait to invite these recommenders until after they roll over their account.



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QUESTION

A student just created their account for next year. Can they invite their advisor now?

Yes! The advisor invitation does roll over.



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Tips and resources



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Aimee's tips

Best practices

- Create a **practice account** to model with as you present in a video demo or in the classroom
- Create accounts **Junior year**
- Review the **Profile** section with students
- Review best practices for the **Activities** section: listing the most impactful activities first, using strong action verbs in descriptions
- Use the **Additional information** section if the student has a unique situation they need to explain
- **Preview the generated PDF** of an application before submitting

Common mistakes

- Entering GPA and Rank information before senior year
- Entering class schedule before senior year schedule is final
- Entering recommender information before asking them if they will write a letter
- Forgetting to assign recommenders to specific institutions

Raymond's tips

Best practices

- Spend time **understanding** everything about the Common App
- Create a **balanced college list** of safety, target and reach schools
- Review **FERPA** and understand what this means for you and your application
- Ask for **letters of recommendation** before the school year ends
- Start reviewing **personal statement** prompts early and start drafting ideas
- Save **drafts of activities and essay** prompts outside of Common App

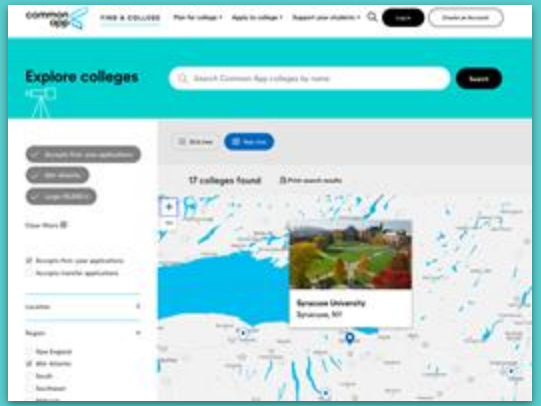
Common mistakes

- Ignoring **character limits** on various sections
- Not understanding the difference between **honors versus activities**
- Waiting to complete any parts of the application at the **last minute**
- Forgetting to **preview the application PDF** before submitting it

Common App student resources

- Explore colleges
- Why college matters
- Grade level checklists
- Application guide
- Common App handouts in English and Spanish
- Family resources
- Paying for college resources
- Videos and tutorials

commonapp.org/plan









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