What is Common App?

Common App is a non-profit college access organization that helps students apply to college every year. Common App’s free college application tool is designed to make applying to college faster and easier. With Common App you only need to use one system to apply to multiple colleges and universities. There are two main parts you fill out: a set of common questions and each college’s own specific questions. The best part is you only have to fill out the common questions one time!

Common App is a place for you to learn about the college admissions process, understand how to plan and apply to college, and discover all that different colleges have to offer. It’s a hub of information that can guide you through each step of the application journey. It’s a resource that connects you with financial aid and scholarship opportunities.

Whatever questions you might have, we’re here to help

Application guides to give you step-by-step instructions on completing your application.

A college roadmap designed to guide you toward your next destination — no matter where you start.

An application dictionary to help you understand the terminology related to college applications.

A library of FAQs to answer any question you may have, and a support team that’s available 24/7/365.

What’s next

Visit commonapp.org to create your Common App account and start exploring colleges.

Common App at a glance

- More than 1,000 colleges and universities use Common App
- 250+ public colleges and universities
- 50+ international universities in 15+ countries
- 125+ MSIs
- 500+ without app fee
- 300+ test optional/flexible