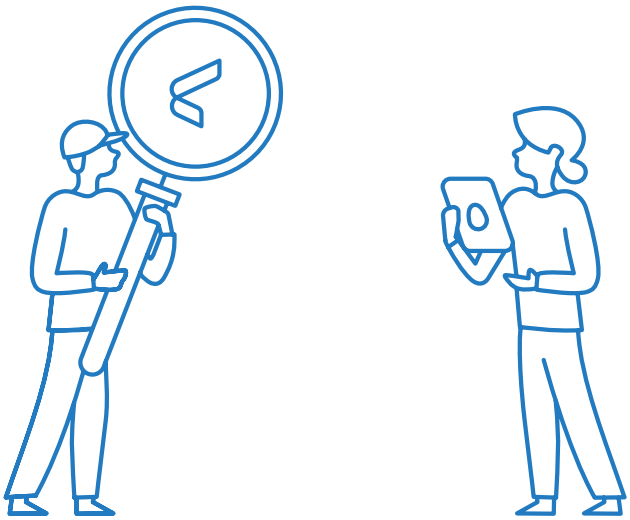
Understanding Common App Direct Admissions

Common App Direct Admissions simplifies college admission by extending offers to qualified first-generation and low- and middle-income students before they apply. Offers are based on information — like GPA — that you have entered into your Common App.

There's no application fee, and many colleges offer extra perks to make the process even easier, like guaranteed financial aid and no personal essay or recommendations required.



Get started

1. Create your Common App account at apply.commonapp.org/createaccount. Direct admissions offers are extended regularly throughout the year.

2. Answer these questions in the profile, family, and education sections:

- Cumulative GPA and GPA scale
- Common App fee waiver response
- Parent's education level
- Permanent home address

3. Check the Direct admissions section of your account and email to learn about your offers.

I have received offers. What's next?

1. Learn more about the college, including academic programs, campus offerings, and any exceptions or requirements. Decide if the college is a good fit.

2. Submit your application by the college's latest deadline. There's no application fee, and you're not required to enroll if you apply.

3. Colleges will verify the accuracy of your application information using official documents like school forms and transcripts.

Have additional questions?

Visit **commonapp.org/directadmissions** to check out our direct admissions FAQ for more details.

© Common App, Inc. September 2026