

Understanding application fees & fee waivers

Application fees

An application fee is a fee that a college charges for applying to their institution. Each college can choose how much to charge, and whether or not they charge a fee at all. In fact, many colleges don't charge a fee.

There are several places within Common App that list colleges' application fee requirements:

College Search

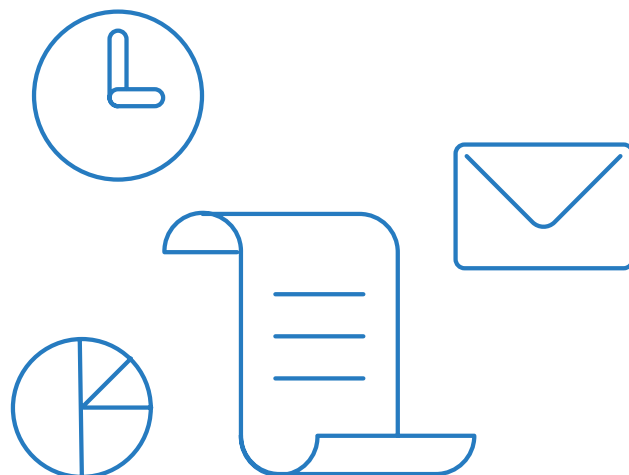
When you choose a school from the results list you'll see a breakdown of all their requirements, including application fees.

College Information

Important information about the colleges on your list will appear under My Colleges. Application fees for domestic and international applicants are listed here.

Requirements Grid

The Requirements Grid lists out the requirements (including application fees) for all colleges that use Common App. You can find this downloadable PDF on the Dashboard, College Search, and in our Solutions Center.



Did you know?

You can find colleges that charge no fee in college search and at commonapp.org/explore.

500+

colleges have no application fee for domestic students.

500+

colleges have no application fee for international students.



Fee waivers

A fee waiver lets you apply to a college without paying an application fee. Common App wants to make sure that application fees aren't a barrier for any student trying to submit an application. That's why we have the Common App Fee Waiver.

The Common App Fee Waiver waives the application fee of any college you apply to through Common App.

You can find the Common App Fee Waiver in the profile section of My Common Application. To apply for this fee waiver:

1. Answer "Yes" to the fee waiver statement.
2. Enter your signature to certify your request.

Keep in mind, the Common App Fee Waiver isn't the only fee waiver available to you. Many colleges also offer their own application fee waiver, specific to their school. Be sure to check with each college to understand their own fee waiver policies.

Need more information on application fees and fee waivers? Visit appsupport.commonapp.org

Note

Your counselor will also be asked to confirm that you are eligible for this waiver. You will still be able to submit your application without a fee while your counselor confirms.

400K+

applicants received a Common App fee waiver in 2022-2023

\$133M

in Common App fee waivers were granted in 2022-2023