

# I'VE APPLIED... WHAT'S NEXT?

**Congratulations! You have taken the very important first step to going to college – you've applied!**

During the program, you also should have applied for and received your FSA ID. Here are some tips and reminders of tasks that you need to complete over the next several months. If you have questions, contact your school counselor.

## YOUR NEXT STEPS:

### **Paying Your Application Fee**

When you submit your application, you may be required to pay an application fee. If so, you can pay your application fee the following ways:

1. You can pay via credit or debit card online. Some colleges require a credit card to apply online. If you chose this option, you will need the following information: credit card type (Visa, MasterCard, etc.), credit card number, security code, name on credit card, and expiration date.
2. You can submit your application online and pay via check in the mail. You will likely need to include a copy of your confirmation page with your check.
3. You can choose the fee waiver option on most applications if you qualify. Check with your school counselor about this option. You will likely need to include a copy of your confirmation page with the fee waiver. **DO NOT CHOOSE FEE WAIVER OPTION IF YOU DO NOT QUALIFY.** Ask your school counselor for more information.
4. You can save your application, print it, and mail it in with your payment or fee waiver.

### **Follow Up with Transcripts, Test Scores, Recommendation Letters and Essays**

Many admissions offices require students to submit additional information in order to complete the application process such as SAT or ACT scores and recommendation letters. It is important to find out what other information is required and send it to the campus ASAP! The sooner you submit all the necessary forms, the sooner you will receive a response from the admissions office.



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## YOUR NEXT STEPS:

### **Don't forget your confirmation page**

If you applied online, do not leave the computer lab without a hardcopy printout of your confirmation page! Also, some schools require this page to be signed and mailed to the admissions office to complete the application process. Whether the school requires this form or not, you still need a printed copy for your records. Either way, make sure you put this confirmation page in a safe place. If you are applying by hard copy, be sure to make a copy of your application for your records.

### **Schools should contact you!**

Once you have submitted your online application, campuses should be in touch with you via email or letter to confirm your application was received and any potential next steps. Make sure to check your email! If you have not been contacted by the school within two weeks of your submission, get in touch with the school's admissions office to inquire about your application status. Admissions decisions can take anywhere from a few days to a few weeks. Average turnaround time is about four to six weeks.

### **Now that I applied to college, where can I learn more about paying for college?**

- Talk to your counselor about state resources for financial aid. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education has resources to help you understand the types of financial aid, whether you qualify for aid, and how to apply for aid: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/>
- Speak with your family and school counselor about your financial aid options.
- Ask your counselor or volunteers about upcoming FAFSA completion events and mark the event(s) in your calendar.
- Complete and submit the FAFSA as early as possible. The sooner you submit the form, the better chance you have of getting an affordable financial aid package.

