

Congratulations! You are on your way to starting college!

I've Applied to College! What's Next?

Congratulations! You have taken the first step to go to college – you've applied! Once you have submitted your online application, colleges should be in touch with you to inform you of the status of your application. **Make sure to check your email.** If the college has not contacted you within four to six weeks of your submission, contact the admissions office to ask about your application status.

With the online portion of your application complete, there are a few more steps you need to finish.

You need to submit:

- Official high school transcripts (signed and with a school seal or electronic sent from the high school registrar)
- If you are applying for HB-144, you will also need to **send your official final transcript with your graduation date listed along with the affidavit corresponding to the college.**
- Application fee (if you chose the “pay later” option)
- College transcripts from Concurrent Enrollment (CE) courses or AP test scores (if required)
- ACT scores (if required)
- Letters of recommendation (if required)
- Essay (if required)

After you are accepted, consider the following to make your final decisions and prepare for college expenses:

- After completing the FAFSA, you will receive a financial aid offer letter. Review your offer letter and decide what financial aid and scholarships you will accept.
- Decide if you want to live on campus, off campus, or commute. Remember to do this EARLY! Most colleges have early deadlines for on-campus housing.
- Attend new student orientation.
- Schedule a meeting with an academic adviser to discuss first-year coursework.
- Register for classes as a new student.

Financial Aid

Seniors graduating high school in 2024 should file the 2024-2025 FAFSA. In December 2023, you can complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online. You must complete the FAFSA to be considered for grants, work-study funds, student loans, and some scholarships. You should complete the FAFSA as soon as possible to meet your college's FAFSA deadline to access the most money possible.

Steps to take to be the most prepared to submit your FAFSA form EARLY:

- Participate in your school's FAFSA Completion Night. Ask your school counselor for help completing the FAFSA form or for more information.
- Speak with family members and school counselors about your financial aid options.
- Keys to Success has several resources on saving and paying for college. You can access a full FAFSA walkthrough video to help you fill out the FAFSA form at ktsutah.org/resources.
- You and a parent will need an FSA ID to complete your FAFSA yearly. If you did not register for an



FSA ID or have forgotten it, visit studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account.

- If your parent does not have a Social Security number, they will still be able to create an FSA ID. Talk with your school counselor or college adviser for more information.

Scholarships

Resources for Finding Scholarships

Scholarships are a great way to pay for college because they do not have to be paid back. You must dedicate time and energy to submit additional scholarship applications. **Read all requirements** and instructions carefully and **stick to all deadlines**. Lean on the help from counselors, teachers, and college advisers who can support you in applying for scholarships!

Here are a few places to search for scholarships:

- Ask your school counselor or scholarship coordinator.
- Apply through your college or university.
- Explore options through your parents' employers.
- Explore local and community scholarships.
- Search for scholarships online.
- Explore the [state of Utah's scholarships and aid programs](#).
- [Keys to Success](#) connects students with local scholarships, internships, and other opportunities.
- Scholarship lists for undocumented students:
 - linktr.ee/slccdreamcenter
 - dream.utah.edu/dream_scholarships.php

2024-2025 FAFSA

(Updated information on what you'll need to complete the form is coming soon.)

Before you apply for financial aid, create one FSA ID (aka the FAFSA username and password) for you, the student, and all parents involved in the FAFSA studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account.

Students and parent/(s) need to gather these things:

- Social Security cards for both student and parent(s)
 - If the parent(s) does not have one, enter ITIN or type 000-00-0000 for the SSN.
 - If the student doesn't have one, you will be unable to file the FAFSA. Please talk with a school counselor or college adviser about other ways to pay for college, scholarship opportunities, and HB 144.
- If applicable, the student's I-94 paperwork or Permanent Resident Card
- If applicable, the student's driver's license
- W-2 forms and other records of taxed income** for both student and parent(s)
- Federal Income Tax Return*** for both student and parent(s)
- Current bank statements for both student and parent(s)
- Untaxed income records for both student and parent(s)
- Current information pertaining to businesses and investments, including documentation outlining the value of businesses or farms, stocks, bonds, 529 or Coverdell college savings plans, cryptocurrency, mortgage information about any properties OTHER THAN a primary residence, or other investment records**** for both student and parent(s).

