

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

Congratulations! You have taken the first step to going to college—you've applied! Once you have submitted your online application, colleges should contact you to inform you of its status. **Make sure to check your email.** Colleges should contact you. If the college has not contacted you about 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 2025 should file the 2025-2026 FAFSA.** 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. To create a StudentAid.Gov Account, visit [studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account](https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account). Keep your username and password in a safe place. You will use this login to renew your FAFSA every year. Parents who do not have access to a Social Security number can create a StudentAid.Gov Account. 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](http://linktr.ee/slccdreamcenter)
  - [dream.utah.edu/dream\\_scholarships.php](http://dream.utah.edu/dream_scholarships.php)
  - [weber.edu/undocumented](http://weber.edu/undocumented)

## 2025-2026 FAFSA

**Before you apply for financial aid**, create a StudentAid.Gov Account (aka the FAFSA username and password) for you, the student, and all parents involved in the FAFSA [studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account](http://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, they can create a StudentAid.Gov Account and may need to enter their tax information manually.
  - If the student doesn't have an SSN they are ineligible for federal student aid however, they can apply to alternative ways to pay for college, scholarships, and HB 144. Please talk with a school counselor or college adviser about these options.
- 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).