



College Admissions Decisions and College Applications

College Admissions Options

Colleges may have several different types of application options including:

- Rolling Decision
- Early Action
- Regular Decision
- Early Decision
- Restrictive Early Action
- Priority Decision

Be sure to check the university's website to determine what options they offer and what is best for you. Note: Not all colleges will offer more than one type of decision option.

College Applications

Colleges may have multiple methods for completing applications, such as mailing in the application, applying online using their specific application, using the Universal Application, and/or applying via the Common Application.

- The Common Application requires a Secondary School Report and may require a counselor letter of recommendation, teacher letters of recommendation, and supplemental essays.
- Your child should inform their counselor at least one month before the first deadline if they are using the Common Application.
- If your student is applying to more than one college that accepts the Common Application, it will save him or her time to apply using this method.
- If your child chooses to apply to a school via the Common App, he or she must indicate that in Naviance by choosing Yes or No under "Applying Via Common App" if the word "unknown" is listed for a school in "Colleges I'm applying to" under Colleges tab. Note: Kansas Regents School do not accept the Common Application.
- Common Application: www.commonapp.org

ACT/SAT Scores

- Official ACT and SAT scores must come directly from the testing agency.
- Unofficial scores or copies of the scores provided to the high school may be sent from the high school to your college.
- It is important to determine whether the college requires official or unofficial scores.
- If your child wants unofficial test scores to be sent to a college, he or she needs to visit with the high school registrar.

Letters of Recommendations

Some colleges and scholarships may require recommendation letters as part of the application.

- Typically colleges prefer teachers from junior or senior year.
- Kansas Regents colleges do not require letters of recommendation for admission but may need letters for other options.
- Recommendations reveal details about the student that grades and test scores cannot show.
- Carefully consider which teachers to ask for recommendations.
- Students should schedule a brief meeting 3 to 4 weeks prior to the recommendation deadline to request the letter from the teacher. This provides the recommender plenty of time to develop a quality letter.
- Before the deadline, students should check in with the teacher/counselor to be sure the process is underway.

Next Steps

- Student visits Naviance Family Connection for college and career investigation and application data input
- Student identifies admissions process for each college (admission option and application type)
- Student determines what scores are needed
- Student requests recommendations from counselor, teachers (if needed)