

# I APPLIED! WHAT'S NEXT?

**CONGRATULATIONS! YOU ARE NOW ON THE PATH TO COLLEGE. THIS IS WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT NEXT.**

## Application Follow-up:

- Request your official transcript to be sent to the college(s).
- Submit essays, if required.
- Ask your references or school counselor to send letters of recommendation, if required.
- Request official transcripts from any colleges where you've earned credit while in high school (dual enrollment) to be sent to the college(s) you have applied to.
- Request that official test scores be shared with the college(s) —Accuplacer, ACT, SAT, AP, IB, CLEP, or TOEFL.

## Apply for Financial Aid:

- **Top Priority – FAFSA!** You'll need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as close to October 1 as possible. This is your key to financial aid to help pay for college.
  - Create your FSA ID now by visiting <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>. Creating an FSA ID is the first step to completing the FAFSA online, which is the quickest and easiest way to submit the application. Each student and their parent(s) must have a unique FSA ID to electronically sign the FAFSA. Use the **Worksheet: Creating an FSA ID** for step-by-step instructions.
- **Find Scholarships** – Search the **Statewide Scholarship Bulletin Board** to find opportunities for dollars awarded to students based on achievement, financial need, and many other factors. Use a **spreadsheet** to track important deadlines. Some priority deadlines are as early as November!

**Hearing Back from Colleges:** You may be notified by mail or email of your acceptance (or if anything is missing from your application). Check your email and postal mail regularly.

**Know Your Deadlines:** Make sure you know the college deadlines, so you don't miss any important steps or decisions that may impact you later. Talk to an admissions representative to make sure you know deadlines for the following:

- **Financial Aid**
  - **FAFSA** (as close to October 1 as possible)
  - College-specific scholarships (varies by college, see **priority deadlines**)
  - Other **scholarships** (varies by scholarship)
- On-campus housing (varies by college)
- Admission acceptance (usually by May 1)

**While You Wait:** Continue applying for other **scholarships** by browsing the **Statewide Scholarship Bulletin Board**.

- Search scholarships specific to:
  - College(s) where you have applied
  - Your community
  - Your activities
  - Your planned major
- Visit with your high school counselor to explore scholarship options.
- Call the **admissions offices**, **financial aid offices** and the academic program departments at the college(s) you are interested in attending to make sure you are aware of your opportunities.

**Before You Graduate:** Request that your high school send your official final transcripts to your college (many high schools are closed much of the summer). Once you make your final selection on a college, find out and follow the required steps and deadlines to enroll.