

### The **BIG** Idea

- What steps do I need to take to apply to college?

### AGENDA

Approx. 45 minutes

- I. Warm Up (5 minutes)
- II. What Colleges Need to Know About You (10 minutes)
- III. Apply It! Quiz & Discussion (15 minutes)
- IV. Action Plan (10 minutes)
- V. Wrap Up (5 minutes)

### MATERIALS

#### **STUDENT HANDBOOK PAGES:**

- Student Handbook pages 116–120, Practice Application
- Student Handbook page 121, Action Plan
- Student Handbook page 122, Apply It! Question Prompts and College Steps

#### **FACILITATOR PAGES:**

- Facilitator Resource 1, DO NOW, Education After High School 2: The Road to College

Highlighters

Overhead projector

### OBJECTIVES

During this lesson, the student(s) will:

- List a minimum of three steps they need to take so that they can apply to college.

## OVERVIEW .....

The goal of this lesson is for students to recognize the steps they need to take — and when to take them — if they are considering four-year college as a post-secondary option. By exploring a college application, students learn what colleges need to know about them, why they need this information, and what they need to do while still in high school to prepare. In an effort to help students not feel overwhelmed by the application process, the lesson strives to help them understand that an application is simply a way to share their history with a college. While the lesson does not go into great detail on specific parts of the application, students will learn the basic meanings of new terms, with a special emphasis on the role of the college essay. Finally, students will review a step-by-step action plan for sophomore through senior years of high school, identifying actions they need to take and when to take them. They are reminded that selecting a college is a two-way process—they choose schools just as schools choose them. The lesson wraps up with students listing at least three steps they need to take to get ready to apply to a four-year college.

## PREPARATION .....

- List the day's **BIG IDEA** and activities on the board.
- Write the day's vocabulary words and definitions on the board.
- The following handouts need to be made into overhead transparencies or copied onto chart paper:
  - **Student Handbook pages 116–120, Practice Application**
  - **Student Handbook page 121, Action Plan**
- If working in pairs or small groups for **Activity III: Apply It! Quiz & Discussion**, determine who will work together.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION .....

For many students, the most challenging part of the college application process is getting started. It can be overwhelming to discover all they need to do to apply to college — from taking required tests to filling out a college application. One strategy is for students to get familiar with the steps involved in the process, and to start organizing themselves by creating checklists and calendars. By keeping track of what to do and when to do it, they can relieve much of the anxiety connected to the college application process.

## VOCABULARY .....

**ACT/SAT:** Primarily multiple choice tests of mathematical and English abilities that are required by many colleges and universities for admission into an **undergraduate** program.

**Financial Aid:** Scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study programs offered to a student to help pay tuition costs and living expenses.

**Major:** Your field of specialization in college.

**Undergraduate:** A student enrolled in an associate's or bachelor's degree program (two- or four-year degrees).

## IMPLEMENTATION OPTIONS .....

### DO NOW:

*(You may choose to present the Warm Up activity as a written Do Now. Present the questions on the board or overhead, and have students write only their answers on index cards. You could also choose to give the students a handout by copying **Facilitator Resource 1, DO NOW.**)*

### Questions:

1. Besides doing well in school, what are some steps you need to take if you want to go to college?
2. How might you find out more about colleges so that you can find ones that are a good fit for you?
3. How do you share information about yourself with a college?

[Once the students have finished writing their answers, proceed with the Warm Up as written.]

In today's lesson, the students will be looking at the practice application. A paper copy of the practice application is provided. Working on paper will allow students to more easily make changes and move through the different sections of the application.

For **Activity III: Apply It! Quiz & Discussion**, if working in pairs or small groups is not manageable in your classroom, have students work individually. If you are running short on time, you can instruct half the class to complete prompts 1 and 2, while the second half completes prompts 3 and 4. Then review the answers as a class. You may also choose to skip this entire activity if you need time for other activities.

For the **Wrap Up**, students should be able to identify at least three steps. To add more of a challenge, encourage students to find more than three, and/or to identify what year and semester each step they've listed should happen.

## ACTIVITY STEPS

### I. Warm Up (5 minutes)

1. **SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** Imagine it is the beginning of your junior year of high school. Over the summer, you decided that you want to attend a four-year college after you graduate. Will it be too early to think about college? Too late?
2. [Have students brainstorm what they already know about the steps they need to take to apply to a four-year college by asking the questions listed below. As students respond, jot their ideas on chart paper. If you'd like, list students' initials next to their responses.]

**SAY SOMETHING LIKE:**

- Besides doing well in school, what are some steps you need to take if you want to go to college?
  - How might you find out more about colleges so that you can find ones that are a good fit for you?
  - How do you share information about yourself with a college?
3. **SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** Great job! As you can see from your list, you already know quite a bit about what you need to do if you want to go to a four-year college. It may seem overwhelming, but today you will learn about what you need to do now —while you're still in high school —and when you need to do it. Knowing this information will help make getting ready to apply to college a smooth and less stressful process. Keep in mind that today's lesson is specifically about preparing to go to a four-year college. While the process for applying to a community college or technical school requires less preparation, you should still pay close attention. For example, if you begin your education at a community college, and then decide to continue at a four-year college, you will need to know the process.

### II. What Colleges Need to Know About You (10 minutes)

1. **SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** Whether you decide to pursue college or go straight to work after high school, you will need to share information about yourself, either with an employer or with a college admissions committee. To do this, you will be asked to fill out an application. If you've ever applied for a job before, there is a good chance that a college application will look familiar to you. If you're planning to go to a community college or career/tech school, the application process is simpler.

2. [Refer students to **Student Handbook pages 116–120, Practice Application** as you display them on the overhead projector. Explain that most four-year colleges have their own applications, which ask for information such as grades and test scores. This practice application asks many of the most common questions found on a four-year college application. Less competitive colleges require less information.

[Pass out a highlighter to each student. Then instruct students to skim through the **Practice Application** and highlight any information that seems important or interesting. Give them a couple of minutes to look over the application.]

3. **SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** How do you feel when you look at this application? [Allow students to respond.] It looks like a lot of information, but by understanding now what colleges need to know about you, you will be better able to prepare over the next few years. The application is your way of telling colleges your “story” — who you are, your accomplishments, and more. Just as you will need to decide which colleges are right for you, the colleges need to know if you’re right for them. One of their main ways of figuring this out is by reviewing your application. Think of the application as a road map that tells you all you need to do to get to your destination — college!
4. [Walk through each of the big sections of the application, using the talking points below. Let students know that you will be focusing on the information that is most crucial for them to know as 10<sup>th</sup> graders. As you refer to each section, point to it on the overhead transparency so that students can easily follow along on their handouts. Before you begin, explain to the class that today you will give them the “big picture” of what is on the application; they will get into more details of the application in their junior and senior years. The purpose of today’s lesson is to become more familiar with the college application process.]

**Talking Points:**

[Focus on the talking points with an (\*) beside them.]

**NAME AND ADDRESS:**

- Asks for personal information: name, permanent home address, mailing address, and contact information.

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

- Asks for gender, date of birth, citizenship information. In the section about citizenship, you describe whether or not you’re a citizen, and tell how long you’ve lived in this country. There is also an area for optional information including Social

Security number, ethnicity, etc. You don't have to complete the optional section. These questions will provide additional information about you to help schools keep track of things like the diversity of the student population.

#### **ENROLLMENT INFORMATION:**

- This section asks when you plan to enroll, what you plan to study and if you're planning on applying for financial aid. **Needs-based aid** means you get financial help for college because your family needs it. (College is expensive for many families, so you should apply for needs-based aid even if you're not sure you'll qualify.) **Merit-based aid** means you get financial help for something you're good at like sports, music, or academics.
- [If your students ask about the differences between early decision, early action, and restrictive early action, you can explain the differences using the definitions below. However, it is not essential that students master this concept at this time, so there is no need to spend a lot of time on this point.]

**Early Decision:** Students apply to a school and commit to go to this school if accepted.

**Early Action:** Students apply early and find out if they are accepted before the regular response date. Students are not obligated to go to this school.

**Restrictive Early Action:** Students apply to a school and receive a decision early, but may be prohibited from applying early decision or early action to other schools. Students are not obligated to go to this school if accepted.]

- Why might a college need to know when you'll be enrolling, or if you'll need financial aid?

#### **DEMOGRAPHICS:**

In this section, you describe whether or not you're a citizen, and tell how long you've lived in this country. There's also an optional section to describe your race. You don't have to complete this, but it helps schools keep track of the diversity of the student population.

#### **FAMILY:**

This asks for information about your parents, even if they're no longer living or don't live with you. There's a place to describe your legal guardian if it's someone different from your parents. "Siblings" refer to your brothers and sisters, and you're asked to include the colleges they attend or graduated from.

**\*ACADEMICS:**

- This section is where you share information about your education, including the name of your high school (secondary school), its location, any other schools you've attended (such as summer school), and the date you will graduate.
- CEEB/ACT is the school's code. Students should contact their school counselor for this number.
- Remind students that colleges will want to see their high school transcripts. This section confirms what school you attend and provides contact information with the school counselor.
- The section titled Guidance Counselor will provide schools with contact information for your counselor should they need to reach him or her.
- If you have attended any other high schools, provide that information in the section titled Other High Schools Attended.

**\*TEST INFORMATION:**

- As the name suggests, this is where you list your test results of standardized tests required by some colleges. The **ACT** and **SAT** are the two common standardized tests accepted by most four-year colleges.
- The Test of English as a Foreign Language™ (TOEFL) measures the ability of people whose main language is not English to use and understand it. If English is not your first language, they want to make sure you can handle college work in English.
- Where might you find out what tests a college requires and what scores you'll need to be accepted?
- College information and activities since last enrolled ask for information about your activities after leaving high school. Those will apply if you use this practice application in the future.

**\*ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS:**

- Here is where you list any activities you do outside of school, including when you did them, how often, and any honors earned.
- It is important to show colleges that you have been involved in extracurricular activities throughout high school. Now is the best time to get involved in sports, clubs, or organizations at your school.
- Why might a college want to know what you do outside of the classroom?

- **Work experience** includes any **paying** jobs you've held, your employer, and when you worked.
- What might your work experience say about you?

#### **WRITING:**

##### **Short Answer**

- This section allows you to tell more about one of your activities or work experiences. You only have 150 words, so choose what you want to say carefully. This is a chance to shine, so make the most of it!

##### **Personal Essay:**

- Some, but not all, colleges require an essay. Some require essays only if you're applying to a special program. But many colleges, particularly the more selective ones, will ask you to write about one of several topics, like those listed here.
- The essay is an important and powerful part of the application because it's your chance to set yourself apart from other applicants and let colleges know what makes you unique. It's an opportunity to show a side of you that grades and test scores can't reveal.

##### **Disciplinary History:**

- This section asks questions about any trouble you may have been in during high school, both academic (school related) and crimes.

#### **SIGNATURE:**

- There will be a fee for every application you send once you begin applying to colleges, which is a reason you may want to carefully consider how many and which schools you want to apply to. (Application fees may be waived for families with low incomes; check with your school counselor.)

### **III. Apply It! Quiz & Discussion (15 minutes)**

1. **SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** In this activity, you will read about several different high school students who are applying to four-year colleges. Each student has a different situation. Working with a partner, you will figure out and identify where on the application each student should share the information about their situation. Then, we will meet as a class again to share and discuss your decisions.
2. [Divide the class into pairs (or small groups). Refer students to **Student Handbook page 122, Apply It! Question Prompts**. They should also have **Student Handbook pages**

**116–120, Practice Application** accessible. Tell them they have 10 minutes to respond. Instruct them to make notes directly on **Student Handbook pages 116–119, Practice Application.**]

3. [After 10 minutes, have students come together for a whole-class discussion. Have volunteers read aloud each prompt. Then ask pairs to tell where on the application the student should share this information. Mark their responses on the overhead transparency of the practice application. If not all pairs have come up with the same answer, have those who made different choices explain their decision to the class.]

#### IV. Action Plan (10 minutes)

1. **SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** Many high school students wait until the last minute to decide what they want to do after they graduate. If they decide that they want to go to college, suddenly they are rushing to get everything accomplished in order to apply. And, sometimes they miss important deadlines. Looking back at our list from the beginning of today's lesson, you now know that there is quite a bit you need to do to prepare to apply to college. If you start the ball rolling now—even if you're not 100 percent sure you want to go to college—you will not be rushing to get everything done at the end of high school. To help you know what you need to do and when, experts in the area of college preparation have developed action plans for high school students to follow. Let's review these plans together.
2. [Refer students to **Student Handbook page 121, Action Plan** as you project it on the overhead. Then talk through the elements as outlined in steps 3–7 below.]
3. **SOPHOMORE YEAR — Fall**  
Sign up for the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test or its ACT-prep alternate, the ACT Plan. If you've already done this, you can check it off.
4. **JUNIOR YEAR — Fall/Winter**
  - Register for and retake the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.
  - Think about what you want in a college. For example, what might you want to study? What types of programs would you want? Do you want a big school or a small one? Do you want to be in a city or a country setting? Do you want to be near home? etc.
  - Start investigating which colleges meet your needs and interests. Learn about colleges by looking at websites, browsing catalogs and guides, and by talking to

friends, teachers, and recent high school graduates who are now in college. You may also want to meet with your school counselor for suggestions. Remember, college is a two-way street: you need to consider each school, just as each school needs to consider you.

- Register to take the SAT or ACT in the spring. The SAT and ACT are required by many colleges and universities for admission into an undergraduate program.

#### 5. JUNIOR YEAR—Spring/Summer

- Visit colleges that meet your interests and needs and take a campus tour. To get a true sense of a college, visit while school is in session. Be prepared to ask lots of questions. You can learn about when tours happen by looking at the school's website. We'll start this process by visiting a college later this year.
- By the end of this school year, narrow down your list to the colleges that interest you the most. Request viewbooks and financial aid information from colleges.
- Take the SAT or ACT.
- Request counselor or teacher recommendations. A college recommendation is a letter written by a teacher or counselor best qualified to describe your academic achievements and potential.
- Over the summer, continue to visit colleges. Take campus tours and schedule interviews with admissions counselors.

#### 6. SENIOR YEAR—Fall

- Request applications for five to 10 colleges to which you'll apply.
- Request financial aid information from the colleges. Find out what forms to file and due dates.
- Research scholarships and other financial aid opportunities using your library, financial aid guidebooks, websites, and school counselor. Attend family financial aid nights at your school or in your neighborhood.
- Start to fill out applications.
- Start writing first drafts of essays. Ask teachers and others to read them.
- If necessary, retake the SAT or ACT.
- Check in with your counselor and the teachers you requested recommendations from. Make sure they know the deadlines for all of your applications.

### 7. SENIOR YEAR—Winter

- Send your completed applications. Most college applications are due between late fall and early winter (December through January).
- Confirm that your counselor has sent your transcript to all the schools you applied to. A transcript is a record of the courses you've taken and your grades.
- January 1 is the first day that you are eligible to file the FAFSA. File as close to this date as possible, as school, state, and private aid deadlines may be much earlier than federal deadlines. All colleges will ask you to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA is a financial aid application form needed to apply for grants, work-study, and loans. The federal government uses it to determine how much your family can afford to pay.

## V. Wrap Up (5 minutes)

1. [Refer students to the bottom of **Student Handbook page 122, College Steps**. Instruct them to complete the handout by listing at least three steps they need to take in order to apply to college. Encourage them to add more than three if they can.]
2. **SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** Today you learned a lot about what you need to do to get ready to apply for college. As you've discovered, starting early is the key to getting it all done. If you're not yet sure what you'll do after high school, it's in your best interest to begin now. Should you decide later on that you want to go to college, you'll be on the road to getting there.

## DO NOW

### Education After High School 2: The Road to College

**Directions:** You will have three minutes to read the questions and write your answers.

**Questions:**

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1. Besides doing well in school, what are some steps you need to take if you want to go to college?

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2. How might you find out more about colleges so that you can find ones that are a good fit for you?

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3. How do you share information about yourself with a college?

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# Practice Application

## ADMISSION APPLICATION

- 1 Name and Address
- 2 Personal Information
- 3 Enrollment Information
- 4 Educational Information
- 5 Activities and Interests
- 6 Family Information

completed and saved  
..... current page

SKIP & JUMP to:  
Screen 1

SAVE  
**SUBMIT**  
YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION

William,  
if you have any  
technical questions,  
[click here.](#)

### NAME AND ADDRESS

#### Student Name

##### Legal name

*Enter name exactly as it appears on official documents*

Last/Family name:

First name:

Middle name:

Suffix:  Jr., etc.

##### Other name(s)

Preferred name/Nickname:

Former last name(s) if any:

#### Permanent Home Address

Street:

City:

U.S. state/territory:

Zip code:

Country:

Int'l postal code:

#### Mailing Address (if different from above)

Street:

City:

U.S. state/territory:

Zip code:

Country:

Int'l postal code:

Date from:  to:  mm/yyyy

#### Contact Information

Permanent home telephone:  (###) ###-####

Mailing telephone:  (###) ###-####

Cellular telephone:  (###) ###-####

E-mail address:

[TOP](#) [NEXT](#)

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# Practice Application

## ADMISSION APPLICATION

- 1 ✓ Name and Address
- 2 ✓ Personal Information
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- 5 ✓ Activities and Interests
- 6 ✓ Family Information

✓ completed and saved  
..... current page = 5

### SKIP & JUMP to:

Screen 2

SAVE

**SUBMIT**  
YOUR COMPLETED  
APPLICATION

William,  
if you have any  
technical questions,  
[click here.](#)

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

### Applicant Information

Gender:

Date of birth:  mm/dd/yyyy

### Citizenship Information

- Citizenship:  U.S. citizen  
 Dual U.S. citizen  
Other country of citizenship:
- U.S. Permanent Resident visa  
Permanent Resident number:   
Citizen of:
- Other citizenship  
Country:   
Visa type:

If you are not a citizen and live in the United States, how long have you been in the country?

### Optional Information

The following items are optional. No information you provide will be used in a discriminatory manner.

Social Security number:  ###-##-####

#### Place of birth

City:

U.S. state/territory:

Country:

#### Ethnicity

If you wish to be identified with a particular ethnic group, please check all that apply:

- African American, African, Black  
 Native American, Alaska Native

(tribal affiliation: )

Asian American, country of family's origin:

Asian (including Indian subcontinent), country:

Hispanic, Latino, country:

Mexican American, Chicano

Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander

Puerto Rican

White or Caucasian

Other (specify: )

First language, if other than English:

Language spoken at home:

# Practice Application

**ADMISSION APPLICATION**

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- 6 ✓ Family Information

✓ = completed and saved  
... = current page

**SKIP & JUMP to:**  
Screen 3

**SAVE**  
**SUBMIT**  
YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION

William,  
if you have any technical questions,  
[click here.](#)

## ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

I am applying as a:

For the term beginning:

Possible area(s) of academic concentration/major(s):

Undecided

Possible career or professional plans:

Undecided

Will you be a candidate for financial aid?

← PREVIOUS TOP NEXT →

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# Practice Application

## ADMISSION APPLICATION

- 1 ✓ Name and Address
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- 6 ✓ Family Information

✓ = completed and saved  
... = current page

### SKIP & JUMP to:

Screen 4

SAVE

**SUBMIT**  
YOUR COMPLETED  
APPLICATION

William,  
if you have any  
technical questions,  
[click here.](#)

## EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

### High School You Now Attend

High school:

Type of school:

CEEB code:

City:

U.S. state/territory:

Zip code:

Country:

Int'l postal code:

Date of entry:  mm/yyyy

Date of graduation:  mm/yyyy

### Guidance counselor

First name:

Last name:

Telephone:  (###) ###-####

Fax number:  (###) ###-####

E-mail address:

### Other High Schools Attended

Start with the most recent, list all schools, including summer schools and programs you have attended beginning with the ninth grade.

High school:

City:

U.S. state/territory:

Zip code:

Country:

Int'l postal code:

Dates attended:  to:  mm/yyyy

High school:

City:

U.S. state/territory:

Zip code:

Country:

Int'l postal code:

Dates attended:  to:  mm/yyyy

High school:

City:

U.S. state/territory:

Zip code:

Country:

Int'l postal code:

Dates attended:  to:  mm/yyyy

Test Information						
<p><b>Be sure to note the tests required for each institution to which you are applying. The official scores from the appropriate testing agency must be submitted to each institution as soon as possible. Please list your test plans below.</b></p>						
<b>ACT</b>						
Date taken/ to be taken	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite	Writing
04/2010	30	22	33	22	33	22
mm/yyyy						
<b>SAT Reasoning Tests</b>						
Verbal/						
Date taken/ to be taken	Critical reading	Math	Writing			
mm/yyyy						
<b>SAT Subject Tests</b>						
Date taken/ to be taken	Subject	Score				
	Click here	↓				
	Click here	↓				
	Click here	↓				
	Click here	↓				
mm/yyyy						
<b>Test of English as a Second Language (TOEFL or Other Exam)</b>						
Date taken/ to be taken	Score					
mm/yyyy						

College Information	
College/University:	<input type="text" value="Click the 'Find' button to select the institution"/> <input type="button" value="Find"/> <input type="button" value="Clear"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
U.S. state/territory:	<input type="text" value="Click here"/>
Zip code:	<input type="text"/>
Country:	<input type="text" value="Click here"/>
Int'l postal code:	<input type="text"/>
Dates attended:	<input type="text"/> to: <input type="text"/> mm/yyyy
Degree candidate?	<input type="text" value="Click here"/>
-----	
College/University:	<input type="text" value="Click the 'Find' button to select the institution"/> <input type="button" value="Find"/> <input type="button" value="Clear"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
U.S. state/territory:	<input type="text" value="Click here"/>
Zip code:	<input type="text"/>
Country:	<input type="text" value="Click here"/>
Int'l postal code:	<input type="text"/>
Dates attended:	<input type="text"/> to: <input type="text"/> mm/yyyy
Degree candidate?	<input type="text" value="Click here"/>

Activities Since Last Enrolled
<input type="checkbox"/> Not currently attending school <input type="checkbox"/> Graduated from secondary school early
If either of the above check boxes applies to you, then describe in detail your activities since last enrolled:
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>

# Practice Application

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✓ = completed and saved  
..... current page =

### SKIP & JUMP to:

Screen 5

SAVE

**SUBMIT**  
YOUR COMPLETED  
APPLICATION

William,  
if you have any  
technical questions,  
[click here.](#)

## ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

### Academic Honors

Briefly list or describe any scholastic achievements or honors you have won since the ninth grade (e.g., National Merit, Dean's List):

### Work Experience

List any jobs (including summer employment) you have held during the past three years.

Specific nature of work:

Employer:

Dates worked:  to:  mm/yyyy

Approximate number of hours spent per week:

Specific nature of work:

Employer:

Dates worked:  to:  mm/yyyy

Approximate number of hours spent per week:

Specific nature of work:

Employer:

Dates worked:  to:  mm/yyyy

Approximate number of hours spent per week:

Specific nature of work:

Employer:

Dates worked:  to:  mm/yyyy

Approximate number of hours spent per week:

Specific nature of work:

Employer:

Dates worked:  to:  mm/yyyy

Approximate number of hours spent per week:

**Extracurricular, Personal, and Volunteer Activities**

Please list your principal extracurricular, community, and family activities and hobbies in the order of their interest to you. Include specific events and/or major accomplishments such as musical instrument played, varsity letters earned, etc. Check in the right column those activities you hope to pursue in college. To allow us to focus on the highlights of your activities, please complete this section even if you plan to attach a résumé.

Activity	Grade level or postsecondary (PS)					Approximate time spent		Positions held, honors won, or letters earned	Col?*
	9	10	11	12	PS	Hrs/Wk	Wks/Yr		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>

\*Do you plan to participate in college?

**Short Answer**

In 150 words or fewer, please describe which of your activities (extracurricular and personal activities or work experience) has been most meaningful to you and why.

Boxing is the most meaningful to me.



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# Practice Application

**ADMISSION APPLICATION**

1	✓	Name and Address
2	✓	Personal Information
3	✓	Enrollment Information
4	✓	Educational Information
5	✓	Activities and Interests
6	✗	Family Information

✓ = completed and saved  
... = current page

**SKIP & JUMP to:**  
Screen 6

**SAVE**

**SUBMIT**  
YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION

William,  
if you have any technical questions,  
[click here.](#)

**FAMILY INFORMATION**

**Parent 1 Information**

First name:

Middle name:

Last/Family name:

Living?  If no, date deceased:  mm/yyyy

Gender:

**Home address (if different from yours)**

Street:

City:

U.S. state/territory:

Zip code:

Country:

Int'l postal code:

Home telephone:  (###) ###-####

E-mail address:

**Current employment**

Occupation:

Name of employer:

Work telephone:  (###) ###-####

Work e-mail address:

**Educational background**

Highest level of formal education:

**Sibling Information**

Please give names and ages of your brothers and sisters. If they have attended college, give the names of the institutions attended, degrees, and approximate dates.

First name:   
Last name:   
Age:   
Institution:   
Degree:  Date:  mm/yyyy  
Institution:   
Degree:  Date:  mm/yyyy

---

First name:   
Last name:   
Age:   
Institution:   
Degree:  Date:  mm/yyyy  
Institution:   
Degree:  Date:  mm/yyyy

---

First name:   
Last name:   
Age:   
Institution:   
Degree:  Date:  mm/yyyy  
Institution:   
Degree:  Date:  mm/yyyy

**Submit Your Completed Application**



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## Action Plan

Review the year-by-year steps for applying to a four-year college.

### Sophomore Year

#### Fall

- Register for and take the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (or the ACT Plan in some school districts).

### Junior Year

#### Fall/Winter

- Register for and retake the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.
- Identify the kinds of colleges you're interested in attending.
- Investigate colleges that meet your needs.
- Register for the SAT or ACT.

#### Spring/Summer

- Visit colleges.
- Request viewbooks and financial aid information from colleges.
- Take the SAT or ACT.
- Request teacher and counselor recommendations.

### Senior Year

#### Fall

- Request college applications and financial aid information.
- Research financial aid opportunities (e.g., grants, scholarships).
- Fill out applications.
- Write essays.
- Retake the SAT or ACT, if necessary.
- Check in with your counselor and teachers you requested recommendations from.

#### Winter

- Complete and send applications.
- File for FAFSA (January 1).

## Apply It! Question Prompts

Read each question prompt. Then identify the place on the practice application where each of the sample students below should share their information.

### Student 1: Erica

Last summer, Erica worked at a camp for physically challenged children. Where in the college application could Erica share what she learned from this experience?

---

### Student 2: Mark

Where on the application can Mark tell how many years he's been playing the trumpet?

---

### Student 3: Jenny

Jenny's family can't afford college. Where on the application does Jenny let the college know that she will need financial help?

---

### Student 4: Carlos

How might a college know that Carlos is very strong in mathematics?

---

## College Steps

List at least three actions or steps to take to apply to college. (Use the back of this page if you need more room.) As an extra challenge, identify what year of high school to take each step.

Steps	When to Do Step
1.	
2.	
3.	