

I Applied... Now What?



Ok. So, you've applied to college and that's great, but what happens now?

Applying is one of the first steps on your path to attending to college. Keep in mind that it may take a couple of months for the college or university to get back to you. Here's a step-by-step guide for what to do in the meantime:

Once you've submitted your application, make sure that you've turned in everything you need in order for the college to consider you as a potential student. Have you:

- Submitted your application fee (if the college charges a fee)?
- Asked your high school counselor to send your transcript to the college?
- Submitted your letters of recommendation (if required by the college)?
- Submitted your essay (if required by the college)?
- Sent any college transcripts you might have (from dual-credit courses)?
- Sent your AP scores (if you have taken AP courses)?

Even after you're accepted to a college, there's still a lot of work to do to make your final decision and get ready. You'll want to consider what financial aid is available to you at the colleges you're considering, and you'll want to decide if you want to live on campus or commute. Of course, once you decide on a college, you'll need to register as a new student and enroll in classes.

Financial Aid

Sometime after January 1, you'll need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). If possible, you should complete the FAFSA before July 1, because that's the deadline for many state-level scholarship and grant programs.

You can get in-person, confidential assistance completing the FAFSA by attending a College Goal Sunday (CGS) workshop. CGS will be held February 16 - 24 at locations throughout the state. To learn more, visit www.iowacgs.org.

Go to www.iowaCollegeAid.gov to learn about all of the state and federal financial aid opportunities available to you. Visit college and university web sites to see what sort of financial aid and scholarship programs are offered at the school you plan to attend. Use the scholarship finder at www.IHaveAPlanIowa.gov, then complete and submit applications for as many scholarships, grants, and other financial aid awards as you can find!

#Iapplied