The College Application Process

Class of 2013
The goal is to have all applications submitted no later than November 16th.

If applying early decision, your deadline could be sooner.
Completing the College Application Process

Take the SAT/ACT
- Students must register at www.collegeboard.com
- Students should take the SAT’s twice (Once in May/June of their Junior year and again in October of their Senior Year)

Take the SAT II’s
- SAT II’s can be taken after completion of the course in which the student plans to take the test
- Students must register at www.collegeboard.com
- A list of all colleges/universities that require SAT II’s can be found at www.compassprep.com/admissions_req_subjects.aspx

NCAA
- Students planning to play Division I or Division II sports must register at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

Create/Update Student Resume
- Your Resume should reflect activities and achievements you have accomplished beginning in Grade 9 through the present

Research
- Meet with College Admissions Counselors in Student Services
- Attend College Fairs
- Talk with other students who are currently attending colleges you are considering

Make College Visits
- It is extremely important to visit each college campus that you are considering
- Contact the college prior to your visit to set up appointments with various individuals (an admissions counselor, financial aid representative, coach, etc)

Narrow your search
- Examine the pro’s and con’s of each school and narrow your list to 4 or 5 schools
- Be sure you are considering schools that are of various levels of competitiveness

Complete your Applications
- By completing applications online your information is immediately filtered into the college’s system
- Common Applications can be submitted at www.commonapp.org
- SUNY Applications can be submitted at www.suny.edu/student/apply_online.cfm
- Applications for Private Colleges/Universities can be found on the College/Universities website
Supplemental Applications
- College applications are not considered complete until the college receives all supporting materials (essay, personal statement, student resume, etc)
- If students apply online, they are responsible for mailing any additional information directly to the college/university
- SUNY Supplemental information- www.suny.edu/student/apply_supp_apps.cfm

Letters of Recommendations
If students apply using the common application
- Letters are submitted electronically. You must “invite” these individuals on the common application by providing their email address:
  - Tracy G. Maynard (A-F) tmaynard@norwich.stier.org
  - Amanda L. Clark (G-O) aclark@norwich.stier.org
  - Andrea Kramarczyk (P-Z) akramarc@norwich.stier.org

If students apply using anything OTHER than the common application
- It is the students' responsibility to provide teachers/counselors with any additional forms that need to be completed, such as a separate recommendation form
- Letters will be mailed directly to the college/university by the teacher/counselor
- Students must provide teachers/counselors with envelopes addressed directly to the college/university

Transcript Requests
If students apply electronically, using the common application or the SUNY site
- Counselors will automatically send your transcript- students do NOT need to make a request
If students apply using a paper application or through an individual schools website
- Students must complete a transcript request form. Forms are located in Student Services and must be received at least 5 working days prior to the deadline date

CSS/Profile
- This is a financial document that is required by some private institutions
- Register for an application at www.collegeboard.com

Apply for Scholarships
- Scholarship applications are available on the district website
- It is the student’s responsibility to make sure all supporting documents are included.
- Students do NOT need to request transcripts- once we receive the application, transcripts will be generated

Apply for Financial Aid
- Attend Financial Aid Night at the High School
- Complete the FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Submit the FAFSA as close to January 1st as possible but not before this date
- Contact the Financial Aid Office at each college/university you have applied to in order to determine deadline dates and additional aid that might be available
### University Centers and Doctoral Degree Granting Institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollment</th>
<th>SAT Scores** (combined critical reading and math scores)</th>
<th>ACT Scores (composite)</th>
<th>Decision (ED) or Early Action (EA)</th>
<th>Early Admission</th>
<th>EOP Program</th>
<th>ESL Courses</th>
<th>Joint Admissions</th>
<th>Teaching Certificate</th>
<th>Hons Program</th>
<th>Time Shortened Degree</th>
<th>ROTC</th>
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<td>A*</td>
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### Cornell University:

- Agriculture & Life Sciences+ 3,390
- Human Ecology 1,250
- Veterinary Medicine Graduate Level Only 905
- Industrial & Labor Relations+ 1,669
- Environmental Science & Forestry 1,699
- Downstate Medical Center (Brooklyn)+ 343
- Upstate Medical University (Syracuse)+ 305

### University Colleges

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollment</th>
<th>SAT Scores** (combined critical reading and math scores)</th>
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<th>EOP Program</th>
<th>ESL Courses</th>
<th>Joint Admissions</th>
<th>Teaching Certificate</th>
<th>Hons Program</th>
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### Colleges of Technology

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<tr>
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<th>Hons Program</th>
<th>Time Shortened Degree</th>
<th>ROTC</th>
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<td>A*, AF*</td>
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** Abbreviations:**
- A = Army, AF = Air Force, CG = Coast Guard, M = Marines, N = Navy
- * Cross-registration (offered at neighboring institutions)
- ** Enrollment includes Health Science Centers
- *** The SAT ranges above represent combined critical reading and math scores (the maximum possible total is 1600). While most campuses base admissions decisions on math and critical reading sections of the SAT, prospective students should consult with campuses of interest to determine policies regarding the SAT writing score and for students taking the ACT, if the ACT writing component is required.
- 2011 Data
Division Sports at The State University of New York

NCAA Division I
Albany
Baseball (M)
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Field Hockey (W)
Football (M)
Golf (M, W)
Lacrosse (M, W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Tennis (W)
Track (Indoor/Outdoor) (M, W)
Volleyball (W)

Binghamton
Baseball (M)
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Golf (M)
Lacrosse (M, W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Swimming/Diving (M, W)
Tennis (W)
Track & Field (M, W)
Volleyball (W)
Wrestling (M)

Buffalo State College
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Football (M)
Gymnastics (W)
Ice Hockey (M)
lacrosse (M, W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Swimming/Diving (M, W)
Tennis (W)
Track (Indoor/Outdoor) (M, W)
Volleyball (W)
Wrestling (M)

Cobleskill
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Equestrian Hunt Seat (M, W)
Equestrian Western (M, W)
Golf (M, W)
Lacrosse (M)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Swimming/Diving (M, W)
Track & Field (Indoor/Outdoor) (M, W)
Volleyball (W)

Cold Spring
Baseball (M)
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Field Hockey (W)
Football (M)
Golf (W)
Gymnastics (W)
Ice Hockey (M, W)
Lacrosse (M, W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Swimming/Diving (M, W)
Tennis (W)
Track (Indoor/Outdoor) (M, W)
Volleyball (W)

Fredonia
Baseball (M)
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Ice Hockey (M)
lacrosse (W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Swimming/Diving (M, W)
Tennis (W)
Track (Indoor/Outdoor) (M, W)
Volleyball (W)

Geneseo
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Equestrian (W)
Field Hockey (W)
Ice Hockey (M)
lacrosse (M, W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Swimming/Diving (M, W)
Tennis (W)
Track (Indoor/Outdoor) (M, W)
Volleyball (W)

Maritime
Baseball (M)
Basketball (M)
Crew (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Football (M)
Ice Hockey (M)
Lacrosse (M, W)
Rifle (M, W)
Rugby (M)
Sailing (M)
Soccer (M, W)
Swimming (M, W)
Volleyball (W)

Morrisville
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Equestrian (M, W)
Field Hockey (W)
Football (M)
Ice Hockey (M)
Lacrosse (M, W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Volleyball (W)

New Paltz
Baseball (M)
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Ice Hockey (M, W)
Lacrosse (M)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Volleyball (W)

Purchase
Baseball (M)
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Football (M)
Golf (M)
Lacrosse (M, W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Swimming (M, W)
Volleyball (M, W)

SUNYIT
Baseball (M)
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Lacrosse (M, W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Volleyball (M, W)

NJCAA Division I, II, & III

Alfred State
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M, W) Division II
Cross-Country (M, W) Division III
Field Hockey (M) Division I
Ice Hockey (W)
Lacrosse (M, W) Division III
Soccer (M, W) Division III
Swimming/Diving (M, W)
Track & Field (Indoor/Outdoor) (M, W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III
Wrestling (M) Division III

Delhi
Basketball (M, W) Division III
Cross-Country (M, W) Division III
Golf (M, W) (NJCAA) Division III
Lacrosse (M) Division III
Soccer (M, W) Division III
Swimming/Diving (M, W) Division III
Tennis (M, W) Division III
Track & Field (Indoor/Outdoor) (M, W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Plattsburgh
Baseball (M)
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Football (M)
Golf (M)
Ice Hockey (M, W)
Lacrosse (W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Swimming (M, W)
Tennis (W)
Volleyball (W)

USCAA
Canton
Baseball (M)
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Football (M)
Ice Hockey (M, W)
Lacrosse (M, W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Volleyball (W)

Environmental Science and Forestry
Basketball (M, W)
Cross-Country (M, W)
Football (M)
Ice Hockey (M, W)
Lacrosse (M, W)
Soccer (M, W)
Softball (W)
Volleyball (W)
Woodsmen (co-ed)

NOTE: Purchase College participates in the Men's and Women's Northern Athletic Conferences. For more information on admissions criteria and campus life at SUNY colleges, search our Web site at www.suny.edu/student.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Campus Name</th>
<th>Enrollment (full-time)</th>
<th>Enrollment (part-time)</th>
<th>Honors Program</th>
<th>Phi Kappa</th>
<th>ASC Participating Campus</th>
<th>Student On-Campus</th>
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<th>Housing Placematment</th>
<th>ACT or SAT Scores Used for Placement</th>
<th>EOP</th>
<th>Study Abroad</th>
<th>ESL</th>
<th>ROTC</th>
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<td>Erie++</td>
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<td>Finger Lakes</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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<td>No</td>
<td>Yes*</td>
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<td>No Yes</td>
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<td>Nassau</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<td>Niagara</td>
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<td>Orange</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.suny">www.suny</a> orange.edu</td>
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* With neighboring institutions
** Run by Campus Foundations or Dormitory Corporations
*** Privately owned for college students only
+ 2010 Data
++ 2011 Data
Division Sports at SUNY Community Colleges

NJCAA Division I, II, & III

Adirondack
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W)
Golf (M,W)
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Tennis (M,W)
Volleyball (W) Division III

Broome
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Golf (M)
Ice Hockey (M)
Lacrosse (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Tennis (M,W)
Volleyball (W) Division III

Cayuga
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division III
Golf (M,W) Division III
Lacrosse (M) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Clinton
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III

Columbia-Greene
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M) Division III
Bowling (M,W)
Cross-Country (W)
Golf (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Volleyball (W)

Corning
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W)
Golf (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W)
Volleyball (W)

Dutchess
Baseball (M) Division II
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W)
Cross-Country (M,W)
Golf (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Tennis (M,W) Division III
Track (Outdoor) (M,W)
Volleyball (W) Division III

Erie
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W)
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Football (M)
Golf (M,W)
Ice Hockey (M)
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W)
Swimming/Diving (M,W)
Track and Field (Indoor/Outdoor) (M,W)
Volleyball (W) Division III

Fashion Institute of Technology
Bowling (M,W) Division III
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Half Marathon (M,W) Division III
Soccer (W) Division III
Swimming/Diving (M,W)
Table Tennis (M,W)
Tennis (W) Division III
Track (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Finger Lakes
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Lacrosse (M) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Track (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Fulton-Montgomery
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Swimming/Diving (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Genesee
Baseball (M) Division II
Basketball (M,W) Division II
Bowling (M,W)
Golf (M,W)
Lacrosse (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Swimming/Diving (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Herkimer
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division III
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Lacrosse (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Swimming/Diving (M,W) Division III
Tennis (M,W) Division III
Track & Field (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Hudson Valley
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W)
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Football (M)
Golf (W)
Ice Hockey (M)
Lacrosse (M)
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Tennis (W) Division III
Track (M,W) Division III
Swimming (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Jefferson
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W)
Golf (M,W) Division III
Lacrosse (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Mohawk Valley
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division III
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Golf (M,W) Division III
Lacrosse (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Monroe
Baseball (M) Division II
Basketball (M,W) Division I (W) Division II
Bowling (M,W) Division III
Golf (M) Division III
Ice Hockey (M) Division I
Lacrosse (M,W) Division I
Soccer (M,W) Division I
Swimming (M,W) Division I
Volleyball (W) Division III

Nassau
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division I
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Football (M) Division I
Golf (M) Division III
Lacrosse (M,W) Division I
Soccer (M,W) Division I
Softball (W) Division III
Swimming (M,W) Division I
Tennis (M,W) Division III
Track & Field (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Nassau
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division I
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Football (M) Division I
Golf (M) Division III
Lacrosse (M,W) Division I
Soccer (M,W) Division I
Softball (W) Division III
Swimming (M,W) Division I
Tennis (M,W) Division III
Track & Field (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

North Country
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III

Onondaga
Baseball (M) Division I
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division III
Cross-Country (M,W)
Golf (M,W)
Lacrosse (M,W)
Soccer (M,W)
Softball (W)
Tennis (M,W)
Volleyball (W)

Orange
Baseball (M) Division II
Basketball (M,W) Division II
Golf (M) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Rockland
Baseball (M) Division II
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division III
Golf (M) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Tennis (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Schenectady
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division III
Crew (W)

Suffolk
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division III
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Golf (M) Division III
Lacrosse (M) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W)
Swimming (M,W) Division III
Tennis (M,W)
Track (Indoor) (M,W)
Track & Field (M,W)
Volleyball (W)

Sullivan
Baseball (M) Division II
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division III
Cross-Country (M,W) Division III
Golf (M,W) Division III
Track (Outdoor) (M,W)

Tompkins Cortland
Baseball (M) Division III
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Golf (M,W)
Lacrosse (M) Division III
Soccer (M,W) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Ulster
Baseball (M) Division II
Basketball (M,W) Division III
Golf (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Tennis (M,W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III

Westchester
Baseball (M) Division II
Basketball (M,W) Division I
Basketball (W) Division III
Bowling (M,W) Division I
Golf (M,W) Division III
Soccer (M) Division III
Softball (W) Division III
Volleyball (W) Division III
This note has important updates for students applying to Binghamton.

TRANSCRIPTS

**Binghamton requests students use a student-reported, online transcript.** Binghamton, Stony Brook and Rutgers use the [Self-Reported Testing and Academic Record System (STARS)](http://www.selfreportedtranscript.com). More than 30% of Binghamton’s enrolled students used STARS last year. Students are encouraged to use STARS because:

- Applications become complete once the student enters their transcript and test scores. This allows for earlier admissions decisions.
- Counselors no longer need to create and pay for the mailing of an official transcript.
- It is easy to use! Students request an unofficial copy of their transcript and enter it online at [www.selfreportedtranscript.com](http://www.selfreportedtranscript.com).

Given the success of STARS, the SUNY System has created a similar system called SOARS. Students can use either system.

TEST SCORES

**Binghamton will accept SAT and/or ACT scores from the online transcripts.** All enrolled students will still need to verify their scores by having them sent electronically from the testing agency.

EARLY ACTION

**The Early Action application deadline is November 15;** notifications will be sent by mid-January. Binghamton’s Early Action has become more competitive; last year we had more than 10,000 students apply early action.

Our Regular Decision application deadline is January 15; notifications will be sent on a rolling basis with final decisions no later than April 1.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [admit@binghamton.edu](mailto:admit@binghamton.edu).
WORKSHEET

Think First. Type Second. This worksheet allows you to read and complete questions before entering your information online. This is a good time for you to check with your school counselor or college advisor regarding any question or answer of which you may be unsure. The questions are listed in the same order that they appear in applySUNY. You may also wish to print the complete instructions at www.suny.edu/appinstructions.

Login Information

Email Address: ____________________________________________
Password: ____________________________________________

Academics

List your academic senior year courses. (Required)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>____________________________________________</td>
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Academic Distinctions. Please check all that apply, based on information available at time of application:

☐ Valedictorian  ☐ Salutatorian  ☐ National Merit Semi-Finalist/Finalist  ☐ Intel Competition Semi-Finalist/Finalist

List any awards or special recognition you have received for academic, work or volunteer activities. List dates where applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Honors/Awards Description</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>____________________________________________</td>
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Questions? Contact the Recruitment Response Center at 800.342.3811 or at askSUNY@suny.edu
### Activities

List any primary extracurricular activities (student government, volunteer/community service, academic clubs, varsity athletics or other activity) you have participated in during high school and note any leadership roles you have held.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grade Level(s)</th>
<th>Leadership Position</th>
<th>Will Pursue in College? (Yes/No)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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### Work Experience

List your work experience (including part-time, summer and volunteer experience). Indicate dates and average hours per week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Average Hours/Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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### Test Scores

**SAT Scores.** Please enter up to three sets of scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date (mm/yyyy)</th>
<th>Critical Reading</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</table>

**ACT Scores.** Please enter up to two sets of scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date (mm/yyyy)</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Composite</th>
<th>Writing (if applicable)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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Date test will be re-taken, if applicable (mm/yyyy): ________________________

### Has your mother or father earned a bachelor’s degree?

☑ Yes  ☐ No

### Other

**High School Counselor information.**

Name: ____________________________________________

Email Address: ____________________________________

### Personal Statement

Please provide additional information (up to 250 words) that will help us better understand your academic performance. You may also use this space to explain any chronological gaps in your academic history (e.g. a period of time after high school graduation before applying to college).

### Essay

Write an essay (250-500 words) on one of the topics listed below. (Required)

1. Choose an issue impacting your high school, community, country or the world and why it is important to you.
2. If the campus you are applying to had only one space left in its freshman class, why should that space be offered to you?
3. How would your academic interests, personal perspectives, and life experiences add to the diversity of a college campus?
4. Tell us about a person or experience you have encountered. Describe how that encounter challenged you and resulted in personal growth.
5. Topic of your choice.

Questions? Contact the Recruitment Response Center at 800.342.3811 or at askSUNY@suny.edu
FOUR STEPS TO GETTING PERFECT COLLEGE RECOMMENDATIONS

In college admissions, application forms and essays give admissions officers your own perspective on your achievements. However, to get another person’s viewpoint they often turn to your letters of recommendation.

When you apply to college, you will typically submit between one and three recommendation letters from teachers, employers, and other adults who can vouch for your academic achievements and/or personal character. Even though other individuals are writing these letters, you can influence the results by who you select and what information you provide them. Here are some strategies for getting the best possible recommendation letters:

1. START EARLY
Most colleges require two teacher recommendations and a school report completed by your counselor. **Giving out the recommendation forms early should be your first priority.** Recommenders need at least three weeks if not more to prepare your recommendations. Remember they are very busy and have a stack of other recommendations to write.

2. HUNT DOWN THE BEST RECOMMENDERS
Quality recommenders are people who can testify in support of your strengths, who are believable, and who will not reveal anything incriminating. Essentially, you want to find people who know your strengths and will attest to them. The teachers in whose classes you excel will be your most likely candidates.

3. GIVE THEM EVERYTHING THEY NEED
Once you have your recommenders, put together a packet that includes your resume, and all of the forms that need to be completed by your recommender. Be sure to include envelopes addressed directly to the college/university.

4. CHECK IN OFTEN
Make sure that none of your recommendations are turned in late. It is your responsibility to make sure that your recommenders are aware of the deadlines and complete everything on time. Without pestering, make sure you inquire every so often about the status of the recommendation. A subtle way to remind them is to send a thank you note a week before the recommendations are due.
Top Ten Rules for Selecting a College or University

1. Never make your final college selection without visiting at least your top two or three choices. No matter how well you think you know a college or university, you can learn a lot (good or bad) by spending a few hours on campus, including whether or not the college feels like a good "fit" for you. Having family members accompany you on college visits is a great idea because it gives you extra "eyes and ears" and people with whom you can discuss your impressions.

2. There are no exceptions to rule #1.

3. A college is not necessarily right for you because its name is familiar. That might seem obvious, but you would not believe how many students equate educational quality with name recognition.

4. Investigate at least three or four colleges you know little or nothing about but offer the field(s) of study of interest to you, are appropriately selective for a student with your grades and SAT or ACT scores, and are located in geographic areas attractive to you. You have nothing to lose and you might make a great discovery. A little research and an open mind can greatly increase the odds that you make a good college choice.

5. There are very few worse reasons to select a college than because your friends are going there. Choosing a college because your girlfriend or boyfriend is headed there is one of them.

6. Investigate, investigate, investigate, and be sure to separate reality from opinions. Many people will refer to a college as "good", "hard to get into", "a party school", "too expensive", etc. without really knowing the facts. Do not accept these kinds of generalizations without evidence.

7. Do not rule out colleges early because of cost. Many colleges offer scholarships, financial aid, and tuition installment plans that make them far more affordable than they may first appear. You won't know how much it will cost to attend a college until the very end of the process.

8. Deadlines, whether for college applications, SAT or ACT registration, financial aid, scholarships, campus housing, etc. are not suggestions. Write down on a calendar and adhere strictly to all deadlines.

9. It is extremely important to apply to at least three colleges/universities that match your credentials (GPA, SAT scores, extracurricular activities, difficulty of course load, etc.). Do not be afraid to apply to a few "reach schools". You might be pleasantly surprised by the results. It is also necessary to choose at least two "safety" schools. These are schools that are highly likely to admit you.

10. When it is time to make your final choice, discuss your options with your family, your counselor, and others who know you well and whose judgment you value. Once you make your choice, do not agonize over it. If you have followed these rules there is an excellent chance your final college choice will be a good one.
**TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR STUDENT RESUME**

- Keep it short
- Avoid Resume templates. Your resume will not stand out from the crowd
- Don’t use fancy fonts. Admission Counselors need to scan your resume quickly- strange fonts can trip them up.
- Send your resume via snail-mail! Fonts, apostrophes, hyphens, and other punctuation can get lost when emailing.
- Don’t use unprofessional email addresses and phone numbers
- Don’t exaggerate. Admission Counselors do call school officials- they will find out if you only went to the prom instead of chairing the planning committee

**YOUR STUDENT RESUME SHOULD INCLUDE:**

- Name
- Address
- Phone Number
- Email address
- Intended field of study
- Career Goal
- Extracurricular Activities with grade level of participation
- Clubs/Organizations with grade level of participation
- Honors/Achievements with grade level of participation
- Volunteer Work with grade level of participation
- Employment with grade level of participation
- Hobbies/Interests
EXAMPLE OF A "STUDENT RESUME"
Johnny Fisher
111 Cider Lane
Norwich, N.Y. 13185
(607) 336-0101

Intended Field of Study: Education
Career Goal: Secondary Social Studies Teacher

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:
♦ Varsity Basketball 10-12
♦ JV Football 9-10
♦ Varsity Football 11-12
♦ JV Baseball 9-10
♦ Varsity Baseball 11-12

CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS
♦ Student Government 9-12
♦ SADD (President) 9-12
♦ Leaders Club (Treasurer) 11-12
♦ Natoli Committee 11-12
♦ Outing Club 10-12

HONORS/ACHIEVEMENTS
♦ Scholar Athlete 11-12
♦ Leadership Conferences (RYLA, OE) 11-12
♦ Voted “Most Likely to Succeed” 12

VOLUNTEER WORK
♦ Big Brother/Big Sister 11-12
♦ Peer Tutoring 9-12
♦ Soup Kitchen 9-11
♦ Dig-It-Day 11
♦ American Red Cross (Blood Drives) 10-12
♦ Basketball Coach (YMCA)-Elementary kids 11-12

EMPLOYMENT
♦ Summer Youth Program (Playground Asst.) 10-11
♦ TOPS (Cashier) 11

HOBBIES/INTERESTS
♦ Playing Sports
♦ Camping
♦ Hiking
♦ Reading
THE COLLEGE ESSAY

WRITE ABOUT:

- One of your passions
- Something that has influenced the way you lead your life
- Something that shows your values or goals
- An instance where you overcame weakness or adversity
- Something that highlights your positive qualities
- An experience which has guided your choice about college or career

DO’S

- Stick to the length requirement. If no word count is given, submit a page and a half
- Reveal yourself in your writing—this is no place to be shy or modest
- Think “small”—write about something you know about
- Write in your own “voice” and style
- Use words you are most comfortable with—do not use a thesaurus
- Write with spirit, grace, and humor—show there is an interesting personality behind the essay
- Show rather than tell. By giving examples and illustrating your topic, you help bring life to your essay
- Be specific & illustrative—provide vivid details about specific times
- Show growth or a lesson learned based on the experience described
- Be creative—a unique topic/approach is often refreshing to the reader
- Write it early—this will give you time to review it with a critical eye and rewrite it if needed. You should also have someone you trust edit your writing
- End on an optimistic or open-minded note

DON’Ts

- Submit the same essay for every institution to which you apply. Instead, tailor the essay to the particular college or program in which you are interested.
- Write what you think others want to read
- Exaggerate or write to impress
- Use a flowery, inflated, or pretentious style
- Try too hard to be humorous. If light humor occurs—that is fine
- Ramble or include irrelevant background information—say what you have to say and conclude
- Make sweeping generalizations or political statements
- Make statements that may offend someone
- Use clichés—try to think of unique ways of explaining things
- Neglect the technical part of your essay (grammar, spelling, sentence structure)
TOP TWO ESSAYS SELECTED BY ADMISSIONS COUNSELORS

Carefully peering over the banister, I look down at the concrete ground below. It is only ten feet to the bottom, but it feels like a mile. There, at the top step, leading to our second floor apartment, I remain for some time. The world around me has ceased to exist. It is probably cool breeze blows by me on this brisk autumn day, but I do not feel it. Perhaps, a bird is singing; from the nearby tree; it is impossible to tell over the beating of my heart. I wait... and wait. I am trying to will myself to take the step. In my mind, I have already done it. Still, I do not move; I cannot move. I am frozen. I want to continue, to face my fear, but simultaneously, I do not. Why am I doing this, anyway?

Will anything be gained by this attempt at courage? Yes, if I can control my fear. I can accomplish anything. With this thought, I finally move. I reach down and pick up my Rocketeer lunch box, my protector. I hold it tightly, I climb over the banister, first my left leg, then my right. I make sure my feet are firmly placed on the two-inch ledge to the outside part of the banister before momentarily relaxing.

I glance down. Somehow, the distance looks even greater than before. My head is spinning; I cannot focus. I consider sitting down on the ledge, to help my dizziness. No, at this moment, any movement, whatsoever, risks my balance. Even my heart is threatening my life by its unsettling pounding. I take a few deep breaths to calm myself. The ground becomes clearer. I think how easy it would be just to turn back, and so, I confess myself. Any fear that had left for that fleeting moment, quickly returns. "Good," I think. "I want my enemy to be here to witness his defeat." The self-confidence does not last long. However, I am fully prepared to continue. Again, I look down. On the ground to my right is a giant pot with a single red flower peeping out of deep clumps of dirt. In some way, it is symbolic, but at this moment I cannot reason how.

The lunch box, still firmly in my grasp, gives me support. I drop it as a pendent, to pave the path I will follow. "Crack!" A small place breaks off the upper corner of my beloved lunch box. The mark will forever remain there. To make sure I do not further injure the lunch box slide down on the ledge. Now, directly below, there is a fresh spot of concrete, unmarked by the tragedy of Rocketeer. Breathing heavily, my heart pounds; I feel the adrenaline rush through my veins. I close my eyes, and jump. I feel the air rush by me, yet everything seems to be happening in slow motion. Suddenly, there is a jolt! I wildly look down and see my feet firmly planted on the ground. To preserve the moment, I say nothing aloud, but my mind is screaming, "I did it! I survived! Fear is defeated!" With that, I pick up my lunch box, turn, and run up the stairs.

Beginning with that triumphant moment, fear—of heights or anything else—will never be able to control me. On that beautiful September day, I set a standard I would always strive to maintain. I accomplished exactly what I set out to do. I wanted to prove to myself—and to the world—that nothing can hold me back. Even at the tender age of four, I sensed it was wrong to go through life being afraid of anything. I will not be deterred, and so I stand ready, staring fear straight in the eye.

"I love you," I manage, before I burst into tears. Should I even hope for a reaction? Not a minute earlier, perched in the same chair, my brother Matthew had elicited a reply. Now I face nothing but a empty silence. I'm sure she hadn't meant to leave me hanging, but my Grandma Phyllis had fallen asleep.

"There's a difference between like and love," Blanca explains in the popular movie Ten Things I Hate About You. "You see, I like my Sketchers, but I love my Prada backpack." I beg to differ. To me, using the word "love" in everyday language is sacrilegious, a violation of an unspoken rule that the word should be saved for the ultimate passion or and/or the romantic in me has always sought to save the "L word" for a situation in which it would be powerful and perfect. And I have never failed in avoiding its use, instead relying with a smile, a euphemism, or a substitute such as "adoro." Nobody seems to notice the difference.

I have uttered the "L word" more times than this month than ever before. Those days, it is vital to get straight to the point; Grandma's vivid moments are increasingly few and far between. A simple fable of her stories interrupts our hospital-room conversations mid-sentence and sends us all racing to her bedside. The faster we can convey to Grandma that we love her, the more likely it is that she will respond. Especially now at the end, each of us needs to hear her words as often as possible. Matthewo beats me to the hospital bed this time, and I watch the two of them whisper their love to each other. Now it is my turn, and the words chase each other out of my mouth.

"Grandma, it's me—Allison. Mom and Dad and Matthew and I are so happy to see you. We've been here for a few hours, and we're leaving soon. I love you. So much, Grandma. I love you so much." She has taped back into consciousness and I receive no reply.

I rush out of the room as the hysterics inundate me. Grandma didn't tell me she loves me, I think desperately. This is it. The End. I'll never gain closure or peace of mind; my precious "I love you" will forever be unanswered.

The following five minutes have blurred in my memory. I remember being pulled back into the hospital room and hearing my mom's voice wake Grandma. My voice, slowly repeating my earlier words, sounded so far away. But I can still taste the salty tears I dipped into my smile when she murmured exactly what I most wanted to hear: "I love you too, Allison. Goodnight."

I'm not sure if Grandma can understand what I say to her now, or if she even knows how often we visit. I am sure that I will no longer save the "L word" for that perfect occasion, for THE ultimate opportunity might never arise. "Love," indeed holy, deserves liberal usage. And I will bestow it generously: any time could be the last.
UNDERSTANDING AWARD LETTERS

Students should wait until they receive award letters from each college/university to which they applied before making a decision.

1. Look for the bottom line- what will the net cost be?
   - Award letters may NOT tell you what the actual cost is
   - Don’t be dazzled by the amount a particular college offers
   - Focus on how awards impact the costs you have to pay

2. Look at the combination of Awards
   - Awards may include a combination of grants, scholarships, loans, work study, etc

3. Scholarships may have special conditions
   - Do you need to maintain a certain GPA for renewal?
   - Do you need to be enrolled in a certain program?

4. Any questions?
   - Contact the Financial Aid Office directly

5. Once you choose a school be sure to notify all schools that accepted you of your decision. This is so any funds you may have been awarded can be given to other students.
# Financial Aid Award Letter Worksheet

## STEP 1
List the name of each school you want to consider attending, the award deadline date, and the total cost of attending. The award deadline date and total cost of attendance will probably be included in your award letter. If you have not received an award letter, find the figures in the college catalog for estimating the cost of attendance, or call the school's financial aid office. Add in the direct and indirect expenses, such as tuition, books and supplies, room and board, transportation, course and recreation-related fees, and personal expenses (clothes, laundry, recreation, telephone calls, and medical).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of College</th>
<th>College 1</th>
<th>College 2</th>
<th>College 3</th>
<th>College 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award Deadline Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Cost of Attendance</td>
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## STEP 2
List the financial aid awards each school is offering. Do not forget that gift aid and self-help such as grants, scholarships, and work-study do not have to be repaid, while all loans must be repaid.

### Grants and Scholarships
- Pell
- SEOG
- State
- College
- Other

### Loans
- Stafford
- Perkins
- Other
- Total Loans

| Total Grants and Scholarships | $ | $ | $ | $ |
| Work-Study Programs* | $ | $ | $ | $ |
| Total Financial Aid Award | $ | $ | $ | $ |

## STEP 3
Calculate what it will cost you to attend each college. List the name of the school and the total cost of attendance, then subtract the total financial aid award from the total cost of attendance. The figure you get is the net cost—what it will cost you to attend that college.

| Total Cost of Attendance | $ | $ | $ | $ |

- Total Financial Aid Award
- Net Cost to Attend

* Although work-study is part of your financial aid package, it must be earned by working at a job while you are in school.

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This guide provides the basic information you need to complete your PROFILE application at www.collegeboard.org beginning Oct. 1, 2012.

WHAT is the PROFILE? The PROFILE is an online application that collects information used by certain colleges and scholarship programs to award institutional aid funds. (All federal funds are awarded based on the FAFSA, available after Jan. 1 at www.fafsa.ed.gov.) Some colleges may require additional information, such as tax returns or an institutional application. If your parents are divorced, some colleges will also require your noncustodial parent to complete the Noncustodial PROFILE.

WHEN do I file the PROFILE? You may file the PROFILE as early as Oct. 1, 2012. However, you should file no later than two weeks before the EARLIEST priority filing date specified by your colleges or programs.

WHO must file the PROFILE? Check your colleges’/programs’ information to determine whether they require the PROFILE. A list of colleges that require the PROFILE from at least some of their applicants is found on the back of this page. The most up-to-date list, including search capabilities and additional information, can be found by clicking on “list of colleges, universities, and scholarship programs” on the PROFILE Index Page.

HOW do I file the PROFILE? You file the PROFILE online at www.collegeboard.org by selecting “CSS/PROFILE” under “Pay for College.” If you do not have a computer at home, register for PROFILE at your high school or local library, print the Pre-Application Worksheet and Instructions, and review them with your parents. Return to your high school or library and enter the information by logging back in to your application using your secure username and password.

WHAT does the PROFILE cost? The fee for the initial application and one college or program report is $25. Additional reports are $16. Payment may be made via credit card, debit card (Visa or MC) or online check. A limited number of fee waivers are granted automatically — based on the information entered on the PROFILE application — to students who are first-time college applicants and are from families with very low incomes and assets. International students are not eligible for fee waivers. This waiver covers the application fee and the reporting fees for up to six colleges or scholarship programs.

Information to have available when you register:
- Type of tax return you and your parent(s) will file for the current year (e.g., 1040, 1040 EZ, foreign return)
- If your parents receive TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) or SSI (Supplemental Security Income)
- If your parents are self-employed or own business(es) and/or farm(s)
- Your parents’ housing status (e.g., own, rent)
- Your personal information, including your Social Security number

Once you register, you will find detailed instructions and an extensive Help Desk, including Frequently Asked Questions, online.

The Process: Three Easy Steps
1. Register — Your PROFILE application is tailored to your family situation, based on your registration answers and the colleges or programs you select. After registering, you can securely save your application and return to complete it at any time, 24/7, using your collegeboard.org username and password.

2. Complete the Application — Use the customized Pre-Application Worksheet and Instructions to help you complete the PROFILE. As you answer questions, the system provides online help and edits to minimize mistakes.

3. Submit the Application — The date and time you submit your completed application will be recorded based on Eastern Time. You pay online and will receive an online PROFILE Acknowledgment as a record of your payment and application information. The Acknowledgment may include your next steps to complete your financial aid application process, so be sure to print a copy for your records.

At any time, you may add a college or program by going to the PROFILE home page and clicking “Add Colleges to Submitted Application.” You will be charged $16 for each college or program you add. Any unused fee-waiver eligibility will be automatically applied to your charges. You may not delete any recipients once you have submitted your application.

Questions? Contact customer support at 305-829-9793 (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time, with extended hours from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., January through April) or email help@cssprofile.org.
The colleges below all accept the PROFILE application. Instructions distributed by their financial aid offices will describe their application requirements in detail. A college with an asterisk (*) next to its name uses PROFILE for early decision or early action applicants only. For the most up-to-date and comprehensive list, go to https://profileonline.collegeboard.com.

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WEB SITES

College Search
www.getintocollegeblog.com
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www.guidancedirect.com
www.suny.edu
www.petersons.com
www.princetonreview.com
www.collegeview.com

Career Search
www.guidancedirect.com
www.nycareerzone.org
www.mappingyourfuture.org

SAT I and SAT II Information/Registration
www.collegeboard.com
www.compassprep.com/admissions_req_subjects.aspx

ACT Information/Registration
www.actstudent.org

SUNY Application
www.suny.edu/student/apply_online.cfm (initial application)
www.suny.edu/student/apply_supp_apps.cfm (supplemental application)

Common Application
www.commonapp.org

Athletics
www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

Financial Aid
www.fafsa.ed.gov (FAFSA application)
www.pin.ed.gov
www.hesc.com
www.financialaidletter.com

Scholarships
www.fastweb.com
www.scholarships.com

Essay Writing
www.essayedge.com
Glossary of Terms

College Admissions

Regular Admission
General deadline for a student applying to a college/university. Dates vary from January-March.

Rolling Admission
Schools that follow this plan begin accepting applications in September. They continue reviewing applications until their programs are full. Therefore, it is advantageous to apply early. Most SUNY schools use rolling admissions.

Early Action
Students apply early (typically by November 1st) and receive a decision prior to the regular admissions deadline. This is a non-binding agreement, which does NOT require the student to attend that college.

Early Decision
Students apply early (typically by November 1st) and receive a decision prior to the regular admissions deadline. This is a binding agreement, which requires the student to enroll at the college/university and withdraw all other applications.

Financial Aid

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
This form is used to collect household and financial information in order to calculate the expected family contribution.

CSS/Profile
This form is used primarily by private colleges. The form is similar to the FAFSA but also gathers information on property and other assets. If required, it must be submitted as part of the application process.

Financial Aid Award
This is the financial package offered to the student. This can be a combination of one or more of the following types of financial aid: Repayable Loan, Non-Repayable Grant and/or Scholarship, and/or Student Employment.

Merit-Based Scholarship
Scholarships based on academic excellence, professional promise, and personal merit.