

# Common Questions for the **Common Application**

(4-year University application process)

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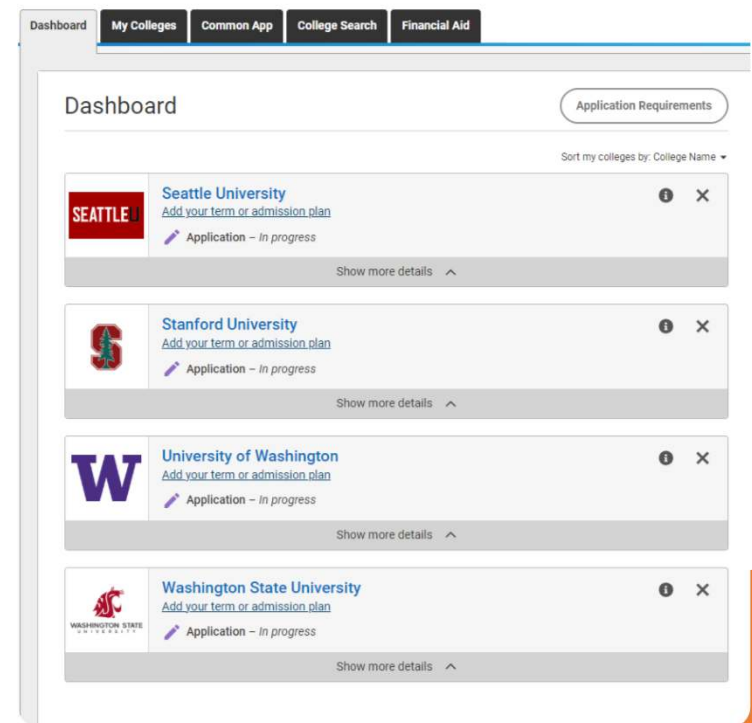


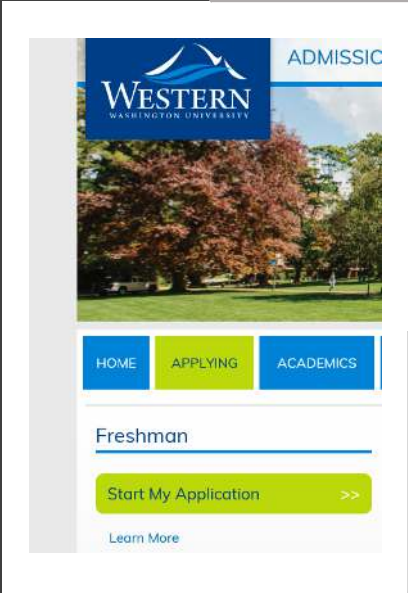
# What is the Common Application?

Connects applications to over 1,000 member institutions in the U.S. and in 20 countries around the world.

Apply to multiple schools using one application.

ALL public baccalaureates in Washington State are now using Common Application!!!





## Ways to apply

- Check college's admissions website
- Common Application
- University of California / Cal State Application



FIND A COLLEGE

Plan for college ▾

Apply to college ▾

Support your students ▾



Sign in

Create an account

# Application guide for first-year students

Get tips and best practices to give yourself the best chance at success.

Step-by-step guide

<https://www.commonapp.org/apply/first-year-students>

# Sample Admissions Criteria

- Strong level of academic achievement
- GPA
- Rigor of curriculum
- Essays/Personal Statement
- Taken notable advantage of college preparatory courses
- Test Scores (rare)
- Quality Senior Year
- Positive grade trends
- Meet academic requirements – CADR complete
- Extracurricular activities
- Letters of Recommendation
- Other factors/Personal characteristics

**Each college is different and can set admissions criteria in accordance with their own mission.**



# Common Data Set

Relative importance of each of the following academic and nonacademic factors in your first-time, first-year, degree-seeking general (not including programs with specific criteria) admissions decisions.

	Very Important	Important	Considered	Not Considered
<b>Academic</b>				
Rigor of secondary school record	X			
Class rank				X
Academic GPA	X			
Standardized test scores				X
Application Essay	X			
Recommendation(s)				X
<b>Nonacademic</b>				
Interview				X
Extracurricular activities		X		
Talent/ability		X		
Character/personal qualities			X	
First generation		X		
Alumni/ae relation				X
Geographical residence				X
State residency			X	
Religious affiliation/commitment				X
Racial/ethnic status				X
Volunteer work		X		
Work experience		X		
Level of applicant's interest				X

# Parts of the application

## Application Information

### Application Fees:

First Year International Fee - \$60

First Year Domestic Fee - \$60

### Standardized Test Policy: ?

Never required

See website

[Test Policy Information](#)

### Courses & Grades:

Not Used

### Recommendations:

School Report Required

Counselor Recommendation Required

Mid Year Report Required

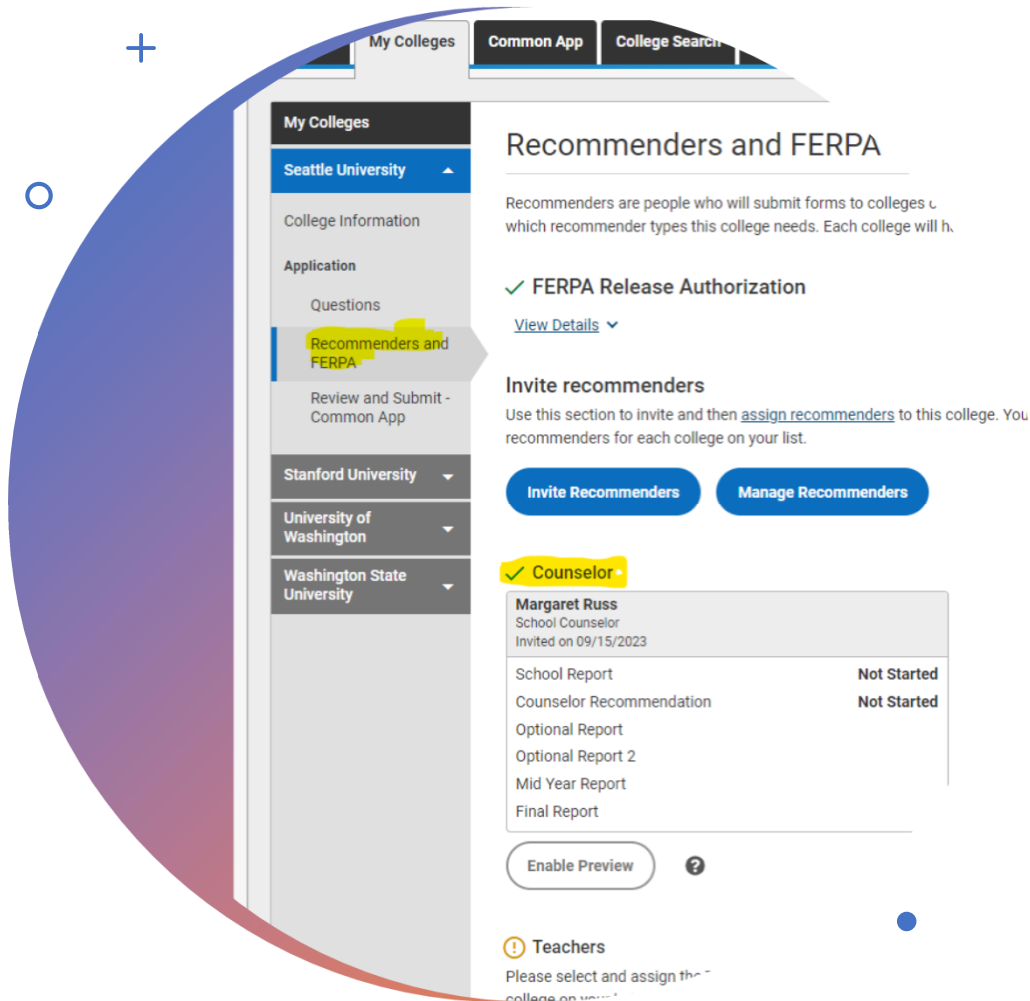
Final Report Required

Teacher Evaluation(s): 1 Required, 2 Optional

Other Evaluation(s): 0 Required, 1 Optional

**Check what is required FIRST!**

Every college gets to choose their own recommendation requirements. You can find more details on each college's "College Information" page.



# Invite Recommendations

All colleges need things like official school forms. Many colleges will also ask for letters of recommendation.







# Be sure to enter your “admission plan”

## What the student sees

Dashboard Application Requirements

Sort my colleges by: College Name ▾

	<b>Seattle University</b> November 15, 2023 Application - In progress	<span>i</span> <span>x</span>
	<b>Stanford University</b> Add your term or admission plan Application - In progress	<span>i</span> <span>x</span>
	<b>University of Washington</b> Add your term or admission plan Application - In progress	<span>i</span> <span>x</span>
	<b>Washington State University</b> Add your term or admission plan Application - In progress	<span>i</span> <span>x</span>

## What the counselor sees

Sort by: College name (A to Z) ▾

	<b>Seattle University</b> November 15, 2023 • Early Action
	<b>Stanford University</b> No deadline selected
	<b>University of Washington</b> No deadline selected
	<b>Washington State University</b> No deadline selected




# Class Rank and GPA

Email your counselor to get your class rank


GPA and Class Rank are UNWEIGHTED

# Essays and Personal Statements






## University of Washington

[Add your term or admission plan](#)

 Application – *In progress*


Show more details ▾

### Application Status




-  [Common App](#) – *In progress*
-  [Questions](#) – *In progress*
-  [Recommenders and FERPA](#) – *Complete*

### Writing Requirements

[Common App Personal Essay](#)

-  Optional

### College Questions


-  2 Required Questions
-  2 Optional Questions
-  Additional Details

### Submit essay responses

The writing section is a required and important part of your application. Learn more about the [essays](#), including prompts and word count.


### Writing Supplement

This college does not use a writing supplement for any additional writing requirements.






## Stanford University

[Add your term or admission plan](#)

 Application – *In progress*


Show more details ▾

### Application Status



-  [Common App](#) – *In progress*
-  [Questions](#) – *In progress*
-  [Recommenders and FERPA](#) – *In progress*

### Writing Requirements

[Common App Personal Essay](#)

-  Required

### College Questions

-  8 Required Questions
-  Additional Details

Applicants who have previously applied will be required to complete an additional writing question.

### Writing Supplement

This college does not use a writing supplement for any additional writing requirements.

# Essays and Personal Statements

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READ THE PROMPT  
CAREFULLY AND BE SURE TO  
ADDRESS THE QUESTION(S)



PAINT A PICTURE OF WHO  
YOU ARE




FOCUS ON A MOMENT



BE GENUINE



WRITE ABOUT SOMETHING  
THAT INTERESTS YOU!



# Essay writing tips

- Start early
- Present your best self using formal English
- Don't let your friends or parents write your essay for you
- Proofread, proofread, proofread!
- Compose using word processing then copy/paste into your application
- Mind the word limit

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# Email Communication Tips

## **Self-reliance**

- ✓ Did you attempt to look it up first?

## **Subject line**

- ✓ 2-5 word summary of the email

## **Start with greeting**

- ✓ Good Morning/Afternoon, Hello

## **Provide details, be concise**

- ✓ Don't assume the recipient knows what you're talking about

## **Closing**

- ✓ Thank you for your help/have a good day/Sincerely

## **Don't forget your name and ID number**