



Make College the Reality

College Application Systems

Online application systems have made it easier than ever to apply to college! Students can copy submitted applications to send to multiple universities and submit essays online. This sheet will help you familiarize yourself with two important systems: one for Texas colleges and one for colleges across the nation.

Apply Texas (The Texas Common Application)

<http://www.applytexas.org>

The Texas Common Application allows students to copy a submitted application and submit to another institution. Students can apply to any Texas public university and to participating community and private colleges. Students can also submit essays online and apply for scholarships and housing. Review this site because it has all you need to know about applying to college, scholarships, housing and more. Remember that the FAFSA financial aid application is a separate form!

Common Application

<http://www.commonapp.org>

Like Apply Texas, the Common Application allows students to copy a submitted application to another institution. Students can apply to 415 four-year universities in the US. They can also download recommendation forms.

How do we submit applications? How do we pay?

Both applications are available in paper form, although the vast majority are completed and submitted online. Students can save their applications and return later to submit them. Payments are made online with a credit card. If your student qualifies for an SAT or ACT fee waiver, then they qualify for an application fee waiver. Contact the high school counselor to obtain the waivers. For further assistance, consult your child's high school counselor.

What does my student need?

A completed portfolio will become your child's best friend. These items are needed for the application process:

- High school transcript
- ACT or SAT test scores
- Essay
- Recommendations
- Extracurricular activities
- Volunteer and work experience