

CLASS OF 2018 COLLEGE PLANNING INFORMATION

Make a Date with College

There's a lot to keep track of when you're applying to college. Use this calendar to get an overview of the college application process and the deadlines you have to meet.

This information is only a general guide and does not apply to all colleges. Consult application materials, admission offices and college websites for the specific requirements and deadlines for each college.

Remember to also check the school's financial aid calendar, to make sure you meet those important deadlines.

The Summer Before Senior Year

- Visit colleges that interest you. Get the campus tour schedule. Arrange an on-campus tour and meet with an admission representative.
- Visit college websites to view admissions requirements.
- Create a resume — a list of your accomplishments, activities and work experiences from 9th–12th grade. Your resume can help you complete your applications and essays.
- Keep a college calendar of all admission deadlines.
- **USE YOUR NAVIANCE ACCOUNT TO REQUEST THAT YOUR TRANSCRIPTS BE SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.** These will not actually be sent until school is back in session. DO NOT PANIC... you will not miss ANY deadlines for consideration for admission. NOTE: There is a handout in this packet that explains how to do this.
- Start your Common App if you are applying to U of M (or any other school that requires Common App). There is a tutorial and help sheet on Naviance Family Connection under LINKS then COMMON APP TUTORIAL
- If you plan on competing in Division I or Division II college sports and want to be eligible to be recruited by colleges, register with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse at www.eligibilitycenter.org
- If you took AP[®] Exams in May, create your account and view your scores in July.
- If you plan to retake the SAT or take the ACT, make sure you are registered for a fall test date so you do not delay your college applications/admissions!

COLLEGE INTEREST SHEET FOR _____

Things I like about this school:

- *From the website*

- *From meeting with the college rep at school*

- *From my campus visit*

Majors I am interested in at this school:

What does this school offer, related to my major, that makes it special or unique (such as internships, study abroad options, etc.)

What supports does this school have for students such as advising, academic support, writing labs, etc.?

What does the surrounding town/community have to offer to college students?

What does this school do to take care of students' safety?

What healthcare options are available on campus or close to campus for both medical and mental health concerns?

Other questions I have:

Best things about this school:

Things I am not sure about or don't like:

Contact name and phone number or e-mail of a rep for this college:

General facts:

- **Average GPA and SAT/ACT score for admission**
- **Tuition – per term or per credit hour**
- **Fees**
- **Average size of freshman classrooms**
- **Dorm options and set-up**
- **Food information and options**
- **Application fee and deadline**
- **AP credit policy**
- **Honors College or Residential Learning Community options**
- **Scholarship information**
- **What percentage of freshman return for sophomore year?**
- **Can freshman have cars? How much is parking? Where can I park?**
- **School code for FAFSA _____**

My follow-up:

- **My student account information for this school:**
 - **Username**
 - **Password**
- **I submitted my application on this date:**
- **I paid my application fee on this date:**
- **I requested my transcript from Naviance on this date:**
- **I requested my SAT / ACT test scores (if they need to be sent directly) on this date:**
- **I submitted my FAFSA with this school's code on this date:**
- **I received my Financial Aid Award Letter from this school on this date:**

September & October

- Contact your school counselor — your counselor plays a big role in helping you get into college. Meet to talk about your college plans and review your transcript.
- Finalize your list of colleges. Be sure you list "safety" colleges, as well as "probable" and "reach" colleges. Review college applications and informational materials. Organize materials into separate files by college. After searching for schools that would be a good fit, narrow your choices down. A good "Rule of Thumb" is to choose
 - 1-2 schools that you are quite certain you will get into
 - 2-4 that are a good match for you and you would really like to go to
 - 1-2 that might require better grades or test scores than what you have but you still want to be considered for admission
- Begin working on your college essays. Think of topics that focus on your experiences and make you stand out from the crowd. Have someone proof read for you to ensure that your spelling and grammar are correct and that you have stayed on topic.
- Complete online applications for all colleges you are interested in. Be careful to answer EVERY question – skipping questions that should be answered can result in an incomplete application that won't be considered.
- REMEMBER... everything on the application represents you. An inappropriate e-mail address will leave an admissions officer wondering if you are the type of student that they want at their school. Don't forget about Facebook, either. Admissions staff may look at your Facebook site (or other social media) to get an impression of who you are.
- Submit a request Naviance to have your transcript sent to each school that you apply to. www.connection.naviance.com There are directions later in this packet for this process.
- Send SAT & ACT scores directly to the schools that require this. You can request your scores to be sent by going to www.collegeboard.org or www.actstudent.org. If you put a school's code down when you registered for your test, your scores will have automatically been sent to that school.
- Check application dates – large universities may have early dates or rolling admissions.
- Complete your FAFSA after October 1. This Free Application for Federal Student Aid is the main tool colleges use to determine the financial aid that can be provided to a student. Go to www.FAFSA.ed.gov for this

FACTORS IN CHOOSING A SCHOOL

THERE ARE MANY FACTORS TO CONSIDER IN SELECTING THE RIGHT COLLEGE FOR YOU. SOME OF THESE INCLUDE:

- **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**
- **PUBLIC VS. PRIVATE**
- **IN-STATE VS. OUT-OF-STATE**
- **COMMUNITY COLLEGE VS. 4-YR. UNIVERSITY**
- **COST OF ATTENDANCE**
- **FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS**
- **SIZE**
- **LOCATION**
- **CAMPUS LIFE - ATHLETICS, ACTIVITIES, HOUSING, FOOD, DORMS...**
- **GRADUATION AND RETENTION RATES**

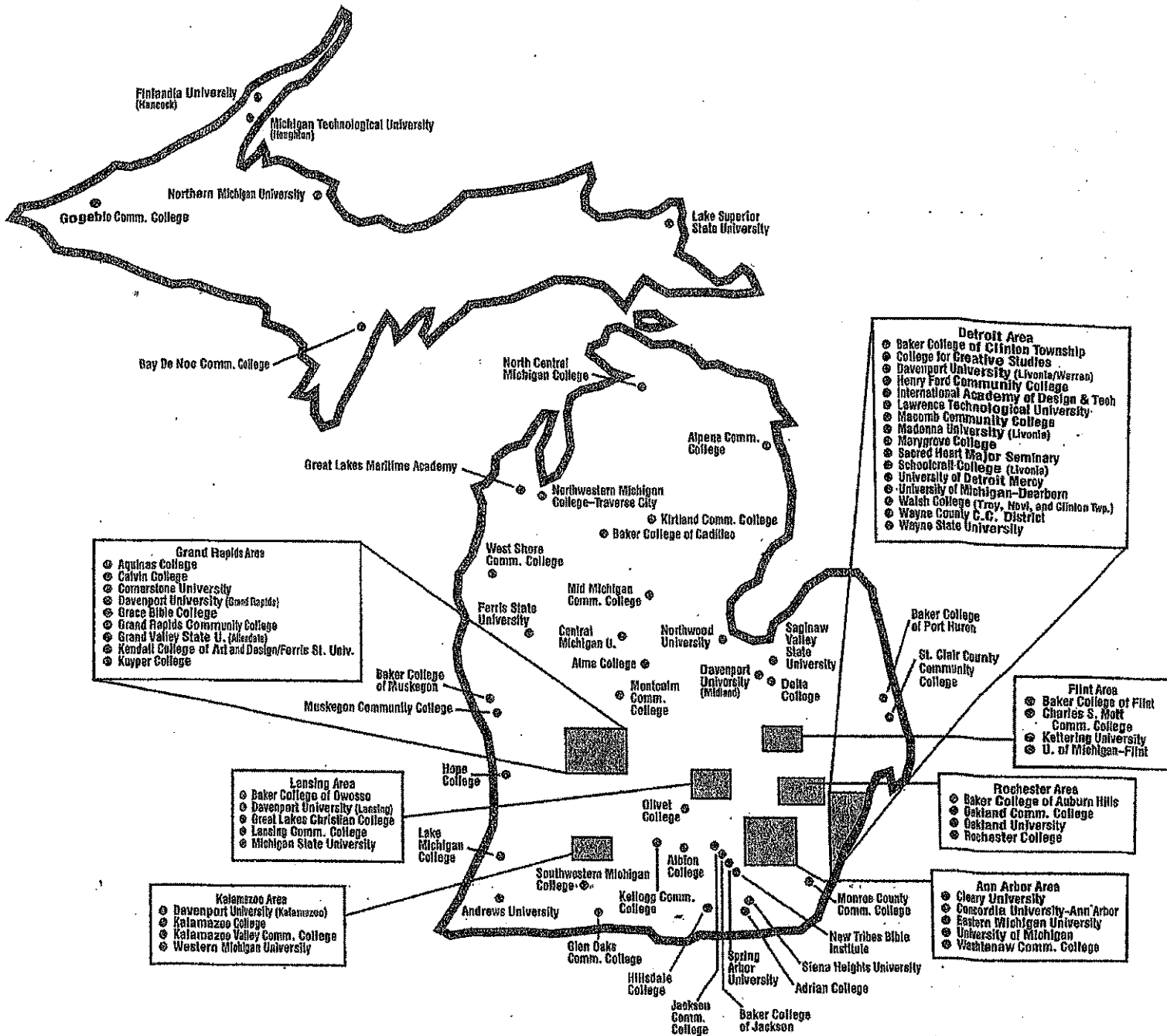
YOU NEED TO THINK ABOUT WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU. PUTTING TOGETHER THOSE FACTORS THAT MATTER MOST WILL HELP YOU FIND A SCHOOL WHERE YOU WILL BE BOTH HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL.

VISIT CAMPUS

You should visit the campus of any school that you are seriously considering. Call ahead to the admissions office and schedule a tour so that you can see many aspects of campus and get answers to all of your questions. During your visit, you should:

- Take a tour – see dorms and eat in the cafeteria
- See classroom buildings especially those related to your intended major
- Talk to an admissions representative
- Find out about the financial aid process
- Get information on applying for scholarships
- Talk to as many students and staff members as possible

Michigan Colleges and Universities



Compliments of the ACT Midwest Region and the Michigan ACT State Organization

ACT®

Michigan Colleges & Universities Average Admissions Requirements

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS	GPA – AVERAGE	ACT COMPOSITE - AVERAGE
Central Michigan University	3.4	23
Eastern Michigan University	3.5	22
Ferris State University	2.5	17
Grand Valley State University	3.5	24
Kendall College of Art & Design	3.2	22
Lake Superior State University	3.2	22
Michigan State University	3.7	26
Michigan Technological University	3.7	27
Northern Michigan University	3.4	24
Oakland University	3.4	23
Saginaw Valley University	3.4	22
University of Michigan	3.9	32
University of Michigan – Dearborn	3.6	25
University of Michigan – Flint	3.3	21
Wayne State University	3.3	23
Western Michigan University	3.4	23
PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS		
	GPA – AVERAGE	ACT COMPOSITE - AVERAGE
Albion College	3.5	25
Alma College	3.5	24
Aquinas College	3.5	24
Calvin College	3.7	26
College for Creative Studies	3.3	23
Concordia University	3.2	22
Cornerstone University	3.5	24
Hillsdale College	3.8	29
Hope College	3.8	26
Kalamazoo College	3.8	28
Kettering University	3.6	27
Lawrence Tech University	3.4	25
Madonna University	3.3	23
Marygrove College	3.0	17
Northwood University	3.3	22
Olivet College	3.4	21
Rochester College	2.8	21
Siena Heights University	3.2	21
University of Detroit - Mercy	3.4	24

SOURCE: Michigan College Guide 2015

College Readiness Resources for Students and Parents

- **Naviance** www.naviance.com
 - College and career information
- **College Week Live** www.collegeweeklive.com
 - Learn about universities, participate in live online chat sessions with admissions officers from universities across the nation and abroad, ask questions, and search for scholarships
- **College Score Card** <http://collegescorecard.ed.gov>
 - Federal data provides an overall picture of colleges across the nation.
- **Michigan College Guide** www.michigancollegeguide.com
 - Find out about Michigan colleges and universities, request information, get information about paying for college
- **Career and job information** www.joboutlook.rit.edu
 - Great resources to look at career forecasts and employability
- **Off to College** www.offtocollege.com
 - Comprehensive information about finding colleges, paying for college, and planning tips
- **College Majors** www.collegemajors101.com
 - Learn about college majors, find out which universities offer each program, see information about income for each major and subgroup within the major
- **Know How To Go!** <http://www.knowhow2go.org/>
 - Interactive and informative website to help make your college dreams a reality.
- **Collegeboard Student-** <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/make-a-plan>
 - Interactive and informative website to help students make a plan, find colleges, explore careers, and provide information for students and parents as to HOW to pay for college.
- **Financial aid information** www.salliemae.com/plan-for-college
 - Comprehensive information on all aspects of college funding options
- **U.S. Department of Ed** www.ed.gov
 - College search, financial aid, college planner
- **College fairs, searches and planning** www.nacac.com & www.macrao.org (Michigan college transfer student info, also)

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR COLLEGE APPLICATION

Create a Picture of Yourself to Prepare for College Consideration

Your college application creates a portrait of who you are and what you can bring to a college. The best way to give colleges an accurate, and useful, picture of yourself is to fill out each application honestly, carefully and completely.

Check with your high school counselor to find out which parts of the application your school sends directly to each college for you. Make sure you know which items you are responsible for sending. Also, find out if your school has suggestions for when to request teacher and counselor recommendations and other application-related items.

It is imperative that you meet all deadlines — those of your school and those of any college to which you are applying. The [college application calendar](#) can give you a general overview of what actions to take when.

Applications vary from college to college, but most require some or all of the following parts:

Application Form

Be sure to check with the colleges you are applying to and find out if they prefer an online application, or if you need to get a printed application form and package from them.

Application Fee

College application fees vary. Most are in the \$35 to \$50 range. The fee is usually nonrefundable, even if you're not accepted. Many colleges offer fee waivers for applicants from low-income families. If you need a fee waiver, talk with your high school counselor.

High School Transcript

Your transcript shows all the courses you've taken and the grades you've earned starting with ninth or 10th grade. It's probably the most important part of the application: It's your academic record.

Your high school sends the transcript directly to colleges on your behalf. It includes a school profile, which helps the colleges interpret your transcript — explaining the available courses and levels.

Your school also sends a final transcript, at the end of your senior year, to the college you decide to attend. Your college wants to see that you've kept your grades up through graduation; if you haven't, this may affect your admission.

Admission Test Scores

Many colleges require you to submit ACT, [SAT®](#) scores, SAT Subject Tests™ scores or all. These admission tests are standard tools for measuring a student's ability to do college-level work. Scores are sent directly from the testing organization to the colleges. Go to www.actstudent.org to request score reports for colleges that want them.

When you sign up to take standardized tests, you can choose which colleges should receive your scores. Your test fee includes the costs of sending your scores to several colleges if you request this when you register.

Letters of Recommendation

Some colleges ask you to submit one or more [letters of recommendation](#) from a teacher, counselor or other adult who knows you well.

When asking for recommendations, be sure to do so well before the college's deadline. You will want to give a short written summary of your achievements and goals to the person you've asked to recommend you.

Essay

Your [essay often plays a very important role](#). Whether you're writing an autobiographical statement or an essay on a specific theme, take the opportunity to express your individuality. This helps the admission officers get a feel for who you really are.

Interview

If the colleges you are considering offer interviews, you should schedule one. Requesting a [college interview](#) is considered a sign that you are very interested in a college, and that can count in your favor during the admission process. The interview is also a good time to ask questions, so you can make sure the college is right for you.

Even if it's not required, it's a good idea to set up an interview because it gives you a chance to make a personal connection with someone who has a voice in deciding whether or not you are offered admission.

Auditions and Portfolios

If you're applying for a program in music, art, theater or a similar subject, you may have to provide samples of your work to demonstrate your ability. This may mean sending a portfolio, auditioning on campus or submitting a video.

Your Counselor and the Application Process

Working Together to Submit Your College Applications

Your school counselor is there to help you understand how to apply to colleges and to work with you to find a good college fit. Counselors want to make the college application process easier. And you can help by getting informed and being prepared.

Beginning the Application Process

Think of the college application process as a series of steps you need to complete. Your counselor can help you focus on the tasks you need to do and when.

Your school counselor can help you explore your interests, understand your strengths and create a list of potential colleges for you to research. If there's anything you don't understand about a college's requirements (or anything else), ask your counselor to explain. And if you're trying to decide when to take an admission test, or whether to apply early, get your counselor's advice. Your counselor also deals with the mechanics of sending your transcripts and writing recommendation letters.

A Counselor's Work

Your counselor wants to help you and your fellow students successfully apply to colleges. However, it's important that you stay on top of the process, since a lot of it is up to you.

Although counselors are a good resource for you, they often have as many as 500 students to help at the same time. In addition to college counseling, counselors may be working with students with academic, career and personal issues; providing classroom assistance; administering tests; giving administrative support; and helping in many other ways. They are especially busy when it's college application time.

Tips for Making the Most of Your Counselor's Time

To make the most of your time with your counselor, schedule meetings and come to these meetings prepared. These five tips can help you be efficient.

1. Be Responsible.

Ultimately, you want to go to a college that's a good fit for you. Take charge of the application process. Find out your school's process, know your deadlines, keep in contact with your counselor and perform the legwork necessary to get the job done.

2. Be Organized.

Make a chart to keep track of different colleges' requirements, and mark a calendar with your application deadlines. Have a separate folder for each application so you can keep materials organized and easy to access. Know your school's process and schedule for asking for recommendations, and write your essays well ahead of the deadlines.

3. Be Early.

In the case of college applications, on time might not be good enough. Essays, recommendations and transcript request forms should all be completed and submitted at least two weeks before the application deadline. Counselors and support staff members usually fill these requests on a first-come, first-served basis, so get in line as early as possible.

4. Be Ready.

Even when you apply to a college online, some parts of the application must be sent by mail. Leave time for the U.S. Postal Service to deliver your application and for the college's internal mail service to process it. And don't wait until the last minute to submit online — the website could have technical problems if too many students are trying to use it at the same time. Finally, factor in some additional time for unanticipated errors and delays.

5. Be Positive.

The college application process, although time-consuming, is a good chance for you to discover yourself, what you are interested in and your opportunities for the future. This may be one of the most complex tasks you've ever taken on, but it's a good introduction to the multifaceted projects you'll be handling in college and in life. Organization, communication, patience and reasonable expectations are the keys to making it a manageable and successful experience.

REQUESTING STUDENT TRANSCRIPTS FOR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS USING NAVIANCE

Students can request transcripts through Family Connection in your Naviance account.

(When you log-in, Naviance may ask for Stevenson's zip code. It is 48313)

To request a transcript:

1. Select the COLLEGES tab in Family Connection.
2. Click the TRANSCRIPTS link, listed in the Resources section on the left side of the screen.
3. Click REQUEST TRANSCRIPTS FOR MY COLLEGE APPLICATIONS.
4. Click LOOKUP to find each college that you want your transcript sent to.
5. Click REQUEST TRANSCRIPTS.

NOTE: Your transcript will have ACT and/or SAT scores that we have received but many colleges want these scores directly from ACT or SAT (College Board). If this is the case, go to ACTstudent.org or student.collegeboard.org to request score reports.

Early Decision and Early Action

If you find a college that you're sure is right for you, consider applying early. Early decision and early action plans allow you to apply early (usually in November) and get an admission decision from the college well before the usual spring notification date. You know by December or January whether you've been accepted at your first-choice college.

Sometimes, students who apply under these plans have a better chance of acceptance than they would through the regular admission process. These plans are also good for colleges because they get students who really want to go to the college to commit early in the process.

Early Decision vs. Early Action

You should understand the differences between early decision and early action before sending in your applications. Keep in mind that the rules may vary somewhat by college. Check with your counselor to make sure you understand your rights and obligations. Below are some important facts about the types of early-application plan.

Early decision plans are binding. You agree to attend the college if it accepts you and offers an adequate financial aid package. Although you can apply to only one college for early decision, you may apply to other colleges through the regular admission process. If you're accepted by your first-choice college early, you must withdraw all other applications.

Early action plans are similar to early decision plans, but are not binding. If you've been accepted, you can choose to commit to the college immediately, or wait until the spring. Under these plans, you may also apply early action to other colleges. Usually, you have until the late spring to let the college know your decision.

Single-choice early action is a new option offered by a few colleges. This plan works the same way as other early action plans, but candidates may not apply early (either early action or early decision) to any other college. You can still apply to other colleges under regular decision plans and are not required to give your final answer to the early-application college until the regular decision deadline.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

How to Get the References You Need

Most college applications request two or three recommendation letters from people who know you in and out of the classroom. It's your responsibility to find appropriate people to write these letters on your behalf. You also need to give them enough time to write a thoughtful letter. Start by discussing the process, and possible candidates, with your counselor and family.

Who should I ask?

Read the application carefully. Often colleges request letters of recommendation from an academic teacher (sometimes in a specific subject), your school counselor or both. If the college requests a letter from an academic teacher, and the subject is not specified, your English or math teachers usually make good candidates.

You should also ask one of your teachers from junior year, or a current teacher who has known you long enough to form an opinion of your potential. It is best not to go back too far; colleges want current perspectives on their potential candidates. It is also very difficult for a senior year teacher who does not know you to write a strong letter.

It can also be good to get a recommendation from a teacher who knows you outside the classroom — for example, the teacher who shaped your performance in the class musical. Whoever you ask should be able to attest to your academic and personal achievements and potential.

When should I ask?

Make sure to give your recommendation writers plenty of time — at least one month before letters are due — to complete and send your recommendations, but the earlier you can ask the better. Many teachers like to have the summer to write recommendations, so ask them during the spring of your junior year. If you apply under early decision or early action plans, you'll need to ask at the start of the school year, if you didn't ask earlier.

How can I get the best possible recommendations?

Talk to your recommendation writers. For teachers, it's important that they focus on your academic talents and accomplishments within their classroom, because that's what colleges are looking for in teacher recommendations.

Talk to them about what you remember about their classes and your participation in them. Remind teachers of specific work assignments or projects you did, what you learned and any challenges you overcame. Give them the information they need to provide specific examples of your achievement.

It's also important that you spend time talking with your counselors and ensure they know about your plans, accomplishments and pursuits. You may want to provide them with a brief resume of your activities and goals; a resume can provide the best overview of your high school involvement and contributions.

Also, if there is some aspect of your transcript that needs explaining — for example, low grades during sophomore year — it's helpful to talk with your counselors to explain why and how you've changed and improved.

Helpful Tips

Don't be shy. Teachers and counselors are usually happy to help you, as long as you respect their time constraints.

Supply your recommendation writers with addressed and stamped envelopes for each college to which you're applying.

Provide teachers and counselors with deadlines for each recommendation that you are requesting.

On the application form, waive your right to view recommendation letters. This gives more credibility to the recommendation in the eyes of the college.

Probably you know your teachers well enough to know who can provide favorable reviews of your accomplishments. If in doubt, don't hesitate to ask if they feel comfortable writing a recommendation. In some cases, you may have no choice about whom to ask, but when you do, make the best choice possible.

Follow up with your recommendation writers a week or so prior to your first deadline, to ensure recommendations have been mailed, or to see if they need additional information from you.

Once you've decided which college to attend, write thank-you notes to everyone who provided a recommendation and tell them where you've decided to go to college. Be sure to do this before you leave high school.

REQUEST FOR RECOMMENDATION LETTER

NOTE: Your recommendation letter will be based on the information you provide so it is extremely important that you are thorough and accurate. If you provide only minimal information, your recommendation letter will not be nearly as strong as if you are detailed and thoughtful in your responses. Additionally, if you have not allowed for an appropriate amount of time for the letter to be written, it may not be as strong due to your need to have it done quickly.

NAME: _____

TODAY'S DATE: _____

DATE NEEDED: _____

RECOMMENDATION IS NEEDED FOR (BE SPECIFIC – LIST SCHOOL NAME, SCHOLARSHIP NAME, ETC.)

IS THERE ANY SPECIFIC WORDING GIVEN IN THE APPLICATION REGARDING WHAT THE RECOMMENDATION SHOULD FOCUS ON? IF SO, WHAT IS REQUESTED

RECOMMENDATION SHOULD BE

- GIVEN DIRECTLY TO STUDENT
- PUT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND GIVEN TO STUDENT
- MAILED TO: _____

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE CLASS AND WHY? _____

LIST THREE WORDS THAT BEST DESCRIBE YOU: _____

WHAT THREE WORDS WOULD YOUR FRIENDS USE TO DESCRIBE YOU? _____

WHAT ARE YOUR GREATEST ACADEMIC STRENGTHS? _____

DESCRIBE YOUR GREATEST LEARNING EXPERIENCE IN HIGH SCHOOL (EITHER INSIDE OR OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM). TELL WHAT IMPACT THIS HAD ON YOU AND WHY IT WAS MEANINGFUL. _____

WHAT MAKES YOU STAND OUT FROM YOUR CLASSMATES? _____

STUDENT PROFILE AND BACKGROUND

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (include group, year and details about your role/participation):

Athletics _____

Performing Arts _____

Clubs _____

Volunteer & Community Service _____

Co-op and/or after-school job _____

Leadership positions _____

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A family's financial situation can often play a part in the decision making process for scholarships. Is there anything you would like me to know about your situation that I should include in my letter?

FUTURE PLANS & GOALS

WHAT UNIVERSITY DO YOU HOPE TO ATTEND AND WHY? _____

ANTICIPATED COURSE OF STUDY IN COLLEGE _____

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THIS AREA? _____

WHAT ARE YOUR PERSONAL GOALS? _____

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT YOU? _____

ARE YOU APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN?

If so, keep reading...

THE COMMON APPLICATION

More than
600
colleges and
universities
accept the
Common App



Colleges and
universities
from **47**
states plus
Washington, DC



33
international
universities
from **14**
countries outside
of the US



100
public
universities



200+
colleges and
universities
with no
application fee



Use Common App to apply to University of Michigan and any of the following Michigan colleges. If the college is listed as OPTIONAL, you can choose their regular application which is less complicated and does not require essays and teacher recommendations.

Albion College

Alma College

Calvin College

Hillsdale College

Hope College

Kalamazoo College

Kettering University (OPTIONAL)

Lawrence Techn. University (OPTIONAL)

Spring Arbor University MI

University of Michigan MI

Wayne State University (OPTIONAL)

**The Common App/Naviance process is explained in a video
on the Naviance Family Connection page.
Under “Links” on the left hand side, go to “Common App Tutorial”**

Steps:

1. Go to CommonApp.org
2. Register for an account
3. Complete the CommonApp tasks
 - Add Stevenson as your school
 - Add at least one college
 - Read and sign the FERPA release
4. Log in to Naviance Family Connection. Complete Common App matching by going into COLLEGES then COLLEGES I'M APPLYING TO then COMMON APP MATCHING. Click “Match”
5. Review COLLEGES I'M APPLYING TO. If you choose one from the list above that is (OPTIONAL), you may have to use a drop-down link in Naviance to indicate if you are applying using CommonApp or not.

2017-2018 Common Application Essay Prompts

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story. [No change]
2. The lessons we take from *obstacles we encounter* can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a *challenge, setback, or failure*. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience? [Revised]
3. Reflect on a time when you *questioned* or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your *thinking*? What was the *outcome*? [Revised]
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution. [No change]
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or *realization* that *sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others*. [Revised]
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more? [New]
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design. [New]