

The 2011–12 Common Application for Undergraduate Admission may be used by students applying for admission for the Spring 2012 or Fall 2012 terms. The printed form is available from your secondary school college counseling office. It may also be downloaded or completed online at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org). Use of this form is governed by the License Agreement for Common Application Forms, a copy of which is displayed at <https://www.commonapp.org/Legal.aspx>. Please read this Agreement carefully before using the Common Application.

## WHAT IS THE COMMON APPLICATION™?

The Common Application is a not-for-profit membership organization that, since its founding over 35 years ago, has been committed to providing reliable services that promote equity, access, and integrity in the college application process. We serve students, member institutions, and secondary schools by providing applications—online and in print—that students and school officials may submit to any of our more than 450 members. Membership is open to colleges and universities that promote access by evaluating students using a holistic selection process.

## WHY USE IT?

The Common Application simplifies the college admission process by saving time and eliminating duplication of effort. Once completed online or in print, copies of the Application for Undergraduate Admission and associated secondary school forms may be sent to any of the participating colleges and universities. This allows students to spend less time on the busywork of applying for admission, and more time on what's really important: college research, campus visits, essay writing, and senior year coursework.

## IS IT WIDELY USED?

Yes! Last year, roughly 575,000 students submitted approximately 2.4 million applications via the Common App Online, and hundreds of thousands more were submitted on paper.

## IS IT TREATED FAIRLY?

ABSOLUTELY! Our college and university members have worked together for nearly 40 years to develop this application. All members fully support its use, and all give equal consideration to the Common Application and the college's own forms. Many of our members use the Common Application as their only undergraduate admission application.

## MAY ALL COLLEGES PARTICIPATE?

Membership is open to colleges and universities that evaluate students using a holistic selection process. A holistic process includes subjective as well as objective criteria, including at least one academic recommendation form, at least one untimed writing sample, and broader campus diversity considerations. If a college or university is not listed on our website, they are not members of the consortium. *Sending the Common Application to non-members is prohibited.*

## WHAT IF I'M A TRANSFER STUDENT?

There's a Common Application for Transfer Admission as well as First-Year Admission. The Transfer Application is generally available only on our website, although a few of our members do print and distribute hardcopies.

## APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS

- Complete the **Application for Undergraduate Admission** in this booklet. Photocopy it for each college to which you are applying.
- Mail it, along with the appropriate application fee or fee waiver form, to each of your selected institutions. Visit the Member Colleges & Universities section of [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) for detailed information about each institution's deadlines, requirements, fees, and mailing addresses.
- Complete the applicant section of the **School Report, Optional Grade Report, Midyear Report, and Final Report** and give these forms to your college counselor, *together with a list of the member institutions to which you are applying.*
- If any institution to which you are applying requires a **Teacher Evaluation**, ask a teacher(s) of an **academic subject** (for example, English, social studies, foreign language, math, or science) to complete that form as instructed and mail a copy to each of the institutions *on the list you provide.*
- Some institutions require supplemental forms along with your Common Application (for example, the International Supplement, college-specific supplements, the Arts Supplement, or the Athletic Supplement). Visit the Member Colleges & Universities section of [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) to learn how to retrieve and submit these forms.
- Some institutions may require additional writing samples to complete an application. Some will also review additional material, such as music tapes, artwork, reports of scientific projects, etc. Consult each institution's instructions for submitting these materials.

Do not mail your application or any school forms to The Common Application offices. Doing so may delay or impede evaluation of your application. All forms, if mailed, must be sent to the admission offices of the colleges and universities to which you are applying.