

A QUICK GUIDE TO THE APPLICATION

This guide previews the different sections of the Common Application so you'll be ready to get started as soon as you create your account.

PROFILE	Contacts
	Phone number, mailing address
	Demographics Religion, military service, race/ethnicity (all optional)
	Geography Birthplace, countries lived in, language proficiency, citizenship
FAMILY	Household Parent marital status, parent(s) with whom you reside
	Parent and/or Guardian Name, birthplace, occupation, education, stepparent information
	Siblings Age, grade, education
EDUCATION	School Current school, dates attended; counselor name, phone, and email
	History Previous schools, dates attended, past/pending education interruptions (e.g. time off, early graduation, gap year, etc.), college courses, college assistance programs
	Academic Information GPA, class rank, current year courses, honors and awards
TESTING	College Entrance ACT and SAT
	English For Non-Native Speakers TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic
	Academic Subjects AP, IB, SAT Subject Tests, A-Levels
	Other Optional reporting for other relevant 9-12 testing



ACTIVITIES	Principal Activities/Work Years of participation, hours per week, weeks per year, position/leadership held (50 characters), brief description (150 characters). 10 activities maximum.
WRITING	Personal Essay Select one of seven available prompts, 650 Words Maximum
	Disciplinary History Explanations regarding school discipline and misdemeanor or felony convictions
	Additional Information Relevant circumstances or qualifications not reflected elsewhere in the application
COURSES & GRADES	Self-Reported Transcript Your complete academic record for grades 9-12. Required by some colleges.
COLLEGE-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS	General Entry term, degree status, housing preference, test-optional preference, scholarship and financial aid preference
	Entry term, degree status, housing preference, test-optional preference,
	Entry term, degree status, housing preference, test-optional preference, scholarship and financial aid preference Academics

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Get started with your Common App with this helpful guide.



TIPS & BEST PRACTICES

Best practices to keep in mind as you complete your applications.



COMMON APP TOUR

Learn how to navigate the Common App.

Find more resources at commonapp.org/ready