



## What's Next?

Congratulations! You've taken the first BIG step in the process of going to college – you've filled out an application for admission! Below is a list of other important steps you need to take to continue on your path of going to college.

- **Pay your application fee.** When you submit an online application, you may be required to pay an application fee. If you already paid it with a credit or debit card, you have completed this step. If you did not pay when you completed your application, you have a few options:
  - You can submit your application online and then pay your fee by sending a check in the mail. You will need to include a copy of your confirmation page with the check.
  - You can use a fee waiver, if you qualify. Check with your school counselor about this option, and they can help you send in the fee waiver with a copy of your confirmation page.
- **Follow up with transcripts and test scores.** Just because you have completed the online or paper application, doesn't mean you're done turning things in. It is important to find out what additional information is required from the schools you applied to. Many schools will want copies of your ACT or SAT scores, as well as an official copy of your high school transcript. You can send your transcript electronically by logging into your Parchment account and sending an e-transcript. If you have questions, see your counselor.
- **Give the schools time to contact you.** Most colleges will acknowledge the receipt of an admission application. Check with your school counselor or an admissions representative to find out when you can expect to hear back from the schools you applied to regarding the status of your application, and check your email periodically for correspondence. Also, once you have made a decision on where you want to go, let any other schools you were accepted to know that you are declining their offer of admission. Most schools should give you until May 1<sup>st</sup> of your senior year to make this decision.
- **Complete a *Getting the Facts Report*.** By logging in to your My KHEAA account on [kheaa.com](http://kheaa.com), you can complete a personalized report that will give you an estimate of how much financial aid you may receive and what you may have to pay out of pocket at the colleges you have applied to. If you need assistance, check with your school counselor or your KHEAA Outreach Counselor.

- **Research scholarships and financial aid. Attend a financial aid night.** Now that you have applied to college, you need to give some serious thought to how you will pay for it. Make sure you research scholarships and stay on top of scholarship application deadlines. Also attend a financial aid night with your parents, if your school offers one, to learn more about federal and state financial aid programs.
- **Complete your FAFSA as soon as possible starting October 1<sup>st</sup>.** The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the application you will use to apply for federal, state, and even some institutional financial aid. Depending on when your school hosts its College Application event, you may have already completed this step. If not, it is important to sit down with your parents and complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after it becomes available on October 1<sup>st</sup> by going to [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Some aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, so don't delay in completing this step. If you need assistance with the FAFSA process, check with your counselor for FAFSA workshop dates in your area.
- **Complete on-campus housing forms.** If you think there is a chance that you may live on campus at a college you applied to, be sure to complete the housing forms as soon as they are available. At some schools, dorms fill up quickly, and you don't want to miss out on a spot because you waited too long to turn in your forms.
- **Sign up for the earliest registration and orientation date possible.** Once you have been accepted to college, you will need to register for classes and eventually attend an orientation. Look for registration and orientation dates at your college, and try to sign up for the earliest date available to you so you can get the classes you need or want to take.

These are some of the most important steps you need to take once you've applied to college. For more information about transitioning to college, talk to your school counselor, parents, or other trusted adults who you know have been through this process before, and be sure to visit [kheaa.com](http://kheaa.com). You are on your way!