

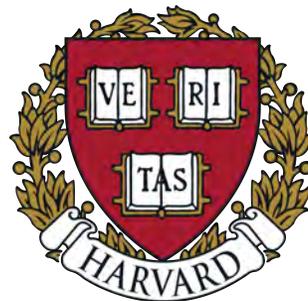


Haileybury Almaty

**Parent Partnership Programme
USA Applications:
University of California, Common
App, and School Support
03/03/26**

Mr Steve Stockermans, Head of Futures and College Counselor
Ms Ana Munoz Lopera, College Counselor

Some highlights of offers and interviews so far 2025/26



Syracuse
University



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



American universities – why go?



The Wide Open Range:

Top Global Rankings: 23 US Universities in the world's top 50, and 3 from Canada.

Acceptance Rates: From the most competitive (less than 3% acceptance rates) to wide open ones with rolling deadlines

Deadlines: From Early Decision (end of October) to rolling Admissions (doesn't end until school starts)

Fees: From very high, almost 100,000 usd/year (U Southern California, Pepperdine, Northwestern) to cheap 5000 usd (Brigham Young, Dakota state)

Scholarships and Financial: Entry scholarships, partial scholarships and the most impressive full ride scholarships. Some financial aid is often available for anyone who makes under 100,000 usd per year.

Flexibility: most universities don't require a student to declare a major until second year – lots of chances to change majors and even transfer between universities.

Internships and Employment: In Canada and the USA, a student can stay and work for up to 3 years, especially in the STEM fields.

Why Canada?



- Mostly public universities: subsidized by government, so tuition is generally cheaper.
 - From 15,000 usd/year (St. Johns, Athabasca) to 45,000 (U of Toronto, UBC)
 - Ability to stay and work for up to three years in most fields
 - Possibility to get Permanent Residency status
 - Safe and welcoming to international students.
 - Flexibility: four year programs allow movement between majors



The Common App:



- Major platform for over 1000 universities
- Mostly from the USA, but some foreign (St. Andrews, UBC...)
- Students can apply for 20
- One major essay: 650 words
- Links to each university with separate questions and essays
- School uploads transcripts, school report, counselor recommendation, and individual teacher recommendations.



The Common App:



common app 

 [Dashboard](#)

APPLY

 [My Common Application](#)

 [My Colleges](#)

EXPLORE

 [College search](#)

 [Direct admissions](#)

 [Financial aid](#)

 [Settings](#)

 [Sign out](#)



Dashboard

^ My Common Application

7/7 sections complete



[Profile](#)



[Family](#)



[Education](#)



[Testing](#)



[Activities](#)



[Writing](#)



[Courses &
Grades](#)

^ My Colleges

11 colleges on my list



 11 submitted

 Show colleges

 Celebrate

Deadlines

The Common App:



The screenshot displays the Common App mobile interface. On the left is a navigation sidebar with icons for home, document, education, search, mail, wallet, settings, share, and profile. The main content area is divided into three panels:

- My Colleges:** Shows a list of colleges with 'Submitted' status: Boston University, Loyola Marymount University, New York University, Northeastern University, Penn State, and Tufts University.
- My Colleges (Detailed View):** Shows '11 colleges on my list' with a green progress bar and a 'Celebrate' button. Below is a 'Deadlines' section for January, listing submission dates for various universities: Boston University, New York University, Tufts University, University of Southern California, and University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Help & support:** Includes a search bar for FAQs and two FAQ entries: 'How can I add a college to My colleges?' and 'I already submitted, can I change some of my answers?'.

Day	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
Jan 28	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Jan 4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Jan 11	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Jan 18	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Jan 25	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Jan 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

The Common App:





My Colleges

APPLICATION

- General
- Academics
- Contacts
- Family
- Other Information
- Residency
- Essay Questions
- Recommenders and FERPA
- Review and submit

Apply to Boston University



Boston University

admissions@bu.edu · Phone (617) 353-2300
233 Bay State Rd
Boston, MA 02215
USA

Application deadlines

September
Early Decision · November 01, 2025
Early Decision II · January 05, 2026
Regular Decision · January 05, 2026

January
Regular Decision · November 01, 2025

Links

- [College website](#)
- [Admissions office](#)
- [Financial aid](#)
- [Virtual tour](#)
- [College Navigator](#)

[f](#) [@](#) [t](#) [v](#)

Other deadline information

Early Decision and Regular Decision candidates are eligible for merit scholarship consideration as long as their completed application is submitted by the

Help & support

Search FAQs

Search takes you to the student solution center

Can a college see the list of colleges on the My colleges list?
A school cannot view any other schools on your My...
[Read full answer](#)

When is the deadline for my application submission?
To meet an application deadline, you must submit your application materials...
[Read full answer](#)

[All help topics](#)

The Common App:





Apply to Boston University

Recommenders and FERPA

Complete

Recommenders are people who will submit forms to colleges on your behalf. This page shows which recommender types this college needs. Each college will have different requirements.

✓ FERPA Release Authorization

[View Details](#)

Invite recommenders

Use this section to invite and then [assign recommenders](#) to this college. You'll need to assign recommenders for each college on your list.

[Invite Recommenders](#) [Manage Recommenders](#)

✓ Counselor

Your school is using Unifrog for transcripts, school reports, and teacher recommendations. Please contact your counselor directly and they will provide instructions specific to your school regarding these documents. If your counselor wishes to submit forms via mail, you can download forms that can be completed on

Help & support

Search FAQs

Search takes you to the student solution center

Can I submit my application before my recommenders submit their forms?

You are allowed to submit...

[Read full answer](#)

Why am I unable to assign an Other Recommender to a school?

You will only be able to assign an Other...

[Read full answer](#)

My Colleges

- ✓ [Recommenders and FERPA](#)
- ✓ Review and submit application
- ✓ Loyola Marymount University Submitted
- ✓ New York University Submitted
- ✓ Northeastern University Submitted
- ✓ Penn State Submitted
- ✓ Tufts University

Adding Colleges to your List



Dashboard

APPLY

My Common Application

My Colleges

EXPLORE

College search

Direct admissions

Financial aid

Settings

Sign out

College search

Application requirements

College or City Name

Separate multiple search terms with a comma, e.g.: Washington, Boston

More filters

1161 results

Sort by: College name

	Aberystwyth University Aberystwyth, Ceredigion - GBR	+ Add
	Abilene Christian University Abilene, TX - USA	+ Add
	Adams State University Alamosa, CO - USA	+ Add

Road Map: On our Template page, check our timeline



2026 TUA Uni Templates (Uni List/Finances/Activities/ timeline)

File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Extensions Help

100% \$ % .0 .00 123 Defaul... - 16 + B I A

	A	B
1	Timeline of when to get things done:	
2		
3	Year 10 and 11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research your honest skills and interests 2. Think about your Profile: Are you doing enough sports, social activities, leadership and Creativity Activities? 3. What could be your Spike? What will make you outstanding 4. Start SAT practice questions 5. And then start!
4	Year 11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Get very good IGCSE results. These are part of your transcript for university 2. Get a good EC profile: Balance, and Spike 3. Start studying SAT questions and do practice tests
5	Summer Y 11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use your summer to build that Profile and Spike 2. Sign up for your first SAT in August
6	Fall Y 12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare for SAT. A regular study routine. An SAT group? Sign up for test in October 2. Your Y 12 final results are the MOST IMPORTANT. These will get you admission into university. 3. Make a balance on your EC activities and your school work. School takes precedence. 4. Plan your University Long Lists: Use the template, common app, UCAS, Google, rankings etc. 5. understand your family finances and the costs of universities to make your lists realistic. 6. Research scholarships/ financial aid
7	Winter Y12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sign up for the next SAT test in the spring 2. Fine-tune your Study/ EC balance 3. Make a Linked In account. you are adults now! 4. Make a good looking, editable CV 5. Study like crazy and get good grades on the final exams 6. When you are bored of studying, check out Personal Statements and Essays. Write some drafts.
8	Summer Y 12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are you doing for your Spike? Do something this summer that will make your special. 2. Write draft essays and supplementaries 3. Do your IELTS test in the summer 4. Study for the last SAT in August or Oct of Y 13

Use Our Template to Choose your Colleges: the Long List



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Dream/Aspiration (10% chance)	University	Major	ranking	where?	Acceptance Rate	Admissions (SAT, Grades, Portfolio...)	ielts needed?	Essay needed?	Application system and deadline	Tuition?
2	1	U of Toronto	Civil Engineering	world 26	Canada	40%	SAT 1330-1500. 85 - 90% average	YES	no	OUAC. Opens Oct, Deadline Jan 1 (check program)	62,000 Cdn plus expenses per year
3	2										
4	3										
5	4										
6	5										
7											
8	Target (50% chance)										
9	1										
10	2										
11	3										
12	4										
13	5										
14	6										
15	7										
16											
17	Safety (90% chance)										

Use our spreadsheet to make a Long List of every university you are interested in, and then do more research and make a Short List.

Use the Template to Organize your Activities List



2026 TUA Uni Templates (Uni List/Finances/Activities/ timeline)

File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Extensions Help

100% 123 Defaul... - 10 + B I A

Activities (Honor and Activities)		<i>(place in order of IMPORTANCE, to build your profile and SPIKE)</i>						
The Common App asks for 5 Honors and 10 Activities. An Honor is an award that you have won. Top Student, 3rd place in Photography contest, etc. The University of California asks for up to 20 Activities Use this as a basis to create a great CV								
1 Activity Type	2 Position/ Leadership Description ((50 characters)	3 Organization Name ((100 characters)	4 Activity Description (150 characters)	5 Participati on Grade Levels	6 Timing of Participati on	7 Hours Spent Per Week	8 Weeks Spent Per Year	9
1	(what is your SPIKE?)			9, 10, 11	school year	4	25 y	
2								
3								
4	Research	Researcher of academic paper	Individual research program with mentor from Columbia University		11 summer	6	5 weeks	y
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								

Use the Template to Organize your Essays



The screenshot shows a Google Docs interface. The title bar reads "Template: University Lists and Essays". The menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "View", "Insert", "Format", "Tools", "Extensions", and "Help". The toolbar shows various editing tools, including undo, redo, print, undo, redo, font size (11), bold, italic, underline, text color, background color, link, unlink, and insert link. The document content is as follows:

[UCAS Personal Statement: Due Oct 1 for Oxbridge, and Dec 1 for Regular. Link here:](#)

[University of California Personal Insight Questions:](#)
(Nov 30)
(4 essays; 350 words)

1. Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes or contributed to group efforts over time.
2. Every person has a creative side, and it can be expressed in many ways: problem solving, original and innovative thinking, and artistically, to name a few. Describe how you express your creative side.
3. What would you say is your greatest talent or skill? How have you developed and demonstrated that talent over time?
4. Describe how you have taken advantage of a significant educational opportunity or worked to overcome an educational barrier you have faced.
5. Describe the most significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken

https://docs.google.com/document/d/14biElvRgM3f1PniwYbMQBfnif_ZBwdQQ-NTNQd6Mf0s/edit?tab=t.0

The Common App Essay



My [Common App Essay](#), 2025. 650 words

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.
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?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
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?
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.



APPLY WITH CSS PROFILE

CSS Profile

Each year CSS Profile unlocks access to more than \$14 billion in nonfederal aid to thousands of students.

Sign in to Fall 2026/Spring 2027

Use the Template to Estimate and Organize your Financial Aid



2026 TUA Uni Templates (Uni List/Finances/Activities/ timeline)

File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Extensions Help

100% \$ % .0 .00 123 Arial 10 B I A

1 Use this template to decide if you would be eligible for US Financial Aid, and then to help fill out the [CSS Profile](#) (the form you use to apply for financial aid in the Common App)

2 Each university applies its own conditions, but generally, if your family has gross income less than 120,000 usd per year and assets no more than 500,000 usd, you may be eligible for some financial aid.

3 *Keep all numbers in the same main currency, KZT. for the past 2 years*

4

5 **Household Income Statement**
(includes everyone who lives in your house)

6 **2024**

Parent 1	Description	Amount in Tenge	Notes
Name			
Job			
Annual Salary or Income before taxes	real estate manager	12000000	1 million/month x 12 months.
Other Income (rental properties, pension, etc)	rent apartment income	1000000	apartment on Abay Ave.
Annual taxes paid	income	2000000	
Other Deductible Expenses		4000000	education, medical, travel expenses
Total Net Income		7000000	
Parent 2 Mom	Description	Amount in Tenge	

Key elements of a US application – what universities look for



1. Education: Y12 AS Level final results are most important. IGCSE and Y13 Predicted Grades moderately important.
2. Testing: List of A Level Predicted Grades, and SAT or ACT optional. IELTS or Duolingo are necessary
3. Activities: 10 activities that give an Spike to your profile
4. Writing: The Common App Essay, 650 words
5. School Report: Written by the school, includes official transcripts and a description of the school.
6. Counselor's Report: A recommendation summary by the college counselor about all aspects of the student
7. Teachers Letters of Recommendation: Specialized letters about the subject



The Authentic Common App Essay – Let them see who you are



- The Essay is unlike the UK Personal Statement. It is one part of the application that makes the **Spike** – that one clear statement of interest, experience and skills that can summarize the student in one sentence:
- ie: “The guy who programs and flies drones for air pollution collection and analysis” “ The woman who is fighting for women’s rights in Kazakhstan through her marketing skills” “ The Math Olympiad genius who plays guitar and wants to make math models for interstellar travel.

The Common App essay doesn’t repeat what is on your CV or activities, but tells a story that lets the Admission Officer understand what kind of person you are, how you think and how you communicate.



We talk about these ideas, work on at least three questions, and then write, edit, discuss, rewrite again and again.

There is no “right” answer. There is no “mark scheme”

Creativity helps. Make your story memorable.

My [Common App Essay](#), 2025. 650 words

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.
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?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
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?
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.



So where to apply in the US or Canada?

Reminder – Limitations of University Rankings



- Varying methodologies
 - Different ranking systems use different criteria and weightings
 - University's position can change depending on which ranking you consult
- May not reflect individual needs
 - Rankings may not account for factors like campus culture, teaching style, or specific program strengths that are crucial for a good experience
 - Often overly focused on Post Graduate studies
- Can be manipulated
 - Rankings can encourage universities to focus on improving their scores through means that may not benefit students
 - Such as focusing on research activities that are highly cited.



UC San Diego Library



Dorm at MIT

But look at your subject area! – specialist examples



Engineering-Focused Schools:

Colleges such as

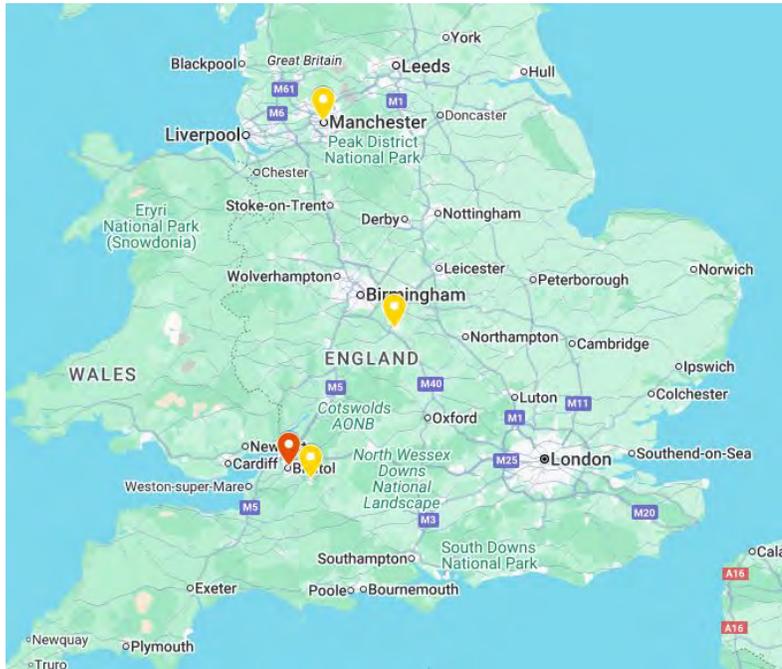
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, #1 undergraduate engineering college in the US (US News), but unranked in QS.

Colorado School of Mines, #1 in Mineral and Mining Engineering in the world, but not in top 100 in overall ranking

State University Flagships:

Universities like **Arizona State University** or University of Arizona may have moderate overall rankings (e.g., in the 100s by U.S. News) but boast top-20 programs in niche fields like Supply Chain Management or Astronomy.

Spotlight on Liberal Arts Colleges



- Safe
 - Mid sized city – 500,000 residents
- Excellent connections
 - 90 minutes to London on train
 - 45 minutes to Cardiff
 - International Airport
- Young and diverse
 - Median age 33 (UK average 40)
- Major employers in Digital & Creative, Finance, Engineering and manufacturing



**IMPERIAL
BRANDS**



Spotlight on Bristol University – The City



Historic city with notable architecture



Exceptional Arts Scene – the home of Banksy



Close to the national parks in Wales and SW England



Arguably the best music scene outside of London



Picturesque waterfront setting



One of the youngest and most diverse cities in the UK

Spotlight on Bristol University – The University



- Traditional City Centre Campus in affluent area of the city
- Russell Group university – 51st global ranking
 - High reputation for research
 - Particularly strong reputation in Engineering and Aerospace Engineering
- Large UK private school intake but with 28% of students being international
- Scholarships available
 - Typically from £6,500 to £13,000 per year



Bristol's Campus



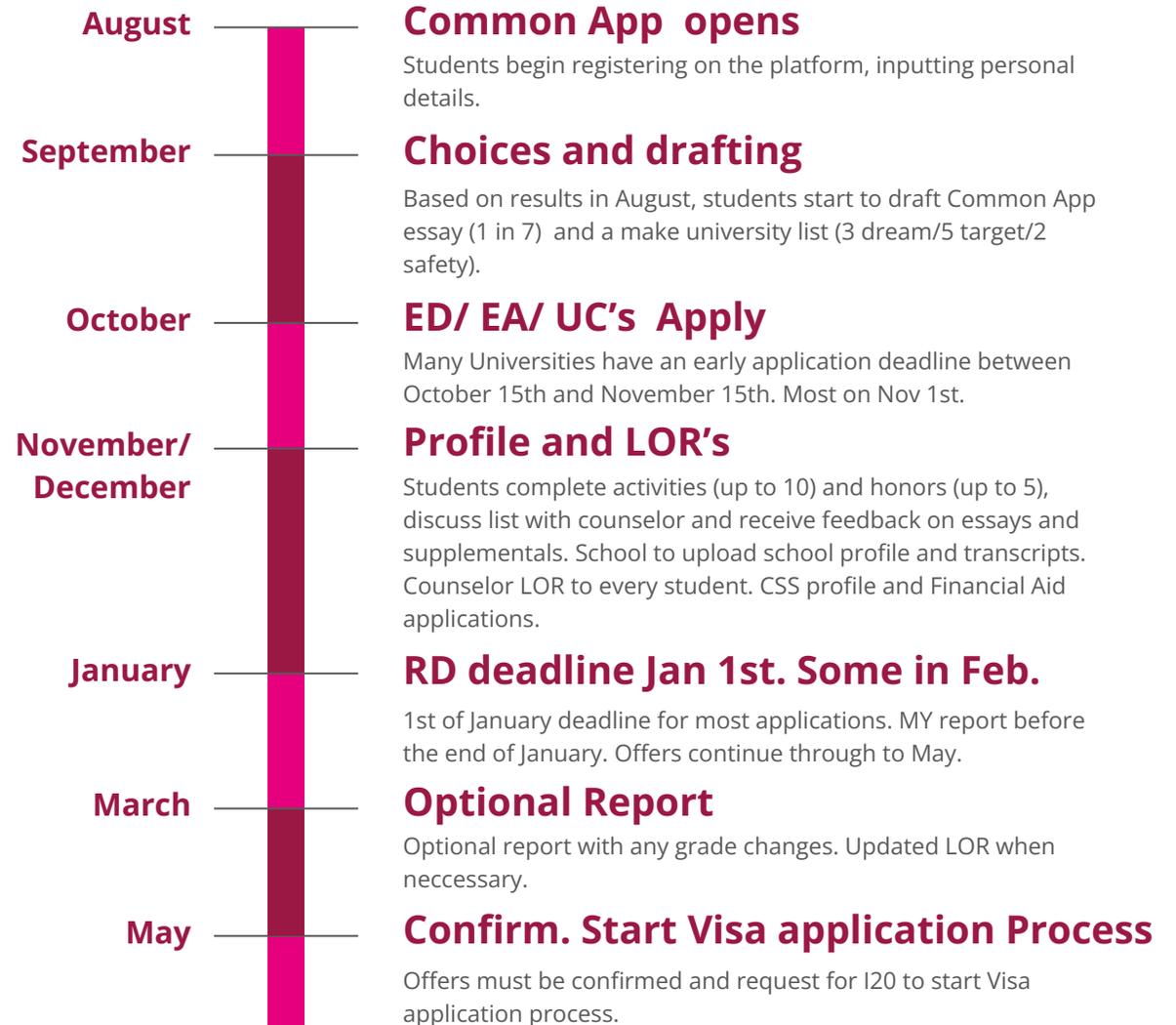
The US. Understanding Common App and how we support your child

Ms Munoz and Mr Stockermans

How the Common App works?



- Online platform managed by the College Board
- Students can make 20 choices at once
- Several reference letters from school (Depending on the university)
- Singular personal statement of 650 word and several short answer questions (250 words) and writing supplements (500 to 600 words each)
- IGCSE results and A-Levels are validated by school
- SAT and IELTS a must.



Parts of the Common App



FERPA Waiver

-  **School report**
Submitted
-  **Counselor recommendation**
Submitted
-  **Optional report**
Not required
-  **Optional report 2**
Not yet available
-  **Mid-year report**
Submitted
-  **Final report**
In progress

CAID:

 May 03

Notifications

[Show notifications](#) 

Common App progress



Profile
Complete



Family
Complete



Education
Complete



Testing
Complete



Activities
Complete



Writing
Complete



C&G

Not applicable

[Preview application progress](#)

Common App Writing 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.
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?
3. Reflect on a time when you **questioned** or challenged **a belief** or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this **gratitude** affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of **personal growth** and a new understanding of yourself or others.
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?
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

Follow up



and name every dragon Hagrid ever mentioned. So when Sirius fell through the veil in *The Order of the Phoenix*, I sat frozen in disbelief. My outraged “WHAT?!” could probably be heard by the neighbors. Of all the characters, surely he deserved a happy ending. If J.K. Rowling wouldn't give him one, I would. I opened a notebook and wrote an alternative ending in which the villains were punished and Sirius finally walked free. I refused to accept the story I was handed.

That rebellion became an obsession. I discovered fanfiction, where I could make a change. To join the community, I read the saga in English and taught myself to write in English, too. I carried a frayed dictionary, scribbled translations in the margins, and posted my imperfect stories online. Angry comments poured in when I botched a timeline or mistranslated a phrase. When I confused ‘wand’ with ‘stick,’ one reader commented sarcastically, “So Harry fought Voldemort with a broom handle?” Slowly, my writing improved, and ~~I found~~ readers began to like and comment positively on who liked my stories. Nothing felt so empowering. ~~as my first positive review~~. For the first time, I sensed the strength of community.

That rebellion became an obsession. Entering the fanfiction community, I felt like Ron struggling with *Wingardium Leviosa*, waving my wand the wrong way, and mispronouncing every word. At first, I didn't understand a thing. Determined to keep up, I read the saga in English and began writing in it, too. My stories looked exactly like what they were: the clumsy work of an eleven-year-old in a foreign language. Angry comments poured in when I botched a timeline or mistranslated a phrase. Once, when I confused “wand” with “stick,” a reader sneered: “So Harry fought Voldemort with a broom handle?” But slowly, my writing improved, and I found readers who liked my stories. Nothing felt as empowering as my first

 Ana Isabel Munoz...
8:04 AM Oct 2

Delete: “I found”

 Ana Isabel Munoz...
8:04 AM Oct 2

Replace: “who liked” with “began to like and comment positively on”

 Ana Isabel Munoz... ✓ ✕
8:05 AM Oct 2

Replace: “as” with “so”

Reply or add others with @

 Ana Isabel Munoz...
8:05 AM Oct 2

Replace: “as my first positive review” with “.”

Different deadlines



Good evening, Ana Isabel · Cour

Deadlines

20/20 deadlines added

January < > Today

- Jan 1 [Harvard University](#)
- [Princeton University](#)
- [Washington and Lee University](#)
- Jan 2 [Cornell University](#)
- [Northwestern University](#)
- [University of Notre Dame](#)
- [Yale University](#)
- Jan 4 [Rice University](#)
- [Swarthmore College](#)
- Jan 5 [California Institute of Technology \(Caltech\)](#)
- [Duke University](#)
- [Middlebury College](#)
- [Stanford University](#)
- [Tufts University](#)
- Jan 10 [Colby College](#)
- Jan 15 [Connecticut College](#)
- [Lafayette College](#)
- [Trinity College](#)
- [Union College](#)

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7



Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences

January 15, 2026 · Regular Decision



Skidmore College

January 08, 2026 · Regular Decision



University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

January 05, 2026 · Regular Decision



University of Michigan

February 01, 2026 · Regular Decision



Vassar College

January 07, 2026 · Regular Decision



Parts of the Common App. Counselor



- AA Student info**
FERPA waived
- School report**
Submitted
- Counselor recommendation**
Submitted
- Optional report**
Not required
- Optional report 2**
Not yet available

Brown University

Jan 5, 2026 · Regular Decision

✉ admission@brown.edu



Counselor form requirements

 School report Downloaded (12/26/2025)	 Early decision 1 Not applicable	 Early decision 2 Not applicable	 Fee waiver Not applicable
 Counselor recommendation Downloaded (12/26/2025)	 Optional report Not required	 Mid year report Downloaded (01/10/2026)	 Final year report Required



Writing supplement

Submitted (Dec 25, 2025)
Downloaded (Dec 26, 2025)

[Writing supplement PDF](#)



College questions

Submitted (Dec 25, 2025)
Downloaded (Dec 26, 2025)

[Application PDF](#)

Different College Questions



How many piano tuners are there in Chicago? What is the total length of chalk used by UChicago professors in a year? How many pages of books are in the Regenstein Library? These questions are among a class of estimation problems named after University of Chicago physicist Enrico Fermi. Create your own Fermi estimation problem, give it your best answer, and show us how you got there.



University of Chicago alumna and renowned author/critic Susan Sontag said, The only interesting answers are those that destroy the questions. Destroy a question with your answer.



Joan of Arkansas. Queen Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Babe Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Mash up a historical figure with a new time period, environment, location, or occupation, and tell us their story.



People often think of language as a connector... tell us how your language makes you unique.





1. **U RICHMOND. (350 to 600 words)** You have a platform to create change. What is an action or policy you might propose to address an issue of social injustice in your school or local community, or on a national or global scale?
2. **U PENN (150-200 words)** Write a short thank-you note to someone you have not yet thanked and would like to acknowledge. (We encourage you to share this note with that person, if possible, and reflect on the experience!
4. **BROWN. (250 words)** Brown's Open Curriculum allows students to explore broadly while also diving deeply into their academic pursuits. Tell us about any academic interests that excite you and how you might pursue them at Brown.
5. **HARVARD. (150 words)** Describe a time when you strongly disagreed with someone about an idea or issue. How did you communicate or engage with this person? What did you learn from this experience?



Join us next time for a
deeper dive into US
applications!

Thank you

Any questions?

