



Congratulations, You've Applied. Now What?

Congratulations on taking your first big step toward going to college. Now that you have submitted an application to at least one college, please take this time to review important next steps that will help you to continue on your path to college.

- **Pay your application fee.**

If the college (s) you applied to require an application fee and if you have not already paid this fee at your school's application event, please be sure to do this as soon as possible. If you think that you may be eligible for an application fee waiver, please contact your high school counselor. If you are eligible for a fee waiver, you will need to submit a fee waiver form and documentation to support your request to the college (s) you applied to.

- **Submit transcripts, test scores and essays (if required).**

Once the college (s) you applied to receive all of your application materials, it can take them a few weeks to process this information. Visit each college's admissions webpage to find out how and when you will hear back. Check your email and/or mail for your admissions decision and information regarding next steps. If you don't hear from the college within the period listed on their website, contact the admissions office to make sure they received your application and ask when you might learn about whether you have been accepted.

- **Give colleges time to contact you.**

Once the college (s) you applied to receive all of your application materials, it can take them a few weeks to process this information. Visit each college's admissions webpage to find out how and when you will hear back. Check your email and/or mail for your admissions decision and information regarding next steps. If you don't hear from the college within the period listed on their website, contact the admissions office to make sure they received your application and ask when you might learn about whether you have been accepted.

- **If you aren't accepted to your first choice college....**

Consider contacting the admissions office to find out what you can do. Ask if you can submit an appeal (including a personal statement, letters of recommendation, and anything new that was not included in your original application). If this isn't an option, consider starting your college experience at a UH community college before transferring to a four-year campus (after meeting certain admissions requirements).



- **Inform yourself on how to pay for college.**

There are multiple resources available to help you pay for college. Don't let the cost of higher education keep you from attending college. Here are some steps you can take to learn more about financial aid:

- Go to studentaid.ed.gov to learn about the various financial aid resources available to you.
- Create an FSA ID. The FSA ID is a user-created username and password that you will need in order to submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Make sure your parent signs up for one as well.
- Complete your FAFSA at www.FAFSA.gov. The sooner you complete this form, the better your chances of getting the best financial aid package. The FAFSA application will be available on October 1.
- Ask your counselor for FAFSA workshop dates to help you complete the application.
- Apply for scholarships. Visit hawaiicommunityfoundation.org and hawaii.edu/finaid/scholarships/system for information about local scholarship opportunities.
- Speak with your family and high school guidance counselor about your financial aid options.
- Contact the colleges you apply to for campus specific financial aid assistance.

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