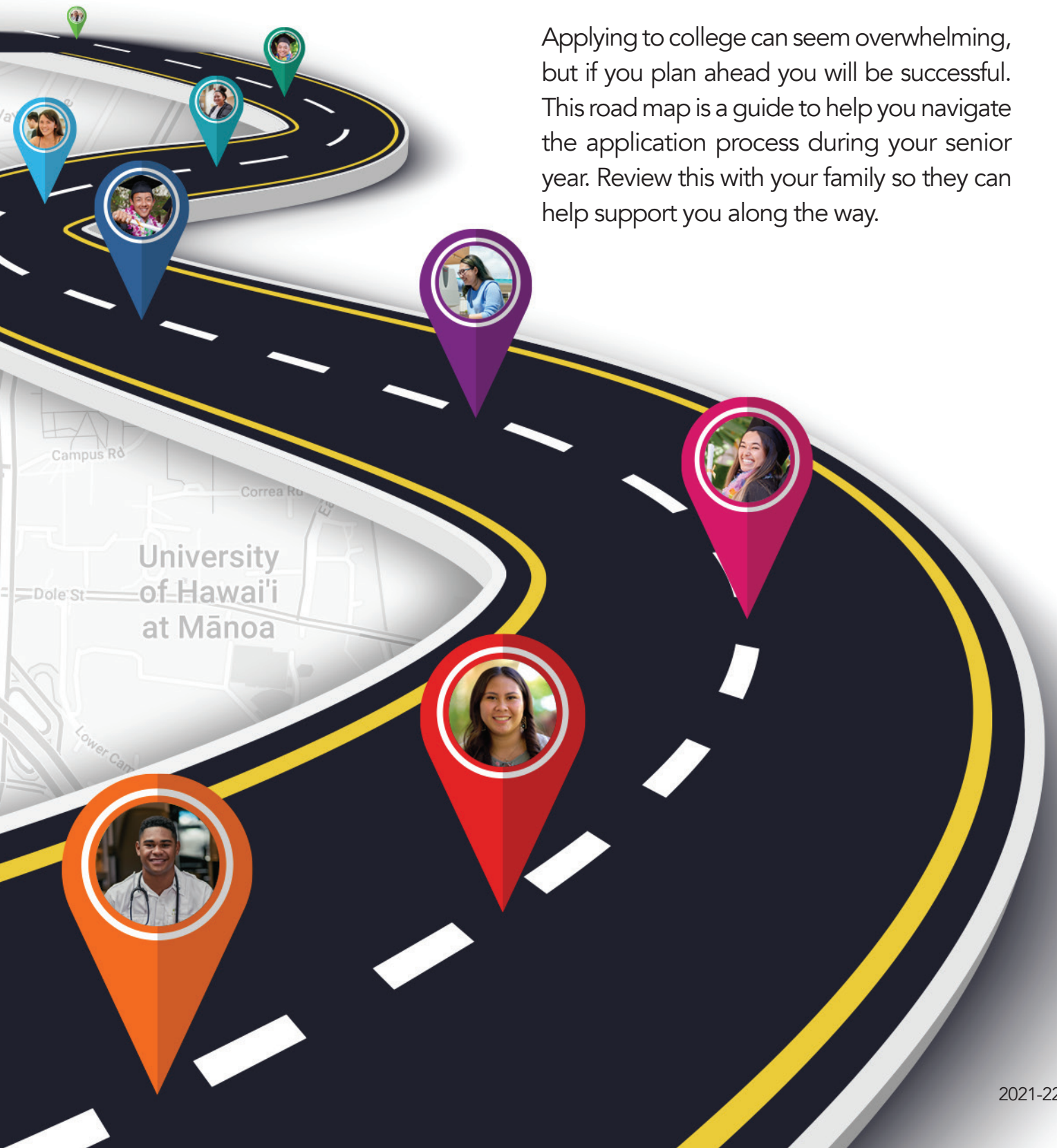


ROAD TO COLLEGE

Applying to college can seem overwhelming, but if you plan ahead you will be successful. This road map is a guide to help you navigate the application process during your senior year. Review this with your family so they can help support you along the way.



START HERE

AUGUST



- ☐ Take (or re-take) the SAT or ACT, if the school(s) you are applying to require you to take either test for admissions. Register for tests at: collegeboard.org and actstudent.org.

My test date is: _____

- ☐ Attend a virtual financial aid info night. Register for this year's sessions at collegeiswithinreachhawaii.com/finaidnights2021
- ☐ Decide on your top three safety, match, and reach schools and list them here.

SAFETY

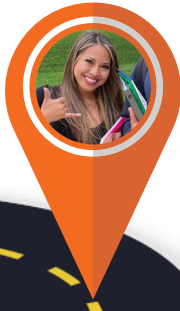
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

MATCH

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

REACH

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



SEPTEMBER

- ☐ Decide which colleges you will apply to and use the chart below to track application deadlines and how you are planning to apply.

COLLEGE	DEADLINE	COMPLETED
1. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

- ☐ Ask your counselor to submit your transcripts to selected colleges (if required).
- ☐ Send test scores (SAT, ACT, or TOEFL) to selected colleges (if required).
- ☐ Ask teachers for letters of recommendation.
- ☐ Finish college application essays.
- ☐ Research scholarships and start applying.
- ☐ Apply "early" to your reach schools. Deadlines are usually Nov. 1 or 15.

SCHOOL	_____	DEADLINE	_____	COMPLETED	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCHOOL	_____	DEADLINE	_____	COMPLETED	<input type="checkbox"/>

- ☐ Gather materials needed to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) studentaid.gov/help/info-needed.
- ☐ Register yourself and your parent for a FSA ID (studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch). You will need this in order to complete the FAFSA at studentaid.gov.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER



- ☐ Starting October 1, complete your FAFSA at studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa. Use the IRS data retrieval tool to pull in your 2020 tax information. Check to see if the colleges on your list require any additional financial aid forms such as the College Board CSS Profile (cssprofile.collegeboard.org). Use the chart below to keep track of key financial aid deadlines.

COLLEGE	FAFSA DEADLINE		CSS PROFILE DEADLINE	
1. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

- ☐ Get help completing the FAFSA from your high school counselor or email FAFSA@hawaii.edu for assistance.
- ☐ Apply for as many scholarships as you can. These following sites are a good place to start: hawaiicommunityfoundation.org and uhfoundation.org. Use the chart below to track application deadlines for the scholarships you're eligible to apply for.

SCHOLARSHIP ORGANIZATION	DEADLINE	COMPLETED
1. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

DECEMBER/JANUARY

- ☐ Review your Student Aid Report (SAR) for any errors. (If you don't get your SAR within 3 weeks of filing the FAFSA, check online at studentaid.gov).
- ☐ Continue working on your college applications and make sure to turn them in before the deadline. Ask your counselor if you need help completing your applications or need an application fee waiver.
- ☐ Continue applying for scholarships.
- ☐ Talk to friends or family members who are currently in college and ask them what it's like to go to school on the mainland.



FEBRUARY

- ☐ Turn in all remaining financial aid and scholarship applications.
- ☐ Check your email for any notifications from colleges and financial aid providers you applied to.

Sandy Beach

Halona Blowhole
Lookout

HAWAII KAI

MARCH



- ☐ You should start receiving acceptance and rejection letters during this time. Use the chart below to compare the offers you receive.

College	Accepted/ Waitlisted	Total Cost	Total Financial Aid Received	Actual Cost (Total Cost - Financial Aid)
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

- ☐ If you receive rejection letters, consider applying to other colleges.
- ☐ If you are waitlisted at your first choice school, send the admissions office a letter, making it clear that they are your first choice and that you would attend if they accept you.
- ☐ If you decided on which college you will attend, send in intent to enroll forms and any other important info like housing deposits.

APRIL

- ☐ Attend a spring college weekend for prospective students if your college is offering one.
- ☐ Create a budget for college needs.
- ☐ Determine if you need a student loan.
- ☐ Prep for and take any placement exams for college classes.
- ☐ Complete any health clearance forms by getting a physical and necessary shots.



MAY

- ☐ Pick a college and notify their admissions office by the deadline (usually May 1).

My college choice is: _____

- ☐ Make sure to turn in all necessary forms to secure your space.

SUMMER

- ☐ Find a summer job (maybe related to your college major) to help with expenses.
- ☐ Check with your college if there are any summer opportunities available (i.e., summer bridge programs, etc)
- ☐ Apply now for work study jobs on your campus if you qualify.
- ☐ Attend new student orientation on your new campus.
- ☐ Make an appointment with your college counselor / advisor to go over your class selection.
- ☐ Register for classes by deadline date.
- ☐ Make sure to submit any necessary documentation (ex. health clearance form) and tuition payments by deadline dates.
- ☐ Check your college school e-mail regularly for important information and updates.
- ☐ Pack (if you are moving away) and get ready to enjoy your new adventure!

Congratulations!

You're on your way to college!



For more college planning tips go to: CollegesWithinReachHawaii.com