What’s New in The Common App
A preview of the 2016-2017 application

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The Common Application
Agenda

- Common App Overview
- 2016-2017 Enhancements and Improvements
- Common App Resource Hub
- Your Questions
Common App Overview
This past year, over 940,000 students from across the world used the Common Application to start their college journey . . .
WHAT IS THE COMMON APPLICATION?

Mission
The Common Application is a not-for-profit membership organization committed to the pursuit of access, equity, and integrity in the college admissions process.

Purpose
To provide educational opportunities that change lives, families, and communities.
Members at a Glance

- Nearly 700 colleges and universities from 48 states + DC
- 100 public universities
- 9 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
- 33 international universities from 14 countries
- More than 250 with no application fee

Not-for-Profit
Undergraduate degree-granting
Properly accredited
2016-2017 New Members at a Glance

- 57 new members
- 22 states
- 12 international universities from 5 countries
- 12 public institutions

Bowling Green State U
Eastern Kentucky University
George Mason University
Indiana University
Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
Mass College of Art
Middle Tennessee State U
Ohio University
University of Akron
U. Alabama – Birmingham
U. of Wisconsin – Madison
Western Illinois University
2015-2016 Application Year as of June 2016

School Affiliation (Applicants)
- 73% Public
- 11% Independent
- 12% Religious
- 3% Charter
- <1% Homeschool

Total Reach: 210 countries and territories
- 90.8% US
- 9.2% International

33% First Generation
942,000 Unique Applicants

4.1 million Applications Submitted
20.5 million Recommendation Forms Submitted
4.7 Average FY Submission (excluding transfers & singleton ED)

55% Female
45% Male
2016-2017 Enhancements and Improvements
Committed to Continuous Improvement

- Member Suggestions
- Advisory Committees
- Applicant & Recommender Surveys
- Service & Support Input
- Counselor Focus Groups
- Student Focus Groups
Essay Prompts Remaining the Same

- There are no changes to the five essay prompts for 2016-2017
- Students are instructed to write an essay (250-650 words) on the topic they select
Key Enhancements – Students

- Account Rollover
- Account Creation – new registration types
- Gender Identity
- Enhanced College Search
- Auto Save Work
- New SAT score reporting
- Improved visa and refugee/asylee information collection
- Review and Submit tab improvements
Account Rollover

Any account created in 2015-2016 can carry over to 2016-2017

- Username and password
- My Colleges list
- Answers to questions on the ‘Common App’ tab

- Changed questions
- College-specific questions
- Recommender activity
- Submission information
- PDFs
Welcome to the New Season Billy!

We are glad to see you back! Since you last logged in, we have made some important changes to get ready for the year ahead. Please take a couple of minutes to help us update your account. This process will also save you time, since we will retain much of the work you did previously.

**Important Information**

- Your account login will be the same. If you need to change it, you will be able to.
- Most of the answers you entered will still be available, but we will ask some different and new questions.
- You will invite recommenders so they can provide current materials for your application.
- Because colleges often change their questions from year to year, you will need to answer college specific questions.
- Any application you submitted in 2015-16 will no longer be in your account.
- Just a few steps and you can start working in your Common App!

I am applying as:
- First-Year Student
- Transfer Student

Is James River High School your current or most recent high school?
- Yes
- No

Continue
Account Rollover – Affirmations

Please affirm the following:

- The colleges that I am considering for application may communicate with me by email prior to submission of my application (you can subsequently change your response to this question in your account settings).

- By checking this box, you represent that (i) you are age 13 or older and (ii) you have read, understood and agreed to the terms and conditions of the License Agreement and Privacy Policy (unless you are over the age of 13 but under the age of 18, in which case, your parent or legal guardian has also read, understood and agreed to the terms and conditions of the Privacy Policy and License Agreement sections).
Account Rollover – College List

Here are the colleges you previously added to your My Colleges list. Please select the colleges you would like to keep on your My Colleges list. Colleges not selected will be removed. You may also add or remove colleges from the Dashboard at a later time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Virginia</td>
<td>Charlottesville, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University</td>
<td>Durham, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Dominion University</td>
<td>Norfolk, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The George Washington University</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The College of William &amp; Mary</td>
<td>Williamsburg, VA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Account Rollover – Registration Type

Please describe yourself to us as accurately as possible. If you are unsure, we encourage you to explore each option before continuing.

I am a(n): ★
- Student
- Education Professional
- Parent or Other Adult

Clear

[Links: Cancel, Back, Finish]
Account Creation – New Registration Types

- **Phone**: +1 000-000-0000
- **Date of birth**: Month, Day, Year
- **I am applying as**: First-Year Student, Transfer Student
- **Plans to start college**: 2016 or 2017, 2018, 2019 or beyond
Gender Identity

Account Creation

Enter name exactly as it appears on official documents.
Do not use nicknames.

First/given name *

Last/family/surname *

Address *

Enter address

Sex assigned at birth: □ Male  □ Female  Clear

Federal guidelines mandate that we collect data on the legal sex of all applicants. Please report the sex currently listed on your birth certificate. You will have an opportunity to share additional information about your gender identity within the application.

Profile

Sex assigned at birth *

□ Male

□ Female

Clear

If you would like the opportunity, we invite you to share more about your gender identity below

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Common Application

Profile

Family

Education

Testing

Activities

Writing

Dashboard  My Colleges  Common App  College Search
Enhanced College Search

Pro-tip: Click on Application Requirements to get a sortable, full list of Common App schools (including deadlines, fees, and essay requirements)
Saving User Work

- Common App will auto save active sections every 90 seconds
- Clicking “Upload” will auto save answers in the section the user is working in
- Auto save will occur if the user times out while editing a long answer in full screen mode
Reporting New SAT Scores

**Tests Taken**

In addition to sending official score reports as required by colleges, do you wish to self-report scores or future test dates for any of the following standardized tests: ACT, SAT/SAT Subject, AP, IB, TOEFL, PTE Academic, and IELTS?

- Yes
- No

*Clear*

Indicate all tests you wish to report. Be sure to include tests you expect to take in addition to tests you have already taken.

- SAT (before March 2016)
- SAT (March 2016 or after)

**International Applicants**: Is promotion within your educational system based upon standard leaving examinations given at the end of lower and/or senior secondary school by a state or national leaving examinations board? (Students studying in the US typically answer no to this question.)

- Yes
- No

*Clear*

**SAT (March 2016 or after)**

- Number of SAT scores you wish to report

  - 1

- Have you taken the SAT essay?

  - Yes
  - No

  *Clear*

- Number of future SAT sittings you expect

  *Select*

- Highest evidence-based reading and writing score

  *Select*

- Evidence-based reading and writing date

  - Month
  - Day
  - Year

- Highest math score

  *Select*

- Math date

  - Month
  - Day
  - Year
Improved Refugee, Asylee, and Visa Information Collection

Select your citizenship status *
- Other (Non-US)
- U.S. Citizen or U.S. National
- U.S. Dual Citizen
- U.S. Permanent Resident
- U.S. Refugee or Asylee
- Other (Non-US)

List citizenship(s) *
Click here for options

Do you currently hold a valid U.S. Visa? *
- Yes
- No
Clear

Currently held United States visa *
Select

U.S. visa you intend to apply for *
Select

Back  Continue
Review and Submit Tab

Application Submission

In order to begin the submission process, you must complete the following items:

- All sections of the Common App
- University of Virginia Questions
- Recommenders and FERPA

Once all required components are completed, you will see the option to Review and Submit your application on this screen.
Key Enhancements – Counselors

- New Sections in Counselor Profile
- Student Search
- Student Data Export List
- Form Submissions
Counselor Profile – New Sections

- Four new sections added
- Answering questions in the Counselor Profile will pre-populate each student’s School Report (SR), Midyear Report (MR), Other Report (OR), and Final Report (FR) forms
- Counselors can adjust the values in the Counselor Profile
- Values can be overwritten on individual student forms
Counselor Profile – New Sections
Counselor Profile – New Sections

- Personal Details
- School Details

**School Profile**

1. Is your school located outside of the United States? *  
   - Yes  
   - No

2. Do you use an AP curriculum? *  
   - Yes  
   - No

**International School**

- What is the primary language of the instruction in your secondary school? Select

International applicants: Is promotion within your educational system based upon standardizing examinations given at the end of lower and/or senior secondary school by a state or national examining board? (Students studying in the US typically answer no to this question.)

- Yes  
- No

Please indicate the ranking or grading scale used in your school and its approximate equivalence to the A-F scale commonly used in the United States:

- A (Excellent)
- B (Very Good)
- C (Average)
- D (Poor)
- F (Failing)
Pro-tip: When you have a large caseload of students, use the student search box to quickly find a particular student.
## Student Data – Export List

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V |
| 1 | Last Name | First Name | CAID | College | Decision Plan | Not Yet Selected | Student Deadline | Application Submission | Application Download | Writing Supp Submission | Writing Supp Download | SR | ED1 | ED2 | FW | CR | OR | MR | FR | Teacher 1 | Teacher 1 Status | Teacher 2 | Teacher 2 Status |
| 2 | McGee | Kelly | 15349827 | Adelphi University | Rolling Admission | Not Selected | 02/15/17 | Not Submitted | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Albert W. Krystang | Submitted 10/08/16 |
| 3 | McGee | Kelly | 15349827 | Regis College | Not Yet Selected | 09/21/16 | 09/21/16 | Required | Not Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Albert W. Krystang | Submitted 10/08/16 |
| 4 | Olson | Michael | 15349827 | Amherst College | Not Submitted | Not Submitted | Not Started | Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Blake Bales | Offline | Carl Weston | Offline |
| 5 | Olson | Michael | 15349827 | Bates College | Not Submitted | Not Started | 10/24/16 | Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Blake Bales | Offline | Carl Weston | Offline |
| 6 | Olson | Michael | 15349827 | Davidson College | Not Submitted | Not Started | 12/01/16 | Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Blake Bales | Offline | Carl Weston | Offline |
| 7 | Olson | Michael | 15349827 | Oberlin College | Early Decision | 11/15/16 | 10/21/16 | Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Blake Bales | Offline | Carl Weston | Offline |
| 8 | Vandy | Peter | 15145732 | Amherst College | Not Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Kristen Bred | 10/08/16 |
| 9 | Vandy | Peter | 15145732 | Bates College | Not Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Kristen Bred | 10/08/16 |
| 10 | Vandy | Peter | 15145732 | Davidson College | Not Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Not Required | Required | Kristen Bred | 10/08/16 |
More Flexible Form Submissions

2015-2016 Application

2016-2017 Application
Common App Resource Hub
Common App Resource Hub

- Common App Refreshed Website
- Virtual Counselor
- Common App Ready
- Common App onTrack
- Financial Aid Resources
- Solutions Center
College is ready for you.
And you’re more prepared than you realize. Get to know the application by creating your Common App account today.

Create Account

More than 600 colleges. Only one application.

Find Colleges

View all colleges that accept the Common Application.
**APPLICATION UPDATES**

Jun 06, 2016

Account Rollover FAQs

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**IN THE NEWS**

May 19, 2016

The Common Application Names Jenny Rickard, University of Puget Sound VP for Enrollment, as New Executive Director

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**IN THE NEWS**

Apr 25, 2016

The Common Application Expands Gender Identity Options
How can I get accepted to my dream school?

My GPA and test scores are below the average of the school I want to attend, should I apply?
Common App Ready

- Comprehensive training resource covering all aspects of the application system, from account creation to submission
- Ready-to-present lessons with accompanying scripts to make your training sessions as easy as possible
- Designed to fit your needs: present the slides all at once or in multiple workshops as your schedule allows
- A complement to the Solutions Center training videos

commonapp.org/ready
Create a Practice Applicant Account

www.commonapp.org
Common App onTrack

- Mobile companion to Common App account
- Student-centered design process
- Add and research colleges, track deadlines and submissions, track recommenders and their form statuses, set reminders, and more
- Updates and Android version will be released this fall
Financial Aid Resources

- Website resources
- Scholar Snapp Pilot
- FAFSA Awareness Campaign

If you’re wondering, “How am I going to pay for college?” you have options. In fact, there is more help available to you than you might realize.

65% Common App students indicate an intention to apply for need-based aid.
Continue the Conversation

commonapp @CommonApp @CommonApp CommonAppMedia
Thank You!

For questions or comments, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

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THE COMMON APPLICATION