

UTAH COLLEGE APPLICATION WEEK

College Applications FAQ

Q. What is my term and year of admission?

A. If you are going to start college in the fall after graduating from high school you must choose the "Fall" option which includes the year you will graduate from high school. If you are going to take classes in the summer choose the summer option.

Q. What is my entrance status?

A. Your entrance status is most likely "Freshman". "Freshman" status is for students who will be attending college or university for the first time after graduating high school. (This is not the same as your class standing. If you have earned college credit in high school, your class standing could be sophomore or above, but your entrance status is still "Freshman.")

Q. I never use my full name. Can I use my nickname?

A. No. When you are completing a college application, you should always use your full legal name (first and last), including your middle name. This helps the admissions staff keep all your application documents together. If you've ever legally used another name (for example, if you've changed your last name for adoption reasons) include that as well. If you have a different name than the one you like to be called, put it in the "preferred name or nickname" section.

Q: What if I am planning on going on a mission?

A: You should still apply to the colleges you would like to attend for fall of 2021. Then defer your admittance once you get your calling. This way you will be able to be considered for scholarships. And if something happens, and you end up not going on a mission, you are admitted to college and ready to go.

Q: How do I find my GPA and grades?

A: Your grades and GPA can all be found on your Skyward under the Gradebook tab.

Q: How do I find my ACT score?

A: Your ACT score can be found on your Skyward under the Test Scores tab.

Q. Why do colleges want my SSID?

A. This helps colleges connect your application to your transcripts. SSID can be found in Skyward, under Student Info tab

Q: I do not know my Social Security Number.

A: Do not submit your application without your Social Security number. If you are eligible for one, now it's the good time to get it. Colleges and universities need a way to match your admissions application to your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and your social security number is the way to do it.

Q: I do not have a Social Security Number (undocumented students)

A: Please [click here](#) to view Instructions by college for Undocumented Students ([en español](#)).

Q: I do not have a driver's license.

A: You will need to get a State ID from the DMV to prove your state residency.

Q. Can I use a PO Box?

A. Yes! You can use a PO Box if that's where you get your mail. You should also have to provide a physical address as your permanent address. If they ask for the date your permanent address became permanent, provide the date you moved there (if you've lived there all your life, put your date of birth!)

Q. What is my desired specialty?

A. What do you want to study at the university? If you have one or two main options select those. It's okay if you change your mind later while you're in college. If you have a lot of interests or are not sure what you want to study, no problem! Choose the "Undecided" option. However, you may want to talk to an advisor to discuss options as you decide your program of study.

Q. Do I have to list all my activities and interests for each college application?

A. Colleges are more interested in quality than quantity. List the activities that are most important to you, that you did for a long time and ones where you earned awards or were a leader.

Q. Do I have to provide all of my ACT test scores?

A. No. Some colleges and universities don't require you to submit ACT scores at all. Community colleges don't require them. And many 4-year colleges and universities don't either, like the "test optional" schools. ACT numbers most likely are required for merit scholarships.

For colleges that do require test scores, you can choose which ones you send. However, if you took the tests more than once, you might want to send in all of your scores. Most colleges will combine the highest subscores from each test and add those together to give you the best possible score.

Q. What if I haven't taken the SAT or ACT yet?

A. If you are applying to a college or university that requires one of these tests, you'll need to take the SAT or ACT as soon as possible.

Q: What if I cannot afford college?

A: You don't really know if you can afford a particular college until they accept you and tell you how much financial aid they can offer. Fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as early as possible. *See FAFSA canvas course under Class of 2021.* If what a school offers you is not enough, don't hesitate to ask for more. You can also view [Paying for College Guide](#) and read tips on our [Financial Aid 101 page](#). Check out [Untraditional Ways to Pay for College](#).

Q. Should I tell the college about any extenuating circumstances that impacted my grades?

A. Absolutely. Most colleges have a place on the application specifically meant for this scenario. Tread carefully, however. You don't want to sound like you're complaining or making excuses.

Simply state the facts about what happened. If applicable, talk about what you learned from the experience or the steps you took to overcome it. The focus should be on your growth and triumphs since then.

Q. Is it OK to use the same material on different applications?

A. Definitely. There's no need to write a brand-new essay or personal statement for each application. Instead, devote your time to producing a great version of basic application parts.

Q. Should I apply to a school if my standardized test score and GPA are below their published ranges?

Yes, you should. The test scores and grades listed on a school's website are ranges, not absolute cutoffs. There are students on every campus who have scored lower than these ranges. Colleges are looking for students with a variety of talents, abilities and backgrounds, and test scores and GPAs are only two parts of their admission criteria.

Q. If I will not graduate from high school but have earned (or will earn) my GED, can I still apply to a 4-year college or university?

A. Of course! Check the admissions page of the colleges where you plan to apply for any additional requirements. Be sure to have a copy of your GED scores when you apply.

Q: What if I do not want to attend college in the fall?

A: There is nothing wrong with taking a Gap Year. But, you may want to apply anyway, just in case you change your mind. That way you will be considered for scholarships. *You may want to consider attending a technical school and earn a certificate so you have a skill and can earn a decent living.

Q: What if I want to join the Military?

A: Contact your local recruiting office

<https://www.airforce.com/find-a-recruiter>

<https://www.navy.com/local>

<https://m.goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter.m.html>

<https://ut.ng.mil/Recruiting/>

<https://www.marines.com/>

www.milsci.utah.edu