

## ***How to get started when applying to college***

**STEP 1: Make a list** of 3 or 4 colleges, universities, trade schools, military service, or apprenticeship options that can help you reach your career goals. Here are some helpful sites:

Big Future College Search Engine: [www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org)

College Navigator Search Engine: [www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator](http://www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator)

Today's Military Service Info: [www.todaysmilitary.com](http://www.todaysmilitary.com)

Trade and Vocational Schools: [www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)

**STEP 2: Apply**...the sooner you apply the better and be mindful of deadlines. You apply through the college/university's website: go to the college website and look for "Future students" or Admissions or "Apply"  
OR

In some cases, colleges require students to apply through the common application

<https://www.commonapp.org/>

**STEP 3:** If you took the **SAT** and if your colleges require a score, send your official SAT, send the score directly from College Board. If they are test optional, and your score is low, retake the test and/or do not sent a score.

SAT & AP: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

**STEP 4:** Send your **Official Transcript** (your grades) through Parchment. You do not have to create the student profile in Parchment in order to request transcripts, but you can complete it if you want.

Parchment: [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com)

**STEP 5:** Apply for **Financial Aid**. This is something every student should do. Most colleges require it as part of their process:

Applying for need based aid or FAFSA: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Michigan Financial Aid Information: [www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid](http://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid)

Financial Aid Information Page: [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

**STEP 6:** Search and apply for **Scholarships**:

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

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

<https://www.collegeboard.org/>

**STEP 7:** Reach out to **your counselor** for help when you need it.

Student Last Name	Counselor	Email
A-Dam	Mr. Anderson	<a href="mailto:RAnderson@cvs.k12.mi.us">RAnderson@cvs.k12.mi.us</a>
Dan - Ir	Mrs. Gay	<a href="mailto:EGay@cvs.k12.mi.us">EGay@cvs.k12.mi.us</a>
Is-Mos	Mrs. Ede	<a href="mailto:TEde@cvs.k12.mi.us">TEde@cvs.k12.mi.us</a>
Mot - Sel	Ms. Simmons	<a href="mailto:ASimmons@cvs.k12.mi.us">ASimmons@cvs.k12.mi.us</a>
Sem - Z	Mrs. Carr	<a href="mailto:LCarr@cvs.k12.mi.us">LCarr@cvs.k12.mi.us</a>

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**STEP 8: ATHLETES ONLY** - NCAA NAIA Eligibility: <http://cvhsguidance.weebly.com/college-bound-athlete-ncaanaia.html>