

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

College Navigator Search Engine: www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator

Today's Military Service Info: www.todaysmilitary.com

Trade and Vocational Schools: 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

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

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

Michigan Financial Aid Information: www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid

Financial Aid Information Page: 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-Cie	Mr. Anderson	RAnderson@cvs.k12.mi.us
Cif – Gor	Mrs. Gay	EGay@cvs.k12.mi.us
Gos - Led	Mrs. Ede	TEde@cvs.k12.mi.us
Lee – Pat	Mrs. Coles	Lcoles@cvs.k12.mi.us
Pau - Smig	Ms. Simmons	ASimmons@cvs.k12.mi.us
Smih - Z	Mrs. Carr	LCarr@cvs.k12.mi.us

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