

Guide to College Applications

A college application may include any or all of the following things. Remember to check with each college you apply to for their specific requirements.

- ACT or SAT score (w/ writing): Aim for an ACT score of 21-25 or an SAT score of 1300-1800 **Minimum**. When you take the test, be prepared with the four digit code that sends the test score directly to the school(s) you choose (It may be possible to send it for free online in a set period after the test check test direction or visit the ACT/SAT website). Later, it will cost money to have the score sent.
 - Common school codes:
 - Eastern Michigan University (ACT: 1990) (SAT: 1201)
 - University of Michigan – Ann Arbor (ACT: 2062) (SAT: 1893)
 - Wayne State University – (ACT: 2064) (SAT: 1898)
 - Henry Ford Community College – (ACT: 2006) (SAT: 1293)
- TOEFL score (if English is not your first language): Aim for a score of 90.
- Transcripts: Ask your high school counselor about how to have an **official** copy sent to the college. You must do this for each high school or previous college attended, as well as for AP, CLEP, or other testing credit. Also, make sure to check if you need to send your transcripts through a website separate from your school (ex: Parchment)
- Letter of Recommendation: Have a trusted adult like a teacher, counselor, or principal write you this letter. They will tell the college all about how awesome you are! Have many as you

can, you want to give colleges the best impression of who you are (make sure to at least get the required minimum, this depends on the University)

- **Writing Sample:** Provide the college with the best example of high school writing you have completed so far. Most likely you will need to craft a new essay.
- **Statement of Intent:** An essay that introduces you to the college. Talk about your extracurricular activities, challenges you have faced, your career goals, or anything else that the essay's instructions ask for. There is sometimes a word limit, so be sure to stay within it. Some colleges allow you to go over the word limit by sending a physical copy or contacting them, this information should be stated in the application however, it is advised to contact the college for extra information.
- **Essay based on provided question:** The University will provide a question for you to write an essay on, unlike the ACT/SAT it is usually not argumentative but rather more as a narrative. For example, "Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn?"
- **Payment:** Most applications cost between \$50 and \$80, this means apply only to schools you **really** want to attend. You can often get this fee eliminated by talking to admissions, filling out a low-income waiver, attending an open house or tour, or asking your counselor for other means.