

Upcoming dates:

April 5-Prom

April 14-NHS induction ceremony

May 6-Spring band concert

May 8-Cayuga FFA banquet

May 12-Athletic banquet

May 14-Senior Trip (gone all day)

May 15-Band banquet

May 16-Senior walk-8am/senior awards and TVCC graduation

May 18-Baccalaureate Ceremony

May 19-Award's Day (9-11 grade)

May 22-Graduation practice 9 am/Graduation 7pm



Make sure you order your Cap/gowns by February 1:

You will need to purchase one or you can borrow one from the Class of 2024.
(Not any previous year because the gowns are completely different now).

https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productDetail/1078016/Cayuga-High-School/Cap-and-Gown/2696842377/CATALOG_REPOSITORY/REGALIA/Custom-Cap-Gown-and-Tassel-Unit/2704484091/

Senior Group picture/ Senior Walk/ Senior Scholarship program/Awards:

Friday, May 16 at 8:00am. Dress code will be discussed as it gets closer.

Senior Walk will begin after group picture at 8am.

Senior Scholarship program/Awards will begin following Senior Walk-estimated around 9am.

Baccalaureate Service:

Sunday, May 18, 2024 at 3pm at Judson Baptist Church. Be present no later than 2:30pm (this is important). Be dressed and ready for the service prior to arrival. NO caps. Dress code should follow guidelines below.

Graduation practice:

Thursday, May 22, 2025 at 9am. Attendance is mandatory.

Graduation:

When: Thursday, May 22, 2025

Where: High School Gym

Time: 7pm

What to wear: Cap (no decorations), gown, stoles and cords (if earned)

Gentlemen: white button down shirt, black tie, black pants (no jeans), black shoes (no tennis shoes)

Ladies: dress that does not show below your gown and solid black dress shoes (heels, flats, sandals-no tennis shoes)

Cayuga Memorial Scholarships:

Several local scholarships will be awarded by the Cayuga ISD Scholarship Committee. To apply for these scholarships, you must write a letter about yourself, your accomplishments, your goals, and future academic plans. The

letter will be used by the committee to determine the scholarship recipients and is due in the counselor's office.


Senior Trip:

Wednesday, May 14th: Trip to Kalahari Resort in Round Rock, TX. We will be gone all day. Make sure you take off work. This is 100% funded by your class fundraisers.

FAFSA:

The state of Texas now requires all high school seniors to complete the Free Application for Federal Student (FAFSA). You will need your parents 2023 tax returns information to complete this. The website to complete it is

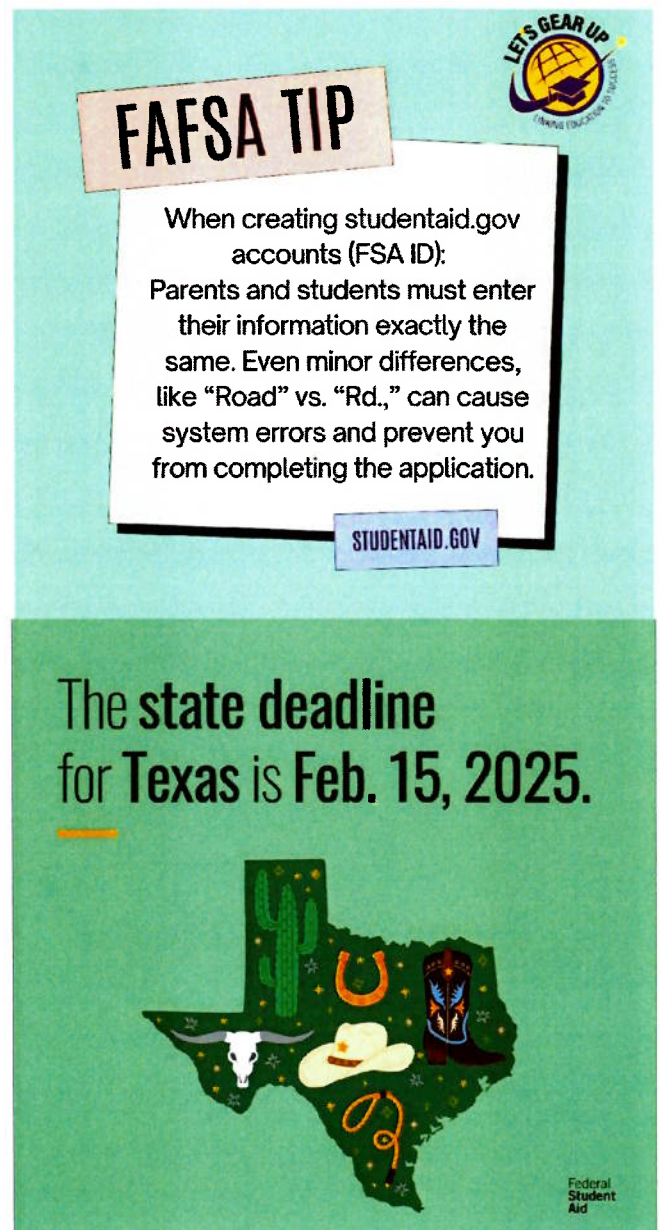
<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>



FSA ID
notes

An **FSA ID** (Federal Student Aid username and password) is required for students and contributors to complete and sign the **FAFSA®** form online, offering the fastest way to submit, access, or correct your information.

CCMRWITHMSTHRASH.COM




FAFSA TIP

When creating studentaid.gov accounts (FSA ID): Parents and students must enter their information exactly the same. Even minor differences, like "Road" vs. "Rd.," can cause system errors and prevent you from completing the application.

STUDENTAID.GOV

Let's Gear Up
FINANCING EDUCATION TO SUCCEED

The **state deadline** for **Texas** is **Feb. 15, 2025.**



Federal Student Aid

How to **CREATE** a **USERNAME** and **PASSWORD** (FSA ID)



Step One: Go to StudentAid.gov and select "Create Account."



Step Two: Select "Get Started" and enter your personal information including your name, date of birth, and Social Security number (SSN). Remember that your SSN, phone number, and email address can only be associated with one account. If you are a dependent student, your parent will need to use their own.



Step Three: Create a username, enter your email address, and create a password. We recommend not using a school-based email address, as you will need to access your account after you graduate.



Step Four: Enter your permanent address and phone number and indicate if you would like your phone number to be used for account recovery. This can help if you forget your username or password later.



Step Five: Select your preferred communication method, either email, text message, or postal mail.



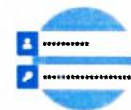
Step Six: Select four challenge questions and answers. These will help you should you need to regain access to your account in the future.



Step Seven: Review your information and confirm it is all correct.



Step Eight: Verify your mobile number and/or email address by clicking the "Verify" button and entering the code sent.



Step Nine: Select finish and your username and password will be created. You can use your account immediately, but it will take one to three days for your account to be verified.

Federal Student Aid
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Is My Parent a CONTRIBUTOR When I Fill Out My FAFSA® Form?

A **parent** means your legal (biological or adoptive) parent or a person that the state has determined to be your legal parent. A **stepparent** is considered a parent if they have adopted you. Stepparents that have not adopted you will be identified as a parent spouse.

Are your biological or adoptive parents married to each other?

Do your biological or adoptive parents live together?

Did one parent provide more financial support than the other over the past 12 months?



Your parents' marital status is married (not separated), and both of your parents' information must be included on the FAFSA® form. If your parents did not file taxes jointly, then both of your parents are contributors. Their individual information, consent and approval, and signatures will be required on the FAFSA form. If your parents filed taxes jointly, only one parent is required as a contributor and will report information for both parents.

Note: Dependent students are required to report parent information on the FAFSA® form, and in most cases, a parent will be identified as a contributor for these students. All contributors are required to provide their information, signature, and consent and approval to have their federal tax information transferred directly from the IRS into the FAFSA form. Being a contributor on the FAFSA form does not mean an obligation to pay for the student's education.

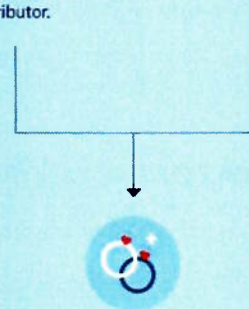


Your parents' marital status is unmarried (both legal parents living together), and both of your parents are contributors, even if they were never married, are divorced, or are separated. Their individual information, consent and approval, and signatures will be required on the FAFSA® form.



The individual information, consent and approval, and signature of the parent who provided more financial support over the past 12 months will be required on the FAFSA® form, and this parent will be identified as a contributor.

The individual information, consent and approval, and signature of the parent who has the greater income and assets will be required on the FAFSA® form, and this parent will be identified as a contributor.



Has this parent married/remarried?

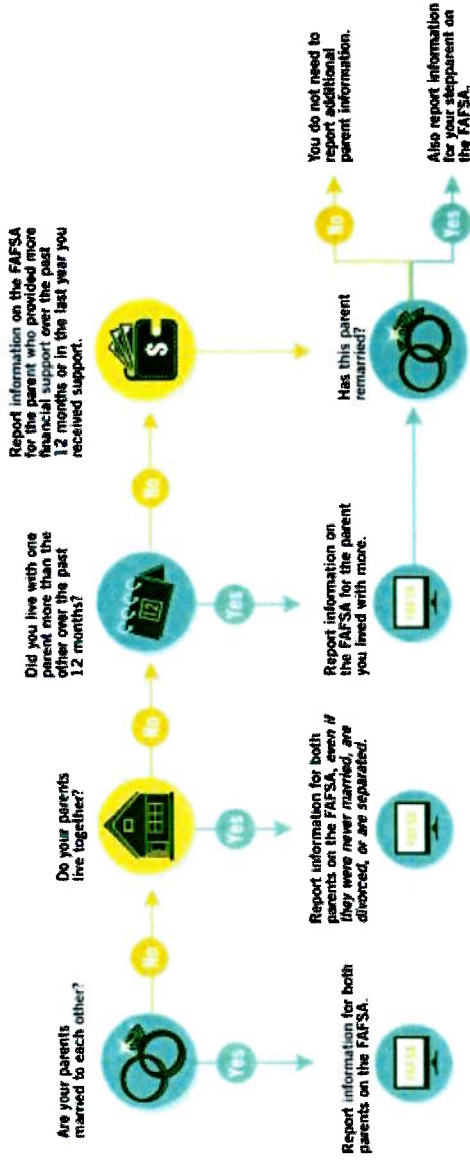
Your parent's marital status is married/remarried. Your stepparent will also be identified as a contributor on the FAFSA® form if they didn't file their taxes jointly with your parent.

Your parent's marital status is single (never married), separated, divorced, or widowed. An additional parent will not be identified as contributor.

WHO'S MY PARENT WHEN I FILL OUT MY FAFSA?

Dependent students are required to report parent information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For reporting purposes, "PARENT" means your legal (biological or adoptive) parent or stepparent, or a person that the state has determined to be your legal parent.

Use this guide to figure out which parent's information to include (depending on your family situation).



The following people are not your parents unless they have legally adopted you:

- Married Stepparent
- Grandparents
- Foster Parents
- Legal Guardians
- Other Siblings or Siblings
- Aunt or Uncles

If you're not sure whom to report as a parent, you can visit Studentaid.ed.gov/fafsa/filing-out/parent-info or call 800-4-FED-AID (800-433-3243).

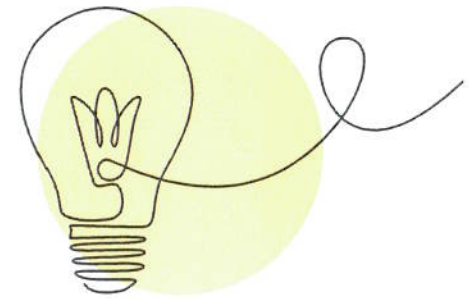
If you're not sure whether you are a dependent student, go to Studentaid.gov/fafsa/filing-out/dependency

FSA ID How-to Guide

Creating an FSA ID is the first step in completing the FAFSA.

What is an FSA ID?

The Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID is a **username** and **password** that is required to log in and access all Federal Student Aid websites, including the **FAFSA**. The FSA ID also serves as a **legal signature** when you submit your FAFSA.



Go to studentaid.gov and click “create account” in the upper right hand corner. The application is available in English and Spanish.

Who should create an FSA ID?

You and one or both of your parents must create an FSA ID **before** completing the FAFSA. If you are an independent student, you will not need to have your parent or legal guardian create an FSA ID. If you have a sibling who attended college before you, your parent may already have an FSA ID.

If you are a student without a social security number, you will not be able to create an FSA ID or complete the FAFSA. See your uAspire advisor or email studentsupport@uaspire.org to learn more about financial aid opportunities that may be available to you.



Every person contributing info to a FAFSA needs an FSA ID - including parents who do not have a social security number.

What information do I need to create an FSA ID?

- Full name and social security number, as they appear on social security card (if applicable)
- Date of birth
- Valid email address & phone number
- Immediate access to your email account
- Your residential address



Save your FSA ID username/password somewhere safe.

Application process

Create an Account

1 Personal Information 2 Mailing Address 3 Mobile Phone Account Access 4 Password 5 Review and Confirm

Personal Information

First Name Last Name Middle Initial (Optional) Date of Birth (Month, Day, Year) Social Security Number (Optional)

I agree to use my mobile phone for account access.

I do not have a mobile phone.

I do not have an alternate phone number.

Mailing Address

Address City State ZIP Code

Mobile Phone Account Access

Mobile Phone Confirm Mobile Phone

I do not have a mobile phone.

Alternate Phone Number (Optional)

Add Alternate Phone Number

- Add name, date of birth, and social security exactly as it appears on official documentation.
- Check the box if you don't have a social security number and see the next page for more information
- Create a password that you don't use for other accounts
- Provide your mobile phone number for more ways to access your account

How do I make the challenge questions?

You will need to select four challenge questions from a dropdown list and provide answers. If you forget your username or password, you may need to answer the challenge questions to access your account.

- Select how you would like the Department of Education (the people who manage the FAFSA) to communicate with you, and in what language (English or Spanish)
- We recommend email to get communications quickly
- Set up two-step verification for your FSA ID with your phone number, email, and/or authenticator app
- We recommend setting up all methods so you have multiple options to log in

Communication Preferences

Required Communications

There are certain types of communications the U.S. Department of Education and our servicers are required to provide to you in writing. This includes communications such as student loan disclosures and student loan interest statements. You can choose whether you would like to receive these by email or postal mail.

Email (Recommended)

Postal mail

Optional Communications

You can choose to be notified about the financial aid and federal student loan process. To help with this, we sometimes send information about available grants, student loan forgiveness programs, income-based repayment options, and more. You can choose whether you would like to receive these by email and/or text message.

Email

Text message

Language Preference

Enable Two-Step Verification

Protect Your Account with Two-Step Verification

Two-step verification helps protect your account from unauthorized access. It requires you to provide a second form of identification, such as a text message or an authenticator app, in addition to your password.

Email Verification

Use an Authenticator App

Additional steps for contributors without Social Security Numbers (SSN)

Remember that you should only create an FSA ID without an SSN if you are either:

- A parent or spouse of a student completing the FAFSA
- A citizen of the Freely Associated States (the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau) and need to complete the FAFSA

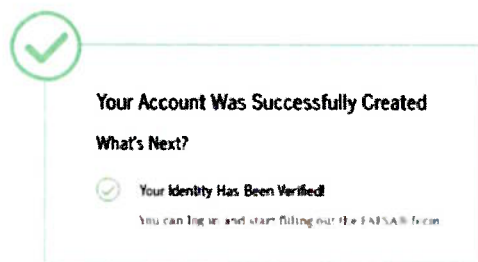
NOTE: Given continued issues with the identity validation process, contributors without SSNs are allowed to immediately access the FAFSA and submit it without first having their identity validated for the 2025-2026 FAFSA.

What is identity validation?

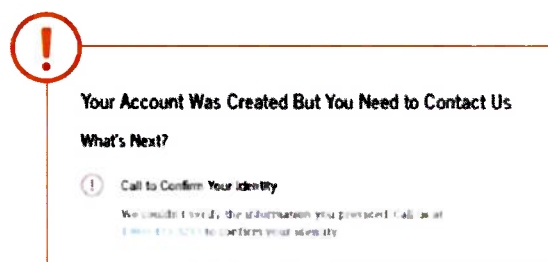
If you do not have an SSN you will need to confirm your identity; one way this may happen is through a series of questions at the end of the account creation process. If these questions do not appear for you, you will need to validate your identity later on by providing documentation that proves your identity. If you do see these questions, the personal information in them comes from the TransUnion Credit Bureau, but this is not a credit check.

You will have one chance to answer the questions correctly, or you will need to confirm your identity through an alternative process.

How do I know the results of the identity validation?



- This screen will appear if your identity was successfully validation. You do not need to take any additional steps before starting the FAFSA.



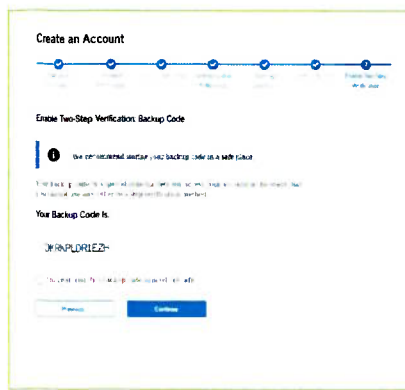
- This screen will appear if your identity was not able to be validated
- You should receive an email with a case number and instructions on how to manually validate your identity. If you don't receive an email, contact FSA at 1-800-433-3243 to ask for your case number and start the process.
- You can still contribute to a FAFSA before your identity is verified, but we recommend starting the process as soon as possible

Is the personal information I provide protected?

According to the National College Attainment Network, “federal law prohibits the use of data collected through the FAFSA for anything other than calculating federal and state financial aid. Entities with access to this data are also required to protect the data against security threats or unauthorized uses. FSA [the Office of Federal Student Aid] will not share FAFSA information with anyone except the schools the student indicates they want to attend...and a few federal and state government agencies (so they can check to be sure the information is accurate or determine financial aid eligibility).”

See more here: www.ncan.org/resource/resmgr/policyadvocacy/top_10_mixed_status_families.pdf

Using and troubleshooting your account



- Enable the secure backup code, which will help you access your account if the other verification methods won't work
- Make note of your backup code and store it somewhere safe



Now that you created your FSA ID, your information must be verified and matched with the Social Security Administration (if you provided a social)

When can I use my FSA ID?

If you provided an SSN when registering for your FSA ID, uAspire strongly recommends waiting the 1-3 day identity validation period before contributing your information and completing the FAFSA.

If you do not have an SSN and need to go through the manual identity validation process, uAspire recommends using your FSA ID immediately to complete the FAFSA while you also attempt to validate your identity.

If you do not have an SSN and your identity was successfully validated when creating your account, you can use your FSA ID immediately to complete the FAFSA.

Can I edit my FSA ID?

Yes. If your personal information changes or you would like to update anything on your account, you can make changes by logging in at studentaid.gov and selecting “settings” under your account information.

What if I forget my FSA ID username or password?

You can retrieve your username or reset your password by having a secure code sent to your phone/ email. You may also answer your challenge questions, but this options comes with a 30-minute waiting period before you can use your account again.

What do I do if I need help?

See your uAspire advisor, email studentsupport@uaspire.org, or call the FSA ID Help Center at 1 (800) 433-3243.



This lady is phenomenal! She literally has all the information for parents and seniors. Also follow her on social media.

Scholarship tips:

This website has examples of winning scholarships.

<https://www.collegeessayguy.com/blog/scholarship-essay-examples#A>

TIPS:

-add a picture to make it more personal (especially to your resume) Canva is a great tool to use to make a resume.

-resume should be one page (no longer)

-tell YOUR story! Make it personal. Have that scholarship committee remember who you are and want to keep reading your essay.

-Have multiple people read your essay.

-Get at least three recommendation letters. Try to get some from different types of people: teachers, principal, coaches, counselors, former/current bosses, preachers, youth ministers...just some ideas.



Easy Ways to Impress a Scholarship Committee



Follow the directions provided with the application.

- You will probably be asked to attach documents such as a transcript, test scores, letters of recommendation, and a FASFA (federal financial aid) report.
- Most applications will require your signature or an electronic signature.



Show you are well-rounded. List all your extra-curricular activities in school, church, and the community. Include clubs, sports teams, music groups, and volunteer work. Leadership positions should always be mentioned. Share any honors or awards you have received.



Make your essay count.

- Be yourself. This is where your personality should come out and shine. Write about real events and real feelings, not what you think the committee wants to hear. Creativity is good because committees read lots of essays and you want to stand out. Coming across as bizarre is not so good so choose your words wisely!
- Respond directly to the essay without repeating what you have already mentioned in other sections of the application.
- Use good grammar.
- Have someone reliable proofread for errors.
- Spell check, spell check, spell check!



Always include work experience even if it is not specifically requested on the application.

- Committees do not like to award money to someone who is not willing to help pay part of their own college costs. If you don't have a job, explain why you don't.
- Babysitting counts as work. Unpaid jobs in a family business count, too.
- If you have been unable to take a part-time job because of family responsibilities (for example, caring for a younger sibling), say so.



Have a plan for the future.

- The more you know about what you want to major in, which college you plan to attend, and why you have chosen that route, the better "investment" you will be.
- If your plans are uncertain, explain why. Committees do not expect teenagers to have their lives planned out but they want to see that you're moving in the right direction.



Elaborate on any hardships you may have overcome - health, financial, first generation college attendee, family obligations, etc.



Name: _____

___ Apply to:

ACCEPTED TO:

___ TSI Complete-Math

___ TSI Complete-ELA

___ ACT/SAT:

Letters of Recommendations:

___ 1-

___ 2-

___ 3-

___ Personal Narrative

___ Resume

___ Cover Letter for Scholarships

___ Apply for Scholarships! Tallies:

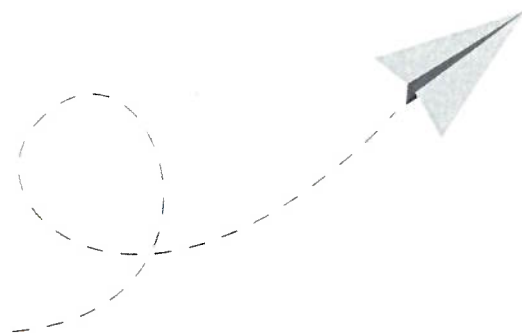
___ FAFSA

PRO-TIPS FOR PARENT

- 1. Ideally, the student should be in the driver's seat for as much of the college process as possible, but your help and support will be needed throughout.** In addition to the items on the timeline that are highlighted as parent responsibilities, here are a few ideas to help you identify where your help will be most beneficial.
- 2. You know your kid better than anyone.** Students are all different, both in their development and their engagement with the college process, so it is normal that some will require more parent involvement and some will need less, so the first recommendation is to adapt and adjust as needed based on your child.
- 3. Be involved in any part of the process that involves money.** Make it clear to your student which decisions will be driven by finances, and what the ground rules are for parts of the process with associated costs. This includes not only the cost of attending college and how that affects the college list, but also costs for tutoring, test prep and testing fees, application fees, visiting colleges, travel to and from campuses once enrolled, and others.
- 4. Be your child's prefrontal cortex, the part of the brain that is not fully developed in teens, but that is so crucial in making complex plans and decisions.** As you look through the items on the timeline, you will probably recognize which ones will require you to act as a sounding board or a manager. This could include anything from encouraging them to connect with teachers and counselors and to try new activities, to helping them think out loud about their priorities as they develop their college lists, to planning travel for campus visits, to setting up spreadsheets and schedules or other structures for completing applications over time rather than at the last minute. They are likely to need your support for any high-level reflection or any process that involves careful curation, whether of their own priorities or the college list itself
- 5. Nothing has to be perfect.** Not the college list, the essays and applications, the transcript, the grades, the test scores, the activity list--none of it! Colleges are

looking for real students who present themselves as authentically as possible, and no one was ever denied admission for a minor typo. Please resist the temptation to be too hands-on, especially with the essays. Admissions officers can spot a sentence written by someone over forty right away, and that will not help your student's chances. Remember that colleges need kids, so as long as the college list is well-balanced and fits the student, everything just has to be "good enough."

6. **It is still the student's journey.** Do what is truly necessary to support your child, but then stand back as much as you can. Students need to feel that the major decisions are theirs, and that what is being expressed in the applications is theirs. (In fact, they have to sign a statement attesting to the latter.) The more they are empowered in the process, the more likely they are to take ownership of the journey itself, and the more likely they are to be invested in their success, wherever they end up.
7. **Don't forget to enjoy the journey.** This does not have to be terribly stressful. At its best, college planning can be a joyful journey of self-discovery, and include some memorable parent-child moments you will cherish. It is more likely to play out this way if your teen starts the process early enough, and works on it a little bit almost every week starting in the middle of 11th grade. Anything you can do to support a calm, thoughtful, little-bit-at-a-time process will increase the chances that you and your teen can appreciate the growth it can facilitate, and savor the surprising moments of joy you may discover along the way.



Grown and Flown is the #1 site for parents with teens in high school and college.
Contact us at grownandflown@gmail.com | www.grownandflown.com

This timeline is a general guide and will not cover every student or circumstance. As circumstances change some information may become obsolete. By Stephanie Meade from [Collegiate Edge](#)

