

What to Do After the Acceptance Letter



When should you expect your letter?

Early Action

The acceptance is non-binding, and students do not need to commit to college until the normal decision date (May 1)

December, January, February

Early Decision

The acceptance is binding and the student must attend the college/university.

December, January, February

Regular Decision

The normal process of applying to college with a decision being made generally by April 1st of the senior year.

Mid-March, Early April

Waitlisted

Your application has been saved and you may or may not be admitted. Usually, if accepted students do not commit by the deadline then admissions will begin to accept waitlisted students.

May-August

Accepted

Save your acceptance letter it includes important information such as:

School ID

School Email

Acceptance Deadline

Upcoming Events

Summer Programs

Registering for Orientation

Rejected

Don't Worry

Explore your second choice school

Community College

Many Community colleges are open admission.

Open admission is a nonselective admission process where the only criteria for admission is high school diploma or GED

Responding to the Acceptance Letter:

You may need to fill out a form to complete acceptance.

You may need to submit a deposit to secure your spot. It ranges from \$50-\$500.

Inform other schools that you have received acceptance that you will not attend that school.

What to Do After the Acceptance Letter



Determine Your Match & Fit

Aptitude, Skills, Interest

- Does this school have the degree you need for your career?
- Does this school offer networking opportunities?

Academic Match

- Does this school have the best program for you?
- Does this school offer Academic Support Services?

Cost of Choice

- Will I have enough financial aid to pay for this school?
- How much student loan debt will I have at this school?

Social and Emotional

- Can I picture myself on this campus?
- Does this school have clubs or organizations I'm interested in joining?

Retention

- Does this school keep students to graduation?
- Does this school have support services to help me through school?

Campus Visits

Take the opportunity to learn about the school you want to attend. Keep an open mind, you may be surprised by what the school has to offer. Questions to ask:

How helpful are administrators, staff, and faculty?

How big are your classes?

Do classes fill quickly during scheduling?

What's your biggest complaint about your school?

What is the greatest strength of your school?

What's the best way to pick a dorm?

How do you get a roommate and can we meet before school starts?

How much time do students spend studying each week?

What services are most used by students?

What are popular places on campus?

How is student involvement on campus?

Is there diversity on campus?

Do employers recruit on campus?

Is Career Services helpful?

Are there development opportunities on campus?

Are sports popular on campus?

Where do students eat on campus and off campus?

What is transportation like on campus?

How safe is campus?

How is the Wi-Fi on campus?

What to Do After the Acceptance Letter



Compare Financial Aid Offers

Cost of Attendance

The school's Cost of Attendance will give you the total anticipated amount it will cost you to attend that school for that academic year.

Found on your financial aid offer or email your financial aid counselor at the college or university.

How much are you being offered in financial aid?

Award Letter: The letter will display all the financial aid you qualify for in the form of Scholarships, Grants, Work Study, and Loans.

ESTIMATED COST OF ATTENDANCE		\$38,400	
Tuition and fees:	\$24,500		
Room and board:	\$9,400		
Books, materials, and supplies:	\$1,000		
Personal, travel, misc:	\$2,000		
Computer	\$1,500		
Aid Description	Fall	Spring	Total
Federal Perkins Loan	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Federal Stafford Loan - Subsidized	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$3,500
Federal Stafford Loan - Unsubsidized	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
School Scholarship	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$15,000
Federal Pell Grant	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
State Scholarship	\$450	\$450	\$900
Federal Work-Study (FWS)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000
Total			\$28,400

What other aid do you have?

College Savings Plan

Personal Savings

Private Scholarships & Grants

What to Do After the Acceptance Letter



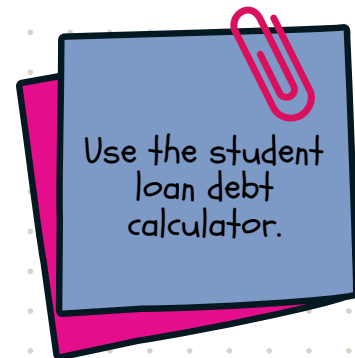
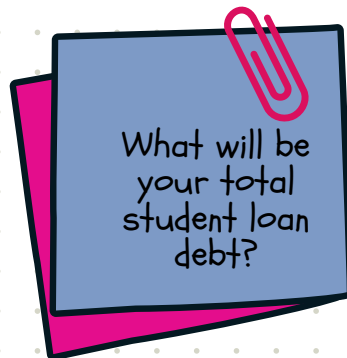
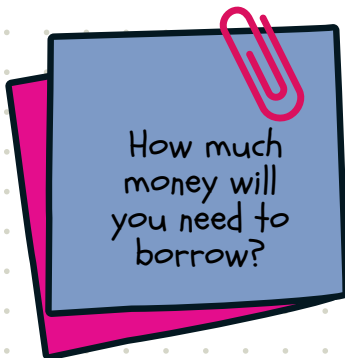
Determine out of packet cost

After all financial aid is applied, will you still owe money and/or have funds for additional needs?

$$\text{Cost of Attendance} - \text{Financial Aid} = \text{Net Price}$$

Net Price The amount that a student pays to attend an institution in a single academic year AFTER applying scholarships and grants to the student's fee bill.

Be mindful of taking out student loans:



Talk It Out

After you have worked through your options talk about it with your parent(s), guardian(s), mentor, and/or counselor.

They can help give a different perspective and ask questions you may have missed.

Important Deadlines



What to Do After the Acceptance Letter



Orientation

During orientation you will attend information sessions and advising. You will learn about:

Student Organizations

School Policies

Campus Resources

Rules

Get Student ID

Greek Life

Information about Majors

Safety

Schedule Classes

Extended Campus Tour

Parents and/or Guardians may also attend orientation

You will receive notification of things to bring for orientation, they usually include:

- Orientation Schedule
- Places you want to explore on campus
- Identification Card
 - Passport
 - License
 - Permit
- Interested major
- Immunization records
- Something for note-taking
 - Phone
 - Notebook and pen/pencil
- Backpack
- Dual enrollment credit and/or AP credit transcript
- Phone and Charger
- Questions you have for the orientation leader
- Student Account Number and password
- Campus Map
 - Digital if possible

There is usually A LOT of walking at orientation.

Wear comfortable shoes
Light jacket if you get cold indoors
Umbrella
Appropriate and comfortable clothes
Eye wear

Keep your energy up
Water

- Refillable water bottle is helpful

Snacks

- Prepackaged that can be eaten on the go like a granola bar or bag of chips.

What to Do After the Acceptance Letter



A large area of the page is filled with a grid of small, light gray dots, providing a guide for handwriting practice.

Get To Know You



Learning Style how a person learns, interprets, organizes, processes, and stores information.

Visual:

a person that processes information and ideas using pictures, and images.

You learn best by seeing information as graphs, diagrams, tables, charts, etc.



Auditory:

a person that processes information and ideas through listening, hearing, and speaking.

You learn best when given information through sound or speech.



Reading and Writing:

a person that processes information and ideas through reading and writing text.

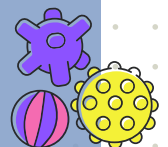
You learn best when given information through word and text form.



Kinesthetic

a person that processes information and ideas through touch, and movement.

You learn best when given information through physically putting things together, moving, and having situational examples.



Which learning style(s) can you relate to?



Get To Know You Study Strategies



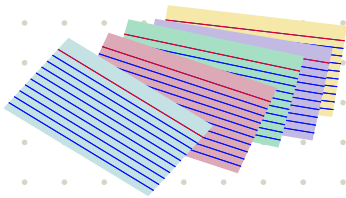
Visual:

Demonstration

- How-to video
- Diagram
- Step by step with pictures



Flash cards



Graphs and Charts



Make outlines

- Outline the textbook chapter as you read
- Use heading subheading and bullet points



Make your own practice test



Notetaking

Have white space in your notes.

- Don't cram too much information on one page.
- Use spacing to separate your notes.

Draw symbols and pictures to understand information



Use highlighters for main ideas, examples, and definitions



Draw stars next to information you understand



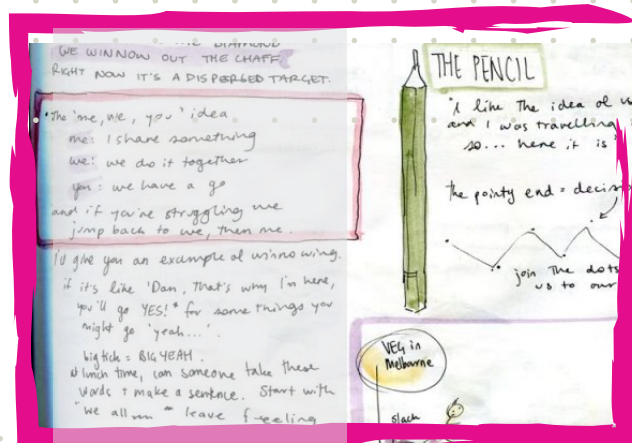
Use an exclamation point to show important information



Question marks can be used to show information that is confusing or requires extra study time.

Illustrate concepts and processes with a diagram, chart, graph, or flow chart.

- Example: parts of the cell, breakdown a math problem into steps.

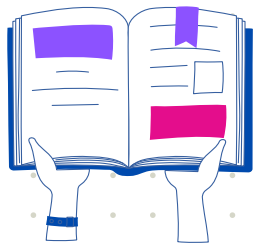


Get To Know You Study Strategies



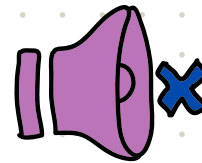
Auditory:

Read your notes aloud



Work in quiet areas

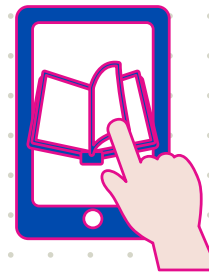
Reduce distractions
Listen to classical music
for background noise



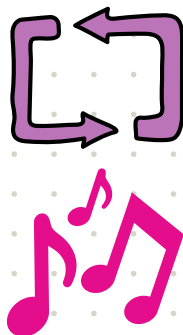
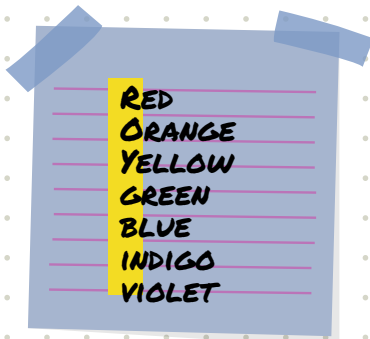
Listen to lectures
record if allowed to review later



Use audio textbooks when
available



Use mnemonic devices,
rhymes, jingles, and repetition



Have a study buddy or study group

Quiz each other on content.
Have discussions on the content.
Teach each other the content.



Get To Know You Study Strategies

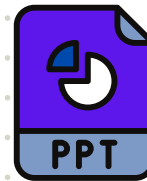


Reading and Writing:

Re-write your notes

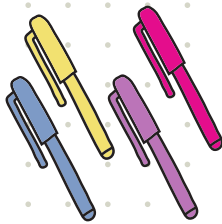


Organize your notes into a PowerPoint



Use colored pens and highlighters

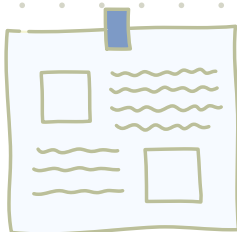
Focus on key content



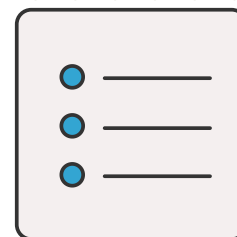
Compare your notes to your study buddy's



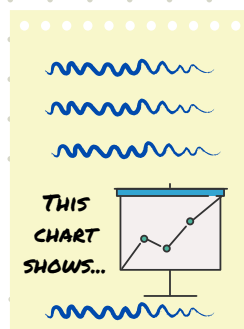
Print your notes/lectures and write notes in the margins



Write key concepts



Write explanations for diagrams, charts, and graphs



Get To Know You Study Strategies

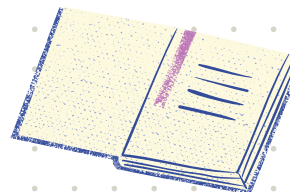


Kinesthetic:

Type your notes after class

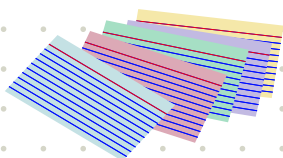


Bookmark important pages when reading



Write your notes onto flashcards and review while doing other activities

Example: walking at the gym,



Move while studying

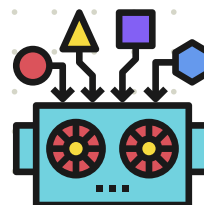
Use a desk bike,
Walk around
Stretch



Read your notes out loud



Create models when possible

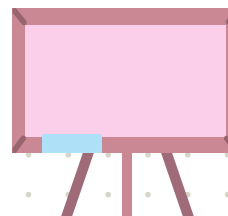


Visit locations for study content if possible

Example: museum, library, historical site



Use a dry-erase board



Make games using study content

Example: Taboo, Charades

Get To Know You



Time Management organizing and planning tasks to make the most of your day.

How to manage your time:

- Set goals
- Identify time-wasters
 - ➔ Prioritize tasks
 - 🕒 Determine the time to complete a task
 - 🕒 Track expected time and actual time

- Make a to-do list



- Determine the most productive part of the day

- ➔ Morning person or night person
- ➔ Schedule of where you need to be
- ➔ Schedule of people you live with

- Schedule breaks

- ➔ Pomodoro technique
 - 🕒 25-minute focus and 5-minute breaks after 4 rounds take a longer break (15 minutes)
 - 🕒 Track how many rounds for each task to better plan future schedules

- Schedule your day

- ➔ Set aside time for different tasks
- ➔ Be realistic
- ➔ Create routine

Study routine example:
1. make a cup of tea
2. light a candle
3. turn on study music
4. put on a sweater
5. open study timer
6. set phone to do not disturb
7. get started

A study routine or ritual helps your brain and body know it is time to focus. The more you complete the routine the easier it becomes.

Smell is a great way to help you focus your mind. Try chewing the same flavor gum when you are studying. Chew that same flavor while taking the test and it can help with recalling information.

Get To Know You



→ Stay connected with friends and family

- Text
- Call
- Video chat



→ Connect with people on campus

- Campus events
- Join a club
- Join or form a study group

→ Make a self-care toolbox.

- List of things that bring you joy and help you relax
- Physical items that remind you of happy times
 - Pictures
 - Mementos such as a ticket stub from an event

→ Make a routine

- Consistent sleep schedule
- Regular meals
- Exercise
- Study time
- Free time



→ Use campus resources

- Academic Center
- Recreational Facility
- Mental Health Resources
- First Year Services

→ Let go of expectations

- Enjoy the experience
- Everything won't be how you imagined



Get To Know You



A large grid of small dots for writing, consisting of 20 columns and 30 rows of dots.

Get To Know Your School Offices on Campus



Basic Needs

Housing:

Most Freshman are required to live on campus in residence halls.

Residence Halls:

Owned and operated by the university. This is the traditional idea of college dorms. You are usually grouped by year (freshmen), college, or other affiliation (athletics).

Off-Campus:

You may decide to live in a house or apartment close to campus. Some off-campus apartments are considered "college-living" these apartments are not owned by the university but primarily serve college students

Commuting:

If a student's parents' home is close to campus then some students stay at home and commute to school each day.

Dining Halls

Places on campus to eat. The dining hall is similar to a cafeteria where different meals are served daily. You can use your meal plan to pay for your meal and some will accept other funds.

Food Bank

A place on campus that has basic food items and nonperishable items for free if a student is experiencing food insecurity.

There may be other places to eat on campus such as chain restaurants or even a campus grocery store.

Get To Know Your School Offices on Campus



Academic

Academic Advisor

- The person that helps you schedule classes to fulfill graduation requirements and stay on track to graduation.
- Your academic advisor will help determine which AP credit and dual enrollment credits can transfer towards your degree.

Questions to ask an Academic Advisor:

- ➔ Which credits from high school will transfer?
- ➔ What courses do students struggle with for my major?
- ➔ What classes are only offered in one semester?
- ➔ What classes require pre-requisites or co-requisites?
- ➔ Are my GPA and graduation plans realistic?
- ➔ Can I graduate early?
- ➔ How will dropping a course affect me?

Tutoring and Writing Centers

- Offer free services for tutoring in specific subjects, also provide test-taking help, and study-tips. May have one-on-one services and group services.
- Writing centers assist with proofreading, creating outlines, learning types of writing, and developing learning skills.
- Advisors can often help you plan how to break down and complete a large project such as a semester long research project called a capstone research project.

Library

Offers online resources for research that can be accessed on and off campus

Often has a computer lab area and printing services

Often has study spaces for students both individually and in groups

Also offers help to find research resources

Get To Know Your School Offices on Campus



Professors

Introduce yourself to your professors

Find out office hours and meet with them

Let them know when you are having difficulties with classwork

Study Groups

Create one with your classmates and friends or join one that is offered by student services

Social

Clubs and Organizations

Professional and Academic

Organizations that help prepare and develop students for specific career fields or an area of study

- Connects you to students in the same major
- Offers networking opportunities with professionals from specific industries.

Service

Organizations focused on serving others, often dedicated to specific areas such as the environment, underserved populations, mental health, or children.

Cultural

Organizations that celebrate and support different races, ethnicities, cultural heritages, and other social identities

- Native American Student Affairs
- The American Association of University Women
- Multicultural Student Union

Greek Letter Organizations

Organizations identified using the Greek alphabet that have a focus on service, academics, professional, and/or social events.

- Often have requirements such as an invitation to join based on academic achievement and extracurricular involvement.

Get To Know Your School Offices on Campus



Financial

Financial Aid Office

Helps students understand their financial aid such as grants, loans, and scholarships

Students can ask their financial aid counselor about aid being received and potential aid in the future

Reach out to financial aid if there has been a significant change in income from when you completed your FAFSA

Bursar's Office or Student Accounts

Students pay their fee bill with this office.

They can explain charges that are on the fee bill and options to pay the fee bill.

➔ If you are having delays with processing your financial aid you can speak to the Bursar's Office/Student Accounts for options such as deferring payment (push back payment date).

They also process student refunds.

Career Center

Helps you explore career options and prepare for your future career

Often offers career exploration testing for free

Provides services such as resume review, interview preparation, and career fairs

They also help students find internships, part-time jobs, and summer jobs

Campus Bank

Provides resources for money management
May have ATMs for different banks

Get To Know Your School

Offices on Campus



Emotional and Physical

Health Center

Provides services for students that are sick

May also provide assessment services for learning disabilities and other disorders

Sometimes have an on-campus pharmacy for certain prescriptions

Recreational Services

The university gym where students, faculty, and staff can exercise with cardio and strength training equipment

- May offer group fitness classes
- May have additional amenities like a pool, sauna, or rock climbing wall

Mental Health Services

Provides mental health resources such as counseling, assessments, medication management, group workshops, and urgent care services

Disability Services

Works with students with disabilities to provide services and accommodations to help students to succeed in school.

Services may include:

- Peer note-taking services
- Extended test-taking time
- Testing in a quiet area
- Parking pass for accessibility

Get To Know Your School

Offices on Campus



A large grid of small dots for writing notes.

Summer Plan

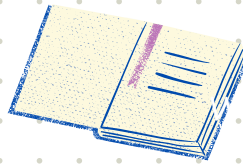


Bridge Programs A summer program that helps student prepare for and transition to college.

Students usually live-in specific residence halls (dorms)

Students may take college-courses depending on the program. Taking courses during the summer provides the opportunity to:

- Develop study skills
- Fill in knowledge gaps



Students learn about and identify resources on campus. This helps students develop

- Develop self-advocacy skills

Students become comfortable with campus before the fall semester begins.

- a person that processes information and ideas through touch, and movement.
- You learn best when given information through physically putting things together, moving, and having situational examples.



Summer Plan



Career Exploration: Learn about different career options in your field of interest.

➔ Contact the career counseling center to learn about resources offered.

➔ Take career/major exploration tests to determine interests, skills, and values you possess that relates to careers.

Often offered through the career counseling center
Usually offered free of charge for current students
May be a more in-depth assessment than the ones taken in high school

➔ Take time to job shadow professionals in careers of interest

Once or twice a week spend time (hour to 2 hours) following a professional while they do their work

➔ Work a summer job or internship

Apply for positions that are paid in the career field you are interested in if possible

Internships may be paid or unpaid

➔ Explore job postings

Search for your dream career

Learn the job duties of potential careers

Identify the experience needed to help plan your academic career

Review the anticipated salary for positions of interest.



Summer Plan



Things to do during the summer:

✓ Pay your fee bill

- Make sure financial aid is secured and posted to your fee bill on your college/university student account
- If you do not pay the fee bill your classes will be dropped and you may have difficulties getting back into those classes
- Make payment arrangements through the Bursars' office or Student accounts if experiencing a delay in financial aid processing

✓ Make housing arrangements

- Determine housing payment deadline. Housing is first come first served based on when the deposit is paid
- Make sure housing is secured and you have received confirmation from college/university housing
- Find a roommate. If you do not have a roommate housing can match you with someone based on a questionnaire
- Determine move-in dates and prepare accordingly.

✓ Select a meal plan

- May be included with housing plan if living on-campus
- Will you eat more in the cafeteria or will you eat at campus restaurants?



✓ Make sure dual enrollment credits and AP credits transfer

- Check your academic record with the college/university
- If dual enrollment credits/AP credits are not showing up:

make an appointment with an academic advisor

submit dual enrollment credit documents

- Check your class schedule to ensure you are not retaking that credit has already been earned

Summer Plan



Budget

Plan what is needed to get your started for college and price the items such as:

Bedding	Basic cookware	Clothes	Backpack
Toiletries	Text books	Laptop	Towels

Budgeting allows you to take control of your money. Give every dollar a job

➔ Needs: the items needed to survive

Food	Shelter	Clothing
------	---------	----------

➔ Wants: everything else that is not necessary to survive

➔ Income: Money received, especially on a regular basis from work

Fixed: same amount on a schedule	Variable: is not always the same amount
Paycheck Allowance	Money from sales Financial aid

➔ Expenses: the money spent on something

Fixed: same amount on a schedule	Variable: is not always the same amount
Rent Car Note	Groceries Electric bill

Decide your money goal

➔ How do you want to use your money?

Going on vacation



Having extra savings



Paying for school



Attending events



Summer Plan



Different types of budgets

Zero-sum budget

Every dollar has a purpose

Assign where your money is going until you get to \$0

Envelope system

Plan expenses for each category then withdraw enough cash and place it into envelopes

This can also be done digitally by having separate accounts with your bank or with an app (make sure the app is secure)

● Bills

● Fun money

● Groceries

● Savings

50/30/20 budget

50% goes towards necessary living expenses

30% goes towards flexible/optional expenses

20% goes towards savings and debt payments

These are just a few types of budgets., keep practicing making budgets. It is a skill, and you will get better the more you practice

Budget your refund check

If your financial aid is more than the amount of your fee bill you receive a refund from your school. A refund check should be used for educational expenses

Do

Make a budget
Pay your living expenses
Buy books and school supplies
Send back unnecessary funds
especially if you accepted student loans

Don't

Spend money you don't have
Add unnecessary expenses
Loan money and buy gifts
Spend carelessly

Summer Plan



Notes:

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