

1

What is Common App?

- <https://www.commonapp.org/>
- An application platform that is accepted by over 900 colleges for their admissions.
- Through the platform, applicants can apply to multiple colleges at once. So students only have to fill out details that most schools require, including name, address and extracurricular activities, one time.
- You choose exactly which colleges to send your complete application to (it doesn't automatically go to all 900+ schools)

2

How and When** to Apply?

College	Application platform	First admissions deadlines	Final deadlines
Colorado College	Common App, Coalition App, or Questbridge	Nov 1 (early action or early decision 1)	Jan 15 (early decision 2 or regular decision)
Colorado Mesa University	CMU App or Common App	Rolling admissions	
Colorado School of Mines	Golden App (CSM only) or Common App	Sept 15 (Priority 1)	Nov 1 (Priority 2)
Colorado State University	Common App	Dec 1 (Early Action)	Feb 1 (Regular)
University of Colorado, Boulder	Common App	Nov 15 (Early Action)	Jan 15 (Regular)
University of Northern Colorado	Bear App or Common App		March 1

3

Need an application fee waiver? (do you qualify for free/reduced lunch?) Request that under the Common App tab "Profile"

The screenshot shows the 'Profile' tab in the Common App interface. The 'Application Fee Waiver' section is highlighted with a blue arrow. A text box on the right says: 'And talk to your counselor. Follow up paperwork will probably need to be submitted.'

4

Find RMHS (Common App tab, Education section)

If you search by city, use "Fort Collins"

Rocky is NOT in the results when you search "Ft. Collins" or "Ft Collins"

The screenshot shows the 'Education' section of the Common App. A search box is set to 'City' with 'Ft Collins' entered. The results list several schools, including 'Central High School' and 'Heritage Christian Academy'. A text box on the right says: 'Ft Collins= No Rocky!'.

5

Education Information

(Common App tab, education section, Current or Most Recent Secondary/High School)

The screenshot shows the 'Education' section of the Common App. It displays information for 'Rocky Mountain High School' in Fort Collins, CO. A text box on the right says: 'If you attended RMHS starting in 9th grade, here's your info:'. Below this, two text boxes provide specific details: 'Date of entry: August 2018' and 'Graduation Date: May 2022 (even if you finish your Rocky credits earlier in the year)'.

6

Education Information—Colleges & Universities

Include the following (if applicable).

- CU Succeed ("University of Colorado Denver")
- FRCC High School Programs
- Concurrent Enrollment at CSU or FRCC
- Other (check w/ your counselor if you are not sure)

7

Education Information—Colleges & Universities

CU Succeed = University of Colorado Denver
CEEB Code: 4875

Choose Dual Enrollment with High School

Leave "degree earned" blank

8

Education: Grades (use your course history in StudentVue)

Rank = Exact
Rank weighting = Unweighted

If you use your "Cum GPA" on StudentVue or your unofficial transcript:
GPA scale = 4
GPA weighting = Unweighted

If you use your "5 Point GPA":
GPA scale = 4
GPA weighting = Weighted

9

Current or Most Recent Year Courses

A semester-long course at RMHS = 10 credits = "Full year"

- E.g. US Literature is one semester long, and is worth 10 credits at RMHS and is equivalent to 1 year of coursework.
- We use a "semester" grading system because we have a final grade at the end of each quarter (i.e. semester's worth of credit).

10

Education: Honors

NHS, NTHS, NAHS, MAT = a School Recognition
(even if it has the word "national" in the title)

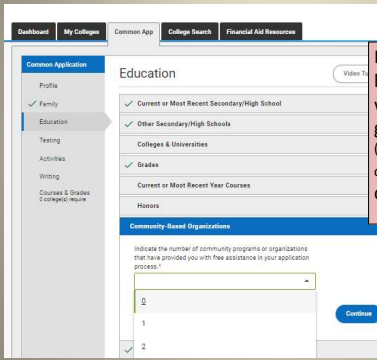
11

Education—Honors

You might have a state/national level recognition

12

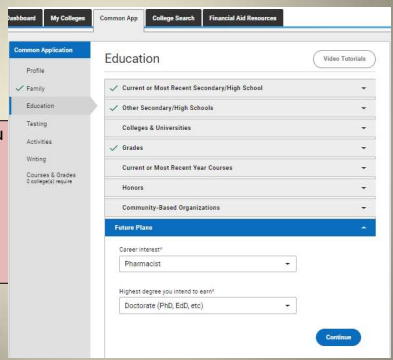
Education—CBO (Community Based Organization)



Most students DON'T have a CBO, unless you work with a non-profit group outside of Rocky (not a private college counselor), for help on college.

13

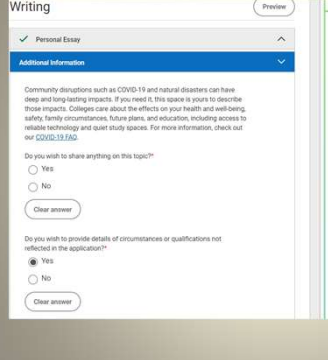
Education—Future Plans



Highest degree you intend to earn—
FOR YOUR LIFETIME, not just what you are entering when you graduate from Rocky.

14

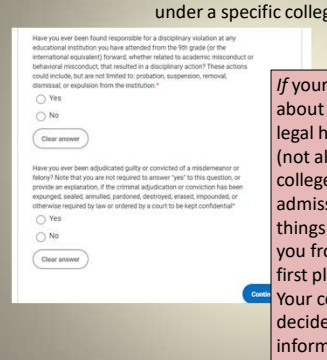
Writing: Additional Information



COVID/Natural disasters:
– Include information here about your experience during COVID if it impacted you, your family, and your learning environment.
• Other circumstances or qualifications
Use the examples in the right column if you are unsure

15

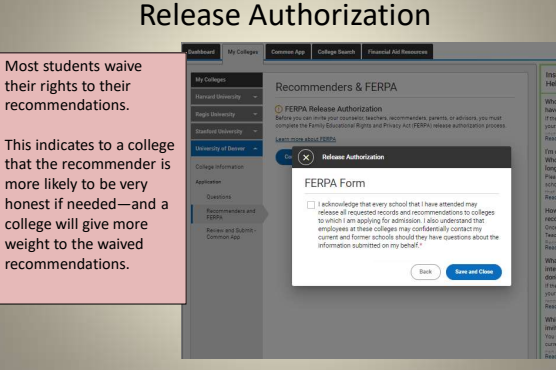
My Colleges: Questions (sometimes found under a specific college's tab)



If your college asks questions about your school discipline or legal history, answer honestly (not all colleges will ask). A college *may* rescind admission if you lie, even about things that would not have kept you from being admitted in the first place.
Your counselor can help you decide how to share this information.

16

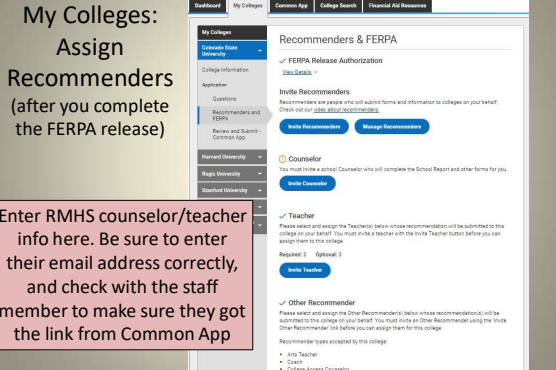
My Colleges—Assign Recommenders: Release Authorization



Most students waive their rights to their recommendations.
This indicates to a college that the recommender is more likely to be very honest if needed—and a college will give more weight to the waived recommendations.

17

My Colleges: Assign Recommenders (after you complete the FERPA release)



Enter RMHS counselor/teacher info here. Be sure to enter their email address correctly, and check with the staff member to make sure they got the link from Common App

18

Follow up with your recommenders

Ask your recommenders:

- Do they have all the needed information to complete the recommendation?
- Would they like a reminder? If so, when/how is most helpful?

Remember to share a token of gratitude (homemade baked goods, a handwritten thank you note, their favorite coffee drink, etc.).

19

Common App Needs...

- 0-3 Letter(s) of Recommendation—depending on the college
- Usually a Counselor Recommendation/School Report
- Often an official Transcript
- Sometimes a mid-year report. Talk with Leah Kapral for help

...For Each College

(The same letters can/should go to multiple colleges!)

20

More questions?

- See Leah Kapral about getting your transcript, test scores, etc. to colleges
- See Ms. Fassnacht (College and Career Center) about CommonApp questions
- See your counselor or Ms. Fassnacht about other college related questions

21