

Private Colleges

Private and Independent colleges differ from the UC and CSU's significantly in their admissions application processes. Generally speaking, they will have the same subject requirements as the UC and CSU's "a-g" subject list. However, where the UC and CSU systems do not require letters of recommendation, or even transcripts with their applications, Private and Independent colleges require both and more.

- Students must download all application materials from either the website of the school they are applying to or from one of the online application services listed below.
- Most Private and Independent colleges will require essays.
- Most Private and Independent colleges will require transcripts at the time of application. Most will also want Mid-Year Reports after the fall semester senior grades have posted.
- Most Private/Independent and out-of-state colleges will require a form to be completed by the Counseling Office. These forms are called a variety of names (i.e. Secondary School Reports, School Reports, Counselor Reports, Counselor Evaluation, etc.) Students must download these forms and give them to their counselor no less than three weeks prior to their deadlines (do NOT include Winter Break as part of the three weeks).
- As with the UC's and CSU's, students must arrange to have their SAT and/or ACT scores sent to them directly from the College Board or American College Testing Inc.
- Early Action and Early Decision deadlines vary from as early as October 1st to as late as February for some schools. However, most Regular Admission deadlines will be somewhere between December 1st and January 15th.
- Many Private Schools require financial aid information in the form of a CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE. Our Financial Aid and Scholarships page has a link to the PROFILE for you.
- Most Private colleges will require Letters of Recommendation.

Key Links

[Application Dos and Don'ts](#)

[Why Do Colleges Require Essays?](#)

[California Colleges](#)

[The Common Application](#)

[Highly Selective Colleges](#)

[Boring Essay Topics](#)

