



What to do *After Decision Day?*

SUBMIT YOUR PAPERWORK

There's no way around it, if you're heading to college in the fall, you'll inevitably be required to submit some kind of paperwork. Here's our list of a few items you should prepare before you head to campus – in person or virtually. If you're unsure if your campus needs this information, check their website or give an admissions representative a call.

Secure Your Spot!

Normally, these steps occur early in the enrollment process—usually in May or June. Covid-19 has thrown us all for a loop, so your school might be a little more flexible about deadlines than previously. If you missed a step, check in with an admissions representative to determine how you can get back on track.

Submit Your Intent to Enroll Forms

- This one's pretty easy. If you were accepted by a college or university, they probably have asked you to confirm your intent to enroll. These enrollment forms are usually one page and ask for basic information like your name and address. Most forms can be submitted through your college's website or email. If you aren't sure if you have to submit this form, double-check your email, or Google your college's name + enrollment forms.

Pay Your Deposit

- Along with an intent to enroll form, your college/university may also require a deposit. Deposits vary greatly from college to college; they can range from \$100 to \$500 and are often used to confirm the number of students attending in the fall. If your school requires a deposit, be mindful of the deadline to submit it. If you are unable to secure your money before the deadline, don't be afraid of reaching out and calling a financial aid officer or admissions representative. It's better to ask for assistance or some deferred payments than it is to ignore the deposit.

Submit Your Final Transcript

- Don't forget, your grades still count. Colleges want to see your final grades to ensure you're responsible and able to maintain a strong GPA. If you haven't already, check in with your guidance counselor to get those transcripts sent.

Submit Medical Forms

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Request Your Immunization Form

- An immunization form is a document that lists every vaccine you've received since you were born. You can usually get this from your Primary Care doctor, but you can usually request that information from your high school. If your college requires an immunization form, ask them where you should submit it.

Request/Waive Student Health Insurance

- Most colleges/universities will require you to have health insurance. Admitted students are frequently asked to show proof of their health insurance coverage or enroll in a college sponsored health insurance plan.

Other Important Items

Apply for a State ID or Driver's License

- The DMV is no one's favorite place, but if you don't have a state-issued ID card or Driver's License, it's time to get one. Once you're on campus, there will be several documents that require an official form of identification, your transcript and school ID, for example. You'll want to have an ID from your home state that lists your permanent home address.

CLARIFY YOUR REQUIREMENTS

From immunizations to class registration, there are a lot of things your college may ask you to complete before you arrive. If you're unsure of what your requirements are, try some of these tips:

Check Your Mail and College Email

- Check emails from your school for instructions you may have missed. It's common for colleges to mail you important instructions as well, so be on the lookout for letters addressed to you.

View your student account

- Often, colleges provide students with a school email address (.edu) to access their student account. Browse through your student account to verify your financial aid information and registered classes.

Call the Admissions Office

- The admissions office is equipped to answer questions like: “Are there any requirements for freshman students? And they’ll be able to direct your call to the help you need.
 - Want more advice? Check out this article from [US News](#)
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CONNECT WITH YOUR COLLEGE

Given the reality that most colleges and universities are going virtual, at least for the Fall semester, it’s more important now than ever to connect with your college. It can be hard to build relationships through a computer but lean into the resources and social activities your school is offering. If you feel awkward about reaching out online, rest assured that everyone else is in the same boat. The more connections you make, the more comfortable college will feel.

Join Any Social Media Groups

- If your college/university is social media savvy, they’ll most likely start a Facebook group for admitted students in your year. Search for a group and get to know some of your classmates before heading to campus. Joining the group can also connect you with students from your area; it’s a great opportunity to meet students before getting to campus in the fall.

Attend an Orientation

- Almost all colleges/universities host orientations for admitted students. These orientations allow students to get acquainted with their campus, attend advising/informational sessions, and, in some cases, register for classes. Take advantage! If your school has an orientation session this summer, start planning to attend now. If it’s in-person, inform your parents so they can help you plan your transportation to and from the campus. If it’s online, mark your calendar and set a phone reminder so you can tune in at the right time.

Set Up Your New Email

- Your college/university will provide you with a new school email address. If you’ve received this information, sign in as soon as possible. Your college will most likely communicate with you exclusively through this email address. Don’t forget, a (.edu) email address can get you a ton of discounts! [Apple Music](#), [Spotify](#), [The New York Times](#), [Amazon](#), and [Microsoft](#) are just a few companies that give huge discounts to student subscribers. Websites like [UNiDAYS](#) keep you up to date on available student discounts.

Find Student Organizations

- Use your school’s website to find a list of student clubs and organizations on campus. Make a list of two or three and plan to attend their first general body meeting—they’ll still be holding them virtually! It’s a great way to meet new people and find your fit at college.

PREP FOR CAMPUS

While most of us will start the semester at home, that does NOT mean that you can sit back until classes start. There are lots of things you should do proactively to prepare for your first day of classes—even if you won't be going anywhere for them.

Secure Technology

- **Computers:** Since classes will primarily be conducted online, it's imperative that you have access to the right technology and network. Check in with the Financial Aid Office to determine whether they're offering any special grants to students in need of computers or other technology. You may also be able to use some qualifying financial aid to cover those expenses, as well.
- **Internet:** Additionally, [AT&T](#), [Comcast](#), and [Spectrum](#) all offer special internet and data rates for students and families who qualify as low-income. Additionally, many service providers are offering free public WiFi hotspots. You can find more information [here](#).

Make a List, Check it Twice:

- Since most classes are moving online, you might be able to get away with fewer physical supplies than you might otherwise. Still, nothing beats physically taking notes in your notebook during a virtual lecture to stay engaged and focused. Take a look at this [sample list](#) for items that can help you remain organized and on track during your first semester.
- If you are moving on campus, you'll need a few extra items to make your dorm room feel like home. There are a ton of sales for college students once fall semester is near. With all those choices, it's hard to know what you really need to be prepared for college. Check out this [Washington Post](#) article to cut through the clutter and get to the basics.

Submit Housing Forms

- If your school is proceeding with in-person classes and on-campus housing, then this step is really important and should be handled with urgency. If you plan on living on-campus your freshman year, your college may have already sent you information forms to secure your spot in the dorms. If you're unsure, you can always look up the Office of Residential Life on their website. Be sure to submit this information and pay any required deposits in a timely manner. Once you submit all the required paperwork, be sure to fill out your living preferences. This will help your college match you with a compatible roommate, so be honest about what you want!

Plan Your Transportation

- If your school is conducting classes in-person this Fall, figuring out your transportation to campus should be sorted out sooner rather than later. Check your college/university's website and see if they offer discount fares for local transportation. The website should also include some basic instructions on how to get to the campus. If your parents are driving you to campus, start marking which entrances and parking lots you can use; doing this in advance will cut down the frustration of first day jitters with hundreds of other people. Try using an app like [Waze](#) to cut down on traffic.

We hope this guide is helpful.

This part of the college journey can be incredibly confusing, so take your time, check your email often, and don't be afraid to ask for help.

If you have any question about anything in the guide, be sure to contact the PeerForward Team at marketing@peerforward.org