

What Do I Need to Complete the Application?

Every college may have different application requirements, so find out which of the following items are required by the different colleges and universities:

- **High school transcript:** All colleges require official transcripts before granting admissions. This will be sent directly to the college from your high school. Remember that every senior in your class will be sending out transcripts, so waiting until the last minute could hold up your application.
- **Standardized test scores:** Many schools require you to submit your scores from the SAT Reasoning Test, SAT Subject Test and/or the ACT test.
- **Letters of recommendation:** Most college applications will ask for three letters of recommendation: two from teachers and one from your high school counselor or principal.
- **Essay:** You will either be asked to give a personal statement or write about a specific topic. If you find a college that gives you a choice of topic, think carefully about what skills and accomplishments you want to highlight. This is where you can show the university admissions officer who you are beyond your test scores and transcript, so choose a subject that makes you stand out.
- **Interviews:** In-person interviews are a great way to find out more about a university and help your application stand out.. Always send a written thank-you note after an interview, and follow up to express your interest in the school to keep your application on their radar.
- **Extracurricular transcript:** Put together a summary of your activities outside of school, such as your participation in sports, arts or community service, to give colleges a fuller picture of who you are.