

CEC College & Career Planning

How Do I Apply To College?

- Step 1:** Look on your prospective college websites for important application deadlines and requirements like letters of recommendation. We recommend getting a wall calendar or some other type of calendar and start to mark the deadlines on the calendar for the various universities.
- Step 2:** Meet with your advisor if you need assistance. College planning can be done during your regular advising appointment each semester or email your advisor to schedule a separate appointment.
- Step 3:** Complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#). Colleges and most scholarship applications require that you submit a FAFSA. The Application for the following school year opens October 1st.
- Step 4:** Start the application process for your chosen universities! Check to see if the universities you have chosen accept the [Common App](#). For students applying to Colorado universities, there is a [free application day October 19-21](#) where application fees are waived and free community college transcripts can be ordered.
- Step 5:** Don't forget to request letters of recommendation from teachers and advisors. While the request may be sent through the common app, **it's common courtesy to reach out to your teacher and advisor to let them know you are requesting a letter. Make sure you are giving them ample time to write the letter.** [Click here for the letter of recommendation request form.](#)
- Step 6:** Order your CEC transcripts through Parchment. Create a [Parchment Account here.](#)
- Step 7:** Take the SAT and/or the ACT. CEC offers the SAT for free in the spring. Many students take the SAT or ACT more than once to improve their scores. Additional tests come with a fee, but you can register to take them again through the [College Board](#). You will also go to College Board to request your scores be sent to the universities to which you are applying.

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Senior Timeline

September/October:

- October 1: Complete the [FAFSA application](#) if you are a US Citizen or Permanent Resident. If you are not a US Citizen or Permanent Resident, complete the [Colorado Application for State Finance Aid \(CASFA\)](#).
- October 19-21: During [Colorado Free Application Days](#), you can submit college application to most state colleges for free!
- Complete the online Graduation Application before your spring academic advising appointment.
- Pay attention to early application deadlines for the colleges to which you are applying.
- Register to retake [ACT &/or SAT](#) tests if original scores were lower than desired.
- Begin requesting letters of recommendation for college applications. Email staff directly for recommendations.
- Fall is a great time to take your senior photos!

November:

- Submit college applications and plan visits (ongoing)
- If you think there are errors on your CEC transcript, submit a [CEC Transcript Correction Form](#)
- Graduating from Arapahoe Community College? Log into your MyACC student portal to apply for graduation.
- Request CEC Transcripts through [Parchment](#).

December:

- [CEC Transcript Correction Form](#) due to Ms. Jameson by December 1
- [CEC Graduation Application](#) Form due to Ms. Jameson by December 1

January:

- Order yearbook (link to order coming soon)
- Complete [FAFSA application if you haven't done so already](#).
- Senior Pictures and Senior Ads due (T.B.D).
- Apply for college scholarships (ongoing)
- Complete and submit college financial aid applications if not already done.
- Submit college applications, if not already done.
- Graduating from Red Rocks CC in the spring? Graduation application deadline is 2/2/22.
- Graduating from CCD? Graduation application deadline is 2/10/22.

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February:

- CEC auditions for walking graduates wishing to perform in the ceremony is T.B.D.
- Contact the admissions office for the college(s) to which you have applied, and make sure you have submitted all necessary paperwork
- Place Jostens order for graduation announcements (link to order coming soon)

March:

- Contact the financial aid office at the college(s) and make sure your information was received
- Order cap and gown (link to order coming soon)
- Graduating from ACC in the spring? Deadline for the graduation application is 3/15/22.

April:

- [CEC Post-Graduate Questionnaire](#) Form due to Ms. Jameson.

May:

- Decide on which college you are attending and notify the school by May 1
- CEC fees and books due by (Date and Time T.B.D.) (diplomas and transcripts will be held until balance is current)
- CEC Yearbooks arrive and distributed
- Graduation Rehearsal: Date and Time T.B.D.
- Senior Breakfast: Date and Time T.B.D.
- CEC Graduation

June:

- CEC diplomas available for pickup in front office in June (account must be current; records will not be released if there is a balance on the student account)
- Send final transcript to the college you plan on attending

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There's help available in reaching your academic and career goals!

The scholarship search and application process are tailored to each student's academic and co-curricular interests and future post-graduate goals. The advising team is here to guide students through the financial aid and scholarship process. We want to help you reach your goals. Please contact your advisor if you have any questions!

Listed below are several resources to help students with the college decision and application process.



ONLINE COLLEGE RESEARCH TOOLS

- [Big Future by the College Board](#)
- [National Center for Education Statistics](#)
- [Trade Schools, Colleges and Universities](#)
- [National Center for Education Statistics](#)
- [College Confidential](#)
- [Colorado Community College System](#)
- [College in Colorado](#)
- [Petersons](#)
- [The College Board](#)
- [GoCollege](#)
- [NCAA Eligibility Center for College Sports](#)

ONLINE CAREER RESEARCH TOOLS

- [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#)
- [O*NET](#)
- [My Colorado Journey](#)

FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH ENGINES

Before you start looking for scholarships using a scholarship search service, you may want to read this [article by Collegescholarships.org](#) that reviews some of the search services.

- [FAFSA 4Caster](#)
- [FAFSA YouTube Channel](#)
- [FastWeb Scholarship Search](#)
- [FinAid!](#)
- [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#)
- [SallieMae](#)
- [CAPPEX](#)
- [UNIGO](#)
- [BIGFUTURE](#)
- [BROKESCHOLAR](#)
- [The University Network](#)
- [Colorado College Opportunity Fund \(COF\)](#)

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SCHOLARSHIPS

Below are some of the scholarships available to Colorado students.

[Rotary University Hills Scholarship \(Check your local Rotary for other scholarship opportunities\)](#)

- Student's address must be in Rotary District 5450
- Student must be a US citizen
- Applicant must have earned a high school diploma
- Applicant must plan to attend a Colorado college or university
- Applicant must have a GPA of 3.9 or greater
- Applicant must be able to provide evidence of need
- Applicant must have intent to major in science or math in an undergraduate college program.

[Ron Brown Scholar Program: January 9](#)

- RBSP awards \$10,000 each year to the most talented high school seniors who demonstrate a keen interest in public service, community engagement, business entrepreneurship, and global citizenship. Applicants must be Black/African American. [Learn more and apply.](#)

[The Jackie Robinson Foundation: January 12](#)

- JRF Scholars receive grants of up to \$30,000 over four years to complement the financial aid they receive from their colleges or universities. In addition, Scholars attend JRF's annual four-day Mentoring and Leadership Conference in New York City and other regional events throughout the year. [Learn more and apply.](#)

[Coolidge Scholarship for Juniors: January 19](#)

- Competitive candidates will have pursued and succeeded in the most rigorous course of study available to them. Awardees will demonstrate an uncommon academic depth and intellectual curiosity.
- Interest in Public Policy and Appreciation of Coolidge Values
- Humility and Service
- Must intend to enroll full-time at an accredited U.S. college or university as an undergraduate for the first time in fall 2023
- Cannot be the immediate family member of any current employee or trustee of the Coolidge Scholars Program or the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation.
- Must be citizens or legal permanent residents of the United States of America

[APIA Scholars: January 26](#)

- APIA Scholars provides scholarships to qualified students of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage pursuing an undergraduate degree at a U.S.-accredited college or university. Scholarships range from one-time \$2,500 awards to multi-year \$20,000 awards. [Learn more and apply.](#)

[JCI Senate Foundation Scholarship: January 28](#)

- \$1,000 grants awarded to graduating U.S. seniors who plan to continue their education at an accredited college, university or vocational school
- Handwritten apps must be in **blue** or **black** ink only
- **ACT/SAT** scores must be included
 - **NOTE:** Students do not need to include national test scores if they are applying for a vo-tech / industrial school scholarship.
- All materials MUST be submitted under one cover. Materials sent in multiple mailings will NOT be accepted.
- **NO electronic submissions will be accepted.**
- Students must include a 2.5 X 3.5-inch head shot photograph for use in our National publications.
- Due date is Jan. 28, 2022
- Contact Dale Hill for questions: 303-466-1192

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[PEO Colorado State Scholarship Fund: January 31](#)

- Female Colorado Resident
- Preference for this scholarship may be for non-traditional fields of study such as vet tech, cosmetology, CNA, etc. Traditional applicants are also considered.
- The application time frame is November 1st through January 31st each year.

[Summer Multicultural Engineering Training for Juniors: February 1](#)

- The Summer Multicultural Engineering Training (SUMMET) program is an engineering, science and technology program designed for rising juniors and seniors who are from underrepresented populations, including ethnic/racial minority, women and prospective first-generation college students.

[Hispanic Scholarship Fund: February 14](#)

- The HSF Scholar Program is designed to empower courageous young leaders of Hispanic heritage. The program helps ensure students achieve their higher education and career goals. Scholarship awards are based on merit; amounts range from \$500 to \$5,000, based on relative need, among the Scholars selected. [Learn more.](#)

[TheDream.US Scholarship: February 28](#)

- For high school or community college graduates. You need to have DACA or TPS or meet TheDream.US immigration eligibility criteria and qualify for in-state tuition at one of our Partner Colleges to receive this scholarship. We also offer an online college option. The Scholarship is for up to \$16,500 for an associate's degree and \$33,000 for a bachelor's degree.

[ACC Scholarships: March 1](#)

- ACC [scholarship applications](#) are open from October 1, 2021 through March 1, 2022. We encourage students to apply early for our first-come, first-served consideration

[Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation: March 1](#)

- The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation awards need-based scholarships to the children of Marines attending accredited colleges, community colleges, and career technical education programs. It's the nation's oldest and largest provider of need-based scholarships to military families, and its mission is to offer scholarship support to every eligible child of a Marine. [Learn more.](#)

[Cobell Scholarship: March 31](#)

- Both merit- and need-based, the Cobell Scholarship is available to members of a U.S. federally recognized tribe, who are enrolled in full-time study and are degree-seeking. Applicants must plan to attend or be attending any nationally, regionally, or industry accredited nonprofit, public, or private institution. [Learn more.](#)

[The Grossman Scholarship: March 31](#)

- Is a Colorado resident;
- Has demonstrated a commitment** to caring for our environment's natural resources within their personal, educational, and/or professional time. Ideally, students can show that they have volunteered with outdoor stewardship/environment organizations, such as VOC or other Colorado stewardship organizations or land agencies;
- Is pursuing a degree program with an environmental, natural resource, climate, or outdoor industry emphasis at an accredited 4-year college/university, 2-year community college, or a certificate program offered by an accredited*** college/university within the state of Colorado; and
- Must provide two (2) professional letters of recommendation and a copy of the transcripts from their highest level of education completed.
- The submission deadline is 11:59pm on Wednesday, March 31, 2021

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[The Women's Energy Network of Colorado \(WENCO\) Kelly de la Torre Scholarship Fund: April 9](#)

- Must be female, attend high school and in senior year and reside in Colorado.
- Must be a S.T.E.M. major with an intent to study or pursue a career in energy
- Must have an average 3.5 GPA with proof from high school transcript and high school administrator's contact information.
- Must plan to attend an accredited 4-year university.
- Must have proof of registration prior to disbursement of scholarship funds.
- Must have two (2) letters of recommendation that include contact information for them and are not relatives. References must be 21 or older.
- If you meet the above requirements, please complete the application no later than April 9, 2021, by clicking here. If you have any questions, email scholarship@wencolorado.org.

[Dawson Memorial Scholarship: April 9](#)

Providing financial assistance for students who have a parent or legal guardian with terminal cancer or other terminal illness. Must be:

- A graduating senior at a high school in the Denver area
- Have a parent with terminal cancer or other terminal illness or have lost a parent to a terminal disease during their high school years.
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5
- Apply by 4/9/2021