

COLLEGE APPLICATION CHECKLIST



Build a College List

- ☐ Use the **Preference Fit** feature to find universities that best suit your academic, location, financial, and community needs.
- ☐ Start your initial research by talking to your counselor, high school alumni, friends, and parents to gain insight on student experience in different universities.
- ☐ Read through university profiles in **Schools** and start building your longlist by adding schools to **My Lists**.



Demonstrate Interest

- ☐ Attend information sessions and campus (in-person or virtual) visits to learn about the unique offerings from the universities.
- ☐ Visit university websites and follow them on social media.
- ☐ Sign up for a **College Visit** to ask questions, meet other prospective students, and understand the university on a deeper level.



List Your Top 10 Activities

- ☐ Compile a comprehensive list of Extra-curricular Activities that you have engaged in over the school years.
- ☐ Generate content for your activities list descriptions by considering your role, impact, and application for each activity.
- ☐ Build a resume including all your participation, volunteer work, employment, clubs, and extracurricular activities.



Write Application Essays

- ☐ Identify the unique traits and characteristics you would like to display in your essays and overall application profile.
- ☐ Work on your personal statement and supplemental essays.
- ☐ Check out Cialfo blogs for tips and tricks on how to tackle the essays.

**Log in to your [Cialfo account](#), and start completing your application checklist.*





Set a Testing Game Plan

- ☐ Register for the exams for which you need to submit the scores with your college applications this fall, so that you receive the score before the application deadline.



Start the Application

- ☐ Create an account for the platforms you will be applying to college through and start filling out the various sections of the application.



Request for Letters of Recommendations

- ☐ Confirm your list of recommenders. Most colleges require recommendation letters from a guidance counselor and at least 2 subject-teachers.
- ☐ Reach out to additional recommenders (internship supervisor, volunteer leader, coach, peer recommender, etc.) as a supplemental recommender.



Apply for Financial Aid and Scholarships

- ☐ Work together with your parents to fill out the FAFSA and CSS forms for financial aid in the United States.
- ☐ Find and compare University **Scholarships** worldwide by country, field of study, or university name.



Build Your Experiences

- ☐ Apply for internships, online classes, extracurricular activities, competitions, or volunteer work to gain new perspectives and add more productive ventures to your profile.



Prepare to meet your Counselor

- ☐ Complete your biographical information in the college application portal before you meet with your school counselor at the start of the school year.
- ☐ Gather all application materials (test scores, resume, college list, etc.) to share with your counselor to guide the discussion about your college plans.

Acknowledgment

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