College Application Checklist: 7 Steps for Senior Year Success!

01 Decide which colleges you plan on applying to!

A good rule of thumb is to pick reach schools, good fits and safety schools. Use the spreadsheet sent to you to track information about the schools like deadlines and scholarships. Remember, choose the schools you could most see yourself attending.
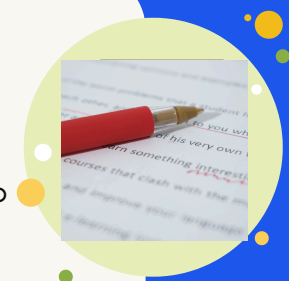
02 Create a Common App Account

Visit www.commonapp.org and create an account as a first-year applicant. Remember, in the Summer, Common App will delete any information you have added so wait until late July to. Be sure to keep a copy of anything you type into the application in a Word document or screen shot. Add the colleges where you are interested in applying to your dashboard.

03 Write Your College Essay

Read the 7 prompts provided by Common App (and found here). Select 2 essays to respond to and from the 2 pick the one you feel is the strongest to begin the editing process. Be sure to also write any supplemental essays required for the schools you are applying to. What you write about should be unique to YOU, tell your own story.

04 Reformat Your Resume for the Common App Activities Section

Common App allows you to select 10 activities to include in your application. Using the "activities" section, select the 10 activities you are most involved in and create a Word document where you format and word your involvement using the requirements for Common App. See attached for tips on how to format your word document.

05 Request Your Letters of Recommendation (*Only if needed*)

Using the Letter of Recommendation Request Form on our website, select 3-5 individuals to ask for a letter. 2-3 should be core class teachers from your Junior or Senior year and 1-2 can be from a guidance counselor, club sponsor, coach, or non-family member who knows you well. Florida public schools DO NOT accept letters of recommendation.

06 Meet regularly and remain in communication with Dr. Taylor & Ms. Tamara

If we don't see you, we can't help you! We are here to help you be as prepared as possible for the college application process. Email us kristina.taylor@browardschools.com or tamara.labossiere@browardschools.com) with any questions you might have and schedule your virtual Summer meetings here or by scanning the QR code: https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/BRACEMeetings@browardcountyschools.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/

07 Communicate with Your Family & Keep Attempting the SAT, ACT & CLT

Applying to and beginning college is an enormous life change. Not just for you, but also for your parents & family. Talk about the options, the costs (visit the **Net Price Calculator** for the colleges you are interested in), everything so that everyone is on the same page and there are no surprises. Also, you have until graduation to qualify for Bright Futures, you can keep attempting the SAT, ACT and CLT past application deadlines to see if you meet the requirements for the scholarship.

Formatting the Activities Section of the Common App

The goal is to have this information saved into a Word document so that all you need to do is copy and paste it into the "Activities" section of your Common Application in August of your Senior year.

You can report a maximum of 10 activities

Pick the 10 you are MOST active in and list them in order of involvement with the ones you hold leadership positions in or have participated in the longest first.

Categories for Activities

You need to identify the activity as one of the following categories:

Academic	Computer/Technology	Foreign Exchange	Music: Instrumental	Science/Math
Art	Cultural	Foreign Language	Music: Vocal	Social Justice
Athletics: Club	Dance	Internship	Religious	Student Govt./Politics
Athletics: JV/Varsity	Debate/Speech	Journalism/Publication	Research	Theater/Drama
Career Oriented	Environmental	Junior R.O.T.C.	Robotics	Work (Paid)
Community Service (Volunteer)	Family Responsibilities	LGBT	School Spirit	Other Club/Activity

Note: If it can fall into more than one category, pick the most appropriate one.

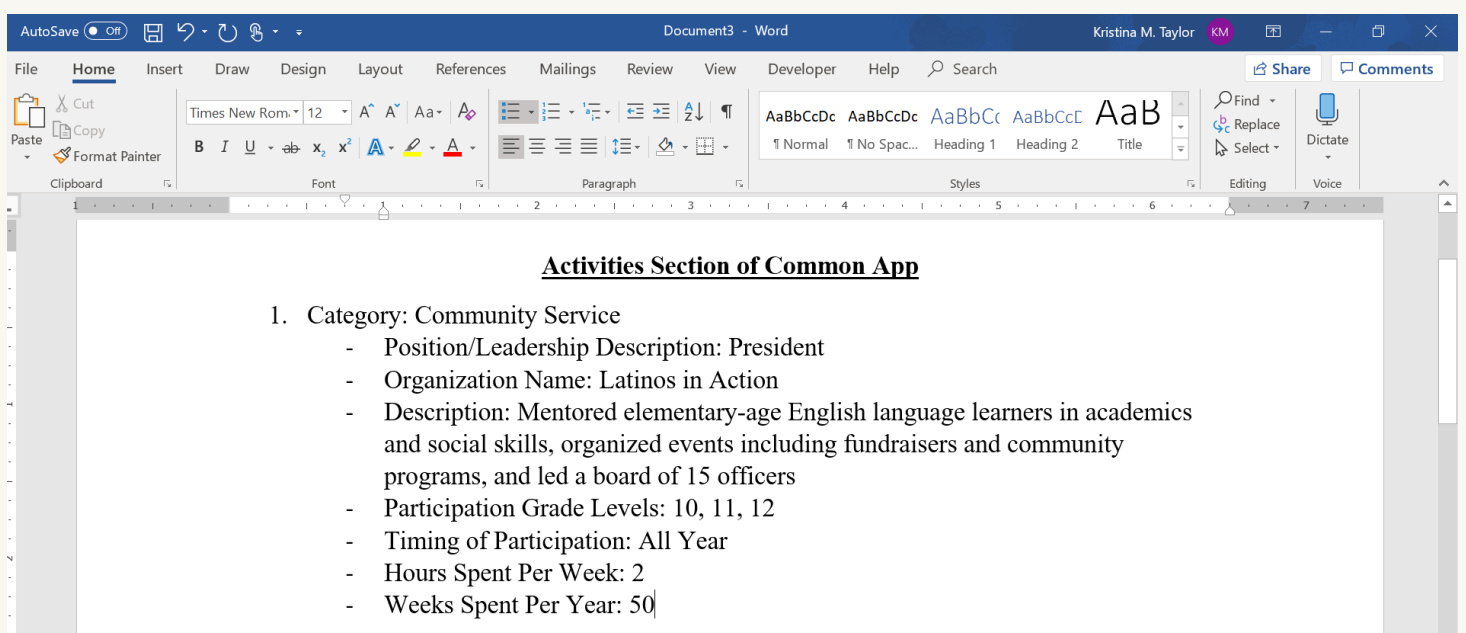## Prepare the Following Information for Each Activity

- Position/Leadership description (Max characters: 50)
- Organization Name (Max characters: 100)
- Description of the activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.(Max characters: 150)

150 **characters** is not a lot AT ALL!
Be clear and to the point when answering this and always start your description with a verb.

Additional Information Your Need to Prepare for the Activities Section

Participation grade levels*
- [ ] 9
- [ ] 10
- [ ] 11
- [ ] 12
- [ ] Post-graduate

Timing of participation*
- [ ] During school year
- [ ] During school break
- [ ] All year

Hours spent per week*

Weeks spent per year*

Sample of How You Should Format Your Word Document

Activities Section of Common App

1. Category: Community Service
   - Position/Leadership Description: President
   - Organization Name: Latinos in Action
   - Description: Mentored elementary-age English language learners in academics and social skills, organized events including fundraisers and community programs, and led a board of 15 officers
   - Participation Grade Levels: 10, 11, 12
   - Timing of Participation: All Year
   - Hours Spent Per Week: 2
   - Weeks Spent Per Year: 50

Repeat this for all 10 of your activities that you want to include.

FLORIDA-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON XELLO

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Early Application Deadline- November 1st
Regular Application Deadline- January 15th

Apply HERE!

- Requires the SSAR
- Pathways for Admission:
  - PaCE
  - Innovation Academy
- GPA Range
  - Summer: 4.4 - 4.6/ Fall: 4.4 - 4.6
- SAT Range
  - Summer: 1240 - 1390/ Fall: 1370 - 1510
- ACT Range
  - Summer: 27 - 31/ Fall: 31 - 34

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY 1851

Deadlines to Apply:
Early Action- October 15th
Regular Decision- December 1st

Apply HERE!

- Requires the SSAR
- Pathways for Admission:
  - Early Action
  - Seminole Pathways
- GPA Range
  - Summer: 4.1 - 4.5/ Fall: 4.3 - 4.6
- SAT Range
  - Summer: 1230 - 1320/ Fall: 1340 - 1450
- ACT Range
  - Summer: 26 - 30/ Fall: 29-33

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

FIU

Deadline to Apply:
Priority Deadline- October 23rd
Rolling Admission After

Apply HERE!

- Must Send Transcripts Through Xello
- No Essay Required
- Must apply directly through FIU's website, not on Common App
- The sooner you apply, the sooner you receive a decision!
- GPA Range
  - Summer: 3.9 - 4.4/ Fall: 4.1 - 4.7
- SAT Range
  - Summer: 1060 - 1170/ Fall: 1240 - 1370
- ACT Range
  - Summer: 21-24/ Fall: 26-30

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

UNIVERSITY of SOUTH FLORIDA

Deadline to Apply:
Priority Deadline- November 1st
Rolling Admission After

Apply HERE!

- Requires the SSAR
- The sooner you apply, the sooner you receive a decision!
- GPA Range
  - Summer: 3.9 - 4.29/ Fall: 4.10 - 4.59
- SAT Range
  - Summer: 1100 - 1200/ Fall: 1250 - 1390
- ACT Range
  - Summer: 22-25/ Fall: 27-31

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

UCF

Deadline to Apply:
Priority Deadline- November 1st
Rolling Admission After

Apply HERE!

- Requires the SPARK
- The sooner you apply, the sooner you receive a decision!
- GPA Range
  - Summer: 3.9 - 4.3/ Fall: 4.1 - 4.5
- SAT Range
  - Summer: 1170 - 1240/ Fall: 1260 - 1380
- ACT Range
  - Summer: 23-26/ Fall: 26-30

VISIT US IN THE COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER (ROOM 458) FOR MORE INFORMATION & FIND ALL THE DOCUMENTS FOR SENIOR YEAR SUCCESS HERE:
HTTPS://WWW.BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM/PAGE/62292