

Planning for 4-Year Bound Students: Student Worksheet

Goal

You will reflect on the college application process, define key terms, and review important post-application tasks in order to prepare for the next steps in your college plan.

Part I: Bell Work

You have successfully applied to college. Congratulations! How are you feeling about waiting to hear back on admissions decisions? Respond below.


Part II: The Waiting Game

There's a period between applying and going to college — it's called the waiting game. However, there is still some work to do after submitting your college applications; for example, it's important to check your emails and create your college portals because that's how colleges will let you know if they need more paperwork from you to make an admissions decision.

- Go to **CaliforniaColleges.edu** and sign in.
- At the top of the page, hover over **College** and look under **After You Apply for The Waiting Game**. This will take you to a page about keeping track of the admission process.
- Review this page and take notes below. If you have questions, ask your counselor.

Part III: Completing Key Tasks

You may have already received emails or mail from your college requesting that you take specific action steps. Once you are admitted to colleges, they may ask you to take a placement exam or begin to plan for housing. If possible, gather all the emails and mail you have received from your college and have those resources handy to complete this activity.

1. From within your account on **CaliforniaColleges.edu**, click on the **My Tasks** icon  in the upper right-hand corner of your homepage.
2. Click on **Current Tasks**.
3. Go through each item; for those tasks that you have completed and that apply to you, check the box in the **Mark When Completed** column.
4. Review the emails and mail you have received from your college and enter additional tasks that are specific to you by clicking on **Add Task**.
5. For those tasks that you need to complete at a later time, set a reminder to sign back in to **CaliforniaColleges.edu** to review your incomplete tasks. For example, there are two tasks for final transcripts:
 - Confirm with your high school the process to request final transcripts (in May).
 - Send the final transcript to your college (in June).

Financial Aid Application

Applying for aid is free and safe for you and your family. You can receive grants and scholarships to help pay for tuition and other college costs. It's important to remember that you will only get financial aid if you apply for it.

What if I have not submitted my FAFSA/CADAA?

Complete **Module 2: Launch and Submit the FAFSA or CADAA**. To find this module, sign in to **CaliforniaColleges.edu**, hover over **My Plan**, click on **Lessons**, and select the **Financial Aid** tab. Open the first lesson. It helps you:

- Launch your FAFSA/CADAA so you can keep track of your status. You'll be taken to the FAFSA or CADAA website to complete your application.
- Seek guidance on how to complete your application.
- Get in contact with a financial aid expert.

The FAFSA and CADAA open the door to free money worth thousands of dollars — sometimes tens of thousands. Submit your FAFSA/CADAA by **March 2** because you don't want to miss out on the Cal Grant money! The Cal Grant is a state grant that helps cover your college tuition and fees.

What if I already submitted my FAFSA/CADAA?

After submitting your FAFSA/CADAA, you'll get a report. After submitting your FAFSA/CADAA, you'll get a report. From My Plan, select Lessons and then navigate to Financial Aid in order to complete Module 3: Review Your FAFSA or CADAA and Cal Grant GPA. This module shows you how to review your report and make corrections if something is missing.

Part IV: Match Those Terms

As you transition to college and when you get to college, you will hear a lot of new terms that are important to understand clearly.

- Click on **College** at the top of the page and then navigate to **Vocabulary** (under **Important Links** on the right side of your screen).
- Search for each of the words in the chart below and summarize their definitions in your own words.

TERM	DEFINITION
College Costs	
Degree	
Disbursement	
Intent to Register (also called Intent to Enroll or Statement of Intent to Register or SIR)	
On-campus Housing (also called campus housing or dorms)	
Orientation	
Registration	
Residency	
Room and Board	

Syllabus	
Textbooks (also known as Books or Texts) and Supplies	
Transcript	
Tuition	
Waitlist	

Part V: Reflect

- Go to **My Plan** and then **My Journal**. In the **College Journal** section, find **prompt #10**:
“What questions do you still have about the logistics of transitioning to college? Who can you talk with to gain clarity? Figure out what your next steps are, including who you should talk to, and create a plan to gather the remaining information you need.”
- Respond to the above prompt. Follow your teacher’s instructions if they assign a different prompt.