



Site Coordinator Handbook

Oct. 31-Nov. 4, 2016



October 31, - November 4, 2016

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Dear Idaho College Application Week Site Coordinators:

On behalf of the Idaho Office of the State Board of Education and the Idaho College Application Week Steering Committee, thank you for hosting College Application Week at your school. Your involvement will contribute to the success of the statewide College Application Week initiative. The goal of this program is to provide an opportunity for all Idaho seniors to complete at least one college application, and to promote excitement and enthusiasm about the college exploration and preparation process within your school. After two successful years piloting this project in high schools in Idaho, this year we have extended this opportunity to all Idaho high schools. The high schools which participated in the pilot project reported that this was a successful event.

This handbook is designed to assist you in planning and implementing your College Application Week event. It's packed with tips, helpful hints, and resources from colleagues around the country. In addition to the ideas you'll find in this guide, you'll want to be sure to complete the following tasks as soon as possible:

1. Schedule time in the computer lab or other appropriate space during College Application Week to allow students the opportunity to explore colleges and to submit college applications.
2. Review the best practices included in this handbook and brainstorm ideas to plan additional college exploration activities for your school's College Application Week. Consider engaging students in your planning to both lighten your load and increase their excitement for this project.
3. Invite all seniors or GED candidates at your school or organization to participate, and make efforts to ensure that each senior student who has not already completed a college application this year submits at least one college admissions application by the end of the week.
4. Recruit volunteers from your school or community to support the site coordinator and assist students during lab hours and other activities.
5. Keep a log of on-going feedback to help improve the process and expand statewide.
6. Keep up-to-date with statewide efforts by reading all Idaho College Application Week (CAW) emails. Regular updates to the website are designed to inform site coordinators and build support for the project. Don't forget to keep an eye out for those!

We sincerely appreciate all of the effort and time that you have committed to make this event a success. Your involvement will help Idaho's students and families learn more about their options for college and pursue the dream of completing postsecondary education. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions about Idaho College Application Week.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dana Kelly".

Dana Kelly



History of College Application Week

College Application Week started in one North Carolina high school in 2005. Since then, the American College Application Campaign (ACAC) has grown into a national effort, sponsored by the American Council on Education (ACE). Its aim is to increase the number of first-generation and low-income students pursuing a college degree or other higher education credential.

<http://www.acenet.edu/about-ace/special-initiatives/Pages/ACAC.aspx>

Idaho's Pilot Program

In the past several years, the College Application Week Event has grown throughout the country. In November of 2013, Idaho joined the ACAC with a pilot program involving 21 schools. The Idaho schools were selected based on size, region, and available college resources. A second year of pilot schools occurred in 2014 and the first year schools were joined by additional schools and 41 schools participated. 2015 brought further expansion and we had 59 high schools participate. During 2015, 6,972 seniors submitted 10,098 applications!

The goal of the Idaho College Application Week Steering Committee is to grow the program statewide in subsequent years, and encourage every senior in the state of Idaho to apply to a postsecondary institution.

Program Overview

Oct. 31- Nov. 4, 2016 has been designated as Idaho College Application Week. Participating schools will host events to assist students with the college application process. The goal of Idaho College Application Week is to provide an opportunity for all Idaho seniors to explore postsecondary opportunities and complete college applications. While the events are geared toward students who may not otherwise apply to college, we encourage participating sites to include activities for **all students**, including freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors who have already applied to college. Involving your faculty, school staff and your community will help as you implement a successful program.

The College Application Week initiative seeks to address a serious need for our state. Improving college attainment is critical to the growth of Idaho's economy. As educational attainment increases, income also increases and the percent of the population living in poverty decreases. Moreover, the Governor's Complete College Idaho Initiative asks the state to ensure that 60% of its students will attain a postsecondary certificate or degree by 2020. College Application Week is just one of several initiatives designed to ensure we do our part in reaching the goal.



Section 1: Planning your College Application Week Event

Your College Application Week can be whatever you want it to be! With proper planning, event promotion, and creative thinking, your College Application Week will inspire all students to prepare for college and a career. Let's get started!

In the following pages, you will find general recommendations for developing your site's plan, a checklist that can be tailored to your event and a page of helpful reminders for the day(s) of the event.

Section 1: Planning Your College Application Week Event



General Recommendations

Identify a Site Coordinator. This can be a counselor or advisor, a GEAR UP, GO ON or TRiO coordinator, or even a teacher or parent volunteer. The coordinator will be responsible for planning and implementing the College Application Week (CAW) at your school and for communicating with the CAW staff. It may also be helpful to choose a back-up coordinator.

Build a School-Wide Team. Recruit counselors, teachers and other staff to help plan and implement the event. Forming a team will help share and ensure the entire school supports the event. During Idaho's pilot year one school included the administration from the elementary and middle schools. These familiar faces during the events helped to emphasize that the entire educational community supports students as they continue their education into college.

Helpful Hint!

Including students on your school-wide planning team will encourage greater participation and excitement for your event. Consider offering community service hours or offering the opportunity as a senior project.

Encourage School-Wide Involvement. Get the entire school excited about the event and applying to college. Remember, it's never too early to begin thinking about college! Encourage all students and staff to participate in activities, such as holding daily trivia contests, wearing college shirts, sharing college stories, or decorating classroom doors with college logos, photos and other mementos. Perhaps the cafeteria staff could be involved with reminders on the day of by creatively named menu items!

Recruit volunteers. Most successful CAW events involve volunteers from the community who are on hand to greet students and calm their nerves as they arrive, assist them as they complete their applications, remind them to fill out the CAW survey, and congratulate them on submitting applications as they leave. See section 2 for ideas and resources related to recruiting and utilizing your volunteers.

Advertise and Promote Your Event. The CAW Steering Committee is responsible for building statewide exposure for the initiative. At the same time, we ask that you do some basic work in your school and local community to get the word out. See section 3 for specific ideas, tools, and resources.

Provide all Seniors and GED Candidates Access to the Event. Develop a schedule for your event that allows everyone the opportunity to participate. For high school sites that means providing time during the school day and providing access to the tools students need to complete applications (Computer Labs, internet access). Requiring that students sign up beforehand is strongly discouraged as often those who could benefit the most from the event will not sign up.

Section 1: Planning Your College Application Week Event

Some sites prefer to host their CAW event on just one day; others prefer to offer multiple opportunities throughout the week. It's up to you to determine what will work best at your site. As long as you are providing opportunities for all of your students to participate, the structure of the week is flexible.

Encourage students to complete college research prior to the event. To help ensure students are able to make the most of their College Application Week experience, students should arrive to the event with a list of colleges that they have determined would be a good match for them and to which they would like to apply. Consider developing a worksheet or online activity to help guide students through the process of researching colleges. The Idaho Career Information System (CIS) has resources designed to assist students in determining their strengths and in finding college matches. Create an activity using School Sort to help student find schools of interest.

Allow for adequate student preparation prior to the event. Help students make the most of their College Application Week experience by encouraging them to arrive with all of the necessary information and supplementary documents needed to complete their applications. Encourage students to fill out the College Application Worksheet (download from the College Application Week Website or print from the appendix in this handbook) and bring it with them to your CAW event. Doing so will ensure they have all the required information at their fingertips when filling out application forms. Students may also find the Application FAQs helpful when completing the worksheet.

There are a number of great resources to aid students in their college search. Idaho just launched a new resource Next Steps. www.nextsteps.idaho.gov



Section 1: Planning Your College Application Week Event

Site Coordinator Checklist

The following table is designed to provide guidance in your planning. These are the steps we believe will be necessary to complete for most College Application Week (CAW) sites, but it may not be exhaustive for your site. Use the blank spaces for additional tasks necessary for planning your event. Remember, you don't have to do all this work alone! Recruit volunteers and co-workers to assist.

Status	Due Date	Task	Notes
		Recruit your core Idaho College Application Week implementation team and meet with them to determine the dates of your site's College Application Week and which activities you plan to undertake. Sign up to participate by completing the interest survey on the CAW website: gotocollege.idaho.gov	
		Review the Site Coordinator Handbook and the CAW website (gotocollege.idaho.gov). Contact the state coordinator with any initial questions.	
		Reserve computer lab or other appropriate space for your CAW activities.	
		Add CAW activities to your school or organization's calendar of events.	
		Complete the Pre-event Information Survey to inform the steering committee about your event dates and times	
		Download and distribute the Teacher Overview handout (or Appendix 2 in this handbook) from the CAW website (gotocollege.idaho.gov). Encourage teachers and staff to brainstorm additional college awareness and readiness activities to be held during your event.	
		Send a notice home to parents about the Idaho CAW and encourage them to talk with their students about the event and application process. (Download a Family Letter template on the CAW website.)	
		Solicit door prizes from area colleges and businesses. It is a good idea to put someone on your committee in charge of this task.	
		Request that your local governmental municipality proclaims your selected week as "College Application Week in [your town/city/county/etc.]"	
		Use sample press release and PSA's to help spread the word in your community. Download samples from the CAW website (gotocollege.idaho.gov).	



Section 1: Planning Your College Application Week Event

Event Day Reminders

This checklist offers essential reminders for a successful College Application Week event, including those that will enable you to fulfill your obligations to the CAW steering committee. You may find that there are other tasks to complete on the day of your site's event. Use the blank space to customize this list to your site.

Status	Task	Notes
	Turn on all computers with your preferred web browser open to nextsteps.idaho.gov	
	Post required school information (mailing address, phone, CEEB code, etc.) in each computer lab or classroom where students will be completing online applications. Students may need to reference this information when completing applications.. (Download a School Information poster from the CAW website.) Post the link for the Opportunity Scholarship application.	
	Greet volunteers, provide them with a nametag, and give them a job to do.	
	Have seniors sign in as they arrive. A sample sign-in sheet is available on the CAW website, but we strongly urge you to print a list of all seniors' names and EDUID numbers to use as a sign-in sheet.	
	Distribute the "You've Applied ... Now What?" handout. (Download a copy from the CAW website.)	
	Be sure that when students complete and submit their application(s), they print confirmation page(s) or save their application(s) for final work within the next day or two.	
	Before students leave, ensure they do the following: - Complete the Student Survey on the CAW website - Review the "You've Applied ... Now What?" handout - Collect a sticker to celebrate their participation in CAW.	



Section 2: Getting the Support You Need

The success of the College Application Week event relies not just on you, but on your school and community. Engaging the school community in the planning and implementation process will create excitement about the event. And the more support you have, the more success you will see. Additionally, the community plays an important role in creating and sustaining a college-going culture.

In the following pages, you will find ideas for involving members of your school and your local community.



Section 2: Getting the Support You Need

Engaging Others in Your Efforts

We hope that College Application Week will be a community-wide event, but we don't want all of the work to fall to coordinators! Below you'll find creative ways to involve members of your school and local communities. We know these just scratch the surface of what's possible. Don't forget to let us know if you have other ideas of ways to increase community involvement.

Students: Excited students can make all the difference in the world! When teens see their peers being excited about something, they want to do it, too. Capitalize on positive peer pressure to make your CAW event a success.

- Identify students from each grade who would love to bring some of their own ideas to the table. Choose student helpers from each grade and educate them about College Application Week. Ask them to share implementation ideas and post and distribute materials.
- Recruit seniors to mentor freshman, sophomores, and juniors on preparing for post-secondary education. Senior mentors can meet with assigned freshmen, sophomores, or juniors during College Application Week or recruit them to assist during the week.

Ask students to promote the event through their Instagram, Facebook or Twitter accounts. Encourage them to share the "I Applied!" image on their Facebook timelines and Twitter feeds. Nationwide, students will be using the #IApplied! Twitter hashtag to celebrate their participation.

Teachers: Teachers are your greatest allies in motivating students to pursue higher education. It's not only their job; it's their passion. We recommend enlisting their help to make your school's College Application Week a huge success.

- Share the calendar with them and ask for their help in brainstorming ways to make this event something the whole school embraces.
- Ask teachers to incorporate college-planning and exploration activities into their classes leading up to College Application Week. Examples include lessons on paying for college and calculating a return on investment in math class, or writing college or scholarship application essays in English class.
- Ask teachers to wear their favorite college gear during College Application Week.

Encourage a school wide "college gear" week and reward students who wear college affiliated clothing.

- Suggest that teachers post fliers on their doors indicating where they attended college and encouraging students to ask them about their experiences.
- Encourage teachers to decorate their classrooms and doors with college pennants, posters, and information.



Section 2: Getting the Support You Need

Implement an all-school door decorating contest! Give awards for best “Idaho Institution”, “Out of State Institution”, and “Community College”

School Staff and Support Personnel: Other successful College Application Weeks have been most successful when they got the whole school community involved.

Encourage your school staff, including custodians, cooks, and administrative assistants to wear college gear, post signs and information about College Application Week, and to encourage students with whom they interact to apply.

Community Engagement: Involvement from members of the local community is crucial to the success of your event.

- Ask local businesses to donate raffle prizes for participating seniors. Request items that could be useful for a student's first year of college – something to decorate a dorm room, a shower caddy, or even a tune-up for their car. Be creative in your requests!
- Request that the neighborhood ice cream shop or sandwich place get involved by offering a free cone or cookie to any student who participated in your CAW event. Encourage students to wear their “I Applied!” sticker for proof that they applied!
- Recruit community volunteers to assist students on the day of the event.
- Encourage parents to participate in your event as volunteers.



Section 2: Getting the Support You Need

Managing Volunteers

Recruiting Volunteers

1. We recommend having at least one staff member and two volunteers at all times when working with a group 20-25.
2. Identify contacts in your community who may be interested in helping make your College Application Week a success by volunteering on the day of the event. The presence of community members in your school can lend weight and excitement to the initiative and showcase your community's dedication to promoting student success. Consider including the following groups of people in your CAW events:
 - School alumni
 - Students' families, the PTA/O, the School Improvement Council
 - Students who have already completed their applications (call them "College Application Ambassadors"!)
 - Retired Educators
 - Community services, senior citizens, or church groups
 - College and university representatives and faculty
 - Business, community, and political leaders
 - Local politicians
3. Send potential volunteer groups a College Application Week Volunteer Recruitment Letter (download a template from the <http://gotocollege.idaho.gov> website).
4. When promoting your College Application Week event, always mention the need for volunteers in your communication.
5. Create a system for collecting volunteer information. Depending on your school district's policy, you may need to conduct a background check, run volunteer names through Idaho's Sex Offender List and/or make sure that school staff or IACRAO (College and University Staff) are always present when students are present.

Information for Volunteers

1. Identify specific responsibilities and duties for your volunteers. For example, you may create shifts for greeting, sign-in, computer lab, other activities, etc. Create a short explanation of each responsibility for volunteers to follow throughout the day. (See the "Potential Volunteer Tasks" section for a list of ideas.)
2. Finalize a volunteer list, send a reminder with the date and time of their shift, and encourage volunteers to visit the CAW website to review materials.
3. Encourage volunteers to dress in college gear.
4. Provide name tags for volunteers on the day of the event.
5. Conduct a quick orientation, perhaps the morning of the event, to familiarize volunteers with the details of your event. Make sure that volunteers are familiar with the confidentiality of student records. Limit access to personally identifiable information to school staff or IACRAO volunteers assisting with the application process.

Follow Up

Send a thank you letter to all volunteers for their dedication to College Application Week! (Download a Volunteer Thank You Letter template from the <http://gotocollege.idaho.gov>.)



Section 2: Getting the Support You Need

Potential Volunteer Tasks

When assigning tasks, consider the expertise and comfort level of the volunteer with various roles. The power of the volunteer comes from students seeing that members of the broader community see education as an important goal. The following are tasks that will need to happen during your event and might be ideal responsibilities for volunteers.

- Post directional signs in the school for the event. Good signage is key to reminding students of the event and getting them to the right place.
- Greet students as they arrive. Make sure they use the sign-in sheet.
- Help students access the Idaho College Application Week website (www.gotocollege.idaho.gov) or the specific college/university website and begin an application. If the school does not have enough computers or stable online service, the site coordinator should be prepared with paper applications. Volunteers can hand out the correct application.
- Guide students through the college application process and help answer any questions students may have, regardless of where the student wishes to apply.
- Monitor printers to ensure that any applications that need to be printed remain in order and replenish the paper supply as needed.
- Share personal college experiences with students.
- Instruct each student to complete an evaluation of their College Application Week experience. Hand out the evaluation. All students who complete the survey will be entered in a prize drawing.
- Ask students if they completed the Opportunity Scholarship application.
- Help students start the FAFSA process. Do they need a PIN? See Appendix for more FAFSA info.
- Remind students to use the sign-out sheet before leaving so that site coordinators can track the number of students who participated and where students applied.
- Wear a college t-shirt or sweatshirt.



Section 2: Getting the Support You Need

Sample Agenda—Volunteer Training/Orientation

Training volunteers for College Application Week is not a complex task. You want to provide volunteers with enough information to be useful to you and the students but not so much as to overwhelm them. In addition to the very real assistance they can provide to ensure that College Application Week is successful, they also are likely to become college access advocates in the community.

Below is a sample volunteer training agenda. It covers the basic needs and expectations for volunteers across the state. It will NOT cover the individual site needs for each host high school or community based organization. Host sites are not required to provide a volunteer training. When deciding whether or not to host an orientation, use your judgment as to the comfort of the volunteers with respect to the tasks you expect them to complete. You can provide it as a short face-to-face gathering either a week before the event or the day of the event. If your school requires a background check for non-school personnel to work with students on your campus, then be sure to handle this requirement prior to the training.

The following is a suggested outline for a volunteer orientation session. As with all CAW activities, feel free to add any additional information you think will be helpful to your volunteers.

- I. Welcome and Thank You!
 - a. Have all volunteers sign in and provide you with name, phone number, and address (you will need this for a follow-up thank you note).
- II. Purpose of College Application Week
 - a. To encourage and assist all students to apply to college, especially those who are from low-income and first generation college families, because applying to college in the fall of their senior year will increase their options as they decide what to do after high school.
 - b. To provide additional information to students about the college going process such as what to do when they hear back from an institution, and how to apply for financial aid.
 - c. To reinforce a college-going culture in the community.
 - d. This is not a recruitment activity for a specific school. If a volunteer has a strong relationship with (or love for) a particular school, it is important to leave it at the door.
- III. College Application Week Logistics
 - a. Provide a short tour of the school, highlighting where the event will be held, main office, facilities they may use or go into, as well as those that they should not
 - b. Dates and times College Application Week/Day will be held in our site
 - c. Times that volunteers are expected to be available (it is strongly recommended that they are asked to arrive 15-30 minutes prior to the start of the event)
 - d. Assign tasks to be done by Volunteers (see task list)
 - e. Review College Application Worksheet and Application FAQs
- IV. Questions?
- V. Again—Thank You!



Section 3: Promoting Your College Application Week Event

Promoting and building excitement around your College Application Week is crucial. While much of the focus for College Application Week is geared toward seniors, a truly successful event has the entire community actively engaged. In the following pages, you'll find ideas and sample activities you can use to promote the event to all those involved — both within your school or organization and outside your walls, in your local community.



Section 3: Promoting your CAW Event

On-Site Promotion Ideas

You'll want to do everything you can to get the word out! In addition to increasing the number of students who attend your event, promoting College Application Week is a great opportunity to continue building a college-going culture in your community. The following ideas come from colleagues around the country. We encourage you to use them and to engage students in planning activities that they'll enjoy.

PA Announcements

- Use daily PA announcements to generate awareness of College Application Week activities at your school or organization. If you have a morning news program, coordinate with the producers to feature a count-down or a fun fact each morning leading up to the event. Coordinate interviews with students who plan to attend/participate in the event. Student newspapers and newsletters are also a great place to highlight the event. Encourage student writers to feature stories.
- Use the PA announcements to build general awareness of local colleges and universities. Encourage students to research a school that interests them and develop a brief, informational "ad" to be read during morning or afternoon announcements. End the announcements with a plug for College Application Week: "Like what you hear? Consider applying during College Application Week!"

Host a College "Prep Rally"

Talk with your administrators about holding a kick-off "prep rally" to get everyone in the college frame of mind. Ask students to wear college gear from their favorite schools. Introduce seniors who have already been accepted into a school or certificate program and have them tell the student body the one thing they are most looking forward to in college or why they selected the school or program they did. Incorporate contests and fun activities — and get your student clubs involved in building enthusiasm!

Friendly Competition

Sponsor a contest between the different grades to inspire all students to take the college preparation process seriously during College Application Week. Classes can compete against each other to design the best "College App Wall," or to come up with the best idea to promote College Application Week and college awareness.

Host Homeroom Workshops

Conduct workshops during homeroom with students throughout College Application Week. Potential workshop topics include:

- *Freshmen*: Decision making, learning styles, study habits, high school transcript and academic planning, connection between school and careers, how to qualify for a scholarship, colleges and the degrees offered, college admission criteria, etc.
- *Sophomores*: Progress reports, extracurricular activities, earning college credit during high school, world of work, college costs and ways to pay, college visits, PSAT, etc.
- *Juniors*: Money management, finding scholarships, admission process, ACT and SAT test preparation, preparing to apply, writing personal statements and essays, etc.
- *Seniors*: What to expect in college, resume writing, FAFSA, searching for scholarships, finding the right college for you, etc.



Section 3: Promoting your CAW Event

Dress the Part

During College Application Week, encourage teachers and staff to wear a t-shirt, sweatshirt, or hat from the college they attended, or have them bring in their college yearbook or other items with their college mascot to share with students and decorate their classrooms or work spaces.

Involve other School Activities

- Ask coaches to have announcements made at sporting events and practices.
- Have your parent-teacher organizations send out in their emails and announce at meetings
- Ask the Cafeteria staff to become involved by posting signs of support and providing encouragement to apply to college!

Host a Parent and Family Night

Sponsor a parent and family night and have parents, family members, and community members who have completed college participate in a panel to talk about their college choices, why they made them, and what they are currently doing. Invite parents and families to come up with questions or discussion ideas.

Invite Guest Speakers

- Invite admissions staff from local colleges and universities to provide general information related to their campus, including the majors offered, admission requirements, the application process, and cost of attendance.
- Connect college to career by inviting speakers to talk about the work they do and what education was necessary to accomplish their goals.

Conduct "Trial Runs" in Classes

- Complete a sample application with students. Teachers can go over the correct grammar and language to use on a college application. Stress the importance of using appropriate e-mail addresses. It should sound professional and provide a good impression of the student. If necessary, have students create an e-mail address specifically for their college communications. Students should complete the College Application Information Sheet (download from the <http://gotocollege.idaho.gov> website), to prepare for the event.
- Encourage students to research a college major they think they might be interested in pursuing. Have them identify which colleges offer the major, what type of jobs/careers are typically held by people obtaining a degree in that major, what type of courses are required to obtain a degree in that major, etc. and then have them present this information to their classmates.
- Encourage English teachers to incorporate writing college and scholarship essays into their class curriculum.



Section 3: Promoting your CAW Event

Communicate

Send letters or e-mail reminders to all parents, students, and school staff. Also, include information in the school newsletter. (Download the Student and Family Letter template from the <http://gotocollege.idaho.gov>)

Local Community Promotion Ideas

You *can* host a successful College Application Week without including your local community, but you'll host a much more successful one if you spread the word beyond the walls of your school or organization. Community members make great volunteers, and they can also help build and maintain a college-going culture among your students. Help them show support for your students and their aspirations by sharing news and information and providing them with concrete opportunities to assist you.

Local Press

- Community newspapers are frequently looking for feel-good, positive stories. Give them the opportunity to tell your neighbors about your students' exciting dreams. Write a press release and get it to your local media sources about two weeks before the event. Invite reporters to observe the event or conduct an interview to get more information. Then, submit another press release when your event is over to share all of your successes. Don't forget to send photos!
- Local radio stations also want to share positive stories. Include them when you send out press releases. Ask if they will allow you to record a Public Service Announcement.

Business Support

Ask local businesses, especially those where your students and their families shop, to show their support of students' college aspirations and your College Application Week event by hanging a CAW sign in their storefront.



Section 4: Student Resources

Students are strongly encouraged to explore colleges prior to the College Application Week event at your site. Many online resources exist to help students with this process. The resources listed on the following pages may be of particular use to coordinators and students as they embark on the college search and application process.

Don't forget to look at your *Higher Education in Idaho* books to research Idaho schools you may be interested in attending.

In this section, you will find

- Links to online college search tools
- Important student reminders
- Information about application fees and fee deferral and waiver information
- Direct Admission update
- Opportunity Scholarship – Early application
- Admissions office contact information for Idaho's public universities, community colleges, and independent colleges and universities.

Section 4: Student Resources



Online College Search Tools

The College Application Week website (www.gotocollege.idaho.gov) is a great place to start! It will provide students with links to some college search engines, the College Application Information Sheet, and a Frequently Asked Questions page about required information for their applications, as well as links to scholarship and FAFSA websites. When they are ready to complete their applications, they'll find a page linking them to the application pages of every public university or community college in Idaho, as well as independent colleges and universities.

Students just beginning their college search may find the following sites especially

helpful:

- Next Steps – www.nextsteps.idaho.gov this new site developed specifically for Idaho Students from 8th – 12th grades.
- Big Future – a comprehensive college search engine: <http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org>
- You Can Go – a search tool designed with first-generation students in mind: <http://youcango.collegeboard.org/>
- Idaho Career Information System: <https://idcis.intocareers.org/default.aspx>

Important Student Reminders

Before your event, you will need to prepare students as much as possible. To ensure that you have it all covered, here is a list of helpful student reminders.

1. Direct seniors to complete the College Application Information Sheet (Appendix 12).
2. Work with your guidance office to contact students who may be eligible for a fee waiver or deferment. Usually, those students who are eligible for fee waivers and deferments on college entrance exams are also eligible for college application fee waivers and deferments.
3. Identify students who have not yet applied to college and begin working with them to explore their options. Encourage other staff members to work with these students, and be sure to foster a culture in your school that considers every student to be "college material."
4. Address Information: remind students that information about their addresses and parents will be used to determine tuition and residency for public colleges and universities. They should be guided to discuss this with their parents. Students should be sure to provide the accurate addresses of their parents.
5. Social Security Information – A student needs to know their Social Security Number (SSN) or know how to access this. Many college applications require the SSN and they may not be able to complete without this information.

Note: Not using the student SSN on the applications may cause eligible students to miss out on financial aid opportunities at the college of their choice. While some applications list the SSN as optional, the process most colleges use to match students with any federal financial aid does involve the use of the SSN.

6. Students who have taken dual credit while in high school will need to know from which college they have or are earning college credit. Please remind students that they will need to request transcripts of their college credits to be send. This is confusing and frequently students mistakenly think that their high school transcript will suffice!

Section 4: Student Resources



Application Fees

The Applications page of the College Application Week website has a table of all public and private, not-for-profit colleges and universities in the state of Idaho, as well as their current application fees and fee waiver guidelines.

Most colleges and universities charge an application fee and payment of this fee is required prior to the review of the applicant's file for admission. Most on-line application forms provide a means of paying the application fee via credit card. In some cases, a check can be mailed directly to the college or university after the on-line application has been submitted. If students choose this option, please be sure to remind the student to send a copy of his/her confirmation page with payment, or advise the student to put their full name and phone number on the check so that their account is properly credited.

Fee Waiver

The application fee may be waived for students who meet certain indicators of economic need. Idaho's colleges and universities requiring an application fee will accept a completed application fee waiver form from ACT, the College Board, or the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC). NACAC's form is available at <http://www.nacacnet.org/studentinfo/feewaiver/Documents/ApplicationFeeWaiver.pdf>.

During Idaho College Application Week, Boise State University, Idaho State University and the University of Idaho have provided additional guidance on their fee waiver processes to assist you in helping students complete the application process. Many of these require work prior to the event.

General guidance for fee waivers from Idaho institutions is listed below.

- Eligible students must submit a fee waiver to each college/university to which they plan on submitting an application.
- For further information on fee waivers, ask your school counselor or contact the college or university representative.

Idaho College Application Week (ICAW): Application Fee Waiver Steps

Boise State University Prior to ICAW (preferred):

By receiving fee waiver requests a few days before ICAW, it allows BSU enough time to approve the waivers and create accounts for the students at BSU before they apply.

Identify students interested in applying to Boise State during ICAW who demonstrate financial need based on NACAC standards.

1. By Wednesday, October 26, [Complete the online form](#)* for each student who demonstrates financial need based on NACAC standards. It is key to provide an active student email.
2. Your students will receive an email by Monday, October 31. The email will contain a link allowing students to access and complete their application.
3. Please remind your students to send their official in-progress high school transcripts and SAT or ACT test scores in order to complete the application process.

During ICAW:

The Boise State Admissions Office will do its best to keep up with real-time fee waiver requests, but students may experience a delay due to the high volume of requests received during ICAW.

1. [Complete the online form](#)* for each student who demonstrates financial need based on NACAC standards. It is key to provide an active student email.

Section 4: Student Resources



2. Your students will receive an email after you submit the online waiver form. The email will contain a link allowing students to access and complete their application.

3. Please remind your students to send their official in-progress high school transcripts and SAT or ACT test scores in order to complete the application process.

*A link to the online Application Fee Waiver Form can be found at

admissions.boisestate.edu/counselor

Idaho State University: Once the student completes the ISU undergraduate application, the last page will ask them how they are going to pay. Students can select "pay now", "pay later", and "application waiver". If the student selects "pay now" it will take them to a screen to pay with their credit card. If a student selects "pay later" it will

give them an address that they can send their check to, or they can log back into their account later and pay the application fee. If a student selects "waiver", it will take them to a screen where they can put in their waiver code. The waiver code they need to list is: CAWISU16. Once a student has selected "waiver" and put the code in, they need to let their counselor/teacher/site coordinator know so that they can list them on the waiver sheet that is provided for them from you. We accept that waiver sheet just the way you have it and the counselor/teacher/site coordinator can just fax, email it, or mail it to our office. We will then match the student listed on the waiver form with their application in the system. . If the student and site coordinator believe the student needs a financial waiver, than give them the waiver code and put them on the list.

University of Idaho when students apply to the University of Idaho, they are asked for their State of Residency. If they are and Idaho resident they will be provided with a Fee Waiver Code: Idaho. They may also be prompted with a portion of the application that asked about the need of a waiver for financial need. If they use the Idaho Resident fee waiver discount code "Idaho" they will have their charges reduced to "0" when they complete their application.

Direct Admissions

The Idaho State Board of Education is implementing the Direct Admissions initiative to provide more Idaho students with the opportunity to obtain a postsecondary certificate or degree. Direct Admissions proactively admits Idaho public high school seniors to the state's public higher education institutions based on each student's grade point average (GPA) and college entrance exam score. Receiving the letter is just the first step, but one that the State Board hopes will present some clear options for students. Students will need do some research on which school might offer what they want to study and what kind of college community fits them best.

Admissions letters were mailed to high school seniors in early September, and a reminder letter will be mailed in late October. In the admission letter, students are directed to visit www.NextSteps.Idaho.gov to research each of the institutions to see which one is the best fit for them, as well as to learn about financial aid opportunities and find answers to common questions regarding post-secondary education.

Once a student has decided which school they want to attend, they will need to follow the normal application procedures, even though they have been pre-accepted. This means submitting an application and transcripts as well as paying the application fee. However, now the application for admission serves as the student's indication that he/she has chosen an institution to attend in the fall, and a spot will be saved in next year's class. Also, the application fee paid to your student's institution of choice will be credited back on their first tuition bill. The individual institution applications are linked to the "nextsteps" web site or can be completed during College Application Week.

Section 4: Student Resources



Opportunity Scholarship

The Idaho Opportunity Scholarship is a need-based award available to graduates of Idaho high school who are planning on attending a public or private non-profit Idaho institution. This scholarship is renewable for up to four years. Application Link: <https://scholarships-idaho.academicworks.com>

As an added benefit to schools participating in Idaho College Application Week, the Idaho State Board of Education has adjusted the scholarship application date so that seniors will have the chance to apply for the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship at the same time they complete their college applications. In order to be eligible, students must:

- Have a cumulative **unweighted** GPA of at least a 3.0
- Be U.S. citizens and Idaho residents
- Graduates of an Idaho high school
- Plan on attending college the fall semester immediately after graduation
- Complete the FAFSA by **March 1**
- Complete the scholarship application by **March 1**

Please see <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/scholarship/opportunity.asp> for more details.

The application is very short, and you should encourage all seniors to complete this application during your Idaho College Application Week Activities.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Start helping students and families learn more about the cost of college and options to assist in paying for college. Some helpful resources are:

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>

<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/primary-topic/paying-for-school/>

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college>



Contact Information

Keeping a copy of this chart handy during your CAW event may prove helpful as students often have questions best answered by the experts in the college offices!

Institution	Address	Phone	Admission Email	College Website
University of Idaho	875 Perimeter Dr -MS 4264 Moscow, ID 83844-4264	(208)885-6326	admissions@uidaho.edu	www.uidaho.edu
Boise State University	1910 University Dr. Boise, ID 83725	(208)426-1156	bsuinfo@boisestate.edu	admissions@boisestate.edu
Idaho State University	921 S. 8 th Ave Pocatello, ID 83209	(208)282-2475	admissions@isu.edu	www.isu.edu
Lewis-Clark State College	500 8 th Ave Lewiston, ID 83501	(208)792-2210	admissions@lcsc.edu	www.lcsc.edu
Eastern Idaho Technical College	1600 S. 25 th East Idaho Falls, ID 83404	(208)524-3000 ext.3337	admissions@my.eitc.edu	www.eitc.edu
College of Southern Idaho	315 Falls Ave Twin Falls, ID 83303	208-732-6221	admissions@csi.edu	www.csi.edu
North Idaho College	1000 Garden Ave. Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814	(208) 769-3311	admit@nic.edu	www.nic.edu
College of Western Idaho	P.O. Box 3010 MS 3000 Nampa, ID 83653	(208) 562-3000	Onestop@cwidaho.cc	www.cwidaho.cc
Northwest Nazarene University	623 University Blvd. Nampa, ID 83686	(208)467-8000	admissions@nnu.edu	http://www.nnu.edu/admissions
The College of Idaho	2112 Cleveland Blvd Caldwell, ID 83605	(208)459-5305	admission@collegeofidaho.edu	www.collegeofidaho.edu
Brigham Young University- Idaho	120 Kimball Bld. Rexburg, ID 83460	(208)496-1300	admissions@byui.edu	www.byui.edu
Boise Bible College	8695 Marigold St. Boise, ID 83714	(208)376-7731		www.boisebible.edu



Section 5: Adding FAFSA to your College Application Week Events

Applying to college is one of the steps necessary to help our students on the path to college, another important step is paying for college.

To help with this process, we are providing general information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Section 5: Adding FAFSA to your College Application Week Events

<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/fafsa-news/>



| Posted on August 2, 2016

Important FAFSA News

You've probably heard some talk about "the new FAFSA." But what exactly is changing? And what will that mean for you, your family, and your financial aid?

What Exactly Is the FAFSA?

The FAFSA (short for "Free Application for Federal Student Aid") is a federal form that nearly all colleges and universities use to help determine how much financial aid you and your family are eligible for. It's created and coordinated by the U.S. Department of Education, and it is safe and secure. It asks questions about how much money your family made (income) and how much money your family paid in taxes for the previous year. You can [learn more about it and fill it out online](#).

When Is It Due?

How it used to work: Before, students and families could start filling out and submitting their FAFSA in January. For example, if you wanted to start or continue college in September 2016, you could only start filling out your FAFSA in January 2016.

How it works now: In order to make things a little easier, the FAFSA is going to be available earlier—meaning in October instead of January. So if you want to start or continue in college in September 2017, you'll be able to start filling out your FAFSA in October 2016. This can help you better plan financially for college, as you'll get your financial aid information sooner than before.

What Information Does It Use?

How it used to work: Traditionally, students and their families had to estimate what they thought their family income and taxes would be for the year. This would sometimes get tricky if what your income and tax forecasts did not come true.

How it works now: It's obviously easier to use information from your family's *actual past* income and taxes instead of your family's *estimated future* income and taxes. As a result, the new FAFSA will directly import your family's previous income and tax information from the

Section 1: Planning Your College Application

Week Event

IRS. This means that instead of having to guess what your income and taxes will be in the current year, the FAFSA now uses what they really were in the previous year.

Why it's a little confusing: As the system switches from using estimated future income/taxes to using actual previous income/taxes, there will be one year that you'll use twice in a row. For both the 2016-2017 and the 2017-2018 academic years, you'll be using your family's 2015 tax information.

After the 2017-2018 academic year, completing the FAFSA will be much faster and easier. It's just during this transition that the process will be a little unusual.

Where Can I Go for More Information?

- A college's financial aid office is your best bet. They're helping students with the new form and will be happy to answer any questions you might have. If you're thinking of attending a school, it's okay to reach out and just make sure you're providing all the right information at the right time.
- Your high school counselor should also be able to help. Similar to college financial aid advisers, they should know about the change and be able to help explain things to you and your family.
- The US Department of Education has a page specifically [answering questions about the "new FAFSA."](#)
- Idaho Cash for College Event Planning
<https://sites.google.com/site/cashforcollegeidaho/products-services>



Section 6: College Signing Day

College Signing Days are often held in the spring and are a great way for you to check back in with your seniors to confirm that they have plans for college.

The day allows educators, counselors, parents, and communities to celebrate students who commit to going to college. While athletes who plan to play sports in college receive media attention when they sign with their college/university, all students deserve accolades and praise when they decide to further their education past high school. That may mean a professional training program, a community college, or a 4-year school.

While hosting a College Signing Day is optional, the materials provided in this section may be of use if you opt to celebrate with your students by hosting a college Signing day.





Appendix Materials

The materials in this section are printed copies of on-line resources that you may find helpful. For current versions please see the resources section of the Idaho College Application Week Website at:

<http://gotocollege.idaho.gov>

Materials include:

- Overview for Teachers & Staff
- Family Letter Template
- Sample Press Release
- School Information Poster
- Sample Student Sign-in Sheet
- You've AppliedNow What?
- Student Survey
- Sample Volunteer Recruitment Letter
- Volunteer Sign-In Sheet
- Sample Volunteer Thank You Letter
- College Application Information Sheet
- NACAC Application
- Fee Waiver Spreadsheet (BSU-ISU only)
- Direct Application Links to Idaho Public Institutions
- College Application Week Fee Poster
- College Signing Day Placard
- College Signing Day Pledge



Our school/organization is participating in Idaho's statewide College Application Week! To ensure that our event is a success for our students, we need your help in promoting and coordinating this event — and making sure our initiative is exciting and fun for our students, families, and community!

What is College Application Week?

An Overview for Teachers & Staff

College Application Week is an event coordinated by The Office of the State Board of Education. Idaho College Application Week will be held during November 9 – 13, 2015 in more than 60 high schools throughout Idaho. College Application Week has been successfully implemented in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

What is the goal of College Application Week?

Our goal is to provide every graduating high school senior with the opportunity to apply to college. While much of the focus of College Application Week is geared toward first-generation college students, low-income students, and other students who face barriers to applying to college, we encourage all students, including freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, as well as seniors who have already applied to college, to participate in events to help them explore and prepare for postsecondary education, including certificate programs, two-year degrees, and four-year degrees.

What happens during College Application Week?

Think of College Application Week as a school spirit week, during which we all work together to build excitement and awareness surrounding the college exploration and application process. We will provide computer lab time to students to allow them to explore colleges and apply online, but the event becomes truly spectacular when we integrate fun activities into our school and community environments. For example, we can decorate our doors and classrooms in college themes, post signs and pennants in our community, decorate storefronts, have college trivia contests — let's get creative!

How can I help?

You can help by assisting students in applying, contributing to the "spirit" of the week, or — perhaps most importantly — reaching out to students to encourage them to apply to college. Seek out those students who might traditionally be overlooked when it comes to college planning, and talk to them about their options for college. Be sure to ask students if they've applied as they board the bus, go through the lunch line, or walk into church, a store, or your classroom.



Sample Student/Family Letter

This letter should be distributed to students and families in October. Delete the text in the header and update the blue/bold pieces with your site's event information. Feel free to add more event details to generate interest.

SCHOOL LOGO AND/OR ADDRESS

DATE

Dear Students and Families,

The Office of the State Board of Education is pleased to announce November 9 - 13, 2015 as Idaho College Application Week. Throughout this week, high schools across the state will host events to assist students with the college application process. **NAME OF SCHOOL** will participate in Idaho's College Application Week pilot year, with the goal of ensuring that all members of our senior class apply to at least one two-year or four-year college or university program this fall.

The overarching goal of Idaho College Application Week is to provide an opportunity for all Idaho seniors to complete and file college applications. To us, college means any education program beyond high school including certificate programs, two-year degree programs, and four-year degree programs.

To be efficient when applying to college during College Application Week, students should complete the College Application Worksheet we have attached to this letter. We are encouraging all students who have not yet applied to college to complete the worksheet prior to the week, as it has all the information students will need to complete an online application. We expect that students and their families may need to work together in gathering the information listed in the checklist.

Families are welcome to visit the school to assist their student during the application process. In addition, if you are interested in volunteering during the event, please let me know. Volunteers can greet and sign in students, assist students with the completion of online college applications, or distribute information about financial aid opportunities.

If you have any questions, please call **NAME, TITLE**, at **(000) 000-0000**. You can also find more information about the initiative online at <http://www.gotocollege.idaho.gov/>. Thank you in advance for your support of this exciting initiative to encourage Idaho's students to make college a part of their future.

Sincerely,

SCHOOL COUNSELOR/SITE COORDINATOR/PRINCIPAL



[SCHOOL LOGO OR LETTERHEAD]

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: [name of site coordinator]
[school name]
[school address]
[phone number]
[email of contact person]
[high school website]

College Application Week to be held [Dates] at [Name of High School]

[Name of Your High School] will participate in College Application Week during the week of [dates].

As part of Idaho's college access initiative, [Name of Your High School] will work with its seniors [Your School's Event Dates and Times] to complete and submit online at least one college application.

The goal of the program is to get more students applying to colleges and universities early in their senior year.

[Name of Site Coordinator or School Principal], College Application Week event Site Coordinator/Principal for [Name of Your High School], expects more than [Insert Number] seniors to participate with the help of [Insert Number] volunteers from [Insert School Faculty, Administration, College, Community Resources That Will Help].

For more information: [INSERT WEBSITE LINK OR AN EMAIL ADDRESS] or
Contact: [NAME OF SITE COORDINATOR]
Phone: [PHONE NUMBER]

#####

Full School Name		
CEEB/School Code		
Phone Number		
Fax number		
Counselor Information	Full Name	Email Address



You've Applied....Now What?

Applying to college is your first, step, but while the schools look over your application, here is a step-by-step guide of things for you to do in the meantime.

November:

- Apply for your FAFSA PIN at (<http://www.pin.ed.gov/PINWebApp/pinindex.jsp>)
- Fill out the FASFA (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/index.htm>)
- Hashtag #iapplied on your favorite social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
- Explore saving for college with Idaho's 529 plan (<https://www.idsave.org/>)
- Apply for the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship!
- Apply for on-campus housing (Contact the college's Residence Life Office)

December:

- Visit campuses and meet with admission counselors and professors
- Apply for school specific scholarships (Contact the college's Financial Aid Office)
- Attend a financial aid night at your school (FAFSA Night)

January:

- Send a 7th Semester transcript to the schools you applied for (Keep your grades up!)

February:

- Register for an advanced registration event at the school of your choice
- Prepare for priority Financial aid deadlines (Usually Feb 15 or March 1)
- Fight senioritis! Your grades still count!

March:

- Return scholarship award letters to the college's Financial Aid Office
- Did you submit a housing application?

May:

- Request final high school transcript to be sent to the school of your choice
- Participate in your schools College Signing Day Activities

June:

- Graduate!
- Attend an orientation at your campus if you haven't been there already
- Enjoy your summer!



Student Survey

Congratulations on submitting your college application during Idaho College Application Week! You're on your way—and we're thrilled to have been a part of it. We're asking that you complete the following survey so that we can learn more about your college choices and continue to improve our college advising practices.

What high school do you attend? _____

What is your full name? (Use the name you entered on your application) _____

What is your birthday? ____/____/____ How many college or universities did you apply to today? _____

Which ones? (Please write out the full name of the college)

Before you participated in this event, did you think you would apply to these schools? Yes No

Before today, had you already applied to other colleges or universities? Yes No
Which ones? _____

Do you plan to apply to any other colleges or universities after today? Yes No
Which ones? _____

Will you attend other college readiness activities, like financial aid nights, campus visits, etc? Yes No

Which of the following topics have you talked to your parents about? (check all that apply) Applying to College College Application Week Financial Aid/Applying to College



Student Survey

Congratulations on submitting your college application during Idaho College Application Week! You're on your way—and we're thrilled to have been a part of it. We're asking that you complete the following survey so that we can learn more about your college choices and continue to improve our college advising practices.

What high school do you attend?

What is your full name? (Use the name you entered on your application) _____

What is your birthday? ____/____/____ How many college or universities did you apply to today? _____

Which ones? (Please write out the full name of the college)

Before you participated in this event, did you think you would apply to these schools? Yes No

Before today, had you already applied to other colleges or universities? Yes No
Which ones? _____

Do you plan to apply to any other colleges or universities after today? Yes No
Which ones? _____

Will you attend other college readiness activities, like financial aid nights, campus visits, etc? Yes No



Sample Volunteer

Recruitment Letter

This letter should be distributed to any volunteer prospects and/or groups. Delete the text in the header and update the blue/bold pieces with your school's event information. Feel free to add more event details to generate interest.

SCHOOL LOGO and/or ADDRESS

DATE

Dear **NAME OF ORGANIZATION**,

NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION is pleased to announce its participation in Idaho's College Application Week. In an effort to further expand college access initiatives College Application Week will be held at high schools throughout the state November 9-13, 2015. The goal of College Application Week is to provide every graduating high school senior the opportunity to apply to college with a particular focus on helping first-generation low-income students, and students who may not otherwise apply to college.

College Application Week can open the door for students by encouraging them to take a significant step toward college in their senior year. What began in 2005 as a single day at one high school in North Carolina has evolved into a series of nationwide campaigns to help students. This year, Idaho is hosting a second year of pilot schools hosting events. Up to 50 schools throughout Idaho will participate. A critical component of College Application Week is the one-on-one support provided by volunteers who help students fill out applications at school. Volunteers may include high school staff, registrars, and admissions officers from nearby postsecondary institutions, and representatives from the community.

We will be hosting our event on **DATE(S) AND TIME** and would welcome representatives from **NAME OF ORGANIZATION** to visit our school during this exciting and important time. Volunteers can greet and sign-in students, assist students with the completion of online college applications, or distribute information about financial aid opportunities. Our students would really appreciate your help and support as they take a big step toward going to college.

If you, or any of your colleagues at **NAME OF ORGANIZATION**, are interested in working with **NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL/CBO** in any capacity, **please contact me no later than DEADLINE**.

Thank you!

SITE COORDINATOR'S NAME
SITE COORDINATOR'S TITLE

SITE COORDINATOR CONTACT INFO



Sample Volunteer

Thank You Letter

This letter should be sent to all volunteers who assisted with your CAW event. Delete the text in the header and update the blue/bold pieces with your school's event information. Feel free to add more details or information to personalize your letter.

SCHOOL LOGO and/or ADDRESS

DATE

Dear **(VOLUNTEER'S NAME)**,

On behalf of **(NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL/CBO)**, I would like to personally thank you for volunteering your time at our Idaho College Application Week event. This event could not have been a success without your help and the help of many others who volunteered their time.

During Idaho College Application Week, **(NUMBER OF SENIORS SUBMITTING COLLEGE APPLICATIONS)** of our seniors submitted over **(NUMBER OF COLLEGE APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED)** college applications to colleges and universities across Idaho and the nation. Thanks to our seniors' hard work, and the assistance of volunteers like you, they are one step closer to actualizing their dreams of attending college!

Once again, **(NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL/CBO)** thanks you for your efforts and contribution of time at College Application Week! We look forward to seeing you throughout the school year and especially at our event next year.

Sincerely,

(SITE COORDINATOR'S NAME)
(SITE COORDINATOR'S TITLE)



College Application Information Sheet for Students

Student's Full Legal Name:

Social Security Number: _____ - _____ - _____

If you are interested in going to a state supported college or university, tuition is generally different depending on whether you are a resident or a non-resident of that state. It will be important for you to know what each institution requires to determine residency. Idaho's Common Application for Undergraduate Admission http://www.boardofed.idaho.gov/public_col_univ/Common%20App%20for%20Fall%202014%20FINAL%20revised%20Aug%202013.pdf includes questions which will assist in determining your residency status.

Top three colleges and universities you wish to submit an application:

1. _____

Special requirements (essay, personal statement, residency, etc.):

Deadline for application: _____ Cost to apply: _____ Payment option: _____

Deadline for scholarship or institutional financial assistance: _____

2. _____

Special requirements (essay, personal statement, residency, etc.):

Deadline for application: _____ Cost to apply: _____ Payment option: _____

Deadline for scholarship or institutional financial assistance: _____

3. _____

Special requirements (essay, personal statement, residency, etc.):

Deadline for application: _____ Cost to apply: _____ Payment option: _____

Deadline for scholarship or institutional financial assistance: _____

If required by the institution you are applying to, it is strongly recommended that you write your essays and personal statements well in advance of College Application Week. Bring a final, proofed electronic copy on a flash drive.



**National Association for
College Admission Counseling**
Guiding the way to higher education

Request for Admission Application Fee Waiver

SEND THIS FORM DIRECTLY TO THE POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION/ORGANIZATION

TO: DEAN/DIRECTOR OF ADMISSION AT _____
NAME OF COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

STUDENT: Print or type the information requested below. You must **personally** sign the Certification Statement.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT: *I certify that I understand and meet all eligibility requirements to request an admission application fee waiver.*

STUDENT'S NAME _____ STUDENT'S SIGNATURE _____

STUDENT'S ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: Print or type the information requested below, and check the indicator(s) of economic need. You must **personally** sign the Certification Statement.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT: *I certify that the student named on this form is currently enrolled in the 11th or 12th grade at this school and meets the indicator(s) of economic need checked below.*

AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL'S NAME _____ AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL'S SIGNATURE _____

AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL'S TITLE _____ AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL'S EMAIL _____

NAME OF SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OR ORGANIZATION _____ CEEB# OR PROGRAM # _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

ECONOMIC NEED: The student must meet at least one of the following indicators of economic need. If no item is checked, the request will be denied.

- Student has received or is eligible to receive an ACT or SAT testing fee waiver.
- Student is enrolled in or eligible to participate in the Federal Free or Reduced Price Lunch program (FRPL).
- Student's annual family income falls within the income Eligibility Guidelines* set by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service.
- Student is enrolled in a federal, state or local program that aids students from low-income families (e.g., TRIO programs such as Upward Bound).
- Student's family receives public assistance.
- Student lives in federally subsidized public housing, a foster home or is homeless.
- Student is a ward of the state or an orphan.
- Other request from high school principal, high school counselor, financial aid officer, or community leader:

Given my knowledge of this student's family circumstances and after reviewing the eligibility guidelines, I believe that providing the application fee would present a hardship. Explanation:



SCHOOL SEAL/STAMP

*To view USDA Income Eligibility Guidelines for the Free or Reduced Price Lunch Program or review FAQs related to this form visit <http://bit.ly/NACACfeewaiver>.



You've Applied....Now What?

Applying to college is your first, step, but while the schools look over your application, here is a step-by-step guide of things for you to do in the meantime.

November:

- Apply for your FAFSA PIN at (<http://www.pin.ed.gov/PINWebApp/pinindex.jsp>)
- Fill out the FASFA (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/index.htm>)
- Hashtag #iappplied on your favorite social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
- Explore saving for college with Idaho's 529 plan (<https://www.idsave.org/>)
- Apply for the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship!
- Apply for on-campus housing (Contact the college's Residence Life Office)

December:

- Visit campuses and meet with admission counselors and professors
- Apply for school specific scholarships (Contact the college's Financial Aid Office)
- Attend a financial aid night at your school (FAFSA Night)

January:

- Send a 7th Semester transcript to the schools you applied for (Keep your grades up!)

February:

- Register for an advanced registration event at the school of your choice
- Prepare for priority Financial aid deadlines (Usually Feb 15 or March 1)
- Fight senioritis! Your grades still count!

March:

- Return scholarship award letters to the college's Financial Aid Office
- Did you submit a housing application?

May:

- Request final high school transcript to be sent to the school of your choice
- Participate in your schools College Signing Day Activities

June:

- Graduate!
- Attend an orientation at your campus if you haven't been there already
- Enjoy your summer!

Links to College Application Webpages

University of Idaho: <http://www.uidaho.edu/admissions>

Boise State University:

https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/fl_ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=boisestate

Idaho State University: https://ssb.isu.edu/bprod/bwskalog.P_DisLoginNon

Lewis-Clark State College: <https://beawarrior.lcsc.edu/createaccount?f=1c62fa3e-d742-491f-9046-c9766886aeaa>

Eastern Idaho Technical College: <https://www.applyweb.com/apply/eitcapp/>

College of Southern Idaho: https://mycsi.csi.edu/ICS/Apply_to_CSI/

North Idaho College: <http://www.nic.edu/admissions/stepsNewStudent.aspx>

College of Western Idaho: <https://apply.cwidaho.cc/application/create>

Link to Idaho Common Application

https://boardofed.idaho.gov/public_col_univ/Common_Application_2016.pdf



Adobe Acrobat
Document

Link to Idaho Opportunity Scholarship Application:

<https://scholarships-idaho.academicworks.com>

General Idaho Opportunity Scholarship Information:

<https://boardofed.idaho.gov/scholarship/opportunity.asp>

Link to NextSteps Idaho: <https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/>



Institution	Application Fee- Paper	Application Fee- Online	Accepts Waiver?
Boise State University	\$50	\$50	Yes
University of Idaho	\$0 (ID Residents)	\$0 (ID Residents)	Yes
Idaho State University	\$50	\$50	Yes
Lewis-Clark State College	\$0	\$0	No
College of Southern Idaho	\$10	\$0	No
North Idaho College	\$0	\$0	N/A
College of Western Idaho	\$25	\$25	All Waived ICAW*
Eastern Idaho Tech College	\$15	\$15	No

*During College Application Week 2016 only.



#NextStepsIdaho

#CollegeSigningDay

#ReachHigher

2017 National Signing Day



I, _____
pledge to go to college!

I am planning to attend
_____.

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#ReachHigher
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