

College and Career Terminology....

ASSOCIATE DEGREE - A degree awarded by community colleges and technical colleges upon completion of a course of study usually lasting two years. (Associate of Arts; Associate of Science).

BACHELOR'S DEGREE - A four-year college degree granted by a University either private or public. (Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Science).

COLLEGE LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM (CLEP) If you want to earn college credit by taking proficiency tests in certain courses, the CLEP is for you. Get a high enough score and you'll get credit for a class you never took!

COMMON APPLICATION - Some colleges and universities accept or even require students to use a common application. This platform allows one to apply to several schools with one application. Common Application, Coalition Application, Universal College Application and .

CUMULATIVE RECORD - The complete record for all courses and grades earned during high school. Your high school transcript contains your cumulative record.

EARLY ACTION (EA)- An admission plan used primarily by highly selective colleges. Under early action, you follow an accelerated application process and usually apply by November 1. You will be notified of a decision by mid-December, but, if you are accepted, you do not have to let the institution know of your decision until May 1.

EARLY DECISION (ED)- An admission plan offered to well-qualified applicants who are definitely committed to their choice of college. Applicants will be notified of the acceptance or denial in December. Acceptance under early decision requires you to withdraw applications at other colleges.

FAFSA - The Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) is used by aid providers to determine the amount of the student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which is the amount that they expect the student's family could contribute toward the student's college education. EFC varies from student to student since it is based on the specific financial situation of the student and often of the student's parents as well.

GENERAL EDUCATION CLASSES – Informally referred to as "gen eds," these are courses outside a student's primary focus of study that are required for the successful completion of a degree. General education credits are designed to ensure a more well-rounded education that addresses institutional goals for higher learning, as well as the specific professional objectives of one's degree program.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) – A number that shows overall academic performance. It is computed by assigning a point value to each grade you earn.

LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE - A college in which the emphasis is on a program of philosophy, literature, history, languages and basic science.

NET PRICE CALCULATOR – This is a tool that helps students calculate their total tuition costs once any federal, state, or military aid for which they qualify have been factored in.

PRIVATE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY - A school that is not supported by state taxes but may still be government regulated.

REGULAR ADMISSION - The application process that requires application materials to be submitted no later than the specified deadline date printed in the college catalog or on the application form. Students typically receive responses in March.

ROLLING ADMISSION - The admission plan in which a completed application is acted on as soon as it is received. Students are admitted on a continuing basis.

SECONDARY SCHOOL REPORT - Often called a Counselor Recommendation, many private colleges and universities require these to be submitted from your high school counselor.

SOCIAL SCIENCES - In a broad sense, social sciences are the courses that allow you to study the human aspects of the world, including sociology, geography, economics, history, anthropology, psychology, political science, etc.

STUDENT AID REPORT - The Student Aid Report (SAR) is a document that gives you some basic information about your eligibility for federal student aid and lists your answers to the questions on your Free Application for Federal Aid (FAFSA).

TRANSCRIPT – The official record of your course work at a school or college. Your high school transcript is required for college admission and for some financial aid packages.

WEIGHTED GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) - A grade point average that is calculated using a system that assigns a higher point value to grades in more difficult classes. For example, some schools assign the value of 5.0 (instead of the standard 4.0) for an A earned in an AP class.

For a full list of College Terminology Visit: www.collegeboard.org