

I've applied to Colleges and filled out the FAFSA – WHAT NEXT:

- ❑ Check your email for college acceptance letters from colleges you applied to. Colleges will assign you a student number and give you instructions on how to set up your online student account. (Always use personal emails when doing anything regarding college. Your school email will no longer be accessible to you when you graduate)
- ❑ Follow the instructions in your acceptance email to create a college student account.
- ❑ Have a place where you write down the student number assigned to you from any college and any usernames or passwords you create for colleges, scholarships and financial aid.
- ❑ Check your email for results from your FAFSA. If you did not get an email, your FAFSA likely did not submit for some reason.
- ❑ Check your mail/email for letters from the colleges you entered into your FAFSA letting you know what financial aid they have awarded you. If you did not receive a financial aid award letter from the college you are planning to attend, they probably did not receive your FAFSA, which means you probably did not include that college on the FAFSA application and will need to go back into the application and make that request.
- ❑ Go into your college student account and find and accept the financial aid and scholarship offerings you would like to use.
- ❑ Go into your college student account and get familiar with the features there.
Some of the things you do through your student account:
 - Check for any scholarships and federal financial aid (Pell grant, student loans, work study) you have been offered through the college. You must go into your account and accept the scholarships and/or federal financial aid you want that you have been offered through the college. Keep in mind that some scholarships are offered as tuition waivers rather than money awards. Often these won't "stack" with other tuition waiver type scholarships and you may only be able to accept one of those type. Accept the one with the highest value. If you have any questions about which scholarships will stack or any other questions about scholarship or financial aid you have been offered, call the college and speak to someone in the financial aid or scholarship office. You can find phone numbers on college home pages.
 - Pay for tuition and fees
 - Check for holds on your account
 - Access your school email (you probably already have a welcome email in there)
 - Register for classes
 - Access Canvas to see your classes and turn in assignments
 - Check grades
 - Track progress toward your degree
 - Etc.
- ❑ Apply for scholarships!
 - Start by applying through the through the college you want to attend. Go to the scholarship page for the college you want to attend to see what scholarships they offer. Colleges offer many more scholarships than the strictly academic scholarships that are given out mostly automatically based on GPA and ACT score. Additional scholarships often have deadlines around March 1st, some earlier. There are many types of these additional scholarships through the colleges: need based, involvement based, departmental (based on your major), first generation (if your parents never attended any type of college at all), alumni (if your parents went to the college you want to attend), community and many other scholarships.

- Apply for scholarships using google search or any scholarship search engine/college research site. Find a list of those in the counseling office. When searching scholarships this way, be aware of scams. You should never have to pay money to apply for a scholarship.
 - Look for scholarships in the Keys to Success (ktsutah.org) and Majorclarity.com platforms (login with google) we have used for college and career readiness. Both have wonderful scholarship lists.
 - Watch the Millard High School Counseling Facebook page or the scholarship bulletin board by the counseling office for scholarship opportunities.
 - Apply for local scholarships. They are available in the counseling office around Feb/March of your Senior year. Fill out every one that you can. Come to the Senior Awards night to see if you were chosen for the scholarships you applied for.
- Have a generic scholarship essay prepared. One good essay can be adjusted and used for many. (Make sure you have it proofread.)
- Many additional type scholarships through the college will require an essay. Usually, they want a paragraph that helps them get to know more about you than what can be seen on a transcript. Some will have specific prompts to answer. Others are more general. It's always good to include your accomplishments and experiences related to the scholarship (work experience, volunteer service, leadership opportunities, academic coursework, grades, clubs, etc.), what makes you unique (facts and traits about yourself that set you apart from others), your interests and goals, any obstacles you have overcome and why you feel you are eligible for the scholarship. Even if you are not a perfect match for the requirements of the scholarship (maybe GPA is a little low) give it a try and explain in your essay why you are a good candidate. To get started, it helps to read some essay examples. See if the college you're applying to has published essay examples on their website. This is a great opportunity to get a feel for what that college identifies as a strong essay. You can also search online for "sample college essays."
- Fill out deferment forms for college admission and scholarships if you are planning to serve an LDS mission or have other plans before starting school. Deferment forms can usually be found and filled out online. Some must be printed and mailed. Some require proof of your plans such as a copy of your mission call. Make sure you fill out a deferment form for each college acceptance and each scholarship.
- Attend your college's orientation. Some colleges do orientation online, some in person, some either or, and some ask you to do both. You should receive an email informing you of when orientations are and how to sign up.
- Call the college you want to attend and make an appointment to meet with a college advisor in your major to find out what classes you need to register for.
- Register for classes through your college account.
- Arrange college housing by March-ish. Housing fills up fast! Start looking and try to have things figured out for on campus, off campus or living with family around March. Some colleges require Freshman to live on campus their first year.
- Buy or Rent your textbooks. This can be done at the college bookstore in person or online or you can order the books required through Amazon or other sources that provide college textbooks.