

MAKING A COLLEGE DECISION

STEP 1: HOW TO MAKE A DECISION

Complete the steps below to help guide you toward making a college decision.

- If you haven't already decided, **compare your acceptance letters**.
- Complete FAFSA** and ensure all schools of choice are listed in your application.
- Be sure to **check your email about scholarships**. Once awarded, there are often next steps. **Read directions carefully**.
- Log in to student portal** for each school you have been admitted to.
 - Make it a habit to log in each portal once a week for reminders or document requests.
- Submit FAFSA verification documents** (if applicable) to ensure you receive an award letter.
- Log in to student portal** or call financial aid office to check for **outstanding documents**.
- Confirm** you have **received an award letter** for each school you are considering.
 - Revisit previous step if you have not received an award letter.
- With support** of parent/guardian/trusted adult, **compare award letters** and **determine** which is the **best choice** for you and your family's financial needs.

STEP 2: ONCE YOU MAKE A DECISION

Complete the steps below to make your decision official with the institution.

- Make sure you are **checking your new college email** regularly and often!
- Accept your admissions offer** via student portal or directions listed in acceptance letter.
- Accept financial aid offer** via student portal or directions listed in award letter.
 - Loan acceptances may require signing Master Promissory Note (MPN).
- Pay enrollment deposit** (if applicable) by schools designated deadline (typically May 1...although many colleges have extended. Check your colleges website for new info).
 - Contact admissions office for options to have deposit waived or deferred.
- Register for freshman orientation**.
- Complete a housing application**. (usually on a first come, first serve basis)
- Complete Medical forms** such as insurance forms, shot records and emergency contact.
- Inform HS counselor/adviser** of your final decision.
- Take any required assessment test**.
- Send final HS Transcript** with graduation date listed.
- Celebrate!!** Making a College Decision is a huge deal and should be celebrated!

STEP 3: SUMMER TRANSITIONING

- Check** campus website for **incoming freshman checklist**.
- Attend freshman orientation**.
- Register for classes**.
- Investigate textbook cost and purchasing options**.
 - You can buy new, buy used or rent books.
- Confirm housing placement**.
- Connect with future roommates** (if applicable).
- Go shopping** for dorm room items and school supplies.
- Research Professors** if possible, on sites like Rate My Professors
- Connect with college on social media**.
- Move in** your dorm and get comfortable in your new space.
 - Attend activities and events hosted by your residence hall. It's a great way to start meeting new people and making new friends.



For Help
or to talk through options:
Contact College Advisor Emma Urbanski
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