COLLEGE GO!
GETTING STARTED

Congratulations! You are taking the first step necessary for going to college – **APPLYING**! Be aware, there are several things you will need to do after today to complete the college application process. You will also have an opportunity to begin the process of filing the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**, which will help you determine the college financial aid you are eligible to receive.

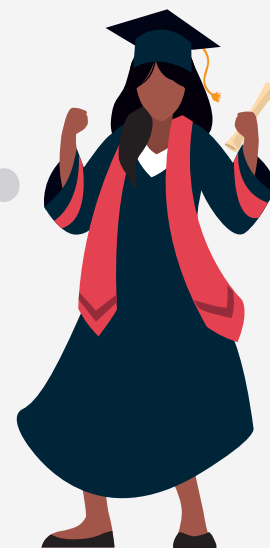## STEPS FOR APPLYING TO COLLEGE & RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID

one Think about what you want your future to look like after graduation. Are you interested in a 4-year degree program? A trade certification? Do you want to commute to a campus or live in a dorm? These are all important decisions to think about when applying to different institutions.

two Visit: **https://learnmoreindiana.org/preadmit/** for a list of institutions across the state and links to their application. Look at any and all institutions that you might be interested in and don't forget to check the College Application Week list for institutions you can apply to for FREE.

three Before you start applying, look at the requirements for the application and gather the needed documents. Do you need a letter of reccomendation? Do you have your high school transcript available? Are you going to need to write an essay? After you have researched the application process you are ready to apply! Complete the application(s) to the colleges and universities to which you want to apply to.

four After you apply, save a copy or print out your confirmation page and keep it somewhere safe. Make sure to keep track of all your applications and documentations so that you have them easily accessible for additional applications you may want to submit.

> **Scholar Tip:** Use Learn More Indiana's College Application Tracker worksheet to log all of your application details in one location!

five Register for your **StudentAid.gov** account – you will need this to complete your FAFSA. Many grants, loans, and scholarships will require that you submit a FAFSA so this is a very important step. Visit **studentaid.gov/fsa-id/sign-in** to create your StudentAid.gov account. Keep your account information somewhere safe so you can be ready for the opening in October and apply before April 15.

> **Scholar Tip:** File the FAFSA before April 15 to secure financial aid for the upcoming school year!

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Discover your future.
LearnMoreIndiana.org