

# EXPLORE AND PREPARE



As your student prepares for their *college search*, there are new terms to learn and tasks to complete. At the University of Minnesota, we are excited to help you and your student. We recommend starting with these actions:

## Explore campus



One of the most important ways to understand if a college is a good fit is to explore campus. At the *U of M*, we offer many ways to see campus, but recommend first engaging with the University online through video calls with *admission counselors* (phone calls are also available) and *virtual campus tours*. To explore the U of M campus online, visit [z.umn.edu/visitcampus](https://z.umn.edu/visitcampus).

## Think about interests



The U of M has more than 150 *majors* and 135 *minors*, giving students many ways to pursue their interests. To see all the majors and minors offered at the U of M, go to [majors.umn.edu](https://majors.umn.edu). If your student does not know what they want to study, ask them about their interests, favorite subjects in school, and what jobs they are interested in.

## Plan courses



The U of M requires *prospective students* to complete high school *coursework* in specific subjects. It is important that students take challenging classes based on what is available at their school. These courses help prepare students for college, and help them submit a strong *application*. To see what classes the U of M requires, visit the website [z.umn.edu/collegesearch](https://z.umn.edu/collegesearch).

## Take the ACT or SAT



*Standardized tests*, such as the ACT or SAT, measure a student's knowledge in four subjects: English, mathematics, reading, and science. These tests are used to determine a student's readiness for college classes. **Please note:** the University of Minnesota Twin Cities will not require an ACT or SAT score for the 2021 application.

## Ask questions



We encourage families to join their student as they begin their college search. If you have any questions during your student's college search, please contact the U of M Office of Admissions by phone at 612-625-2008 or 1-800-752-1000, or reach out to one of our admissions counselors at [z.umn.edu/counselor](https://z.umn.edu/counselor). We are happy to support you and your student as they complete these important actions.

## KEY TERMS

ENGLISH TERM	DEFINITION
<b>Admissions Counselor</b>	Staff member of a college who supports students during their college search journey
<b>Application</b>	Form and documents a student gives to a college to be considered for admission
<b>College Search/Journey</b>	Actions a student takes to find and look at colleges that interest them
<b>Coursework</b>	Classes a student takes to complete a requirement, like high school graduation
<b>Major</b>	A student's specialized focus of study. A major is required for graduation.
<b>Minor</b>	A student's second specialized focus of study. A minor is not required.
<b>Prospective Student</b>	A student who is interested in attending a college
<b>Standardized Test</b>	A test that measures a student's understanding of a topic and their academic readiness for university-level classes
<b>U of M</b>	Shortened name for the University of Minnesota Twin Cities
<b>Virtual Campus Tour</b>	Online option for students to see campus without visiting in-person

## U OF M SPECIFIC KEY TERMS

<b>System Campuses</b>	<p>The U of M has 5 campuses in the state of Minnesota. They are located in Crookston, Duluth, Morris, Rochester, and the Twin Cities. Each campus has its own admissions application.</p> <p>The U of M Twin Cities has two campuses at its location: Minneapolis and St. Paul.</p>
<b>Colleges versus University</b>	<p>A college is a smaller school which offers four-year degrees. A university is a larger school which offers four-year degrees, and other advanced degrees, such as medicine or dentistry.</p> <p>The University of Minnesota Twin Cities is a university with 8 colleges that admit freshman (new high school graduate) or transfer students (have taken classes after high school at a different college or university):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carlson School of Management</li> <li>• College of Biological Sciences</li> <li>• College of Design</li> <li>• College of Education and Human Development</li> <li>• College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences</li> <li>• College of Liberal Arts</li> <li>• College of Science and Engineering</li> <li>• School of Nursing</li> </ul>



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