

APPLY FOR ADMISSION



We are excited that your student is interested in *applying* to the University of Minnesota Twin Cities! During this time, there are new terms and dates to remember. At the *U of M*, we want you to know about these important deadlines and next steps:



Apply for admission



Once your student has picked a school that is the *best fit*, they will fill out an *application*. At the U of M, our application requires three items: an application, *self-reported academic record*, and a \$55* application fee. Unlike other schools, we do not require letters of recommendation or essays.

The U of M has two applications: Golden Gopher Application and Common Application. We do not have a preference on which application a student submits, but students should only pick and submit one application.

Students can begin applying the August before their senior year of high school. Your student can find information on applying to the U of M at z.umn.edu/apply.

*The \$55 application fee can be *waived* for students who demonstrate financial need or participate in specific programs. Questions on the application will determine if a student is eligible, and allow them to bypass the payment screen.

Write down important application deadlines



The U of M has three application deadlines. Students must complete and submit their application by one of the three deadlines to get an *admission decision* by a specific date.

- **November 1** = *Early Action I Deadline*
 - ◆ Students get a decision on their application no later than January 31.
 - ◆ In addition, November 1 is the deadline to apply for the freshman nursing program. Applications received after this date will not be reviewed.
- **December 1** = *Early Action II Deadline*
 - ◆ Students get a decision on their application no later than February 15.
- **January 1** = *Regular Deadline*
 - ◆ Students get a decision on their application no later than March 31.

Your student can find more information on *freshman* application deadlines at z.umn.edu/appdeadlines. Please note, applications received after January 1 will be reviewed on a space-available basis.

Types of admissions decisions



After an application is submitted, it will be reviewed by the Office of Admissions using a process called *holistic review*. During this process, the U of M uses two types of factors to make a decision: *academic factors* like *coursework* and grades, and *context factors* like interests and community service. For more information on the application review process, visit z.umn.edu/review.

There are four possible decisions that can be made:

- **Admit:** a student has been admitted to attend the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. If admitted, students will receive instructions on their *next steps*, including how to *confirm their enrollment*.
- **Defer:** this decision is only for students who applied by the Early Action I or Early Action II Deadline. Not all students who apply by the Early Action deadlines are deferred. This decision means we need more information on other students before we can make a final decision. An update will be given no later than March 31.
- **Waitlist:** the student has been placed on a list of qualified students. This decision means we need to assure we have enough space and resources at the U of M before we can offer admission. An update will be given no later than the middle of June.
- **Deny:** a student has not been admitted to the University of Minnesota Twin Cities.

Apply for financial aid



To be awarded financial aid, a student and their family must fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or *FAFSA*, which evaluates a family's finances and calculates how much they are expected to pay. The FAFSA is available in October, and must be submitted to the U of M by the FAFSA *priority deadline* on March 1 to ensure your student receives any aid they qualify for by the start of school. We encourage both students and parents to get an early estimate of how much financial aid they may qualify for by using U of M's Net Price Calculator at z.umn.edu/netcalc.

Minnesota students who do not qualify for the FAFSA are encouraged to complete the *MN DREAM Act*. To find out more information and eligibility, please visit z.umn.edu/MNDreamAct. For more information on resources available to undocumented and DACA students, please visit z.umn.edu/undocumented.

Financial aid is used to pay for *tuition*, or the cost of attending classes and using campus resources. Tuition is different from the *cost of attendance*, which is the total cost of going to college and includes tuition, the cost of *room and board*, books, fees, and other expenses.

There are two types of tuition rates:

- **In-state tuition:** the discounted cost a *resident*, or student who qualifies for *reciprocity** pays.
- **Out-of-state tuition:** the cost a student pays to attend college in a state they do not live in.

*Official resident and reciprocity status is defined in the Residency and Reciprocity Handbook at z.umn.edu/residencypdf.

Apply for housing

Living on campus is an experience that allows students to live closer to classes, resources, and friends. However, living on campus is not required.



At the University of Minnesota, we guarantee on-campus housing in *residence halls*, for all admitted freshman who apply for housing by May 1. Students can submit a *housing application* before getting an admissions decision. The housing application opens in November and can be found online at z.umn.edu/housingapp. For more information on why living on campus adds to the freshman experience, visit z.umn.edu/whyhousing.

The U of M offers unique housing opportunities in *Living Learning Communities* (LLCs) where students with similar backgrounds or interests live near each other in residence halls. Your student can find a list of LLCs at z.umn.edu/LLCinfo.

The U of M also has programs and resources for students who choose not to live on campus. We strive to ensure *commuter* students have an on-campus network and opportunities to meet others with shared interests.

KEY TERMS

ENGLISH TERM	DEFINITION
Academic Factors	A student's educational history used by the University of Minnesota to review a student's application and determine if they are academically prepared to succeed in university-level classes
Admission	A college's response to an applicant to allow them to become a student of their college
Admission Decision	A choice a college makes on whether to offer a student admission
Admit	A college has reviewed a student's application and agrees they are prepared to succeed at their school and extends an offer to attend
Application	Form and documents a student gives to a college to be considered for admission
Apply	The act of submitting an application
Best Fit	Phrase used to describe a school that fits a student's interests and goals
Commuter	A student who does not live on campus and walks, bikes, takes public transportation or drives to campus to attend classes
Confirm Enrollment	Action a student takes to let a school know they will be attending. This action includes paying a non-refundable confirmation fee.
Context Factors	A student's personal background information used by the University of Minnesota to review a student's application. These factors can include a wide variety of topics like after-school clubs, sports, family responsibilities, job experience, volunteering and more.
Cost of Attendance	The total cost of going to college, including housing, books, transportation, fees, and other expenses a student typically has while going to school
Coursework	Classes a student takes to complete a requirement
Defer	A college's response to an early action applicant who has not been admitted yet because more information is needed
Deny	A college has reviewed a student's application and has decided not to admit them

KEY TERMS

ENGLISH TERM	DEFINITION
Early Action Deadlines	The first deadline for applications which allows students to receive an early admission decision. The U of M has two Early Action deadlines. This decision is non-binding.
FAFSA	Shortened name for Free Application for Federal Student Aid, a government form that calculates how much a student can afford to pay for college. This calculation is used by the University of Minnesota to award financial aid.
Financial Aid	Money in the form of loans, grants, scholarships, and work study to help pay for college
Freshman	A student in their first year of college
Holistic Review	Process used by the University of Minnesota to look at the academic and personal experiences a student shares on their application
Housing Application	Actions a student takes to live in on-campus residence halls. This application is different from the admissions application.
Living Learning Communities	U of M housing arrangements where students with similar backgrounds and interests live near each other in residence halls
MN DREAM Act	The MN DREAM Act provides benefits to undocumented students in Minnesota who meet specific criteria
Net Price Calculator	Online form where students enter information about themselves and/or their family's finances to get an estimate on how much financial aid they may be awarded
Next Steps	Actions a student takes after their admission
Priority Deadline	Deadline to complete the FAFSA to ensure notification is not delayed
Reciprocity	Students attending the U of M from Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota and Manitoba, Canada. These students qualify for in-state tuition if they apply for reciprocity status.
Regular Deadline	The final deadline for applications
Residence Hall	Dormitories or other living quarters provided by the college
Resident	A person who lives in Minnesota
Room and Board	Money a college charges for living and dining in a residence hall
Self-Reported Academic Record	The U of M requires students to report their test scores and high school grades on their application - which means they do not need to provide official documents until after they have been admitted. Please note: ACT/SAT test scores are not required for the 2021 application.
Tuition	Money a college charges for classes and use of on-campus resources. The amount a student pays depends on their financial aid and their in-state or out-of-state status.
U of M	Shortened name for the University of Minnesota Twin Cities
Waitlist	A college has placed a student on a list of other qualified students but has not admitted them yet due to space limitations
Waive	Item or document not required for an application to be considered complete

