

# ADMISSIONS TERMS



Wherever your student is on their college search, it is important to remember the following terms. If you have any questions, 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://www.z.umn.edu/counselor). We are happy to explain terms and support you and your student on their college search.

## KEY TERMS

ENGLISH TERM	DEFINITION
<b>Academic Factors</b>	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
<b>Admission</b>	A college's response to an applicant to allow them to become a student of their college
<b>Admissions Counselor</b>	Staff member of a college who supports students during their college search journey
<b>Admission Decision</b>	A choice a college makes on whether to offer a student admission
<b>Admit</b>	A college has reviewed a student's application and agrees they are prepared to succeed at their school and extends an offer to attend
<b>Advisor</b>	A university staff member that helps students choose coursework and progress toward graduation
<b>Application</b>	Form and documents a student gives to a college to be considered for admission
<b>Apply</b>	The act of submitting an application
<b>Best Fit</b>	Phrase used to describe a school that fits a student's interests and goals
<b>College Life</b>	Experiences and opportunities students will have as a student
<b>College Search/Journey</b>	Actions a student takes to find and look at colleges that interest them
<b>Commuter</b>	A student who does not live on campus and walks, bikes, takes public transportation or drives to campus to attend classes
<b>Confirmation Fee</b>	A payment a student makes to confirm their enrollment
<b>Confirm Enrollment</b>	Action a student takes to let a school know they will be attending. This action includes paying a non-refundable confirmation fee.
<b>Context Factors</b>	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.
<b>Cost of Attendance</b>	The total cost of going to college, including housing, books, transportation, fees, and other expenses a student typically has while going to school
<b>Coursework</b>	Classes a student takes to complete a requirement
<b>Defer</b>	A college's response to an early action applicant who has not been admitted yet because more information is needed
<b>Deny</b>	A college has reviewed a student's application and has decided not to admit them
<b>Early Action Deadlines</b>	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.
<b>FAFSA</b>	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.

## KEY TERMS

ENGLISH TERM	DEFINITION
<b>Financial Aid</b>	Money in the form of loans, grants, scholarships, and work study to help pay for college
<b>Financial Aid Package</b>	Total amount of money a student receives to help pay for college. This includes money awarded from the FAFSA, and given by the university, in the form of scholarships and work study.
<b>Freshman</b>	A student in their first year of college
<b>Golden Gopher</b>	A nickname for University of Minnesota Twin Cities students, named after the school mascot, Goldy Gopher
<b>Holistic Review</b>	Process used by the University of Minnesota to look at the academic and personal experiences a student shares on their application
<b>Housing Application</b>	Actions a student takes to live in on-campus residence halls. This application is different from the admissions application.
<b>Living Learning Communities</b>	U of M housing arrangements where students with similar backgrounds and interests live near each other in residence halls
<b>Majors</b>	A student's specialized focus of study. A major is required for graduation.
<b>Minors</b>	A student's second specialized focus of study. A minor is not required.
<b>MN DREAM Act</b>	The MN DREAM Act provides benefits to undocumented students in Minnesota who meet specific criteria
<b>Net Price Calculator</b>	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
<b>Next Steps</b>	Actions a student takes after their admission
<b>Orientation</b>	A mandatory summer program that introduces students to the resources and opportunities at the U of M
<b>Priority Deadline</b>	Deadline to complete the FAFSA to ensure notification is not delayed
<b>Prospective Student</b>	A student who is interested in attending a college
<b>Reciprocity</b>	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.
<b>Regular Deadline</b>	The final deadline for applications
<b>Rescind</b>	A choice a college makes to cancel a student's admission
<b>Residence Hall</b>	Dormitories or other living quarters provided by the college
<b>Resident</b>	A person who lives in Minnesota
<b>Room and Board</b>	Money a college charges for living and dining in a residence hall
<b>Self-Reported Academic Record</b>	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. <b>Please note:</b> ACT/SAT test scores are not required for the 2021 application.
<b>Standardized Test</b>	A test that measures a student's understanding of a topic and their academic readiness for university-level classes
<b>Tuition</b>	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.
<b>U of M</b>	Shortened name for the University of Minnesota Twin Cities
<b>Virtual Campus Tours</b>	Online option for students to see campus without visiting a school in-person
<b>Waitlist</b>	A college has placed a student on a list of other qualified students but has not admitted them yet due to space limitations
<b>Waive</b>	Item or document not required for an application to be considered complete

