

Direct Admissions Minnesota

Your higher education journey starts with Direct Admissions

The Direct Admissions program is designed to make sure you know that you have multiple college options in the state. With Direct Admissions, you no longer have to wonder “will I get in?” because you will be proactively notified of which participating colleges and universities you are accepted to - before you even apply! This fall, you will receive a letter that lists the participating colleges and universities that are ready to admit you based on your academic records. This communication will outline your next steps, so you can secure admission to the right school for you.

Our goal:

We want all Minnesota graduating seniors to know that you have multiple college options in the state! Whether you want to attend a four-year university, two-year community college, trade school or technical college, there are many short-term and long-term postsecondary possibilities participating in Direct Admissions.

Student Checklist:

To take full advantage of the Direct Admissions program, use the checklist to stay on track!

OCTOBER OF YOUR SENIOR YEAR



Receive and review your Direct Admissions communication: Be ready! You will receive a hard copy and digital copy of your Direct Admissions letter, which will list all the colleges that you are receiving Direct Admission to.



Select your institutions: In your digital letter, select which colleges and universities you would like to receive Direct Admission to. Submit the letter back to your high school, then complete the application portal. Depending on the institutions selected, you will receive your official acceptance letters! Some institutions will request more information, so watch your email inbox for next steps.

FALL TO SPRING OF YOUR SENIOR YEAR



Explore your options: Determine the best fit for you! Visit MyHigherEd.mn.gov and use the college search tool to compare your choices according to college profiles, program options, institution size, tuition and much more.



Complete FAFSA and explore financial aid options: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the most important step that you can take to pay for college. Maximize your chances to receive grants, scholarships, and other financial aid. You can also connect with your school counselor to ensure you are on track for graduation and identify school scholarships and grants to apply for.



Make your final decision: Commit to your next steps! After considering all your options, you should confirm your fall enrollment with your desired college.



Direct Admissions AT A GLANCE

“Direct Admissions” means a student has gained conditional or guaranteed admittance to a college or university, depending on the institution.

Students must complete the college’s application (fees waived) and submit additional information to officially confirm their admittance to the colleges of their choice.

Participating Institutions

- 120+ participating high schools
- 23,000+ participating seniors
- 55+ colleges and universities - includes technical schools, tribal colleges, community colleges, four-year public and private universities

Scan the QR
code for more
information:



You are college ready.

You have options.

Minnesota colleges and universities
are ready to welcome you next fall.

APPLY FOR FREE

It is FREE to apply to the colleges and universities participating in Direct Admissions

Paying for college

There are many options that can help you plan how to pay for college and minimize your overall costs!

Complete the FAFSA

We strongly encourage you to apply for financial aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or MN Dream Act, which is used to determine eligibility for financial aid. The federal Pell Grant and the Minnesota State Grant provide grants to more than 120,000 students each year. Half of all students who apply receive a Pell Grant or Minnesota State Grant! Grants are based on the cost of the college chosen, family size, and income.

Where do I start?

The federal Student Aid website (studentaid.gov) is where you start to complete your FAFSA. For undocumented students, complete the MN Dream Act (www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct).

In addition, check out the financial aid section of each college or university you are interested in. Find out more information about their deadlines and application process for scholarships and other types of college funded aid.

Frequently Asked Questions

How did I get selected for the colleges and universities on my list?

You are offered Direct Admission to the colleges and universities on your list based on your current GPA and the courses you have completed by the end of your junior year. Colleges and universities pre-select admissions criteria tiers to determine which students they want to offer Direct Admission to.

Do I still need to take a placement/standardized test like ACT or SAT?

While many colleges and universities participating in the Direct Admissions program do not require students to submit ACT or SAT scores, students should still consult the website of their top choice institutions to find out more about their current testing recommendations. You may be asked to submit ACT or SAT scores, if required by the institution.

Do I still need to complete an admissions application?

Yes! The Direct Admissions program lets you know your options for institutions that are committed to admitting you, but you must complete an admissions application to secure a spot. Remember - your applications will be free! Once you submit your digital letter back to your high school, you will complete an online application portal. Be sure to provide an alternate email address (other than your school account) and watch your email inbox. The colleges and universities that you select will provide your next steps.

What if I already applied to colleges or universities on my list? Will this affect my application?

No need to worry about any applications you may have already submitted! Your application will still be processed and there is no need to re-apply. Please note that if you've already submitted an application fee, it will not be refunded.

I don't see the name of a college that I'm interested in on this letter. Does that mean I can't be admitted there?

Some colleges and universities chose not to opt-in to the Direct Admissions program, so you may not see a college you are interested in on your list. If there are other colleges you are interested in, you'll want to apply through their standard admissions processes.

Read more FAQs at www.ohe.state.mn.us/directadmissions