



COMMON APP READY

Getting Started

GETTING STARTED AGENDA

- Creating Your Account
- Common App Layout
- Searching for & Adding Colleges

CREATING YOUR ACCOUNT

Creating a Common App account is easy! Simply go to commonapp.org and click the *Create Account* or *Apply Now* buttons to get started.



FIND A COLLEGE

Plan for college ▾

Apply to college ▾

Support your students ▾



Sign in

Create an account

Your future starts here

Apply to college for the first time or transfer to complete your degree. Navigate your entire college application journey with Common App.

Start your application

Then follow these three simple steps to create your account.

Account Creation Steps:

1. Registration Type
2. Login Credentials
3. Registration Information



Let's get started!

Welcome to Common App! Please tell us how you will use the system so we can prepare your account. If you are unsure, we encourage you to explore each option before you continue.

Already have an account? [Go to the login page.](#)

First year student



Transfer student



Education professional



Parent or other adult



1. REGISTRATION TYPE

2. LOGIN CREDENTIALS

Create your account

Email Address *

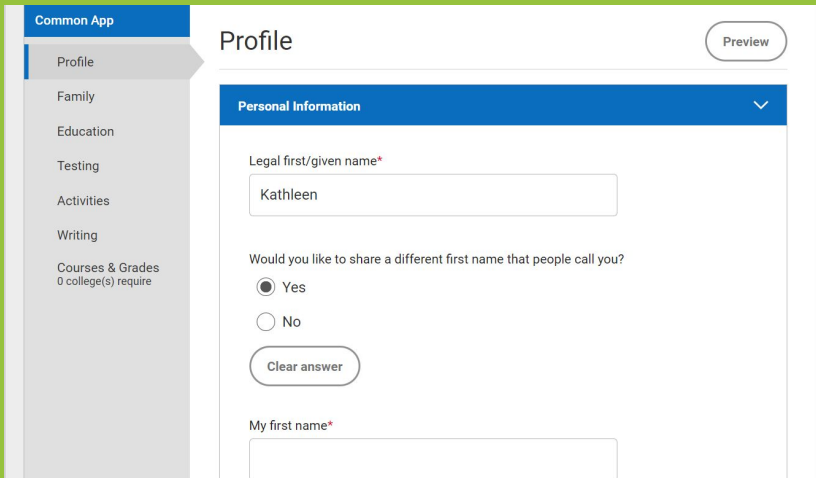
Re-type Email Address *

Password *

- ✗ 10-32 characters
- ✗ At least one upper case
- ✗ At least one lower case
- ✗ At least one number
- ✗ At least one special character
- ✗ No space characters

Re-type Password *

3. REGISTRATION INFORMATION



Common App changes beginning August 1

Common App has several changes planned for the 2023–2024 application season, including updated gender identity options. Common App will add ‘X’ or ‘another legal sex’ as an [option](#) in addition to ‘female’ and ‘male,’ similar to the addition of ‘X’ as a legal sex indicator on U.S. [passports](#). This builds upon [last year's update](#), which included the introduction of a question allowing applicants to share their preferred first name and select their pronoun set, among other changes.

Do you have any materials under a former legal name?*

Yes

No

For example, a maiden name.

Clear answer

Former first name

Former middle name

Former last name

Demographics

Gender

Female

Male

Nonbinary

Add another gender

Legal sex [Learn more](#)*

Female

Male

X or another legal sex

Clear answer

Pronouns

He/Him

She/Her

They/Them

Add another pronoun set

COMMON APP LAYOUT

The Common App is divided into four tabs:

- Dashboard
- My Colleges
- Common App
- College Search
- Financial Aid Resources



Welcome, Kara!
Practice Applicant [Practice account FAQs](#) 
CAID 14539562 [Sign Out](#)
kgagnon@pinkertonacademy.org

- Dashboard
- My Colleges
- Common App
- College Search
- Financial Aid Resources

Welcome, Kara!

Congratulations on taking this first step in the college application process!

Here are some tips to get you started:

- This tab is your Dashboard. After you add a college to your list, you will see your application progress here.
- All colleges will need you to answer the common questions under your [Common App](#) tab.
- To apply to a college, head over to the [College Search](#) tab.
- Once you have added a college, you can complete and submit your application in the [My Colleges](#) tab.

We are here to help you every step of the way! If you run into any questions or you need some help, check out our 24/7 [Applicant Solutions Center](#) or [contact us](#) at any time.

Need help?

How can I add a college to my Dashboard?

You can add a college from the **College Search** tab.

Then follow these steps:
[Read more](#)

How can I remove a school from my Dashboard?

You can remove a school by clicking the X icon on the school name line on the Dashboard. However, a [Read more](#)

How many colleges can I add to my Dashboard?

The Common Application member colleges have stipulated that applicants may add up to 20 colleges. [Read more](#)



Dashboard

My Colleges

Common App

College Search

Welcome!

Search for and add colleges to your My Colleges list in the College Search tab.

The Common App dashboard is the central location to monitor your requirements, and progress. The menu across the top will allow you to access the system to complete your application components.

For more information on application questions on the Common App tab

Click on the College Search tab

Go to the Help Center on the right side bar

Once you have added colleges, you will see them displayed here on the Dashboard and be able to review requirements specific to each of them on the My Colleges tab.

Instructions and Help

What are the Writing Requirements?

You can click on the Writing Requirements tab to understand what different colleges expect of you w ...

[+]

Check out our Common App Tour video for more info!

Please check the requirements for each school on their specific page. Click on the name of the s ... [+]

- Dashboard
- My Colleges
- Common App
- College Search
- Financial Aid Resources

Welcome, Kara!


Congratulations on taking this first step in the college application process!

on progress here.

colleges tab.

help, check out our 24/7 [Applicant](#)

The Dashboard is your home base where you can keep an eye on your requirements and upcoming deadlines.

Need help? 

How can I add a college to my Dashboard?
You can add a college from the **College Search** tab.

Then follow these steps:
[Read more](#)

How can I remove a school from my Dashboard?
You can remove a school by clicking the X icon on the school name line on the Dashboard. However, a [Read more](#)

How many colleges can I add to my Dashboard?
The Common Application member colleges have stipulated that applicants

SEARCHING FOR & **ADDING** COLLEGES

With nearly 1500 colleges in the Common Application, there's one that's right for you! Use the College Search tab to explore, learn, and add colleges to your list.

THE COLLEGE SEARCH TAB

Dashboard

My Colleges

Common App

College Search

Criteria

Criteria

Application Requirements

College or City Name

Separate multiple search terms with a comma, e.g.: Washington, Boston

Country

US State

Distance from ZIP

 Miles from

Term

 Fall 2017 Spring 2017 Other 2017

Deadline on or after

Application Fee

 No fee for domestic applicants (U.S. Citizens)
 No fee for international applicants (Non-U.S. Citizens)

Writing Requirements

 Do not require the Common App personal essay
 Do not require additional college-specific essays

Standardized Test Policy

 Always Required Sometimes Required
 Never Required Flexible Ignored

Letter of Recommendation

 Required Not Required

[Clear](#)

[Search](#)

Criteria

Result List

Result List

[i](#) request information [🔗](#) college's website

<input type="checkbox"/>	▲ Member Name ▼	▲ Location ▼	▲ Country ▼	▲ Type ▼
<input type="checkbox"/>	Christopher Newport University i 🔗	Newport News - VA	USA	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	George Mason University i 🔗	Emory - VA	USA	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	George Mason University i 🔗	Fairfax - VA	USA	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hampden-Sydney College i 🔗	Hampden-Sydney - VA	USA	Men
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hollins University i 🔗	Roanoke - VA	USA	Women
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lynchburg College i 🔗	Lynchburg - VA	United States	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marymount University i 🔗	Arlington - VA	USA	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Dominion University i 🔗	Norfolk - VA	USA	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Randolph College i 🔗	Lynchburg - VA	USA	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Randolph-Macon College i 🔗	Ashland - VA	USA	Coed

Add

1 2

10

Items per page

Instructions and Help [➔](#)

Add college to list

To add a college to your list, do so from your results list under the College Search tab. Check the ... [+]

[\[more\]](#) [➔](#)

College Information

You can see specific college information such as phone numbers, deadlines, fees, and recommendation ... [+]

[\[more\]](#) [➔](#)

Searching for a college name

There are several ways to search for colleges, which are listed here. When entering a college name, ... [+]

[\[more\]](#) [➔](#)

RESULTS LIST





















ADDING SCHOOLS

Criteria

Result List

Result List

 request information  college's website

<input type="checkbox"/>	▲▼ Member Name	▲▼ Location	▲▼ Country	▲▼ Type
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christopher Newport University  	Newport News - VA	USA	Coed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emory & Henry College  	Emory - VA	USA	Coed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	George Mason University  	Fairfax - VA	USA	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hampden-Sydney College  	Hampden-Sydney - VA	USA	Men
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hollins University  	Roanoke - VA	USA	Women
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lynchburg College  	Lynchburg - VA	United States	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marymount University  	Arlington - VA	USA	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Dominion University  	Norfolk - VA	USA	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Randolph College  	Lynchburg - VA	USA	Coed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Randolph-Macon College  	Ashland - VA	USA	Coed

Add

The following college(s) were added to your My Colleges list:

- ✓ Christopher Newport University
- ✓ Emory & Henry College
- ✓ George Mason University

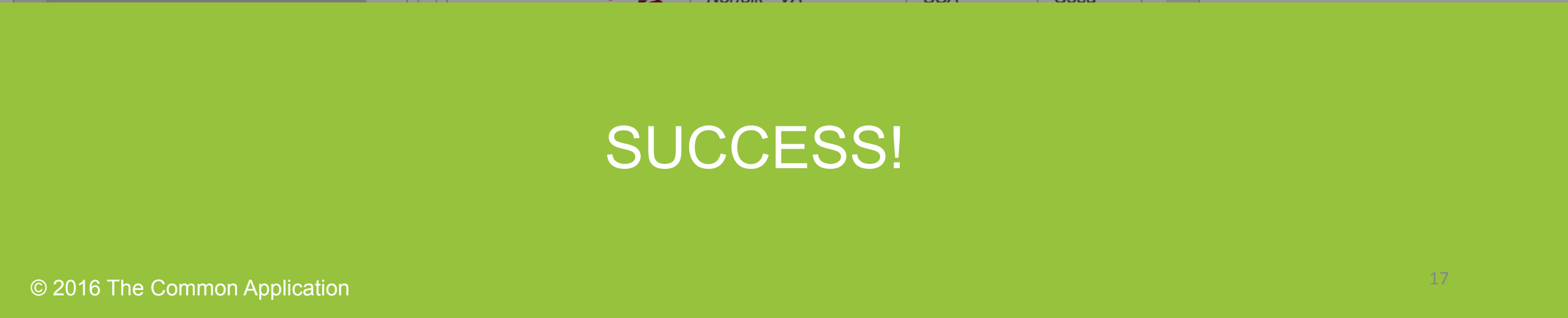
[Search Again](#) [My Colleges](#)

Information

see specific college
on such as phone
, deadlines, fees,
mmendation ... [+]

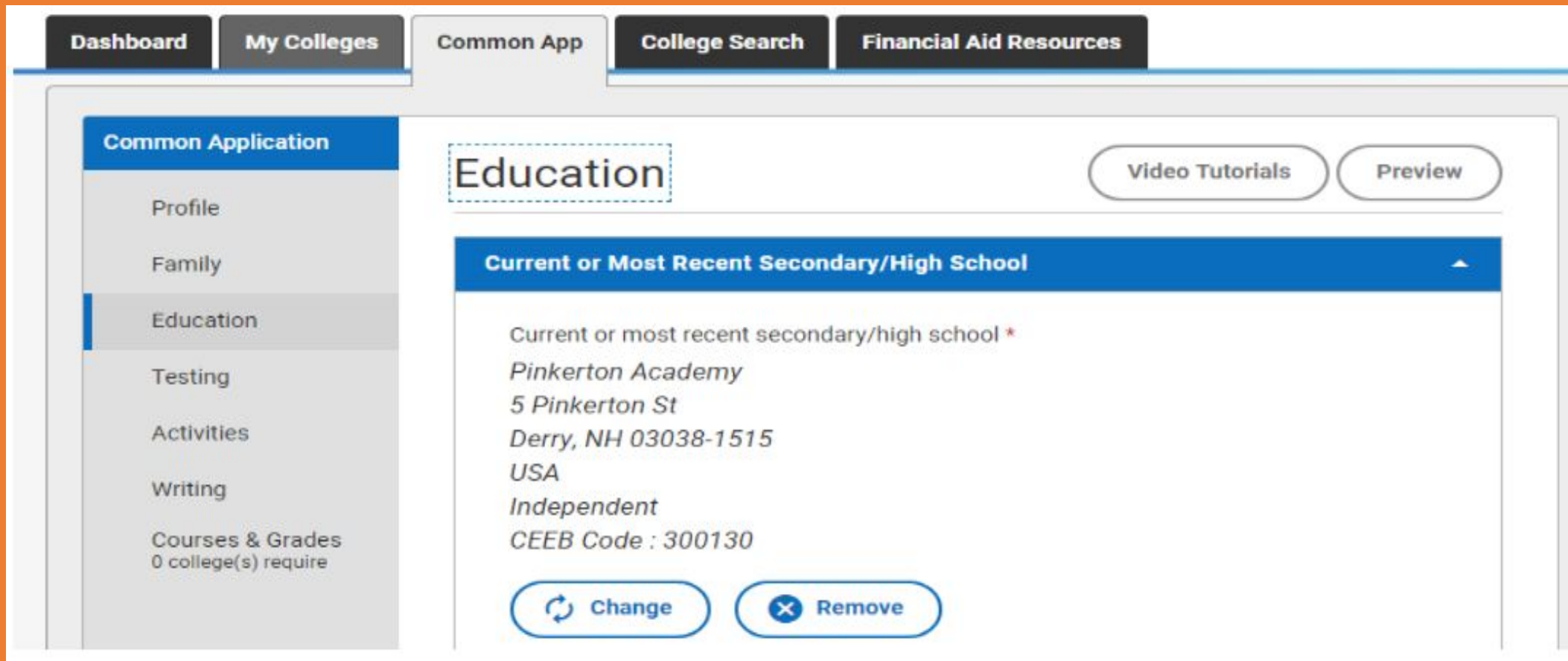
ing for a college

several ways to
or colleges, which are
re. When entering a
ame, ... [+]



Link your Common App to your Naviance Account.

Pinkerton Academy must be listed as your attending High School



The screenshot displays the Naviance user interface for the Common App section. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Dashboard, My Colleges, Common App (selected), College Search, and Financial Aid Resources. On the left, a sidebar menu lists various sections: Common Application, Profile, Family, Education (highlighted), Testing, Activities, Writing, and Courses & Grades (0 college(s) require). The main content area is titled 'Education' and features 'Video Tutorials' and 'Preview' buttons. Below this, a section titled 'Current or Most Recent Secondary/High School' contains the following information: 'Current or most recent secondary/high school *', 'Pinkerton Academy', '5 Pinkerton St', 'Derry, NH 03038-1515', 'USA', 'Independent', and 'CEEB Code : 300130'. At the bottom of this section are 'Change' and 'Remove' buttons.

The FERPA Release Authorization needs to be signed.

- Once this is done, log into Naviance, click Colleges I am applying to, click Match
- Click Match Accounts, it will bring you to Common App and check off I agree and Connect and follow the prompts

The screenshot displays the Naviance user interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Dashboard, My Colleges, Common App, College Search, and Financial Aid Resources. The 'My Colleges' tab is active, and a sidebar menu on the left shows options for 'Keene State College', 'College Information', 'Application', 'Questions', 'Recommendations and FERPA', and 'Review and Submit - Common App'. The main content area is titled 'Recommendations & FERPA' and features a warning icon and the heading 'FERPA Release Authorization'. Below this, a message states: 'Before you can invite your counselor, teachers, recommenders, parents, or advisors, you must complete the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) release authorization process.' A link for 'Learn more about FERPA' is provided, and a prominent blue button labeled 'Complete Release Authorization' is at the bottom.

LEARN MORE



GATHER YOUR

MATERIALS
Important information
you'll need for your
application.



TIPS & BEST PRACTICES

Best practices to keep in
mind as you complete your
applications.



COMMON APP TOUR

Learn how to navigate
the Common App.