



College Knowledge



Badge Overview

The years after high school are an exciting time—you're going out into the world and figuring out what your adult life is going to look like. Some people will go to college right after high school, and some will take different paths. If you've decided that college is the best choice for you and your family, you may be feeling both excited and overwhelmed. Simplify the college preparation process by tackling it step by step, and you'll be ready to start your next chapter in no time!

Badge Components Part 1

1. Explore your options

Earn this step by exploring your options!

- Head over to this [page](#) to explore thousands of options across the U.S.. You can also check out this [page](#) to take virtual campus tours of over 600 colleges.
- Choose 3 colleges/universities you plan to apply to and create a checklist of their application requirements. Things to include are where to apply (Common Application, school website, other platform), transcripts, essays, ACT/SAT test scores, and letters of recommendation.
- It is also important to be aware of any additional application processes or requirements for specific majors, such as engineering or nursing, or programs such as honors programs/colleges.

2. Start the admissions process

Option 1: Earn this step by prepping for your personal essay!

- Watch this [video](#) to get some tips that are useful for any essay prompt.
- Then, head over to this [link](#) to take a look at the essay prompt options on the Common Application and select one. If you are not using the Common Application, these can still be great practice, or feel free to use a prompt specific to your school if provided!
- Create an outline for your essay that includes your introduction, main points for your body, and your conclusion. Keep in mind that college essays have word count limits, for example, the Common Application requires your personal essay to be between 250 and 650 words.

Option 2: Earn this step by prepping for your letters of recommendation!

- Check out this [article](#) for key things to know and remember as you begin asking for letters of recommendation from those teachers, counselors, advisors, etc. who know you best.
- Can't ask for a letter of recommendation in person? You can draft a professional email asking the individual if they would be able to connect with you via phone regarding a letter of recommendation. This allows you to still connect with them in a personal way to ask and provide any information they need. If they are not available via phone, you can professionally and politely ask them via email and attach items such as your transcript, a resume with your extracurriculars, service, work, etc., and/or a copy of your personal essay for them to reference if needed.
- Once they have submitted your letter, be sure to send a note in the mail, (if you have their mailing address), or via email to thank them for supporting you and providing a letter of recommendation!

Materials

- Something to write with
- Something to write on
- Access to internet

Florida Educational Standards

The content of all Girl Scout national proficiency Badges and Journeys have been correlated by grade level to national and state learning objectives.

Click here for more information on how Girl Scout Badge-work supports Florida's educational standards.



We love to see Girl Scouts in action.

Snap a photo and send it to marcomm@gssef.org. Include her name, troop # and the name of the badge she's working on and we'll feature her.

Finished with your badge? Now buy it for your Girl Scout Uniform. Order online at <https://www.girlscoutshop.com/SOUTHEAST-FLORIDA-COUNCIL> and we'll ship it for free.

