GRADUATE READY GUIDE

FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE

If your student plans to attend a four-year college after graduation, follow this checklist of important actions to help them prepare for their next step.

- **Submit or update the FAFSA and state grant application:** Submitting the FAFSA requires your input and will impact your child's financial aid options. If you haven't already done this, this is the next step to take now. Make sure to include all colleges that your student applied on the application.
- **Review acceptance and financial aid award letters:** Your student will receive a financial aid award letter from the institutions to which they applied and listed on the FAFSA. Review each award letter before making a final decision. Schools may request additional information to finalize your award. Be sure to follow up on time!
- **Family meeting:** Participate in a family meeting with your child and their postsecondary advisor. During this meeting, you will review your student's final plan, go over financial aid, and ensure your questions are answered about the enrollment process.
- **Make a final decision:** After your student has received their acceptances, compared financial aid offers, and picked the best school for them, submit their enrollment form and deposit. This should ideally occur before May 1 to ensure their housing options and spot are guaranteed.
- **Activate student portal:** Your student will need to activate and review their college portal. This is where they will set up their college email address. It is also where institutions may request time-sensitive follow-up documentation.
- **Submit housing deposit:** If your student plans to stay on campus, they must complete a housing application and submit a housing deposit. This should be done as soon as possible to secure a spot.
- **Complete loan counseling and sign MPN:** If you are using financial aid to cover tuition, your child will need to complete the student loan entrance counseling and sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN).

Get ready

Over the summer, your student will continue to be supported by a representative from Mastery. They will be in regular touch to ensure that your student is ready to begin at their college or university in the fall.

Students with accommodations

After your child has submitted their enrollment paperwork, they will need to request accommodations from the disability services office at their intended college.

Discuss with your student's case manager the accommodations they have received during high school and how they have benefited them. Make sure to include your child in that conversation. Then have your child schedule an initial meeting.

If you have any questions over the summer, reach out to your student's postsecondary advisor. Their contact information can be found on the Graduate Ready page masterycharter.org/graduateready on Mastery's website.

Mastery Schools