

Top 10 College Application Mistakes

1. **Misspellings and grammatical errors**-Misspellings on something as important as your college application might communicate that you don't care or that you are not good at spelling. Don't stop with spell-check...proofread for grammatical errors.
2. **Applying online, but the application isn't actually submitted**- You should receive confirmation from the college or university in an email. Follow through and make sure that your application has been received.
3. **Forgotten signatures**-Make sure you sign and date all forms, checking the front and back of forms. Check that all spaces have been filled in.
4. **Not reading carefully**- For example, if it asks what county you live in, don't misread it as country and put the United States.
5. **Listing extracurricular activities that aren't**- Those that make the cut include sports, the arts, formal organizations and volunteer work. Make sure your information is accurate, colleges may check with your high school for verification.
6. **Not telling your school counselor where you've applied**-Let your school counselor know which colleges you're applying to, and ask her to review your school transcript before sending it to colleges. Sometimes transcripts have errors. Ask the community college to send an official transcript to colleges you apply to if you have dual enrollment credits. Print off the Secondary School Report for your counselor when applicable.
7. **Write illegibly**- first impression count, so take your time and use good handwriting. It will make a better first impression.
8. **Using an email address that friends might laugh about, but colleges won't**-Select a professional email address. Keep your fun addresses for your friends, but select an address using your name for college admissions. Be smart when posting to social networks.
9. **Not checking your email regularly**- if you've given an email address to the admissions office, they will use that address to communicate with you. You don't want to miss out on important information such as deadlines or scholarships.
10. **Letting mom or dad help you fill out your application**-Admissions know if your parents help, whether you have two different styles of handwriting or your admissions essay sounds more like a 45-year old than a 17 -year old wrote it. It is fine to get advice, but do the work yourself.