

6 ENROLLING IN COLLEGE: MAKING YOUR DECISION

You've submitted your college **applications** and now the waiting game starts. This can take anywhere from a month to several months, depending on the type of school. Colleges will likely communicate their decision through email, mail or their online portal. Don't forget to check with the college admissions department if you have questions.

I JUST RECEIVED A DECISION FROM A COLLEGE, WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Accepted – You were accepted. Congratulations!

Waitlisted – You have not been accepted or denied. The college is waiting to see how many students will accept their offer to determine if they have more space.

Denied – You were not accepted. Consider exploring other college options.

Deciding what college to go to can be difficult, but finding the right school for you will help you succeed and graduate. Talk to your high school counselor about your options.

HOW DO I COMPARE COLLEGES?

Financial:

Consider how much of the cost of attendance will be covered by **grants** and **scholarships**.

Think about how you and your family will cover the money gap for your entire college education.

Academics:

Check if the academic **major** you are interested in is available at the college. Consider the types of **academic support** available (e.g. writing center, math tutoring, disability services, etc.).

Social:

Determine if the college is a good social and cultural fit for you (e.g. diversity, student groups, mentorship opportunities, etc.).

Think about what type of environment you like (close to home, big campus, rural setting, etc.).

* DON'T FORGET:

Once you have made your college decision, you must **notify the college by confirming your enrollment**.

For many 4-year colleges the deadline is May 1.

MAR: GRADE 12

GOOD TO KNOW: This is one of the biggest decisions you will make in your life. **Take time to think through** what each college has to offer. Don't be afraid to get input from family members, teachers or mentors.