

2025 Updates from Undergraduate Admissions

Changes to admission and decision release deadlines

AU26 first-year applicants	Application completion deadline	Decision release
Early action	Nov. 1	Dec. 12, Jan. 23*
Regular decision	Jan. 15	March 6

* December 12: Ohio residents and Stamps Eminence applicants; January 23: non-Ohio residents and international applicants

ACT/SAT test update

Ohio State now requires official ACT or SAT scores from applicants to the Columbus campus for all 2026 semesters.

- **ACT Science changes:** With the ACT Science section now optional, Ohio State will not require students to submit it.
- **Superscoring:** Ohio State will now superscore ACT and SAT scores if a student has tested more than once.

Last test dates

The last test dates that will meet our November 1 early action deadline are **October 4 (SAT)** and **September 6 (ACT)**. Students testing on these dates must request that Ohio State receive scores when they register. Students testing on these dates will not be able to view the scores prior to submitting them.

Note: If students have already tested, they should request scores by October 10.

Submitting documents

Counselors should use electronic sources like the Common Application, Naviance, Scoir or Parchment to submit documents for students. If you have something you can't send electronically, email it to ugdocs@osu.edu (replaces esue-studugt@osu.edu) directly from a school address. **For Ohio counselors:** Email CCP-related documents to ccpdocs@osu.edu. Please don't send us multiple copies.

Honors, Scholars and Eminence

Students should indicate their interest in being considered for Honors or Scholars on the Common Application, and are encouraged to apply by the early action deadline. There is no additional essay.

- If a student indicates an interest in Honors and is not offered Honors, they will automatically be considered for Scholars.
- Students interested in the Stamps Eminence Scholarship Program must apply for that program separately from the Common Application by November 10.

Details: honors-scholars.osu.edu

Morrill Scholarship Program

To be considered, students should check the box on the Common Application to indicate interest in MSP and complete the essay prompt. We recommend they apply by the early action deadline.

Details: go.osu.edu/msp

Financial aid key date: February 1

Every applicant is highly encouraged to file the FAFSA to be considered for the most aid (grants, loans, scholarships and Federal Work-Study).

Five things to know about financial aid:

1. The 2026 FAFSA will open by December.
2. Ohio State's priority date for filing the FAFSA is **February 1**. Students can still submit their FAFSA after that date, but filing before will give them priority aid consideration.
3. Ohio State's school code is 003090.
4. Students should complete a profile and apply for scholarships using ScholarshipUniverse (more on back).
5. Financial aid notifications are emailed to students by early March.



Undergraduate Admissions updates, continued

Fee waivers

For first-year students requesting an application fee waiver for 2026 due to financial hardship or need, we welcome documentation from the school counselor or CBO, and we will no longer hold applications incomplete for documentation.

ScholarshipUniverse

ScholarshipUniverse simplifies the process of finding and applying for scholarships from Ohio State as well as from external sources. Once students create their profile, the tool alerts them to possible scholarship matches. They'll need their Ohio State username and password — which they will activate after they apply for admission — to get started.

Encourage your students to apply for their ScholarshipUniverse matches by February 1.

Merit scholarships

Ohio State continues to offer merit scholarships to Ohio and domestic nonresident students who meet the early action deadline. Students who receive the Maximus, Provost, Trustees or National Buckeye scholarship are notified within a week of admission (see notification dates on p. 1).

Two important college reminders

Engineering

Students interested in our four oversubscribed engineering majors *must* indicate their interest on the Common App for:

1. Aerospace engineering
2. Biomedical engineering
3. Computer science and engineering (in the College of Engineering) or computer and Information science (in the College of Arts and Sciences)
4. Mechanical engineering

For these majors, students enter as pre-majors and apply to their respective major at the end of their first year. (Only students in these pre-majors may apply to their respective major.)

- Students interested in the other 10 majors in the College of Engineering (listed here: engineering.osu.edu/undergraduate/future-students/admissions/new-students) will be directly enrolled if admitted to Ohio State.
- Admitted students may change into any of these 10 majors by May 1.
- Columbus campus applicants may also choose one of four engineering pathways. Learn more at go.osu.edu/eng-pathways.

Be sure to check out the **Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology** program, offered only on our regional campuses for Ohio residents: engineering.osu.edu/engineering-technology.

Nursing

High achieving students interested in nursing have the opportunity to be considered for early admission into the BSN program.

- Applicants must meet the Nov. 1 deadline.
- Those in the top 5% of their high school class who have at least a 26+ ACT math (610+ SAT math) and choose pre-nursing as a major on the Common App will be automatically considered.
- Strength in high school curriculum, especially in math, will be important in the review of applicants.
- Notification about admission to this program will be sent in January and February.

All other students interested in nursing must have a Composite ACT score of ≥ 25 (SAT ≥ 1200) or be in the top 10 percent of high school class.

Admitted students with these criteria will enroll as pre-nursing students and will apply to the major in their second year.

Nursing is a highly competitive program

For Ohio counselors and CBOs

Regional campus applicants

Students applying as first-choice, first-year applicants to a regional campus or ATI/Wooster will receive an admissions decision without requiring an in-progress high school transcript. Their admissions decision will be sent within two weeks of submitting their application and application fee (or approved fee waiver).

On the application, the student will certify the following:

- Admitted incoming first-year students must show successful completion of high school course work. You must submit an official final high school transcript with graduation date or a completed high school equivalency exam, such as GED, prior to your enrollment. Not doing so may result in revocation of the offer of admission.
- Students in this cohort who wish to be considered for a merit scholarship will be required to send a transcript by the scholarship deadline. This will not delay receiving an admissions decision.

How to reach us

Find your admissions counselor on our School Counselors website: hscounselors.osu.edu.
Email: askadmissions@osu.edu