



COMMON APP

ESSAY & SCHOOLS APPLICATION



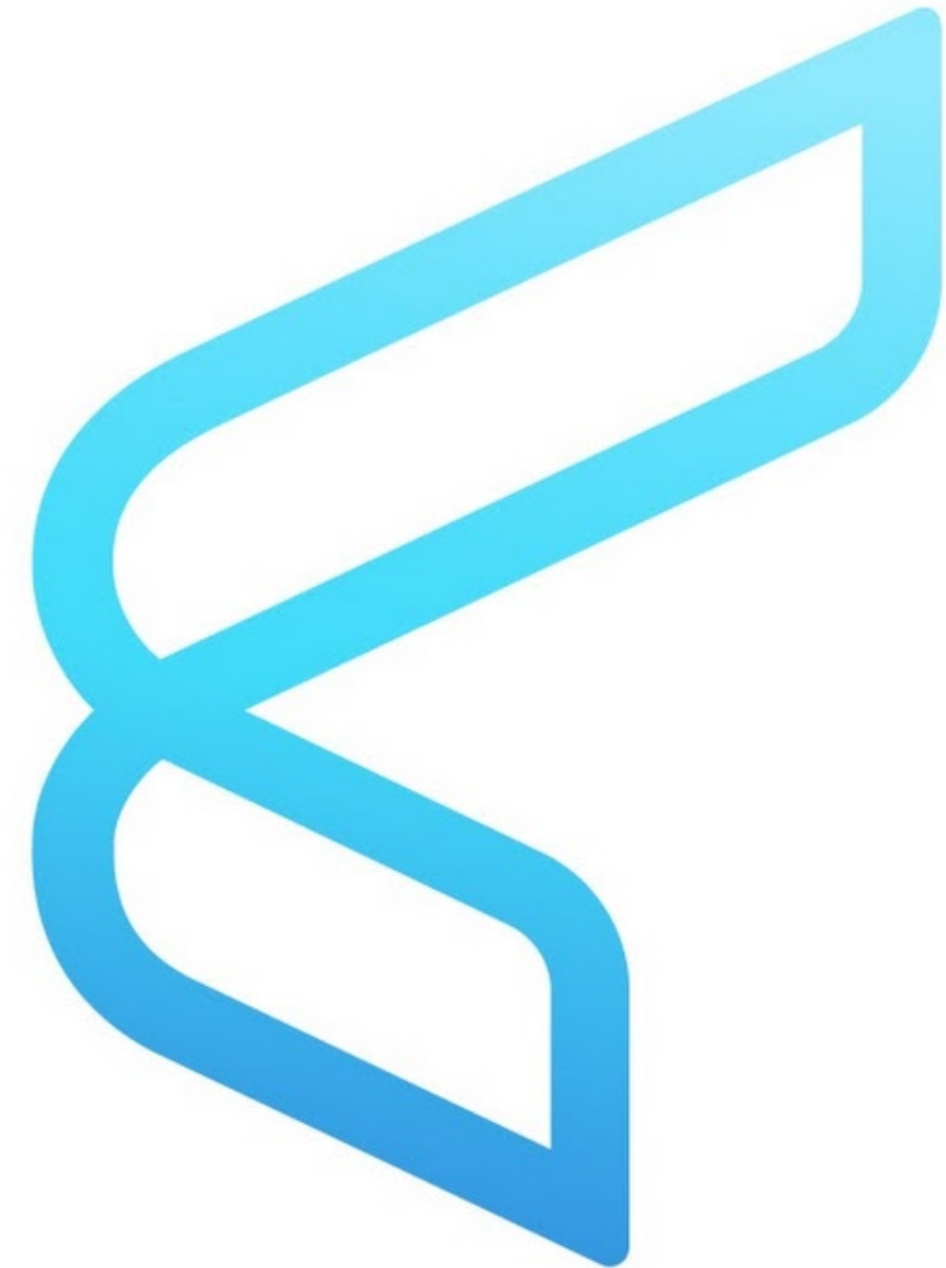
ABOUT COMMON APP



AN UNDERGRADUATE **COLLEGE
ADMISSION APPLICATION**
THAT APPLICANTS MAY USE TO
APPLY TO OVER **1,000 MEMBER**
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
IN ALL 50 U.S. STATES




OPENS ON THE 1ST OF AUGUST





STEPS TO ACHIEVE SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION





1. Create your common app account

1. Create new login credentials--> using your school email.
2. Complete your registration information.
 - your name, school etc.,



1



**MORE INFORMATION
WILL BE PROVIDED
THROUGH VIDEO**

2. Fill in "Common App" section

2

The screenshot displays the Common App interface. At the top, there are five navigation tabs: 'Dashboard', 'My Colleges', 'Common App' (which is selected), 'College Search', and 'Financial Aid Resources'. Below these tabs, on the left side, is a sidebar with a 'Common App' header and a list of sections: 'Profile', 'Family', 'Education', 'Testing', 'Activities', and 'Writing'. Each section in the sidebar is preceded by a green checkmark, and the 'Profile' section is highlighted with a grey background and a right-pointing arrow. The main content area is titled 'Profile' and features a 'Preview' button in the top right corner. Below the title is a blue header for the 'Personal Information' section, which includes a downward-pointing chevron. The first form field is labeled 'Legal first/given name*' in red text and contains the text 'Nomin'.

Dashboard My Colleges Common App College Search Financial Aid Resources

Common App

✓ Profile

✓ Family

✓ Education

✓ Testing

✓ Activities

✓ Writing

Profile

Preview

Personal Information

Legal first/given name*

Nomin

Profile

- Personal information
- Address
- Contact details
- Demographics
- Language
- Geography and Nationality
- Common app fee waiver

Family

- Parents and siblings information
- Household information

Education

- Current highschool
- Other secondary school
- Grades
- Most recent courses
- Honors
- Future plans

Testing

- Choose the tests you have taken
- Fill in the necessary information

Activities

- Fill in every activity you did
- DO NOT MISS ANY!!

Writing

- Personal statement
- Additional Information

3. Recommendation

- Teacher recommendation (at least 2 teachers)
- Counselor recommendation (some schools don't require this but it's always better to have one)
- Other recommendations from organizations (volunteer, interning etc.)

**ADD YOUR
RECOMMENDER
(USUALLY ONLY YOUR
COUNSELOR WILL
SUFFICE)**

4. Search and add your schools to your list

Dashboard

My Colleges

Common App

College Search

Financial Aid Resources

College Search

Application Requirements

College or City Name

Separate multiple search terms with a comma, e.g.: Washington, Boston

More filters

TIPS

- ❗ Make sure to research the schools' requirements thoroughly /deadlines, supplementals, courses & grades
- ❗ Applying to many schools through **EA** may increase your chance of acceptance
- ❗ **Start collecting your documents as early as possible**
- ❗ Get a deal with your teacher as soon as possible
- ❗ Start now!! or as early as possible

FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

Two types of aid are available: merit-based (academics, artistic ability, athletics) and need-based (based on assets).

- Need-blind: Colleges that judges solely on merits, not whether they can pay tuitions.
- Need-aware: Colleges that judges based on whether students can pay tuitions.

Need-blind colleges:

MIT, Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Amherst, Minerva, NYU Abu Dhabi, Bowdoin, Dartmouth

Most public US universities **do not** offer need-based aid!

APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID



CSS Profile™

CSS Profile is a must for international students to apply for financial aid for over 250 schools in the U.S.

- Used by private universities to provide non-federal aid.
- Available Oct.1.
- CSS Profile costs \$25 for the 1st school plus \$16 for each additional school added.
- After submitting CSS profile, **IDOC** must be filled.
- CSS and IDOC will require financial documents from both the student and their parents

**PREPARE THE
NECESSARY
DOCUMENTS AS
EARLY AS
POSSIBLE!**

USEFUL RESOURCES FOR FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

Financial Aid for Nonresident Alien Undergraduates:

<https://www.bigjeducationalconsulting.com/resources>

Merit scholarship resources:

- Full-tuition and full-ride scholarships in the US, CA, Asia and Europe

https://www.reddit.com/r/IntltoUSA/comments/c0g8f8/fulltuition_and_fullride_scholarships_in_the_us/

- Spreadsheet of 300 Merit Scholarships

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12Cmq4igk9GaTyxhz956iSf7womFcTietyhB7QQXpeP4/edit?usp=sharing>

COLLEGE ESSAY

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Usually necessary for most colleges/universities

Showcase your :

- Past experience
- Achievement
- Passion
- Personality/Character

Show them why your character is suitable for the major you applied to

SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY

Not every school asks for supplementals

It is an additional essay the school asks you to write

The topic is usually

"Why have you chosen our school/
How do you think **THIS** school would help you achieve your purpose/dream

TIPS

1

DO NOT USE CHAT GPT, THEY MOST LIKELY HAVE AI TO IDENTIFY IT

Most applicants are using ChatGPT, admission team will surely notice the similarity between the essays

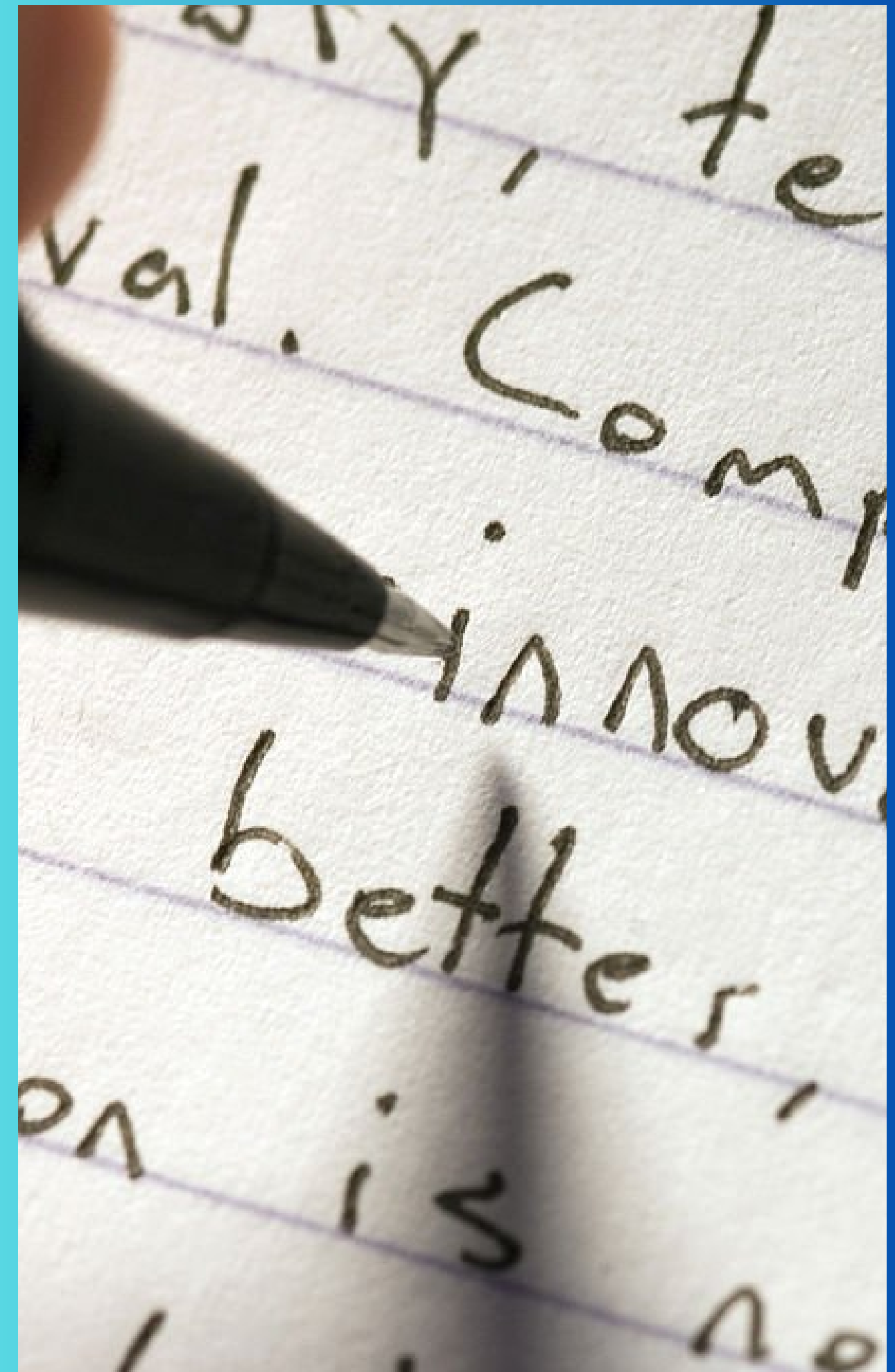
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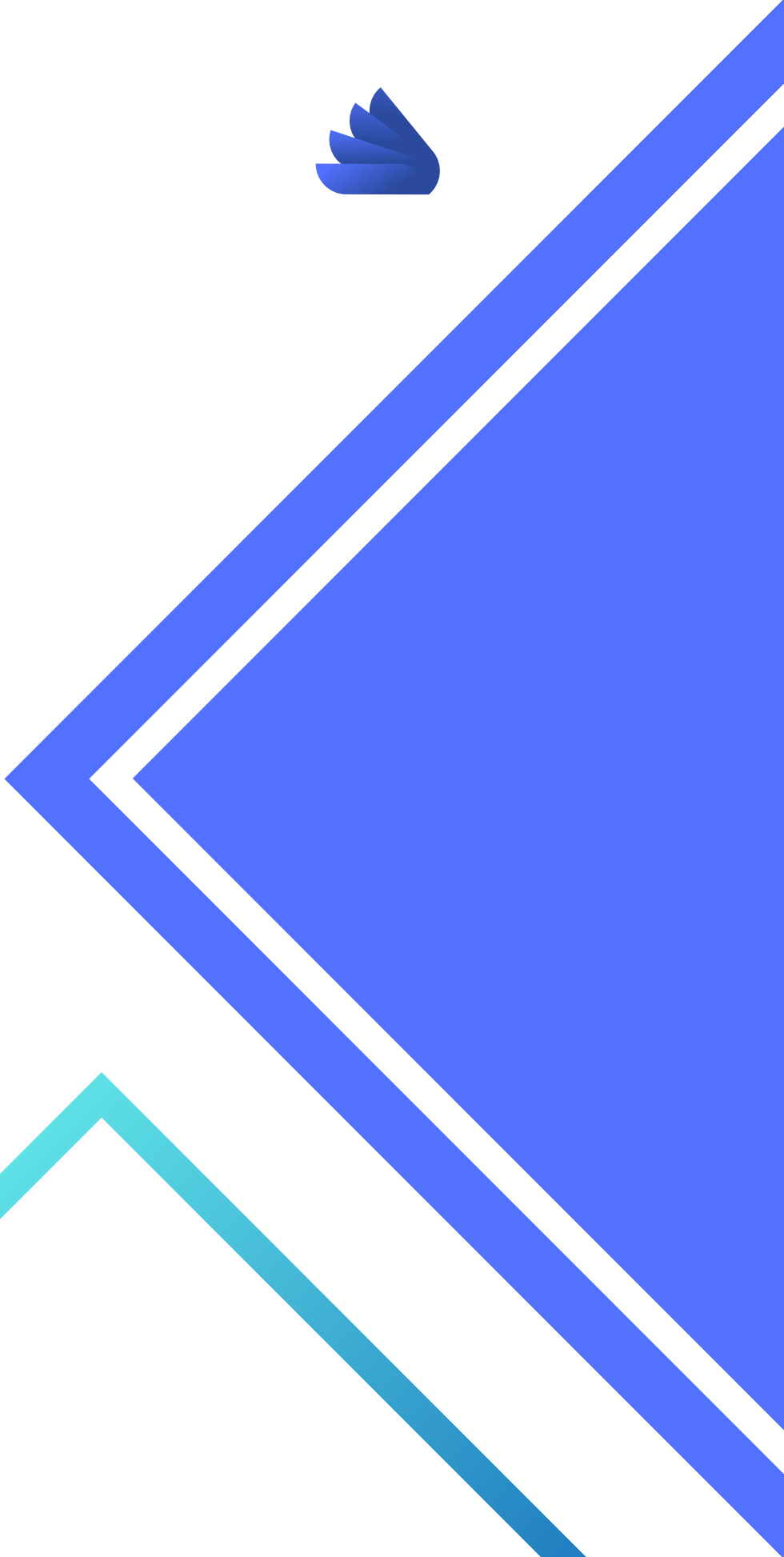


QUILBOT IS A PARAPHRASING TOOL YOU CAN USE

3

DIFFERENT STRUCTURE TO MAKE YOUR ESSAY MORE MEMORABLE

In every 40 essay most of their structure is the same, so for admission officer reading the same essay over and over is boring. Try unique topic, structure or writing style to catch their attention





PERSONAL STATEMENT

YOUR ESSAY

1 SHOULD BE ABOUT YOU

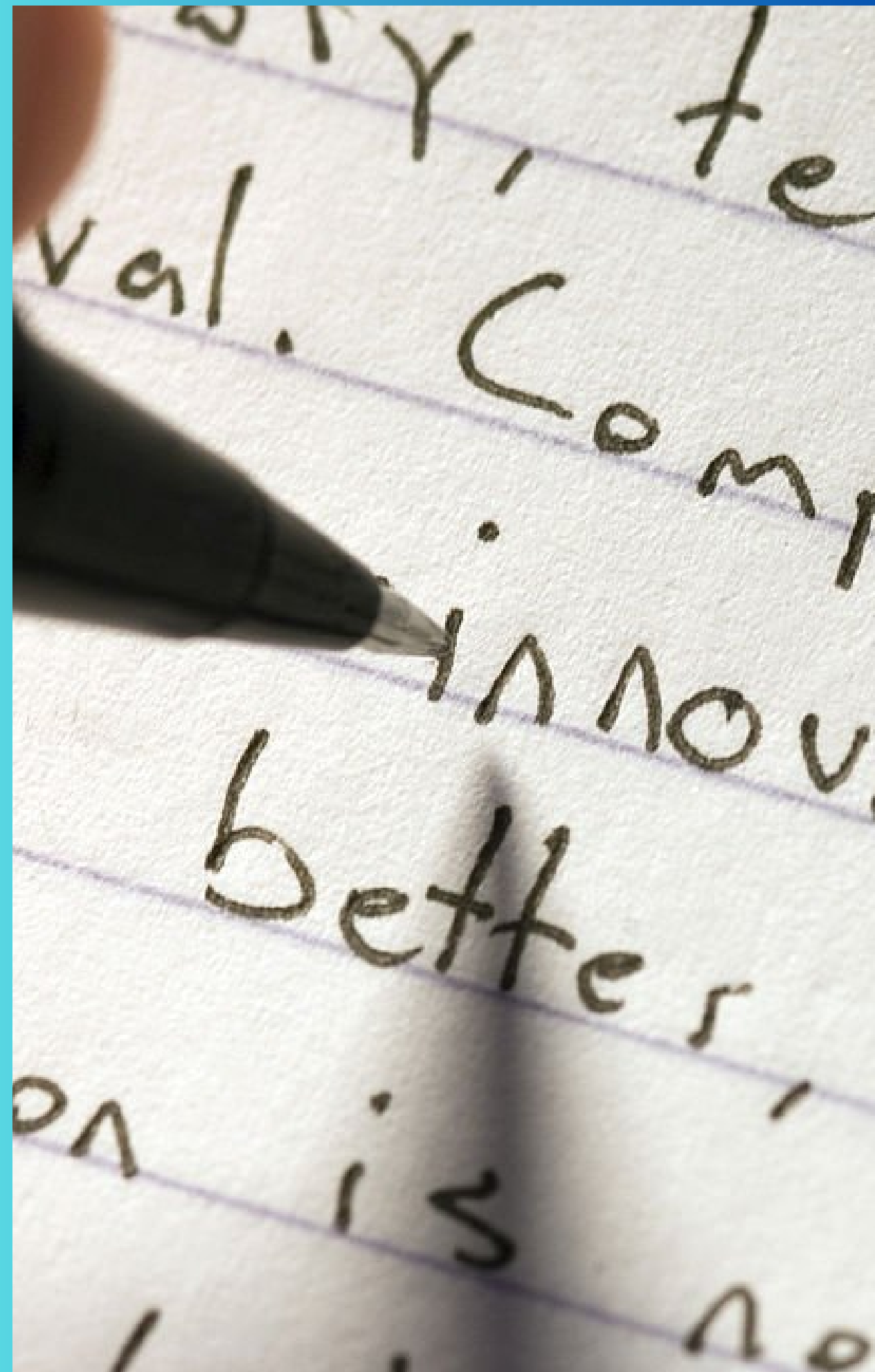
If you don't know who you are, you should think about what you want to do demonstrate to admissions officer about yourself.

2 SHOULD CHOOSE THE RIGHT TOPIC

Don't choose the most unique topic you can think of, think of what makes sense.

3 SHOULD CREATE AN INTERESTING AND MEMORABLE STORY ABOUT YOU

Make sure your essay is reflective, cohesive, creative & memorable while showcasing your best qualities.



Common app essay prompts

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

ESSAY

WHAT TO WRITE ABOUT

- **Start with a problem**

Failure, mistake, challenge, obstacle, flaw, obsession, change, conflict

- **Places to look for problems**

Extracurricular activities, hobbies, summer jobs, family activities, school clubs, your bedroom, even your computer

- **In the end, it's not about what you write in the essay, but how you write it**

Even the most cliché topics can become a great essay if you write it nicely.

- **Demonstrate leadership & grit**

WHAT TO NOT WRITE ABOUT

- Not all topics are created equal
- List of accomplishments
- Tragedies (Three D's: Death, Disease, Divorce)
- “The most important thing/person in my life”
- “Do-good” experiences
- Sensitive topics (politics, stances)
- Illegal experiences



ESSAY EXAMPLES

<https://blog.collegevine.com/common-app-essay-examples/>

<https://www.scribbr.com/college-essay/common-app-examples/>

<https://www.collegeessayguy.com/blog/common-app-essay-examples>

Tomujin "Essays that Inspire"

SUPPLEMENTAL

1 SHOULD WRITE ABOUT THE COMPABILITY OF YOU AND THE SCHOOL

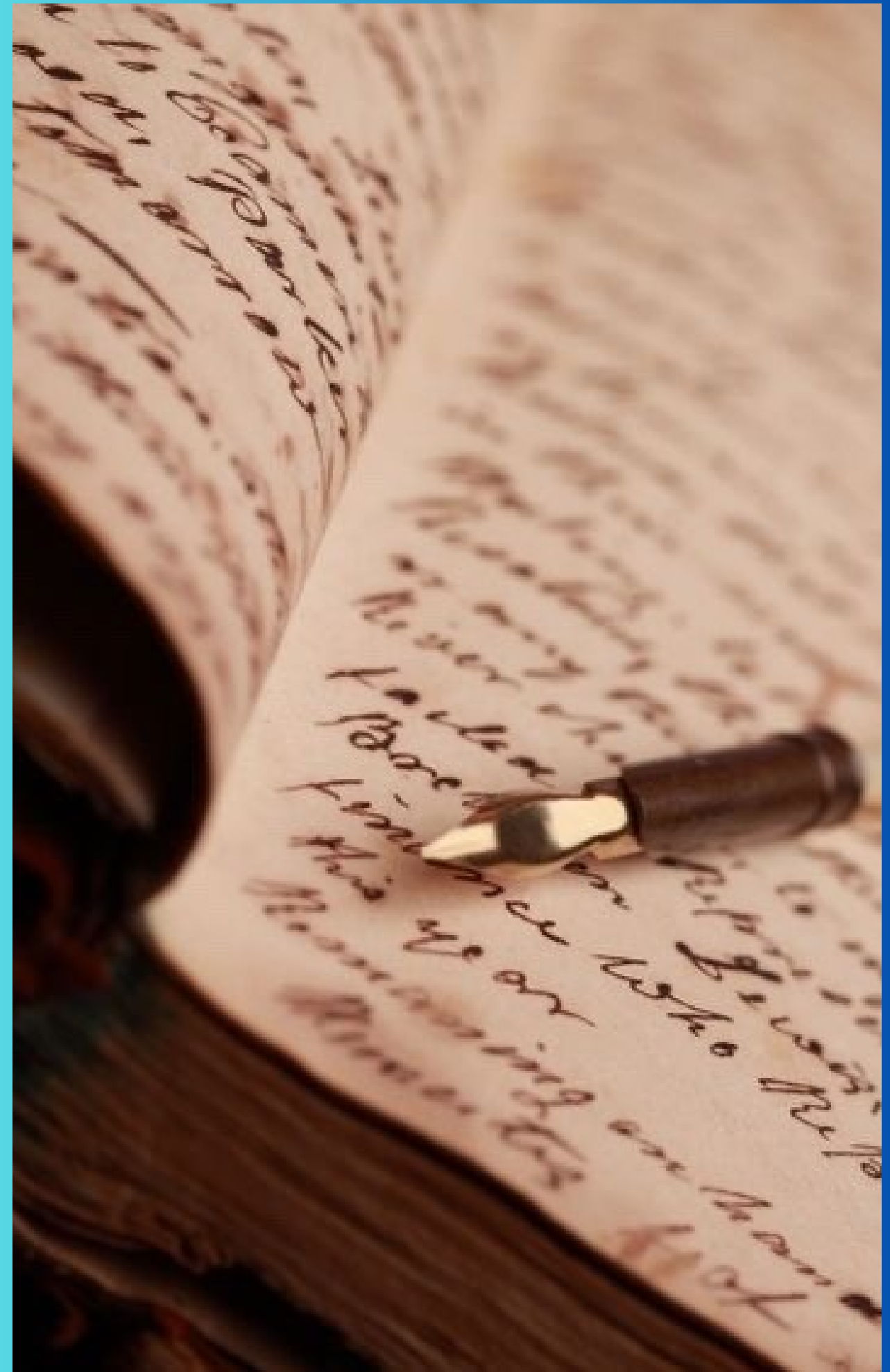
Why do you think the schools' best fit for you AND why you're suitable for the school

2 RELATE TO THE SCHOOLS BELIEFS AND QUOTES

How you think it relates to the purpose of your major

3 DEEP RESEARCH ABOUT SCHOOLS' ACTIVITIES

Especially about your major and write about how the schools' activities can enhance your desired skills and push you to success





MORE FROM:

<https://www.collegeessayguy.com/supplemental-essays>

<https://www.collegeessayguy.com/blog/why-this-college-essay>

<https://en.ewritingservice.com/blog/how-to-write-supplemental-essay/#1>

LETTER OF CONTINUED INTEREST (LOCI)

1 TALK ABOUT THE COMPABILITY

Don't repeat the same thing you already wrote in your previous supplemental essay.

2 WRITE HIGHLIGHTS

When you get deferred you have some time to add other activities, academic achievements or higher testing scores to your LOCI.

Use this time to increase your standardized test score or do activities that will highlight your application.

USUALLY WRITTEN WHEN YOU GET DEFERRED/WAITLISTED

Deferred is when the school moves your EA application to RD application

Waitlisted is when you will be accepted if there is an open spot from already accepted students



MORE FROM:

<https://www.collegeessayguy.com/blog/letter-of-continued-interest>

<https://blog.collegevine.com/deferred-or-waitlisted-tips-for-writing-a-letter-of-continued-interest/>



RESOURCES FOR COLLEGE APPLICATION

- **College Essay Guy** - for personal and supplementary essay tips
- Reddit r/ApplyingToCollege, r/intltousa.
<https://www.reddit.com/r/ApplyingToCollege/wiki/essays/>
- For info abt schools' financial aid:
<https://www.bigjeducationalconsulting.com/resources>
- https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1GWN1eJM1F_P4Lya_OLuv3zDi0SFJsRpV/edit?fbclid=IwAR0kwmjhatMEmMz9u-xUVkkSk2a-vMyDK4I-ekpUQ3jZwYNW0bwcR9tcp1g#slide=id.p148

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