

ST. OLAF COLLEGE

2009-2010

GENERAL APPLICATION GUIDELINES AND DEADLINES

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION DEADLINES

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR MUSIC, TRANSFER, AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



Applying to St. Olaf

St. Olaf is a member of the Common Application consortium and the Common Application serves as the St. Olaf Application for Admission. You can find the Common Application form and the St. Olaf College Supplement to the Common Application online at www.commonapp.org.

The application and supplement may be completed online and submitted electronically. There is no fee for online applications. Paper applications will be subject to a \$40 application fee.

A completed application must include:

- ❑ **The 2009–2010 Common Application**
- ❑ **The 2009-2010 St. Olaf College Supplement to the Common Application**
- ❑ **Official College Entrance Exam Results (ACT or SAT)**
Official results may be submitted directly to St. Olaf by the appropriate testing agency or may appear on an official high school transcript.
- ❑ **Common Application Secondary School Report and Official High School Transcript**
The Secondary School Report should be completed by the high school guidance office and submitted with an official high school transcript.
- ❑ **Teacher Recommendation**
One letter of recommendation must be prepared by a teacher, preferably reflecting a class taught in grades 10–12 in an academic subject: English, foreign language, history, social studies, mathematics or the natural sciences.
- ❑ **Academic Recommendation**
*A second letter of recommendation is also required, and may come from another teacher, a guidance counselor, or a specialist (music, art, dance, etc.). Note: if a guidance counselor has completed the evaluation section of the Secondary School Report, an additional academic recommendation is **not** required.*
- ❑ **Other Recommendations**
While no other recommendations are required, students are welcome to submit additional letters, which could include letters from pastors or other worship leaders, coaches, employers, or others who know them well.

NOTE: Music, transfer, and international students should review the “Additional Information” section for more details about specific requirements for those application processes.

Application Deadlines

Students applying to St. Olaf may choose from three application options:

Early Decision

Early Decision is designed for students who have determined that St. Olaf is their first choice. Students may submit an Early Decision application to only one institution, and agree to withdraw all standard applications immediately upon admission. The binding nature of the Early Decision application process means students commit to attending St. Olaf if offered admission. If St. Olaf is your first choice, this is a wonderful way to complete your college search in an efficient manner.

Early Decision 1

Application deadline: Postmarked or submitted on or before November 16, 2009

Notification: On or before December 15, 2009

Early Decision 2

Application deadline: Postmarked or submitted on or before January 15, 2010

Notification: On or before February 15, 2010

Regular Decision

Students considering a number of different colleges should apply under our Regular Decision process.

Application deadline: Postmarked or submitted on or before January 15, 2010

Notification: On or before March 19, 2010

Financial Aid

St. Olaf offers students the opportunity to apply for both need-based and merit-based financial aid. While a student's final financial aid package may include both types of aid, awards are allocated through separate processes. Financial aid awards are generally available soon after the admission decision is reached, provided the applicant and his or her parents/guardians have completed the necessary forms and submitted them on or before the recommended deadlines, as described below.

Applying for Need-Based Financial Aid

To apply for need-based financial aid at St. Olaf, you will need to complete two forms in addition to the application for admission to St. Olaf:

CSS Profile

The CSS Profile may be completed online beginning in October of the year of application. The form may be found online at profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp. The CCS Profile school code for St. Olaf College is 6638. The CSS Profile application packet is usually available in hard copies in high school guidance offices.

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

The FAFSA may be completed online beginning in January. The deadline for priority consideration is March 1, 2010. The FAFSA form can be found at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The FAFSA school code for St. Olaf College is 002382.

Early Decision Applicants: St. Olaf will prepare a provisional financial aid award for admitted Early Decision applicants, provided the applicant has completed the CSS Profile on or before the application deadline (November 16, 2009 or January 15, 2010). All such awards are subject to review and verification upon completion of the FAFSA.

Regular Decision Applicants: Financial aid awards involving only need-based aid are generally available shortly after the offer of admission, provided the CSS Profile and FAFSA forms have been completed and submitted on time. Financial aid awards including both need-based and merit-based aid, and merit-only awards, may take some additional time to prepare.

Need-based Financial Aid Deadlines

	Admission Application Deadline	CSS Profile Deadline	FAFSA Deadline
Early Decision 1	November 16, 2009	November 16, 2009	March 1, 2010
Early Decision 2	January 15, 2010	January 15, 2010	March 1, 2010
Regular Decision	January 15, 2010	January 15, 2010	March 1, 2010

Applying Only for Merit-Based Scholarships

St. Olaf offers several merit-based scholarships. The application requirements and deadlines are described in detail on the St. Olaf Merit Scholarship Application form, available online at stolaf.edu/admissions/financialaid/meritaid.html. The merit scholarship awards and deadlines are summarized below.

Merit-based Scholarship Deadlines

	Admission Application Deadline	Scholarship Application Deadline
St. Olaf Academic Scholarships	Any application cycle	January 15, 2010
St. Olaf Service Leadership Scholarships	Any application cycle	January 15, 2010
St. Olaf TRiO Scholarships	Any application cycle	January 15, 2010
St. Olaf Music Scholarships	Any application cycle	December 15, 2010 (Auditions February 26–27, 2010)
St. Olaf Dance Scholarships	Any application cycle	October 15, 2009 (Auditions October 16, 2009)

Early Decision 1 applicants seeking merit scholarships must submit their scholarship application materials at the time of their application for admission.

Additional Instructions

Students applying to St. Olaf as a music student, transfer student or international student should review the following information:

Music Candidates

St. Olaf has one of the most prestigious liberal arts music programs in the country. Please note that the application and audition process for prospective music majors and music scholarship candidates runs *concurrently* with the admissions application process. Students may apply for admission to St. Olaf under either the Early Decision or the Regular Decision application cycles.

In addition to the online Common Application and St. Olaf College Supplement to the Common Application, students who intend to major in music, or who wish to apply for a St. Olaf music scholarship, must submit a completed music scholarship application form (available at the URL below), an audition CD, a music résumé, and an additional letter of recommendation. These materials must be submitted directly to the Music Admissions Office, and postmarked on or before December 15, 2009. Students who are applying as music majors must also complete the online music skills test before December 15, 2009.

Students applying to St. Olaf under the regular admission process (January 15, 2010 application deadline) are advised to complete and submit Part 1 of the Common Application on or before December 15, 2009 to assist in processing their music major and music scholarship applications.

More information and the music scholarship application form can be found online at stolaf.edu/depts/music. Please direct all questions about music admissions to Mary Hakes, assistant dean of admissions and coordinator of music admissions, at 507-786-3297 or music@stolaf.edu.

Transfer Candidates

To receive full consideration for admission for Fall 2010, transfer students must complete the application for admission on or before March 1, 2010, with notification of admission made on or before April 15, 2010. We will evaluate applications completed after March 1 on a rolling and space-available basis.

Transfer students should submit the Common Application for Transfers, the St. Olaf College Supplement to the Common Application, and the College Official's Form. Students should also submit an official final high school transcript and official college transcripts showing all completed college coursework.

The St. Olaf Registrar will provide transfer students with an evaluation of their transcripts for transfer of course credits. Credit granted for transferred work is provisional and subject to the completion of one year of satisfactory study at St. Olaf College.

More information can be found online at stolaf.edu/admissions/applying/transfer.html. Please direct all questions about transfer student applications to Angélique Dietz, assistant dean of admissions, at 507-786-3025 or dietza@stolaf.edu.

International Candidates

Students who are neither a U.S. citizen nor a permanent resident of the United States are considered international students at St. Olaf College. International students may apply under the Early Decision or Regular Decision processes.

International students who are not native English speakers are required to submit official results of the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), or IELTS (International English Language Testing System), *in addition to* official results of the ACT or SAT.

More information can be found online at stolaf.edu/admissions/applying/international.html. Please direct all questions about international student admissions to Jenny Howenstine, associate dean of admissions, at 507-786-3025 or howensti@stolaf.edu.

St. Olaf College admits students of any race, color or national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national and ethnic origin, sexual orientation or handicap in administration of its educational policies, financial aid program, athletics and all other programs.