

Teacher Recommendations

Who should you ask for a recommendation?

First, be sure that you NEED a recommendation from a teacher. Many schools do not require one, so check on Family Connection for the requirements; every college is different. Your counselor will write a letter for you as part of the required application from the school but you may not need a letter from a teacher. If you do, select a teacher who knows you well, and who can speak to your academic ability. It is helpful if the teacher can also speak to your contributions outside the class from knowing you in an extra-curricular activity too.

Ask the teacher if you can count on their support in a letter of recommendation. The teacher has every right to ask you to ask another teacher who may be better able to support your candidacy (that means that you probably did not ask a teacher who thinks highly of you). Asking in person is better than sending an email. Give teachers at least three weeks to write a letter. Once it is written, they upload it to your application. They do not give it to you, and they do not email it to the college counselor. Make sure you send the correct number of letters to each college. If a college wants one letter, don't send two. Admissions will be suspicious of it. Thank your letter writers with a note, and again if you get in to the college.