

# Gap Year Resource

Use this document to weigh some of the pros and cons of taking a Gap Year right before beginning your college career.



What is a Gap Year?

- It is a variety of length (from a few weeks to a full year) where you take an education break. It is typically taken after high school and before starting college.

What if I have been accepted, but now I want to take a year off before enrolling?

- If selected for admission, you may defer your enrollment for either one semester or a full year. Contact your admissions office and ask about their deferment policy. Keep in mind that deferring is only true at **some schools**. Many schools make you re-apply the following year and don't defer your space. Contact your admissions office as soon as you think you might be doing this option.

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Time to think</li><li>● Time to travel</li><li>● Explore potential interests and passions</li><li>● Learning and experiencing life-skills</li><li>● Earn money for any unmet need financial aid could not cover</li><li>● Resume and application booster</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Loss of time, you are now a year behind</li><li>● Difficult to get back into the school and student schedule</li><li>● Costly if you want to travel</li><li>● Financial aid packages are not guaranteed to be on hold for a year</li><li>● Might need to re-apply if the school does not allow a Gap Year</li></ul>

Resources and Things to Consider

- [Here are some suggested steps](#)
- [The College Gap Year: Student Resources for Travel, Volunteering, and Learning During Time Away from School](#)
- [Taking the Gap Year After High School as a Paid Service Year](#)
- [Program Options](#)
- [Gap Year Association](#)
- [AmeriCorps: A Gap Year with NCCC](#)