# COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

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# It's never too early to start planning for college!



# **AGENDA**



FINANCIAL
PLANNING FOR
COLLEGE



COLLEGE 101



**EXPLORATION** 



TIMELINE

### FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR COLLEGE

Savings and Prepaid Plans

Residency for In-State Tuition FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

Work Study

Loans

Bright Futures Scholarships Scholarships and Grants

# FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR COLLEGE: SAVINGS AND PREPAID PLANS

### Florida College Savings and Prepaid Plans

- Florida offers two convenient options for families to save for college.
- The Florida 529 Plan is a savings account which allows you to invest in options such as mutual funds. How much you invest and when you contribute to the plan is up to you, and earnings withdrawn for qualified education expenses are tax free.
- The <u>Florida Prepaid Plan</u> allows you to pay for tuition and fees at a Florida public college or university at current prices. These plans have specific costs, payment schedules and defined benefits.

# FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR COLLEGE: IN STATE TUITION

### **Eligibility for In-State Tuition**

 To be eligible for in-state tuition, you or your parents must have been a Florida resident, as defined by state law for tuition purposes, for at least 12 consecutive months prior to the first day of the term.

### **Dependent and Independent Students**

- If you qualify as a dependent on a parent's federal income taxes, you are considered a dependent student and one of your parents must provide proof of their residency.
- If you are 24-years-old or older, you are considered an independent student and you not your parents must provide proof of your residency. If you are under 24-years-old and married, active military personnel, a veteran, orphan, previously a ward of the state, in foster care, or provide more than 50% of your own financial support, you may also be considered an independent student.
- The <u>Guidelines on Florida Residency for Tuition Purposes (PDF)</u> provides additional information about the laws and rules for in-state tuition.

# FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR COLLEGE: FAFSA

### FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

- The <u>Free Application for Federal Student Aid</u> (<u>FAFSA</u>) is the first step to applying for federal and state financial aid. You'll also need to complete a <u>Florida Financial Aid Application</u>. The <u>FAFSA4caster</u> is an online tool offered by the U.S. Department of Education that can help you understand your options for paying for college.
- Learn everything you need to know about FAFSA.

# FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR COLLEGE: WORK STUDY

### **Work Study**

- The Florida Work Experience Program provides jobs, based on financial need, to students who are pursuing an undergraduate degree at a public or private, not-for-profit college or university, or training at a career center operated by district school boards.
- The Federal Work-Study Program provides jobs, based on financial need, to students who are pursuing an undergraduate degree at a participating public or private, not-for-profit college or university.

# FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR COLLEGE: LOANS

### Loans: The only option that must be repaid

- Federal Perkins Loans are low interest loans offered by participating colleges and universities for students pursuing an undergraduate degree.
- Direct Stafford Loans are low interest loans offered by the federal government which are available to students pursuing an undergraduate degree at any eligible public or private, not-for-profit college or university.
- PLUS Loans are low interest loans offered by the federal government which are available to parents of students pursuing an undergraduate degree and students pursuing a graduate degree.
- Subsidized Loans do not accrue interest while you are in school at least half-time or during deferment periods.



- To apply for any Bright Futures Scholars Students must complete the **Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)** no later than **August 31** after high school graduation.
- Application open October 1<sup>st</sup> of Senior year.
- We recommend completing it by the end of the first semester of Senior year.
- The available Scholarships are:
  - Florida Academic Scholarship (FAS): 100% of tuition covered
  - Florida Medallion Scholarship (FMS): 75% of tuition covered
  - Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholarship (GSC)
  - Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship (GSV)



\*\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE AFTER LEGISLATIVE SESSION\*\*

Туре	16 High School Course Credits <sup>1</sup>	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT*/SAT*)	Service Hours
FAS	4 - English (three must include substantial writing) 4 - Mathematics (at or above the Algebra I level) 3 - Natural Science	3.50	2021-22 Graduates: 29/1330 2022-23 Graduates: 29/1330	100 hours
FMS	(two must have substantial laboratory) 3 - Social Science 2 - World Language (sequential, in same language)	3.00	2021-22 Graduates: 25/1210 2022-23 Graduates: 25/1210	75 hours

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The required coursework aligns with the State University System admission requirements found in Florida Board of Governor's Regulation 6.002. Information regarding high school coursework can be found in the Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook.



\*\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE AFTER LEGISLATIVE SESSION\*\*

### Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholarship (GSC)

- Earn a minimum of 5 postsecondary credit hours through <u>CAPE industry</u> certifications that articulate for college credit
- Complete at least 30 service hours.
- Scholarship can be used at postsecondary institutions that offer an applied technology diploma, technical degree education program (associate in applied science or associate in science), or a career certificate program.
- Upon completion of an eligible associate degree program, a GSC Scholar may also receive an award for a maximum of 60 credit hours toward an eligible baccalaureate degree.



\*\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE AFTER LEGISLATIVE SESSION\*\*

### Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship (GSV)

- Achieve the required weighted 3.0 GPA in the non-elective high school courses
- Take at least 3 full credits in a single Career and Technical Education program
- Achieve the required minimum 3.5 unweighted GPA in the career education courses
- Complete 30 service hours
- Achieve the required minimum scores on one of the college entrance exams per the chart below
- GSV may only be used at postsecondary institutions that offer an applied technology diploma, technical degree education program (associate in applied science or associate in science), or a career certificate program.

Exam Type	Sub-test	Required Score	
	Reading	19	
ACT*	English	17	
	Mathematics	19	
	Reading Test	24	
SAT"	Writing and Language Test	25	
	Math Test	24	
Doctor on a day of Education	Reading	106	
Postsecondary Education	Writing	103	
Readiness Test (P.E.R.T.)	Mathematics	114	



\*\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE AFTER LEGISLATIVE SESSION\*\*

2021-22 Bright Futures Scholarship Per Hour Award Amounts			
	Credit Hour Award Clock Hou		
	Semester	Quarter	Award
Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) & Gold Se	al CAPE Scho	lars (GSC)	
Career Certificate Program (PSAV)	\$39	\$26	\$1.30
Applied Technology Diploma Program (ATD)	\$39	<b>\$</b> 26	\$1.30
Technical Degree Education Program (AS, AAS, CCC)	\$48	\$32	\$1.60
Bachelors of Science (BS)* Bachelors of Applied Science (BAS)*	\$48	\$32	
* GSC recipients who earn a qualifying A.S. or A.A.S degree may receive an award toward a qualifying B.S. or B.A.S. degree.			

# PAY FOR COLLEGE: OTHER STATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANT PROGRAMS

Apply using the **Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)** 

- Benacquisto Scholarship Program
- Effective Access to Student Education
- First Generation Matching Grant
- Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship
- Florida Student Assistance Grant
  - Career Education
- Florida Work Experience Program
- Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program
- José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant
- Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship
- Minority Teacher Education Scholarship
- Randolph Bracy Ocoee Scholarship Program
- Rosewood Family Scholarship
- Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans

# COLLEGE 101: THE BASICS

- Public colleges are funded by local and state governments and usually offer lower tuition rates than private colleges, especially for students who are residents of the state where a college is located.
- **Private colleges** rely mainly on tuition, fees and private sources of funding. Private donations can sometimes provide generous financial aid packages for students.
- Four-year colleges offer four-year programs that lead to a bachelor's degree. These include universities and liberal arts colleges.
  - **Liberal arts colleges** offer a broad base of courses in the liberal arts, which includes areas such as literature, history, languages, mathematics and life sciences. Most are private and offer four-year programs that lead to a bachelor's degree. These colleges can prepare you for a variety of careers or for graduate study.
  - **Universities** often are larger and offer more majors and degree options—bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees—than colleges. Most universities contain several smaller colleges, such as colleges of liberal arts, engineering or health sciences. These colleges can prepare you for a variety of careers or for graduate study.
- Two-year colleges offer programs that last up to two years that lead to a certificate or an associate degree. These include state colleges, vocational-technical colleges and career colleges.

# COLLEGE 101: STATE UNIVERSITY

- Public Universities in Florida
- Highly competitive
- Basic admissions requirements are:

\*Prospective students should contact the institution in which they would like to enroll for accurate information regarding admission as each institution may establish higher criteria than the minimum identified in Board of Governors Regulation.

### Students Entering High School July 1, 2007, or Later\*

4 credits - English/Language Arts (three of which must have included substantial writing requirements).

4 credits - Mathematics (at or above the Algebra I level).

3 credits - Natural Science (two of which must have included substantial laboratory requirements).

3 credits - Social Science (to include anthropology, history, civics, political science, economics, sociology, psychology, and/or geography).

2 credits – Foreign Language See subsection (1)(h).

2 credits - Additional academic credits (in any combination of courses listed in the Department of Education Course Code Directory.)

1. Two credits from among Level II courses listed in the Department of Education Course Code Directory in English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Foreign Language, Fine Arts; Level III courses listed in the Directory in any academic or career and technical education credited discipline; or Dual Enrollment courses for which both high school and postsecondary academic credits are granted;

#### OR

2. One credit from 1. above and one credit from grade nine or above in ROTC/Military Training, or an equivalent course in any discipline as determined by the Articulation Coordinating Committee.

# **COLLEGE 101:**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

- **Competitive Admission**: Admission into Florida's public universities is competitive. Acceptance is based on enrollment limitations and qualifications of the freshmen applicant pool. Prospective students should apply to more than one university and complete a rigorous curriculum in high school to increase their chances for acceptance.
- As a result, qualified students may be denied admission to one or more of the state universities while being accepted for admission by others.
- <u>Board of Governors Regulation 6.002</u> provides specific information on system-wide requirements for first-time-in-college (FTIC) students.
- Prospective students should contact the institution in which they would like to enroll for accurate information regarding admission as each institution may establish higher criteria than the minimum identified in Board of Governors Regulation.

	NAME OF INSTITUTION	APPLICATION TYPE	GPA	SAT	ACT
FAMU	FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online Application			
FAU	FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	S: 3.23 - 3.81 F: 3.73 - 4.33	S: 1000 - 1200 F: 1110 - 1270	S: 19 - 24 F: 23 - 29
GLEF CONST UNIX STREET	FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online, Common Application	S: 3.44 - 4.23 F: 3.56 - 4.33	S: 1050 - 1180 F: 1090 - 1230	S: 19 - 25 F: 22 - 27
FIU	FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online Application	S: 3.7 - 4.3 F: 4.2 - 4.6	S: 1040 - 1160 F: 1200 - 1350	S: 20 - 25 F: 25 - 30
FLORIDA POLY	FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	S: 3.6 - 4.4 F: 4.1 - 4.6	S: 1130 - 1200 F: 1250 - 1400	S: 23 - 26 F: 27 - 31
	FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online Application, Common Application, Coalition Application	S: 3.8 - 4.3 F: 4.2 - 4.6	\$: 1190 - 1300 F: 1250 - 1400	S: 25 - 29 F: 28 - 32
New College	NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	3.5 - 4.2	1120 - 1320	22 - 29
€ ucr	UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	S: 3.77 - 4.29 F: 3.96 - 4.49	S: 1170 - 1280 F: 1250 - 1370	S: 23 - 28 F: 26 - 30
UF FLORIDA	UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA	Common Application, Coalition Application	S: 4.4 - 4.6 F: 4.4 - 4.7	S: 1260 - 1420 F: 1350 - 1480	S: 29 - 32 F: 30 - 34
UNF	UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	S: 3.3 - 4.0 F: 4.0 - 4.5	S: 1000 - 1150 F: 1100 - 1260	S: 20 - 25 F: 22 - 28
UNIVERSITY # SOUTH FLORIDA	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA	Institutional Online Application, Common Application, Coalition Application	S: 3.57 - 4.11 F: 3.97 - 4.48	S: 1090 - 1170 F: 1230 - 1370	S: 22 - 25 F: 26 - 31
SERVICE PROBLEM	UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	S: 3.36 - 4.02 F: 3.61 - 4.2	S: 1020 - 1180 F: 1060 - 1240	S: 20 - 24 F: 21 - 27

# COLLEGE 101: STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

	IN-STATE ESTIMATED COSTS					
INSTITUTION	2020-2021 TUITION AND FEES (30 CREDIT HOURS)	BOOKS AND SUPPLIES	TUITION AND SUPPLIES SUBTOTAL	ON-CAMPUS ROOM	ON-CAMPUS BOARD	TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS
FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY	\$5,644	\$1,138	\$6,782	\$7,110	\$4,974	\$18,866
FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	\$6,098	\$1,272	\$7,370	\$6,200	\$3,710	\$17,280
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY	\$6,118	\$1,200	\$7,318	\$6,156	\$2,883	\$16,357
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY	\$6,168	\$1,350	\$7,518	\$7,488	\$3,588	\$18,594
FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY	\$4,939	\$1,200	\$6,139	\$6,120	\$4,300	\$16,559
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY	\$6,516	\$1,000	\$7,516	\$6,880	\$4,396	\$18,792
NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA	\$5,763	\$1,200	\$6,963	\$7,000	\$2,662	\$16,625
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA	\$6,379	\$1,200	\$7,579	\$7,318	\$4,180	\$19,077
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA	\$6,380	\$810	\$7,190	\$5,296	\$4,600	\$17,086
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA	\$6,590	\$1,200	\$7,790	\$6,020	\$3,936	\$17,746
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA	\$6,410	\$1,100	\$7,510	\$8,156	\$4,100	\$19,766
UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA	\$6,360	\$1,600	\$7,960	\$5,800	\$3,940	\$17,700

# **COLLEGE 101:** STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

# **COLLEGE 101:**STATE COLLEGES & CAREER COLLEGES

### State Colleges

• State colleges offer two-year associate degrees that prepare you to transfer to a four-year college to earn a bachelor's degree. They also offer other associate degrees and certificates that focus on preparing you for a certain career. State colleges are often an affordable option with relatively low tuition.

### Vocational-Technical & Career Colleges

 Vocational-technical and career colleges offer specialized training in a particular industry or career. Possible programs of study include the culinary arts, firefighting, dental hygiene and medical-records technology. These colleges usually offer certificates or associate degrees.













Florida's 2 +2
Program creates
a seamless path
for students with
an associate's
degree to enter
any state
university.

Students must first earn an associate's degree at a state college. Students who earn an associate's degree at a state college are automatically guaranteed admission to an affiliated state university.

Because state colleges are both accessible and affordable, students can save money while staying on time and on track to earning a bachelor's degree.

State colleges have an "open door" admissions policy which allows anyone with a high school diploma to enroll.

Tuition at state colleges is also about two-thirds the cost of tuition at universities.

# **COLLEGE 101:** 2 + 2 PROGRAM

# **COLLEGE 101:**COLLEGES WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS

- Arts colleges: Art colleges and conservatories focus on the arts. In addition to regular course work, these colleges provide training in areas such as photography, music, theater or fashion design. Most of these colleges offer associate or bachelor's degrees in the fine arts or a specialized field.
- **Single-sex colleges:** All four-year public colleges, and most private colleges, are coed. But there are some private colleges that are specifically for men or for women.
- Religiously affiliated colleges: Some private colleges are connected to a religious faith. The connection may be historic only, or it may affect day-to-day student life.
- **Specialized-mission colleges:** Historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) focus on educating African American students. Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs) are colleges where at least 25 percent of the full-time undergraduate students are Hispanic. HBCUs and HSIs may offer programs, services and activities targeted to the underrepresented students they serve.

# COLLEGE 101: BIG VS SMALL

### The Big College Experience

- Wide variety of majors and courses
- Well-stocked libraries
- Variety of housing opportunities
- Well-funded sports programs
- Wide range of academic choices and student activities
- Distinguished or famous faculty
- State-of-the-art research facilities

### The Small College Experience

- Small class sizes
- Hands-on learning opportunities
- Individually designed majors
- Strong advising system; advisers know students well
- Strong sense of community
- Professors, not teaching assistants, teach most courses
- Opportunity to get to know professors well

# **COLLEGE 101:**WHAT ELSE TO CONSIDER?

Academic Programs

College Life

**Campus Location** 

Housing

Variety of campus clubs, organizations, and Greek life

Diversity on campus

Study aboard program

Financial aid opinions

### **EXPLORE**

- <u>YouScience</u> Results: YouScience Discovery brain games match what you're good at (aptitudes) and what you like to do (interests) with in-demand careers where you'll have a competitive advantage.
- <u>MyCareerShines</u>: MyCareerShines offers a customized and comprehensive K-20 education and career planning system that helps students and adults explore options and plan for the future.
- Advanced Programs:
  - AICE/Cambridge
  - International Baccalaureate
  - Advanced Placement
  - Dual Enrollment
- Middle and High School Electives: these courses can help you find your passion.
- Visit Colleges
- Career Ready with <u>CTE</u>



# **Explore: Industry Certifications**

2018-2019 2,547 students tested 1,687 passed 66% pass rate 2019-2020 1,1933 students tested 1,219 passed 63% pass rate 2020-2021 5,330 students tested 3,500 passed 66% pass rate

- 70% of our 55 CTE programs of study areas have an aligned industry certification.
- 82% of middle school students that tested earned an industry certification

















# **Explore: CTE Programs**

### 55 Programs of Study 91 Total Programs

#### ATLANTIC HIGH SCHOOL

**Culinary Arts** 

Digital Audio Recording Technology

Digital Media/Multimedia Design

Digital Video Technology

Diversified Career Technology/On the Job Training

Gaming/Simulation/Animation Visual Design

Marketing, Management & Entrepreneurial Principles

**Principles of Teaching** 

#### **DELAND HIGH SCHOOL**

Animal Science & Services

Building Trades & Construction Design Technologies Carpentry

Computer Systems Information Technology (CSIT) Culinary Arts

Digital Media/Multimedia Design Digital Video Technology

Diversified Career Technology/On the Job Training

Early Childhood Education Emergency Medical Responder

Marketing, Management & Entrepreneurial Principles

Promotional Enterprise

Technical Agriculture Operations

### **DELTONA HIGH SCHOOL**

Agritechnology

Building Trades & Construction Design Technology

Culinary Arts

Digital Media/Multimedia Design

Digital Video Technology

Early Childhood Education

Firefighting

Promotional Enterprise

#### MAINLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Digital Media/Multimedia Design

Digital Video Technology

Diversified Career Technology/On the Job Training

Engineering Pathways (PLTW)

Culinary Arts

Criminal Justice

Electrical (2022-2023)

Firefighting

Game/Simulation/Animation Visual Design

Journalism & Multimedia

Cybersecurity

Web Application Development & Programming

Marketing, Management & Entrepreneurial Principles Digital Video Technology

### **NEW SMYRNA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL**

Animal Science & Services

Aquaculture

Building Trades & Construction Design Technology

**Culinary Arts** 

Digital Video Technology

Diversified Career Technology/On the Job Training

Sport, Recreation & Entertainment Marketing

Game/Simulation/Animation Programming

Public Safety & Telecommunications (911 Dispatch)

#### PINE RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Agritechnology

**Applied Cybersecurity** 

Animal Science & Services

**Culinary Arts** 

Digital Media/Multimedia Design Early Childhood Education

HVAC

#### SEABREEZE HIGH SCHOOL

Agritechnology

Building Trades & Construction Design Technologies Culinary Arts

Digital Media/Multimedia Design

Digital Video Technology

Diversified Career Technology/On the Job Training

Emergency Planning & Response

Journalism & Multimedia

Marketing, Management & Entrepreneurial

**Principles** 

#### SPRUCE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

**Accounting Applications** 

**Culinary Arts** 

Diversified Career Technology/On the Job Training

Journalism & Multimedia

Promotional Enterprise

Web Development

### **TAYLOR MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL**

Agritechnology

Allied Health

**Animal Science & Services** 

Building Trades & Construction Design Technologies

Digital Media/Multimedia Design

Electrical (2022-2023)

Marketing, Management & Entrepreneurial Principles

#### UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

Agritechnology

**Criminal Justice Operations** 

Culinary Arts

Cybersecurity

Digital Media/Multimedia Design

Digital Video Technology

Diversified Career Technology/

On the Job Training

**Environmental Technologies** 

**Engineering Pathways (PLTW)** 

**Exercise Science** 

Marketing, Management &

**Entrepreneurial Principles** 

# **Explore: Career Academies**

21 Academies Across 9 High Schools

Atlantic	Technology, Engineering, Science & Aeronautics Law & Government		
	Aquaculture, Environmental & Marine Science		
DeLand	Communications		
DeLand	Engineering		
Deltona	Food & Agricultural Science		
Deltona	Health Services		
Deltona	Digital Media Enterprise		
Mainland	Scientific Inquiry & Medicine		
NSBHS	Criminal Justice		
NSBHS	Engineering		
NSBHS	Education		
NSBHS	Medical		
Pine Ridge	Healthcare		
Pine Ridge	Manufacturing		
Seabreeze	Allied Health		
Spruce Creek	Finance		
Spruce Creek	Information Technology & Robotics		
University	Biomedical Sciences		
University	Gaming & Simulation		
University	Finance		

### Fall:

- Take the most challenging (and realistic) course load for which you are eligible.
- Your school counselors are great resources. Make an appointment to meet with one to seek advice on college planning.
- Begin exploring options for your education and career.
- Take 9th Grade PSAT

### Spring:

- Get involved! Clubs, activities, and community involvement look great on a college application.
- Record and keep track of your credentials (awards, volunteer hours, etc.).
- Start learning about college.
- Practice for the SAT on Khan Academy

### Summer:

- Plan a challenging 10th grade course load.
- Make your summer count. Continue to build your credentials.
- Find your area of Focus or passion project.

# TIMELINE 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

### Fall:

- Practice makes perfect! Take the 10<sup>th</sup> Grade PSAT to get some practice and to familiarize yourself with the SAT.
- Check out the official ACT Prep Guide and begin studying and taking practice tests.
- Get involved with your extracurricular and volunteer activities. Be a leader.

### Spring:

- Begin your college search.
- Consider taking the SAT or ACT. Practice with Khan Academy.
- Assemble your resume. Even if you're not ready to get a job, learning how to write and present a resume is a skill that will come in handy throughout life.

### Summer:

- Check with your school counselor to decide if summer classes are appropriate for you.
- Plan a challenging 11th grade course load. Be sure to contact your school counselors to discuss Dual Enrollment courses.
- Find a summer job! A steady summer job can offer valuable work experience, an opportunity to network, and will help you along your path to college and a successful career. Plus, it looks great on your college application!
- Find programs and camps to attend.

# TIMELINE 10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

# TIMELINE 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

#### Fall:

- Know the dates and locations of the SAT, ACT, and other tests you plan to take. Sign up for the tests and don't forget to add them to your calendar. Practice using Khan Academy!
- Use your test scores and current GPA to evaluate your college options. Start building a list of your top five colleges. FloridaShines lists the admissions requirements, deadlines, and other important information about each public college and university in Florida.
- Continue to stay on track in your classes and build up that GPA.
- Update your resume to include your summer work and other experience.
- Find out if representatives from the colleges you are interested in are visiting your area. Consider attending those sessions.

### Spring:

- Search for scholarships.
- Organize financial aid information.
- Start college application essays.
- Take In School SAT
- Build service hours needed for Bright Futures Scholarships.
- Contact the individuals from whom you plan to request letters of recommendation.
- Plan college visits.
- Create a filing system to help you keep your college materials organized.

#### Summer:

- Stay involved in extracurricular activities and seek out leadership roles in your community that will look good on your college application.
- Start communicating with admissions officers and recruiters at colleges on your list.

# TIMELINE 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

#### Fall:

- Check requirements and deadlines for the colleges of your choice. Be sure to submit your application and materials on time!
- Take In School SAT.
- Update your resume. Include summer work and new or continued club/team activities.
- Finalize your college essays.
- Ask for letters of recommendation.
- Take the SAT and/or ACT. Remember, you can take the tests more than once.
- Ensure your transcripts and records are up to date.
- Apply for financial aid. Submit FAFSA and other financial aid forms required by the college. FAFSA opens October 1st of your senior year. Florida Students: Complete your Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA). The application opens October 1st of your senior year.
- Verify that colleges received your application, letters of recommendations, and test scores..

### Spring:

- Maintain your second semester grades and beware of "Senioritis." Colleges can withdraw their acceptances if your grades drastically decline.
- Compare financial aid packages.
- Admission letters begin arriving! Watch for them in the mail.
- If possible, take one last campus visit to the colleges that offer you admission.
- Make a final choice of the college you will attend. (This date may vary by college, so know the correct date).
- Graduate high school. Be proud of your great accomplishment!

### RESOURCES

- FloridaShines
- Florida Student Scholarship Grant Programs
- BigFuture
- State University System of Florida
- YouScience
- MyCareerShines
- Khan Academy
- Your School Counselor