

*Welcome to*  
AICE Junior College Night





# *Our Goal*

To provide you with information and resources to smoothly navigate the college application process.



# Characteristics to Consider when Looking at Colleges

- Public vs. Private
- Location: Urban, Rural, or Suburban
- Size: Student to Faculty Ratio
- Cost
- Academic Reputation
- Selectivity
  - Do I meet the school's admissions averages?
- Majors, Minors, Special Programs
- Honors Programs
- School Climate/Feel
- Research and Internship Opportunities
- Athletic Affiliation
- Clubs, Activities, Greek Life
- Study Abroad Programs
- Faith Based
- Career Services



## Minimum Requirements to enter a Florida Public University

- 4 English Classes
- 4 Math Courses – Algebra 1 and above, to include Algebra 2
  - Should have Math every year
- 3 Natural Sciences-2 with a lab
  - 4 recommended
- 3 Social Sciences
- 2 World Languages – sequential, in the same language
  - 3 looks better
- 2 other Academic Electives

**Admission into Florida's public universities is competitive and students should be doing more than the minimum**



## Requirements to enter a Florida Public University

# Universities like to see **rigorous** coursework

The more academic and weighted classes, the better

Pre-AICE = .5 weight

Honors = .5 weight

AICE = 1 point

AP = 1 point

Dual Enrollment = 1 point



# College Search Process

- Big Future
  - Allows you to put in criteria that you want in a college
  - Example search
- <https://www.floridashines.org/>
- Research on the specific university websites
- Attend college visits through SHS (virtual)- Ms. Coy in Guid.
- Schedule official college visits on own





# College Entrance Exams: SAT and ACT

- Universities require the SAT and/or ACT\*
  - \*Because of COVID, some schools became test-optional for 2020-2021
  - \*Check with specific school to see if require
  - All FL public universities still require test scores
- AICE Diploma does not exempt you from taking these exams for College Admissions
- Recommended to have taken the SAT and/or ACT by December of Junior year
  - Allows you time to retest



# SAT

## Two Sections

- Evidence Based Reading
- Math

## Optional Third Section

- Writing/Essay
  - Some universities want at least 1 Writing score
  - Check with specific schools

## Score Range

**Reading:** 200-800

**Math:** 200-800

**Total:** 400-1600

**Writing:** 2-8





# SAT

- **Can retake the SAT until you get your desired scores**
- **Many colleges will Super Score**
  - Take the highest section score from multiple tests
  - Check with specific schools to ensure they super score
- **Fee waivers for students on free/reduced lunch**
- **Encouraged to answer every question**
  - No penalty for guessing
- **SAT Subject Tests**
  - Math, Biology, Chemistry, US History, Spanish, etc.
  - Take only if your college requires it
  - Check with specific schools – most don't require it (some Ivy/Elite do)



# SAT Dates – [www.collegeboard.org](https://www.collegeboard.org)

Test Date	Deadline	Late Deadline
December 5, 2020	November 5, 2020	November 24, 2020 (for registrations made online or by phone)
March 13, 2021	February 12, 2021	March 2, 2021 (for registrations made online or by phone)
May 8, 2021	April 8, 2021	April 27, 2021 (for registrations made online or by phone)
June 5, 2021	May 6, 2021	May 26, 2021 (for registrations made online or by phone)



# The ACT

## Four Sections

- English
- Math
- Reading
- Science

## Optional Fifth Section

- Writing
  - Some universities want at least 1 writing score
  - check with specific schools

## Total Score Range

1-36 per section

Writing: 2-12



# *The ACT*

- Can retake until you achieve your desired scores
- Many colleges will super score - check with specific schools
- Fee waivers available for students on free/reduced lunch
- No penalty for guessing
- Offers Section re-testing
  - Must have taken full test at least once to be eligible
- Online test option- check if test center offers
  - Will get results faster



# The ACT Dates- [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

Test Date	Deadline	Late Deadline
December 12, 2020	November 6, 2020	November 7 – November 20, 2020
February 6, 2021	January 8, 2021	January 9 – January 15, 2020
April 17, 2021	March 12, 2021	March 13 – March 26, 2021
June 12, 2021	May 7, 2021	May 8 – May 21, 2021
July 17, 2021	June 18, 2021	June 19 – June 25, 20201



# SAT and ACT

- It is recommended to take both the SAT and ACT, then retest on the one you scored better on.
- See [ACT and SAT Score Comparison chart](#)



# How to Prep for the SAT and ACT

## SAT

Khan Academy

<https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>

## ACT

[www.actstudent.org/testprep](http://www.actstudent.org/testprep)

<http://academy.act.org>

Each testing agency has its own book to help prepare







# The PSAT

- Total Score range: 320-1520    \*\*Scores available in December\*\*
  - Reading: 160-760
  - Math: 160-760
  - Look at your **National Percentiles** to see how did compared to others who took test
- On a different scale than SAT but the total PSAT score is a direct indicator of SAT score
- PSAT is Not used for College Admissions but is used to compete in the National Merit Scholarship Program- Juniors ONLY
  - The exact PSAT score needed varies from year to year and by State, but it's always the Top 1% of students in each State (about 16,000 juniors) who qualify as **Semifinalists**
    - Notified in September if Semifinalist
    - Semifinalists then apply to see if qualify as **Finalists** to earn Scholarship money
  - Use a mathematical equation called the Selection Index to determine who falls in the top 1% in each State





# Florida State Public University System Matrix

## [See Handout](#)

This will show you  
average admission  
statistics and  
prevalent  
information on each  
Florida Public  
University



**UNIVERSITIES IN FLORIDA**



# Example: University of Florida

Type of Applications Accepted	Common App Coalition App
GPA	4.4 – 4.6 (S) 4.4 – 4.6 (F)
SAT	1260 – 1400 (S) 1340 – 1480 (F)
ACT	28-32 (S) 30-33 (F)



Gators



# Private Colleges & Universities in Florida

## [See Handout](#)

This will show you  
average admission  
statistics and  
prevalent information  
on each Florida  
Private University





# Example: Stetson University

GPA	3.84
SAT	1120 – 1300
ACT	24-30







# Ivy & Elite Universities & Military Academies

- Highly competitive test scores and GPA
  - Check individual school websites to see averages and requirements
  - Average SAT at Ivy's: high 1400s-mid 1500s
- Average acceptance rate at the Ivy's in 2019 was under 7%
- Essay very important: They want to see how you would fit into their campus environment

**Students should email Mrs. Villafane to set up a time to talk individually about applying to an Ivy, Elite, or Military school as soon as possible.**



Penn



COLUMBIA



HARVARD



Dartmouth



Yale



Cornell



BROWN



PRINCETON



# Three Main Things Colleges Need

- **Application**

- Most schools include an **Essay** in their application
- What type of application accepted?

- **Transcript**

- How does the University want to receive it?
  - Self-reported (SSAR) vs. Request for SHS to send to school
- Request all transcripts via email with our Registrar
  - Comitale-Dahms, Patricia A. [PAComita@volusia.k12.fl.us](mailto:PAComita@volusia.k12.fl.us)
  - Student name in Subject Line
  - List of schools in body of email
  - Unofficial sent to you

- **SAT/ACT Scores**

- Most universities want scores sent directly from the Testing Agency
- Test optional because of COVID? Check with specific schools
- All Florida Public Universities still require SAT/ACT this year



# Essay

- This is your chance to shine and show your individuality
- Don't use the essay to repeat your resume. Write about something that reveals another dimension of your life or personality
- Be descriptive and give details that appeal to the senses
- Don't say what you think the Admissions office wants to hear
- Make sure to get it proofread by parents/guardians, teachers, and/or peers.
  - Do this early on as you all have the same teachers





# Essay

## Examples of prompts

- Tell a story from your life, describing an experience that either demonstrates your character or helped shape it.
- Describe a time when you made a meaningful contribution to others in which the greater good was the focus. Discuss the challenges and rewards of making your contribution.
- 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.





# Honors Programs

- Florida Public Universities have an option to apply to an Honors College
- Additional Essay is typically required
- Profile of an Honors Student at UF for 2020
  - **GPA: 4.6– 4.7**
  - **SAT: 1490 – 1550**
  - **ACT: 34 – 35**
  - **11,337 Applicants- 1508 Admitted**



# Perks of an Honors Program

- Priority Registration
- Special Courses and Seminars
- Exclusive/Separate Housing
- Strong Support System



# Common Application

- [Common App Website](#)
- **More than 900 colleges and universities use this application**
- Extremely user-friendly
- Dashboard helps you easily track deadlines and requirements
- **Only fill it out once and then any member school can access it**
  - Some schools might require supplemental information/parts
- Easily invite teachers, recommenders, and counselors to submit their information



# Build Your Resume

- **START NOW**

- Eases the application process later
- **Provide good details**
- **Quality over Quantity**
  - Be involved in things that are meaningful to you
  - Take leadership roles
- **RESUME TEMPLATE** included in handout packet
- Give a resume to those you ask to write a letter of recommendation on your behalf



# Letters of Recommendation

- Check if your school requires any letters of recommendation from teachers/staff
- Give teachers/counselors ample amount of time to complete your letter
- Be prepared with your Resume when you ask your teacher



# Money for College

- **Florida Bright Futures Scholarship**

- **FL Academic Scholars Award**

- Pays for 100% of FL State tuition plus \$300 for books per semester

- **FL Medallion Scholars Award**

- Pays for about 75% of FL State tuition

- **FAFSA – Federal Student Aid based on financial need**

- All colleges take it and all students encouraged to complete it
  - Available October 1<sup>st</sup> of Senior year- can create your PIN earlier- DO THIS!
  - <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa> - Application
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUis5lityCQ> – Video Overview



# Money for College

## Scholarships

- Search on your own
  - [www.Fastweb.com](http://www.Fastweb.com)
  - [www.Bigfuture.org](http://www.Bigfuture.org)
- [SHS Guidance website](#) has a running list
- Binder in Guidance Lobby
- Check with specific colleges for school-based scholarships







# Bright Futures Scholarship

- Successfully completing the AICE Diploma = Florida Academic Scholars Award
  - If you have **100 volunteer hours** documented and submitted
  - If you have completed the [Florida Financial Aid Application](#)
- If you do not receive the AICE Diploma, you must qualify the traditional way
- If you do not have the AICE Diploma at the end of your Junior year, you need to plan for the worst-case scenario and try to get the test score and GPA





# Traditional Way to Qualify for Bright Futures

Type	16 High School Course Credits <sup>1</sup>	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT <sup>®</sup> /SAT <sup>®</sup> )	Service Hours
<b>FAS</b>	4 - English <i>(three must include substantial writing)</i> 4 - Mathematics <i>(at or above the Algebra I level)</i> 3 - Natural Science <i>(two must have substantial laboratory)</i>	3.50	2020-21 Graduates: 29/1330 2021-22 Graduates: 29/1330	100 hours
<b>FMS</b>	3 - Social Science 2 - World Language <i>(sequential, in same language)</i>	3.00	2020-21 Graduates: 25/1210 2021-22 Graduates: 25/1210	75 hours

<sup>1</sup> The required coursework aligns with the State University System admission requirements found in Florida Board of Governor's Regulation 6.002. Additional information regarding high school coursework can be found within the [Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook](#).

<https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/PDF/BFHandbookChapter1.pdf>



# AICE Diploma and Bright Futures

Merit Recognition Program	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT <sup>®</sup> /SAT <sup>®</sup> )		Service Hours	Bright Futures Award
	2020-21	2021-22		
National Merit <sup>®</sup> Finalists and Scholars			100 hours	FAS
			75 hours	FMS
National Hispanic Scholars			100 hours	FAS
			75 hours	FMS
Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) - Diploma			100 hours	FAS
			75 hours	FMS
International Baccalaureate (IB) - Diploma			100 hours	FAS
			75 hours	FMS

<https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/PDF/BFHandbookChapter1.pdf>



# How to Apply for Bright Futures

No matter which way you qualify, **Everyone** must apply for Bright Futures by filling out the Florida Financial Aid Application by their high school graduation date

Online application opens **October 1<sup>st</sup> of Senior year**

[www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org)



# Wrapping Up

- It is so important for you to stay organized in this process to ensure you meet the deadlines that each individual college you are applying to sets.
- Visit Colleges and Ask Questions
- Start Early
- Apply to a wide range of schools
- Reach and safety schools

# Questions?



# Thank You

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