

COLLEGE INKLINGS



COLLEGE COUNSELING NEWSLETTER
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September 2022

An Introduction

College Inklings is our monthly newsletter designed to keep you apprised of events, issues, and trends in the college admissions process.

The counseling department also puts out a live Memo which lists specific scholarship opportunities, college visits, and college-related events: [College Counseling Memo](#). Students and parents have access to the Memo in Veracross and Maia Learning. You can also view our Instagram account at: <https://www.instagram.com/ahncounselingdept/>

Finally, email is the means of communication we use most to contact individual students and parents. Please read and respond to our emails! We look forward to working closely with you this year. Please feel free to contact us at any time with your questions at 813-839-5371.

College Night for Seniors

Seniors and parents of seniors are invited to attend our annual College Night on **Tuesday, September 1st at 6 PM in the Brady Center North**.

A panel of college admission experts will address and answer all your general questions about the college application process and admissions. At 7 PM we will break for a light snack and then we will launch into our AHN College Counseling application protocol and deadlines. The evening will conclude by 8 PM. No RSVP is necessary. We hope to see all seniors and their parents there!

Revolution Prep

Revolution Prep is offering AHN **sophomore and junior students a FREE online mock PSAT on Saturday, September 17th at 9 AM**. This is an excellent opportunity to practice taking the PSAT and to get comfortable with the format and timing of the test prior to PSAT day in October. To register for the mock PSAT go to: [Free Mock PSAT Registration](#).

Rev Prep is also hosting a variety of **webinars** in September for students and parents. Topics include: Improving Executive Functioning Skills *for less stress and better*

academic success, The "X" Factor in College Admissions, and many more. For more information, please visit: [Revolution Prep Webinar Registration](#).

Seniors

A reminder that **ALL Florida public university college applications** must be submitted by **Friday, October 1** at the very latest. Please be diligent about also submitting your **self-reported grades** to the schools that have that requirement. Our priority deadline for all college applications is Tuesday, November 1.

December 1 is our FINAL deadline for submitting college applications. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Transcript request forms are available in the College Counseling office and in Maia Drive. Seniors are required to submit a transcript request form to their college counselor for every school they apply to. Please be mindful of all application deadlines. Transcript requests are processed on a first come, first served basis and **must be submitted a minimum of 10 school days prior to any deadline**.

Florida Bright Futures Program

The Florida Bright Futures Program provides scholarships for Florida residents who attend college IN-STATE, provided that they meet the academic criteria for eligibility.

On **Wednesday, October 5th the seniors go online to register with the Florida Bright Futures Program** before school at **8 AM**. Location TBA.

Seniors are required to register online with the Florida Department of Education in order to give the Academy of the Holy Names the right to release their academic information to the Department of Education.

Every senior is required to submit this form, whether or not she plans on attending college in Florida. (The Florida Bright Futures funds are made available to any student who initially qualified for the program at high school graduation, should she decide to transfer to a school in Florida during her undergraduate years in college.)

Florida Bright Futures Program, Cont'd.

It is critical for each student to provide her CORRECT Social Security Number to avoid major problems with obtaining her scholarship money. Also, each student will receive a letter from the Florida Department of Education in late December that will confirm submission of her Florida Financial Aid Form and this letter will contain a **pin number** that will allow the student to view her account online and to make any necessary changes in the future. **HANG ON TO THE PIN NUMBER!**

Your transcript will be submitted to the Florida Department of Education for review in early March. Approximately 75% of every graduating class at the Academy of the Holy Names qualifies for one of the two available Florida Bright Futures Scholarships: The Florida Academic Scholarship and the Florida Medallion Scholarship. For more information on the Florida Bright Futures Program go to: <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/> or call the Florida Bright Futures hotline at 1-888-827-2004.

College Fair 2022

You are cordially invited to attend our 26th annual **College Fair**, hosted by the Academy of the Holy Names in conjunction with the Bay Area Association of Independent Schools.

WHEN: Sunday, October 9, 2022 (12:00 to 1:30 PM)

WHERE: THE COLISEUM Downtown St. Petersburg (535 Fourth Avenue North St. Petersburg, FL 33701)

Over 100 colleges and universities will be represented. This is an ideal opportunity to meet with college admissions counselors to gather information on schools that might be an ideal fit for you. Juniors are *strongly encouraged* to attend this event. Sophomores and seniors are welcome and eager freshmen may also attend.

Details on how to register for the fair and a list of participants will be distributed to students the week prior to the event.

Parking is free and available behind the Coliseum and across the street. Doors open promptly at noon and our shift ends promptly at 1:30 to allow the next shift of high schools to attend the fair, so please arrive on time to allow yourselves enough time to explore. This fair is for BAIS Schools ONLY. Please do not bring your friends from public schools or non-BAIS schools. They will not be allowed into the venue.

Please contact the College Counseling Office for further information at 813-839-5371.

PSAT Testing

All freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will take the PSAT test on Wednesday, October 12, 2022

***Please note, the test begins promptly at **8:00 AM on a Wednesday!!!**

A planning guide for students and parents will be distributed to the students a week or two prior to the exam. Test results will be emailed to students from the College Board in early December.

The PSAT is a practice SAT to prepare students to take the SAT in the spring of the junior year. It is an excellent predictor of how a student will ultimately fare on the SAT. Please review the PSAT Student Bulletin and take the PSAT practice test prior to test day.

On test day, ALL students should come prepared with:

- Social Security numbers
- Sharpened #2 pencils
- Calculator

Students will report to their homeroom advisories on the morning of October 12 and begin testing immediately at 8:00 AM. Testing will end around 11:30 AM. Students must wear their school uniforms. Please contact the College Counseling Office if you have any questions.

2022 Financial Aid Workshop

The College Counseling Department will host its annual Financial Aid Workshop for parents on **Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 6 PM in the Brady Center North.**

The workshop will be presented by **Mr. Chad Spencer, Senior Associate Dean of Admission and Director of Financial Aid at Davidson College.** Mr. Spencer will review the financial aid application process, the FAFSA, scholarships, loans, and other pertinent information related to funding your daughter's college education.

Parents of every grade level are welcome to attend this event. Please contact the college counseling team if you have any questions.

Practice ACT

We are holding an optional free online practice ACT for **sophomores and juniors** on **Saturday, November 12th at 9 AM.** Revolution Prep will sponsor the exam. Please RSVP by Friday, November 4th by going to: [Register for Practice ACT](#)

Details about the exam will be included in the confirmation response to your registration.

College Planning Night for Juniors

Juniors and parents of juniors are invited to attend our annual College Planning Night on **Tuesday, November 15th at 6:00 PM** in the north end of the Brady Center.

A panel of college representatives will present on topics including:

- Choosing colleges
- Course selection
- Writing college essays
- Resume building
- SAT and ACT testing
- Financial aid and scholarships
- The Florida Bright Futures Program
- The application process

No RSVP necessary. Hope to see you there!