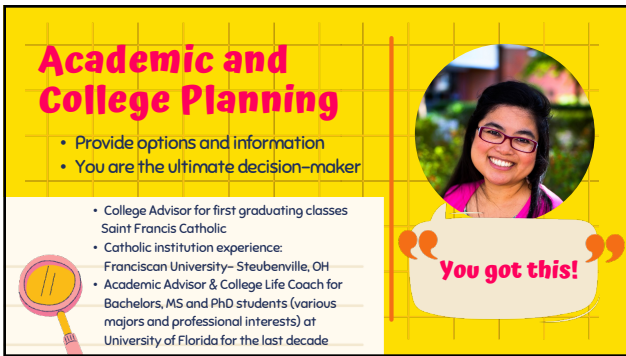




1



2



3

Tips for Success

YOU CAN DO IT!

Be organized

Research college deadlines and create a timeline

Create a to-do list.

Understand which colleges take Common App and which college's have their own app.

STAY STRONG & POWER ON

Divide and conquer

Do a bit at a time.

For example, plan to complete Common App today. Reserve another day for the SSAR.

KNOW YOUR WORTH

Be willing to take constructive criticism

Your parents, teachers and I are here to help you polish your essays and applications. Allow us help you put your best foot forward.

4

Building a College List

2

Safety schools
Very confident

- Schools where your academic profile meets or exceeds their median and you'll most likely be admitted
- You would be happy attending these institutions and earn a quality education
- Affordable for your family

3

Target schools
Reasonably confident

- You are likely to be admitted based on your academic profile
- You would be happy attending these institutions and earn a quality education
- Not a financial burden to attend

2

Reach schools
Let's see what happens!

- You might not quite fit the college's academic profile
- Selective admissions
- Consider, would you be happy attending this institution?
- Potentially high cost of attendance


5

What should I be looking for when building my list?


- 01 Affordability
- 02 Academic program availability, courses online or in-person?
- 03 Size, diversity
- 04 Quality of Student Life
- 05 Location
- 06 Professional development

6


Types of deadlines



Early Action
Non-binding application.
Advantage of a smaller applicant pool




Early Decision
BINDING application.
If you are accepted, you are agreeing to withdraw ALL other applications and accept offer of admission
**Not recommended unless you know you ABSOLUTELY want to go there AND can afford to attend*



Regular Decision
Depending on the institution, you may not want to wait to apply closer to the Regular decision deadline as seats for the incoming class may have already filled


7

Main deadlines




October 15
Early Action to Florida State University!

Also, submit Florida Financial Aid Application to apply for Bright Futures!!!!



November 1
Apply to all other Florida universities by this deadline!
Many schools have Nov 1 as their priority deadline for scholarship consideration




December
FAFSA opens!
It is important to submit the FAFSA early in order to qualify for federal financial aid!

8

Applying to College

- 01 Common Application (CommonApp), Self Reported Academic Record (SSAR) or SPARK form for UCF
Deadline: varies per institution
- 02 Free Application for Federal Student Aid - FAFSA
Complete as soon as possible in December
- 03 Florida Financial Aid Application- FFAA
Do it once it is available in October so you can cross it off your to-do list!

Florida Financial Aid Application

9

Types of College Applications



Common Application + SSAR
Used by most institutions



Coalition Application
The Coalition App encourages students from historically underrepresented and low-income backgrounds to apply to partner institutions



Institution's own application
Follow institution's specific application instructions

10

7 Parts of a Common App

01 Profile

02 Family


03 Education

04 Testing

05 Activities

06 Writing

07 Courses & Grades



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Self-reported Student Academic Record (SSAR)

Self-reported transcript

- Level (AP, Honors, Dual enrollment, etc.)
- Classes
- Grades

IMPORTANT:
Remember to link your SSAR to your institutions!

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Recommendations

Only request one if your application REQUIRES one!

Etiquette

- Check if required by institution/scholarship
- Ask teacher in person and then if they agree, send formal request via e-mail with list of institutions/scholarships that require one, your target deadline for when you want to send your application
 - Include academic and professional goals and attach high school resume!!!
- Always send a thank you note or gift once complete!



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Essay Trifecta

Who are you? Show them, don't tell them

Writing skills

In addition to grammar and syntax, how good of a storyteller are you? Can you use impactful imagery? Consider ethos, pathos and logos.

Can you write a cohesive, concise essay with transitions that easily flow and conveys a meaningful message?

Authenticity

What motivates you? What are your values? What are your strengths? What are your interests? What kind of impact do you want to make?

Effective message

Consider what you are conveying in between the lines.

What can you share that isn't already apparent in other parts of your application?



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Affording College

NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN HOUSEHOLD (INCLUDING HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD) ¹	TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME (IN PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR) ²
1	\$25,142
2	\$33,874
3	\$42,606
4	\$51,338
5	\$60,070
6	\$68,802

01

Fee waivers
 College Board-free SATs and reduced APs
 ACT-free ACTs
 *E-mail me a copy of your most recent tax return

Common App for application fee waivers
 *Let me know if you qualify for the Pell Grant (Check your SAR on the FAFSA website)

02




No-loan schools
 Combination of merit-based, need-based scholarships, grants and work-study

03

Work-study and internships
 Work 10-20 hours a week to earn money for living expenses. Many students intern/work during the summer to save money for the academic year.

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Bright Futures

 <p>GPA Florida Academic 100%: 3.5 GPA Florida Medallion 75%: 3.0 GPA</p>	 <p>SAT/ACT/CLT Florida Academic 100%: ACT 29/ SAT 1340/ CLT 96 Florida Medallion 75%: ACT 25/ SAT 1210 / CLT 84</p>	 <p>Service hours Florida Academic 100%: 100 hours Florida Medallion 75%: 75 hours</p>
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New to 2023!

Classic Learning Test (CLT)

- More information available at <https://www.cltexam.com/tests/clt/>
- Score may be used to qualify for Bright Futures instead of SAT or ACT
- FAQs available at <https://www.cltexam.com/faqs/>

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Bright Futures

Other things to know:

- College Board National Hispanic Recognition status qualifies students for 100% tuition Florida Academic Scholarship
- The 75% Florida Medallion Scholarship pays 100% tuition for associate programs at Florida state colleges
- By completing SFCA graduation requirement of 100 service hours, students fulfill volunteer requirement for Bright Futures
- <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidso.org/PDF/BFHandbookChapter1.pdf>


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Narrowing it down

<p>Affordability</p> <p>Compare financial aid packages.</p> <p>Can I graduate with little to no debt? (Do the calculations)</p> <p>Do they have affordable study abroad opportunities?</p>	<p>Education</p> <p>Does it have MULTIPLE majors/minors/certificates that interest me? (In case, I decide to change my major or add a program?)</p> <p>Are classes online or in-person? Are they taught by faculty or TAs?</p> <p>Accreditation?</p> <p>Does the school help me find internships or must I take initiative?</p>	<p>Faith-life</p> <p>How can I grow in my faith here?</p> <p>Student Life and university experience</p> <p>Are there clubs/intramurals/etc that I could see myself enjoying? (Where are my people?)</p> <p>Can I see myself making happy college memories here?</p> <p>What do I think about its size and location?</p>
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Campus visits



On-campus visits

Prior to visiting, prepare questions for what you want to know to help you make your decision



Virtual Tours

Visit the website of your prospective institution or see if it is available through the Full Measure link below:
<https://tours.fullmeasure.io/?section=all>

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Did you know?

Georgia offers out-of-state differential waivers

[Out-of-State Tuition Differential Waivers waive the differential between out-of-state and in-state tuition costs. Recipients of the waiver pay in-state tuition and all applicable fees. Each waiver is granted for a specific period of time, ranging from a single semester to the designated length of a degree program, but maintaining a waiver always depends on a student's success in meeting certain specified criteria.](https://www.usg.edu/student_affairs/assets/student_affairs/documents/border_waivers.pdf)

https://www.usg.edu/student_affairs/assets/student_affairs/documents/border_waivers.pdf

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What's next?
(in the Spring)

Review curriculum before you attend orientation so that you have a plan of what to register for.
Remember to check your incoming AP/dual enrollment credit!

- 01 Pay enrollment deposit and accept the financial aid you are comfortable with
- 02 Set-up college e-mail account (make it professional!)
- 03 Sign-up for orientation and take placement tests!!
- 04 Secure housing! Do you want to live on-campus or off-campus?
- 05 Pay for meal plan (if you plan on having one)
- 06 Request final transcripts in June to be sent to your institution

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What's on your college must-do list?

- * Studying abroad
- * Interning
- * Volunteering
- * Working to graduate debt-free
- * Club/intramural sports
- * Student organizations

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Ready to live on your own?

Develop these skills now while you're still living with your family!

While also maintaining connection with your family, figuring out college-level study habits, making new friends, adjusting to new environment

Do you know your home address and social security number by memory?

- 01 Cooking healthy meals
- 02 Consistent laundry
- 03 Keeping your home clean
- 04 Personal finances
- 05 Self-discipline and accountability
- 06 Seek out resources when challenges arise

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Get Involved!
What do you want to join?

- 01 Activity/special interest**
Leadership organizations, specific interest, intramurals, volunteering
- 02 Cultural**
Take the time to explore and develop your cultural identity!
- 03 Faith-based**
Enjoy being with friends of the same faith who share your values. Join your college's Catholic student ministry and make memories on retreats and mission trips!

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Growing in your faith



- Locate the nearest Catholic Church and attend Mass every Sunday
- Join Catholic student ministries, Bible study, prayer group and attend retreats
- Volunteer locally and attend mission trips
- Catholic Worldview Fellowship: <https://catholicworldview.com/>


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Tips for Success

- 01 Locate your resources**
Tutoring, Nearest Catholic Church, Libraries, Gym, Student Involvement Center, Career Resource Center, Multicultural Center, Undergraduate Research Office, Study Abroad Office
- 02 Organize semester/week before school begins**
Read through all course syllabi and create a study plan for the semester. Use planner/calendar. Walk to all classes the week before classes begin so you know where you're going
- 03 Get Involved!**
What opportunities do you want to pursue to enhance your undergraduate education and make a lifetime of memories?

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College-level studying



Before class

Read material so that you are prepared to discuss topic and it won't be your first time hearing about the material when you go to class

During class

Actively listen and take meaningful notes. Use either a traditional notebook or note-taking program such as Microsoft OneNote to stay organized.

After class

Review the materials again and test your knowledge to make sure you have a solid understanding. Attend office hours and tutoring to clarify and fill knowledge gaps.

Do not study where you sleep! Find a productive study space and make it a habit to go! Library, study hall, outside green space.

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Make Good Choices!

1. Stop
2. Think
How will this affect myself or others?
3. Make a good choice!

Take time to think

What does your conscience tell you?

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Young professionals

Preparation is key!

Senior homework

- Application-ready resume and cover letter so you're confident about applying to internships/volunteer opportunities

01

 Resume

02

 Interviewing skills

03

 Elevator pitch

04

 Professional communication and etiquette

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Apply for scholarships!

- Begin searching and applying for scholarships
 - FastWeb: <https://www.fastweb.com/>
 - College Board Scholarship search: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/scholarship-search>
 - ScholarshipAmerica: <https://scholarshipamerica.org/>
 - Department of Labor Scholarship finder: <https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Training/find-scholarships.aspx>
 - Student Scholarships: <https://studentscholarships.org/scholarships.php>
- Continue searching and applying for scholarships throughout high school and college

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Main takeaways

- 01 Create a college application timeline
- 02 Develop your independent living skills!
- 03 Be thoughtful/intentional about your college decisions
- 04 It will take time to adjust to college life. You will need to ADAPT!
- 05 Apply for scholarships and jobs so you do not graduate with debt

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College is what you make of it.

How are you going to make the most of your college experience?

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Recommended reading

- 01 **How to Make Great Decisions by Father Mike Schmitz**
- 02 **Prag, Decide and Don't Worry by Jackie & Bobby Angel**
- 03 **God's Voice Within by Father Mark E. Thibodeaux**
- 04 **10 Things Employers Want you to Learn in College by Bill Coplin**
- 05 **7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Stephen Covey**

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Mark your Calendar

FAFSA Night
November 6 at 6:00pm
Media Center

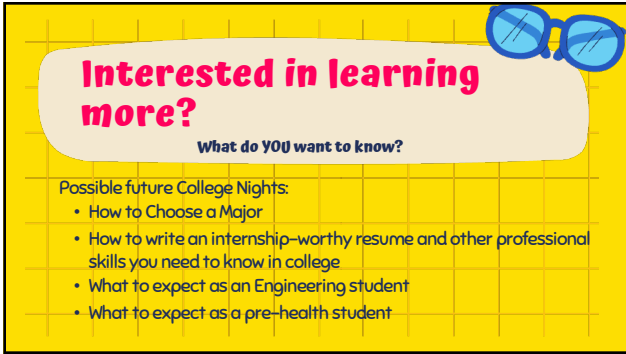
Later this Fall
Presented by Jennifer Bennett,
Assistant Director
UF Financial Aid & Scholarships

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Thanks For Your Attention!
I hope you found this informative

Any Questions?

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Interested in learning more?

What do YOU want to know?

Possible future College Nights:

- How to Choose a Major
- How to write an internship-worthy resume and other professional skills you need to know in college
- What to expect as an Engineering student
- What to expect as a pre-health student
