Welcome to Virtual College Week

Insight to Filling Out Your College Application

October 4, 2018
5:00 p.m. E.T.
For live *Closed Captioning* please click on or copy the link in the chat box!
Follow @FLShines on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter during Virtual College Week.
New this year!!!!!

After Virtual College Week you will receive a follow-up email from virtualcollegenight.org with information about applying for three $1,000.00 scholarships being awarded by the Florida Association of Educational Data Systems!
Agenda

• Before Applying
• Preparing for College
• Applying
• Deadlines
• Paying for College
• Parents or Guardians
• Q&A
College Degrees

How far are **YOU** willing to go for **YOUR** career goals?

- Associate Degree
- Bachelor Degree
- Master Degree
- Doctorate Degree

FIU offers great programs fully online & on-campus
Start Now

• Grade Point Average:
  • Most colleges prefer their Freshman students to have a 3.0 or higher GPA on a 4.0 grading scale

• Utilize your resources:
  • Virtual advisors
  • High school counselor
  • Brace advisor

Create a **Game Plan** to boost and maintain your GPA

*SAY NO to “SENIORITIS”*
Keep Yourself On Track

Create a **Game Plan** to keep yourself engaged.

**TIPS:**

- Maintain a challenging course load.
- Enjoy your senior experience — responsibly.
- Commit to community service, an internship or career-focused job.
- Keep a calendar of your activities and deadlines.
- Avoid obsessing over the admission process.
Different Types of College Applications

- Database filtered applications: The Common Application
- Individual school applications
Important Tips on Processes

Common mistakes are:
- Names on application
- Birthdays
- SSNs

Documents needed can range from:
- Recommendation Letters
- College Essays
- College Interviews

Be Honest
Applying for College COSTS MONEY

- Price can change depending on what the school is requesting
- Colleges/Universities have different price ranges that can vary
  - Applications: $20 & up
  - Transcripts: $5 & up
  - College Placement exams: $60 or over
- *Heads Up!
  - Most colleges/universities also require an Admissions Deposit to reserve your spot
Waivers

- Many students don’t know they may qualify for an Application Fee Waiver

Utilize your resources:
- Virtual Advisors
- High School Counselors
- Brace Advisors

Think smarter not harder!
Which one to choose?

SAT does not expire

ACT has an expiration date
Deadlines

• Colleges may have different due dates
• It’s important to keep in mind ALL deadlines
  • Applications
  • Documents
  • Test Scores
  • Fees
  • Scholarships
  • FAFSA
• Stay Organized.
  • Create a check list or calendar to keep track of the different deadlines for the schools that you are applying to
Know Your Timelines:

It is the *applicant’s responsibility* to provide ALL required documents for their Admissions application by specific deadlines.

- Colleges will not request transcripts for you

- **Electronic Copies** may take on average 2-3 business days (depending on the agency or school)

- **Hard Copies** may take about 5-15 business days (depending on mailing service and distance)
Transcripts

HOW IT WORKS

Request → Process → Deliver
Pathways Into College

• Four year University
  • Many high school seniors are ready to start college and become college freshman by starting off at a large university like FIU

• Community/State College
  • Students can start off at a community college and receive their AA/AS degrees then transfer over to larger universities for their bachelors degrees
  • Connect4Success Program
Paying for College

• Scholarships
  • School specific
  • External

• Grants
  • Federal
  • State

• Loans
  • Private
  • Public
Scholarships

- First generation scholarship
- Minority scholarships
- Athletics scholarships
- Merit scholarships
- Scholarships for Women
- Florida Bright Futures scholarship
- Deadlines vary
Federal Financial Aid

• The FAFSA® (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form to apply for financial aid for college, career school, or graduate school.
Parents, Guardians and Friends

**IT'S OFFICIAL**

- FERPA-Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
  - Federal Regulations require colleges that receive federal funding to restrict access to Educational Records once an application is submitted.

- Delegated Access
  - FERPA Waivers: For a parent to access their children’s application or educational documents, the child must sign a FERPA waiver.
Questions.........
Don’t forget to follow @FLShines on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to learn who the SWAG BAG winners are!
Scholarship Reminder!

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Thank you for attending Virtual College Week. For additional information or questions please visit FloridaShines.org or email us, collegenight@flvc.org