

Florida Trends's

# next

2019-20

YOUR FUTURE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL IN FLORIDA™

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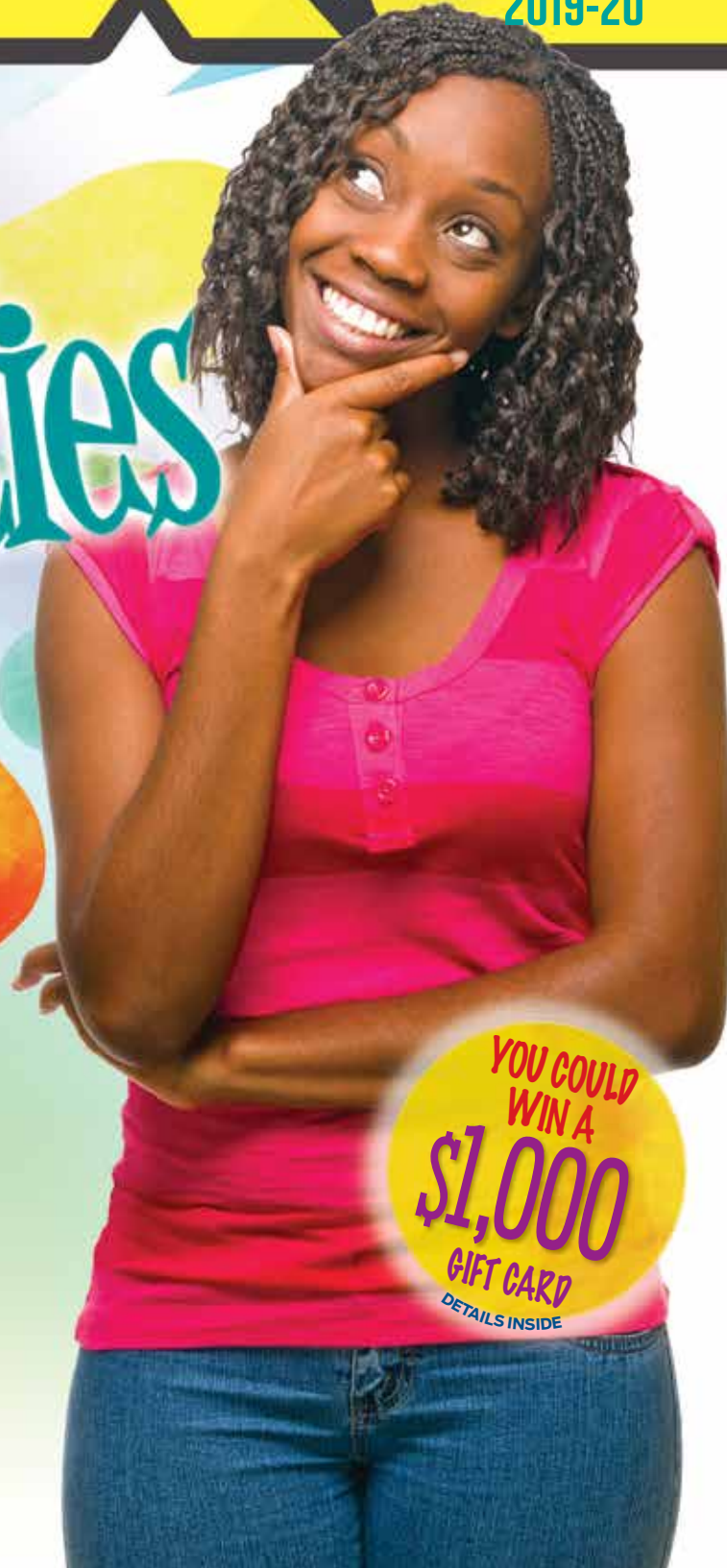
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DETAILS INSIDE

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# Florida Trend's 2019-20 next

Your Future After High School In Florida™



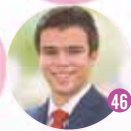
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LOOK WHO WON A

**\$1,000 GIFT CARD**

**And YOU could be just as lucky!**

Enter by filling out and mailing in the card after page 40, or online at [www.FloridaNEXT.com](http://www.FloridaNEXT.com).

See Official Drawing Rules on page 33.



**2018-19 WINNER**

**Angelina Rodriguez**  
17, Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts, West Palm Beach



# Hello, Future Graduates!



**Helen Anne Travis**  
NEXT Editor

We are so excited to bring you this year's edition of Florida Trend's NEXT. As always, this magazine is all about you and helping you imagine the possibilities for life after high school. Whether you hope to attend a four-year university, state college or trade school after you graduate, we're here to help you make your next move.

First up is helping you master your last few years of high school like a boss. Check out our tips for preparing for the ACTs and SATs, finding a community service project, and saving money on prom. We also have stories about dress codes, school start times and high school graduation requirements.

Then it's all about getting you ready for college. We talked to real-life Florida college students to get their advice on how to pick the best school for you. We also want to help you ace your scholarship and college application essays and clue you in on some degree programs and majors you might never have heard of.

Finally, because life isn't all about school and studying, we also have stories about students just like you who have overcome significant odds to achieve their goals.

We hope this edition of NEXT gives you the tools you need to make the most of this year and the years ahead.

Here's to an awesome 2019-2020 school year!

*Check out these Highlights*



**Meet two students who lived through Hurricane Michael** and read how the storm changed their lives forever. PAGES 18-19

**Does high school start too early?** Learn why some school districts are considering pushing back their start times. PAGE 20



**If you have no clue what you want to be when you grow up, don't freak.** We can help you get the advice and answers you need. PAGES 26-29



## They've got your back!

The colleges, universities and organizations whose ads appear in NEXT help provide funding that allows you to receive your copy for free! Say thanks by checking out their messages in the magazine, visiting their websites and filling out the gift card drawing form to request more information on the programs they offer.

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From Our Sponsor

# A Letter from USF's Student Body President

Greetings,

There are 12 public institutions that represent the State University System of Florida, and this system has been ranked number one for three consecutive years by *U.S. News & World Reports* as the best for higher education in the country. The state of Florida is comprised of many amazing institutions for higher education, but none quite like the University of South Florida. When I began my school search journey, I was not familiar with USF, and it was not until I toured the campus that I realized it was the exact place where I wanted to spend the next four years of my life, as I was in awe of its modernity and diversity.

The first day I stepped foot on campus as an official student, I knew that I wanted to make a difference in the lives of others and leave an impactful legacy. Therefore, I decided to get involved with various organizations to ensure such an outcome. Initially, it surprised me that fellow students went out of their way to help guide others towards their goals, but I soon learned that it is in our nature as Bulls to create a sense of community and belonging. The University of South Florida is filled with people willing to lift you up. Whether it be through internship opportunities or other networking events, your peers really want to see you succeed. Consequently, it is no surprise that USF has eliminated the graduation gap between race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. This sentiment of attainability presents an indescribable energy and ambition that vibrates through campus, and it has been a major factor regarding my success at this university.

As I mentioned, I began my journey at USF by getting very involved in campus organizations. One of the organizations that caught my eye was USF Student Government, because I realized it was a place where direct and positive impact occurred in the lives of many students. I began my journey in student government as a volunteer, then I became a two-term senator, and after that the assistant director of outreach and recruitment. These experiences molded me into the leader I sought out to become.

I am proud to state that I now serve as USF student body president with the distinction of being the first black woman to ever hold this position, and the first woman to hold it in over 20 years. This achievement was made possible because of our community of uplifters that separates USF from the rest. We want future campus leaders to continue the trend of this university being a place where we become the people we aspire to be and then open doors for those who aspire to be like us. Because here at USF, it is not about being the first to do something great, but it is about not being the last.

In Bull Pride,

**Britney Deas**

USF Student Body President



*Britney Deas, USF Student Body President*



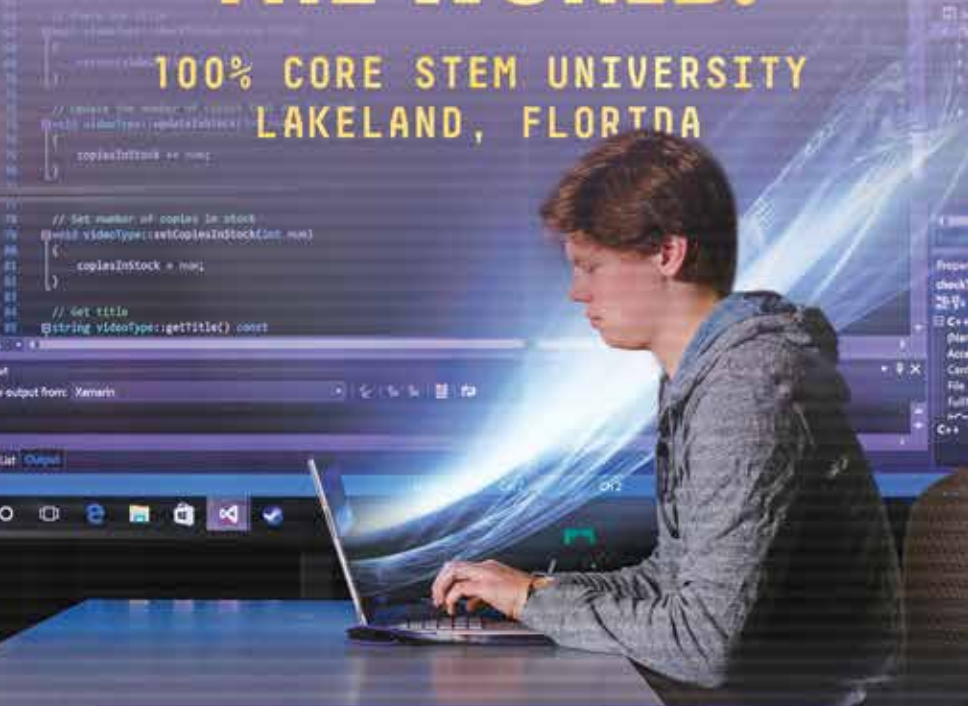
**UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH FLORIDA**



FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC  
UNIVERSITY

# CHALLENGE YOURSELF, CHANGE THE WORLD.

100% CORE STEM UNIVERSITY  
LAKELAND, FLORIDA



## CODING THAT MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Academic, research, and internships go hand-in-hand at Florida Poly. Our students intern at prestigious institutions across the country. Computer Science major Ryan Anderson interned at Purple, Rock, Scissors in Orlando, Florida. While at the creative agency he led a project to build a virtual reality experience that allows terminally ill children a virtual reprieve from their hospital bed to explore the world. The hands-on experience allowed Ryan to blend his passion for design with the leadership skills he developed in high school and college.

Our students are making the world a better place.

**FLORIDAPOLY.EDU**

# Florida Trend's 2019-20 NEXT

Your Future After High School In Florida™

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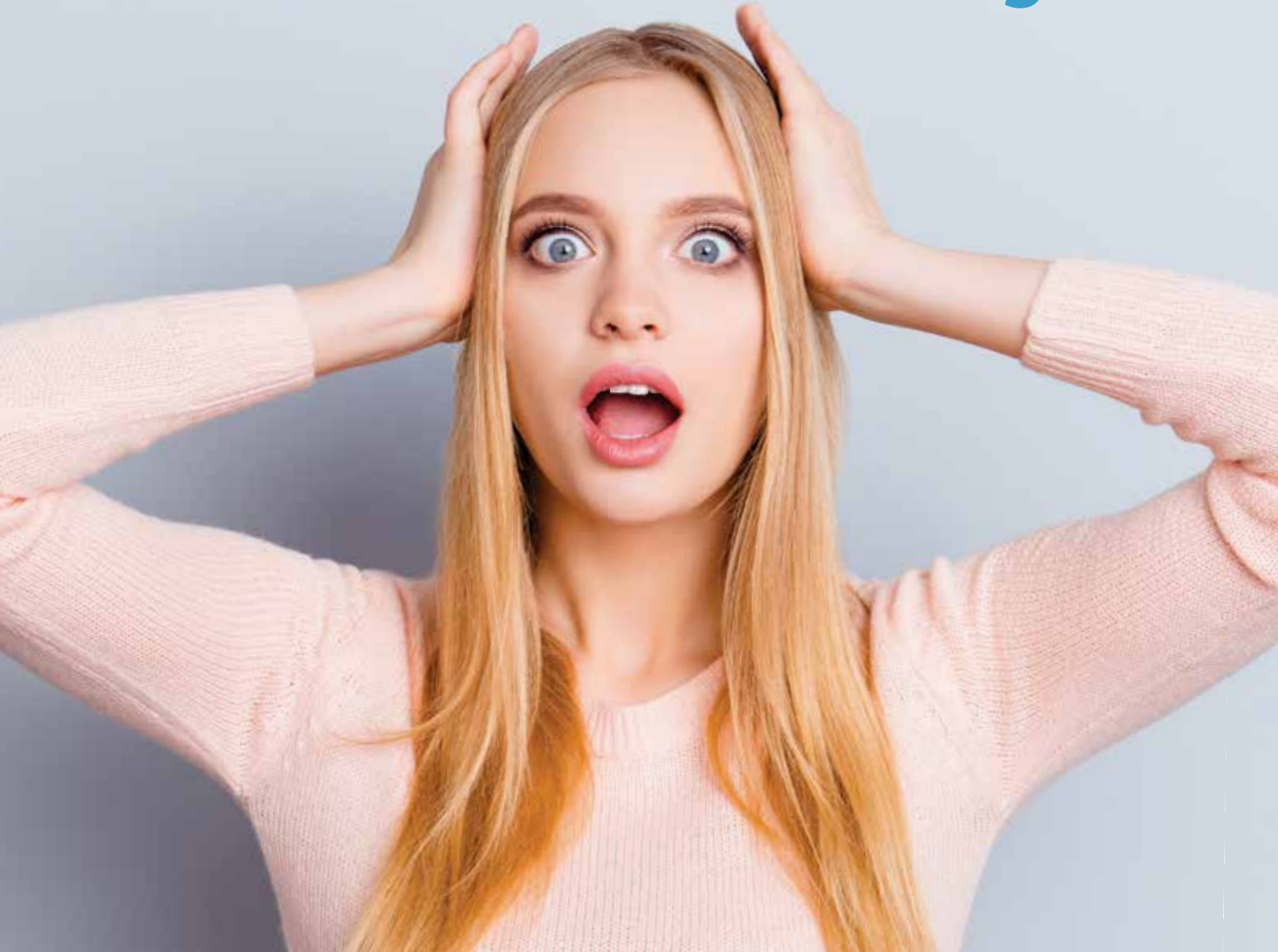
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Free to Florida high school students while supplies last.

# Confused about college?



**We're here to help. 100% free!**

Check out our **FREE** college and career planning resources.  
You'll find the answers to all your questions about  
getting ready for college and your future!

VISIT  **FloridaShines.org** TODAY



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE STATE OF FLORIDA



# NOW WHAT?



## A semester-by-semester guide to your junior and senior years.

As juniors and seniors, you are about to embark on the most important semesters of your high school career. Don't stress. We're here to help.

Here's a semester-by-semester guide of what you need to accomplish and tips from Eveleen Garcia, district bilingual school counselor for Hillsborough County Public Schools, on how to navigate these important years with ease.



**Eveleen Garcia**  
District School Counselor,  
Hillsborough County  
Public Schools

CLASS OF  
2021

## YOUR JUNIOR YEAR

### FALL

**STATUS UPDATE** Start your journey at the Florida Department of Education's site, [floridashines.org](http://floridashines.org). Here you can learn about the requirements for Bright Futures and the application process for state colleges and universities. Take some notes. Then meet with your school counselor to discuss your academic status and college options.

*"It's important to talk to your school counselor about careers you may be interested in. They can help connect you with free resources at your school and local state college."*

**GET ORGANIZED** Whether you use an old-school shoebox or an app like DropBox or Google Docs, you need a system for tracking important dates, deadlines and paperwork. This is also where you can store information you receive from the schools you're interested in, as well as reference letters, test scores and essays.

**NARROW IT DOWN** Reach out to the schools you're interested in for information packets. Need some inspiration? Check out the NEXT Get Smart Guide on page 53.

*"Many schools offer virtual tours. It's a great way to learn more about a school and see if it's a good fit for you."*

**MONEY MATTERS** Set up profiles on scholarship search websites. We've also got a sweet **list of scholarships on page 39** and **tips for applying on page 34**.

**SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY** Sign up for projects that will help you meet the Bright Futures community service requirements. See page 17 for tips.

**SHARPEN THOSE PENCILS** Take the earliest PSAT, SAT and/or ACT test available so you have plenty of time for retakes. See page 14 for tips. Don't forget about SAT subject tests and AP exams.

*"If you qualify for free or reduced lunch, you can take advantage of fee waivers for the SAT and ACT. Talk to your school counselor to learn more."*



### SPRING

**MONEY, MONEY, MONEY** Start your scholarship research early. The more time you have to apply, the more money you can earn.

*"By spring semester of your junior year, you will have already received your PSAT scores. You can link those to Khan Academy for free training in the areas where you need the most practice at [Khanacademy.org](http://Khanacademy.org)."*

**GET YOUR SPARKLE ON** Now's the time to update your resume, start honing your essay-writing skills and get any audition tapes ready. The sooner you start this process, the less stressful it will be.

Hi!

**SAY HI!** After a few virtual tours, it's time for real-life visits to the colleges and universities you're most interested in. Call ahead to make appointments, especially during the summer.

**GET SOME EXPERIENCE** Consider a volunteer job or internship in the field you're interested in. This could help you get more scholarship money. It could also help you get into the school you want. See our job search tips on page 38.

*"By the end of junior year, you want to have your graduation support team in place. They're your cheerleaders. Don't feel like you have to do all this on your own. Graduation is stressful, and asking for help is a sign of strength and independence."*



### WHY IS COLLEGE SUCH A BIG DEAL?

Turn to page 26 to see how much money you'll make with a college degree compared to a high school diploma.



Serve  
Your  
Community

FILE  
THAT  
FAFSA

TRACK  
IT

DECISION  
TIME

DON'T  
FREAK!

SAY  
THANKS!

CLASS OF  
2020

## YOUR SENIOR YEAR

### FALL

**GET READY TO APPLY** Finalize your list of schools and make sure you have everything you need to apply. Many schools will even let you apply online. Applications for Florida state universities and colleges can be found on [floridashines.org](http://floridashines.org) or on the school's website.

**APPLY!** It's the moment you've been waiting for! Consider applying to multiple schools in case your first choice isn't available. Keep a copy of everything you send out. This way if a school tells you something is missing, you can easily resend the item(s).

*"Applying to four to eight schools maximizes your chances of getting accepted."*

**FILE THAT FAFSA** The earliest you can submit your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is Oct. 1. Do it as soon as you can. Some financial awards are first-come, first-served. Check out [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov) and [finaid.org](http://finaid.org) for other financial aid resources. See our financial aid tips on page 34.

*"Remember, the FAFSA is only for federal aid. You also need to apply for the Bright Futures scholarships. Your school counselor can help you get started."*

**GET 'EM TALKING** Start asking teachers, employers and other adults for letters of recommendation. Give them at least a month to complete the letters – they're busy. Be sure to show them how much you appreciate their help.

**GIMME SHELTER** Apply for housing if you plan to live on campus. Some schools award the best rooms and dorms to those who apply early.

**TRACK IT** Use each school's online application system to ensure they received all your materials. Keep track of all correspondence you've had with college admissions and financial aid officials, whether it's by phone, email or snail mail.

*"Many scholarships have deadlines in September and October. Apply early to increase your chances of getting reward money and grants."*

### SPRING

**WHO NEEDS WHAT?** If your future college wants mid-year transcripts, submit that request to your counselor now.

**DECISION TIME** Now comes the fun part! Once the college admission decisions and financial aid award letters start rolling in, it's time to decide which school best meets your academic goals and financial needs.



**STAY THE NIGHT** Consider making another visit, ideally an overnighter, to the schools where you were accepted.

**TELL 'EM** Once you've made a decision, notify all colleges immediately. Send in housing and other deposits, and sign up for orientation at your chosen school.

*"Make sure you reply to all the colleges where you were accepted, even if you don't plan to attend."*

**DON'T FREAK!** If your top college choices aren't available, work with your school counselor to find other options.

*"Remember, an acceptance letter is not a guarantee. If your GPA falls or you have to drop a class, a college can rescind their acceptance."*

**WHO NEEDS WHAT? PART TWO.** If you take dual enrollment classes, request that a mid-year transcript be sent to your future college, as well as your final transcripts.



**CLEP TO IT** Take College Level Examination Program (CLEP) tests to earn college credit, saving you time and money.

**SAY THANKS** You're done! Congrats! Now's the time to send thank-you notes to all the teachers, counselors and anyone else who helped walk you through the process. They'll be excited to hear about your success.

**CONGRATS!  
YOU TOTALLY DID IT!**



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH FLORIDA

# SEE THE FUTURE



**And choose a  
university that  
helps shape it.**

Whether our students are using virtual reality goggles to study pharmacology or powering drones with their minds (yes, it happened), the University of South Florida stands at the forefront of innovation in medicine, science, engineering and the arts.

When you become a Bull, you join a community of power and possibility, dedicated to changing tomorrow for the better. What world do you want to see?



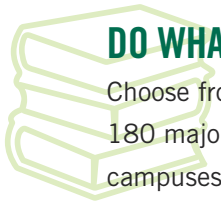
## SPEND LESS

Last year, we awarded our undergraduates more than \$500 million in scholarships, grants waivers, loans and work study. We don't simply believe in our students' potential. We invest in it.



## BIGGER OPPORTUNITIES

Harness the resources of a powerful research university. It's time to seize your future.



## DO WHAT YOU LOVE

Choose from than more 180 majors across our three campuses. Partner with world-class faculty in pursuit of your passions, from ballet to biomedical engineering. We'll help you every step of the way.



## LIVE THE BULL'S LIFE

Dive into the college experience with a myriad of student organizations, NCAA sports teams and frequent on-campus events. Students come from all 50 states and 145 different countries to attend USF.



## SEE THE WORLD

Dozens of study abroad options can take you from the tropical forests of Costa Rica to the Louvre in France. Ready for an adventure?



## MORE TO DISCOVER

Find out why a **BOLD CHOICE** is the right one.

Learn more about USF today: [admissions.usf.edu/next](https://admissions.usf.edu/next)



# The Best Decision I Made in High School

## Make this year count!

New year. New you! Want to make this school year the best one yet? We asked seven students to tell us about the smartest decision they made in high school. Maybe their advice will inspire you to try something new this year.

“The best decision I made in high school was to volunteer. It allowed me to be eligible for a Bright Futures scholarship, which will pay my full tuition. It also opened me up to new experiences, allowed me to meet new people and let me help other people.”



**Madison Johnson**  
18, freshman at the University of Central Florida, graduate of University High School

“I made sure to surround myself with positive people. The friends I’ve made over the years continue to lift me up and support me.”



**Cameron Bruce**  
17, senior at South Walton High School

“I learned in high school that it’s okay to be different from everyone else. What makes you unique should be seen as a strength, not a weakness.”



**Braice Bays**  
18, freshman at Florida State College at Jacksonville, graduate of Jean Ribault Senior High School

“The best decision I made was joining the band program. I made a bunch of great friends, became a better musician and developed my leadership skills. It also gave me a way to make some extra money. A group of friends and I formed a jazz trio, and we’ve played several paid gigs.”



**James Labranche**  
18, freshman at the University of Central Florida, graduate of Sebastian River High School

“I took a lot of online classes during the summer. It gave me more flexibility during the school year to take IB classes, electives and other courses I was interested in. Taking classes online also gives you access to courses that may not be offered at your school.”



**Isha Verma**  
18, freshman at the University of Florida, graduate of University High School

“The best decision I made was to take a wide variety of classes — anatomy and physiology, art appreciation and U.S. history, among others. This helped me discover my interests and helped me decide to major in political science in college.”



**Julio Auguste**  
21, freshman at University of Central Florida, graduate of Florida Virtual School

“The best decision I made was to step out of my comfort zone, being active in clubs and taking part in community events that I might not have considered attending at first. My best advice is to explore the world around you. It will help you discover what you love to do.”



**Lee Giat**  
21, senior at University of North Florida, graduate of Cypress Bay High School



# RELENTLESSLY SEEKING.

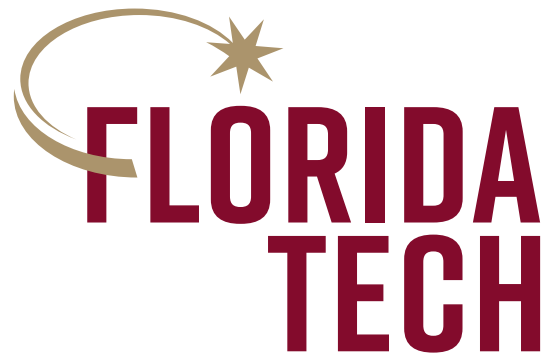
Florida Institute of Technology was founded in 1958, the same year as NASA, and has been intrinsically linked to U.S. space initiatives ever since.

**We've been here for every launch. And we'll be here for whatever comes next.**

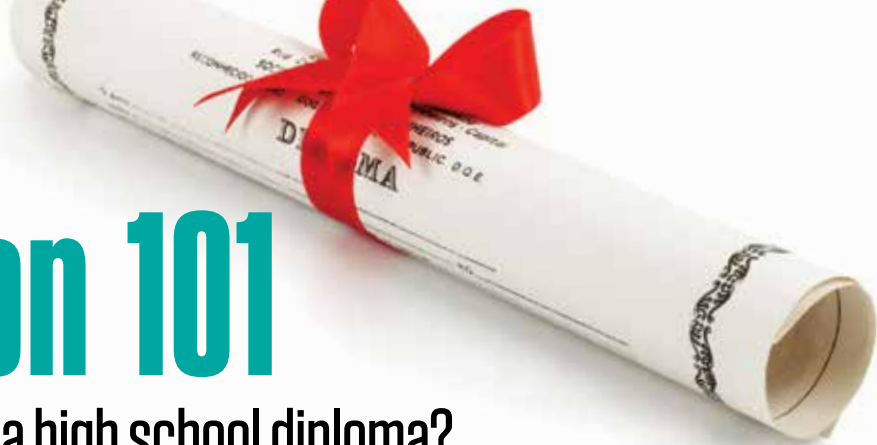
Built upon the idea that anything is possible with persistence, boldness and imagination, Florida Tech is a place where serious seekers come to smash old assumptions, break through barriers and spark new ideas.

Learn more and join us in our relentless pursuit of greatness.

**[floridatech.edu](http://floridatech.edu) | 321-674-8000**



**Florida's STEM University™**



# Graduation 101

## What does it take to earn a high school diploma?

2.0

The cumulative grade point average you must earn in all of your classes to graduate.

### YOUR GOAL Graduation. We're here to help.

Many students don't realize that there are multiple tracks they can follow to earn a high school diploma. Your options include:

- The standard 24-credit program
- An Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) 18-credit option
- The International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum
- An Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- Additional paths are available to students with unique needs; talk to your school counselor to learn more

**Did you know** you may be able to satisfy the physical education credit if you play sports, participate in marching band or Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), or take dance or performing arts classes? Talk to your school counselor to learn more.



### BY THE NUMBERS What it takes to graduate

You must earn 24 credits over the course of your high school career, broken down as follows:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 8 Electives  | 1 Biology 1   | 1 Physical education                                 |
| 4 English/language arts                                | 1 U.S. history  | .5 U.S. government                                   |
| 4 Mathematics, 2 of which must be Algebra and Geometry | 1 World history   | .5 Economics credit that includes financial literacy |
| 2 Science credits with a laboratory component          | 1 Fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts |  |

### Online Required

At least one of your high school classes must be completed online. You must also meet the state assessment requirements for English/language arts and Algebra 1. Depending on your course load, you may also have to meet additional state assessment requirements. Students who do not meet these requirements will receive a Certificate of Completion instead of a standard diploma.



### FUN FACT!

You might be able to receive credits for internships and other work experience. Your counselor can fill you in on all of your school's options for earning your diploma and reaching your goals.





# Ensuring student success on campus and beyond.

**Florida State's four-year graduation rate is No. 1 in the state of Florida and one of the best in the nation.**

For the past 20 years, Florida State University has been designing and building a dynamic learning environment where students are challenged, engaged, and supported to grow to their full potential. Every student at FSU has a success team behind them to help guide and support their educational journey.



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

[fsu.edu](http://fsu.edu)

# What If You Didn't Have to Take the SAT or ACT?

Love 'em or hate 'em, they're not going away anytime soon.

Across the country, experts are weighing in on whether colleges and universities should stop requiring applicants to take standardized tests like the SAT and ACT.

Fans of the tests say the ACT and SAT can help predict how well a student will do in college.

But critics argue that the standardized tests are unfair, especially to students whose families demonstrate financial need. The less money you have, the less likely you are to be able to afford a private tutor, practice tests and other tools to help you prepare.

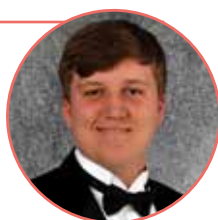
No matter your opinion on the matter — and we do encourage you to have an opinion! — for now, the ACT and SAT are a critical part of the college application process. Read on to learn how the tests are different, how they're the same and how you can increase your chances of getting the best score.

	SAT	ACT
The Basics	154 questions and an optional essay	215 questions and an optional essay
Time Allocated	3 hrs. (plus 50 min. for the optional essay)	3 hrs. 15 min. (plus 40 min. for the optional essay)
Calculator Allowed?	Yup! (but only for some parts of the math test)	Yup! (but only for some parts of the math test)
Penalty for Guessing?	Nope	Nope
Cost	\$46.00* (\$60 with the essay)	\$50.50* (\$67.50 with the essay)
Learn More	<a href="http://www.SAT.org">www.SAT.org</a>	<a href="http://www.ACT.org">www.ACT.org</a>

\* Some students qualify for test fee waivers. Talk to your school counselor to see what options are available to you.

“

For every standardized test, I try to familiarize myself with the material so I don't go into it cold. I recommend getting a good night's sleep and laying out the clothes you want to wear the night before. This way you can have a stress-free morning and focus on getting the best score possible.”



**Marrick Aske**  
18, freshman at the University of North Florida, graduate of Hernando High School



The earlier you take the test, the more time you'll have for retakes, if needed.

## Avoid Test Stress

The following tips can help you overcome any test-taking anxiety.

- Study, study, study. The more prepared you are, the less stress you'll feel on test day.
- Take advantage of practice tests. These can help familiarize you with the tests' formats, and see which areas you need help with.
- Breathe!
- Get enough sleep the night before the test.
- Eat a good breakfast the day of.
- Don't beat yourself up if you're unhappy with your results. You can always retake the test.



You can find free study guides and practice tests at these sites:  
[academy.act.org](http://academy.act.org)  
[khanacademy.org/test-prep/sat](http://khanacademy.org/test-prep/sat)

Some schools also offer free study guides and practice tests.



# REAL LIFE. REAL EXPENSES.

## How to have fun without spending a lot of money.

Being a teenager can be expensive. But it doesn't have to be. Here are some stats about teen spending, plus tips from real Florida students on how to save money.



Teens spend a little more than 20% of their cash on food. More than half of teens said Olive Garden was their favorite Italian restaurant. Other favorites include Starbucks, Chipotle, Chick-fil-A and McDonald's.



Coupons are a great way to save money on meals at your favorite restaurants."



**Jahleel Gomez-Womack**  
22, master's student at Florida Institute of Technology, graduate of Fatima College, Trinidad



Teens spend around 40% of their cash on clothes. About half shop online at stores like Amazon, Walmart and Target. When people your age are in the mood to splurge, their favorite luxury brands are Nike, Lululemon and Coach.

**Tip:** Shop for your favorite brands at stores like Ross, Nordstrom Rack or outlet malls. Many of these stores also have websites where you can shop online.

It's not just about the clothes; in one survey, 61% of teens said that shopping is a fun way to spend time with friends and family.



60% of male teens shop at outlet malls and discount stores



Nearly 70% of female teenagers shop at outlet malls and discount stores

## PROM

Prom is one of the most expensive nights in your high school career. The average student spends about \$1,000 on clothes, dinner and after-prom activities.



Prom is definitely an expensive night, but there are many ways to cut back on costs. First, there is no need to rent a nice car. No one cares and chances are no one will remember. Second, compare prices online instead of purchasing your outfit at the first store you walk into. And last but not least, don't go to an expensive restaurant! There are tons of places where you can eat well at a decent price."



**Fiorenza Herrera Diaz**  
20, graduate of Miami Dade College, junior at Swarthmore College



## ENTERTAINMENT

Sixty-seven percent of teens say they have an iPhone. For movies, more than 50% of teens say they have a Netflix subscription.



When my friends and I want to save money on a fun day out, we'll all meet at a place that doesn't cost money to enter, like a local park. Everyone brings something to eat and share. We'll play board games, talk and watch movies together on our phones. We also take advantage of free activities, like community movie nights."



**Susan Lopez**  
17, senior at McFatter Technical High School



**WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE WAYS TO SAVE MONEY?**

Join the conversation online at [facebook.com/floridatrendnext/](https://facebook.com/floridatrendnext/).



# Are High School Dress Codes All They're Cracked Up to Be?

## We want to know what you think!

Across the country, more than half of public schools enforce some sort of dress code. These range from regulating the length of students' shorts to mandating everyone at the school wear a uniform.

Advocates say dress codes save students time getting ready in the morning and reduce peer pressure to spend money on clothes. They also say dress codes prepare students for the workplace while reducing gang activity and violence.

But opponents say dress codes could come across as potentially racist and sexist. They also argue that regulating what students wear doesn't prepare them for the workplace, as many companies are now embracing more casual dress codes.

This debate is making waves across Florida. One Palm Beach County commissioner took to social media after her daughter was placed in in-school suspension for wearing jeans with a hole in the knee. In 2018, the NAACP Legal Defense Fund asked the Florida Department of Education to take action against schools that ban Afros and braids after a student was sent home for wearing his hair in dreadlocks.

There's also the argument that enforcing dress codes — and punishing students for violating them — takes away from valuable learning time.

Below, two students weigh in on the pros and cons of dress codes.



**Bowen Fisher**  
17, senior at Mulberry  
Senior High School



"Dress codes are great, but only to an extent. There are many rules that I appreciate, like those regarding gang-related clothing or items that are too revealing. But I don't always agree with what they consider revealing. For example, how come I can wear shorts but not pants with a hole halfway down my shin?"



**Farinna Victoria Izquierdo**  
17, senior at Hialeah  
Gardens High School



"I understand dress codes are in place for our safety, but I don't love them. Some of the rules are unfair. For example, the requirement that our shorts come down to our fingertips with arms extended is hard for me because I have long arms. I also think dress codes limit our creativity and freedom of expression. By wearing what we like, we can express our identity through our clothes. But I also agree that if we didn't have dress codes, we might be more focused on what we looked like than our own education."

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THESE RULES?

Tell us online at [facebook.com/floridatrendnext/](https://www.facebook.com/floridatrendnext/).



# Community Service Do's and Don'ts

**Do make an impact. Don't miss out.**



**M**any scholarships, including Florida Lottery's Bright Futures, require you to complete community service hours before you can even apply. The following do's and don'ts will help you have fun while making a difference in your community.

**Do** take the time to find local organizations whose missions you believe in.

**Don't** just go through the motions. You might miss out on the opportunity to make a difference on an issue that's important to you.

**Do** talk to your guidance counselors, parents and other adults to find volunteer opportunities.

**Don't** forget sites like JustServe.org and DoSomething.org, which can help you find community service projects.

**Do** think outside the box. You could get hours for hosting a food drive or starting an anti-bullying program at your school.

**Don't** be afraid to have fun. You can earn hours by playing with rescue dogs at a local shelter or reading to preschoolers at the public library.

**Do** consider volunteering at multiple agencies or organizations.

**Don't** forget to get each agency approved by your school.



## FLORIDA BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP

What's required? It's a good idea to check with your counselor to make sure you're always up to date on any new requirements. Here are the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship volunteer service minimums as of April 2019.

Florida Academic Scholarship  
100 hours

Florida Medallion Scholarship  
75 hours

Gold Seal Vocational  
30 hours



## Florida Trend Florida Education Guide

### Know someone heading to college in Florida?

Don't miss Florida Trend's exclusive Florida Education Guide in April 2020.

[floridatrend.com](http://floridatrend.com)

# After the Storm

## How Hurricane Michael changed my life.

In October 2018, Hurricane Michael struck the Florida Panhandle as a Category 5 storm. It was one of the most intense hurricanes to hit the United States. Below, two students share how the storm changed their lives forever.



**Taylor Derbes**  
18, freshman at Gulf Coast  
State College, graduate of  
A. Crawford Mosley  
High School

“

**Two weeks after homecoming, our whole town was destroyed.** The worst part of the storm was when we lost cellphone service. I couldn't get ahold of my friends or family. I was so worried about everyone. When it was over and we saw all the damage, I wondered if life would ever be the same.

The power was out for about two weeks and school didn't start for another two weeks after that. There were days when I just wanted to get away from all the destruction and feel like a normal kid again. When school finally started, we were on a shortened schedule. I was bummed. It was my senior year and I just wanted everything to be normal.

The experience taught me that life can change so fast. I saw how silly it was to worry about things like friends not responding to my messages or getting a bad grade on a test. Those things don't matter.

I was also surprised at how little attention the storm got on the news. They covered it for a few days and then acted like it was over. But we're still dealing with it today. I realized it must feel like that for other people who live through natural disasters.”

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**We didn't think Hurricane Michael would be a strong storm.** When my parents said we had to evacuate, I thought it was silly. But then I saw how bad it was on TV. We were in St. Augustine and had no idea what was happening to our home. It was awful.

We weren't able to come home for several days. Driving back, my parents missed their exit because all the landmarks were gone.

When we got to our house, it didn't look bad from the street. But then we saw a bunch of shingles in the backyard. That was a bad sign. As I walked through the house, all this white stuff collected on my shoes. It was insulation. The ceiling in our dining room had collapsed.

That night, we didn't have running water or electricity. It was so dark outside and all you could hear were generators.

We had to rebuild a lot of our house because of the mold damage. I moved to Tallahassee to attend classes. But it was hard. I had been the freshman class president and missed all of my friends. A few people at my new school also made jokes about the hurricane. I tried not to let it bother me, but after the first day, I told my parents I didn't want to go back and started crying. There's nothing wrong with showing your emotions. You just have to know the difference between self-care and self-pity.

Our house is still being rebuilt. We've been living in an RV since January. It feels smaller and smaller each day.

Now, I'm a lot more thankful for everything I have, including my friends and family. Several of my good friends moved away after the storm. I miss them. I see now how everything can change in an instant."



**Jonathan Walker**  
15, sophomore at Rutherford High School



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**FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO HIGH ACHIEVER**

# Does High School Start Too Early?



## Why some schools are letting their students sleep in.

In 2016, several high schools in Washington state pushed back their start time by almost an hour. That extra hour of sleep made a huge difference. Students reported earning higher grades, and absentee rates plummeted. Now, some Florida schools are following suit. Read on to learn why.

### Teens and Sleep: What the science says

At this point in your life, your body and mind are going through massive growth spurts. To help your body keep up with all the extra work, doctors say teens need at least nine hours of sleep each night.

What's at stake if you don't get enough shut-eye? Studies show sleep-deprived teens are more likely to get into car accidents and suffer academically. Sleep deprivation also makes it harder to concentrate and can lead to anxiety, depression and even thoughts of suicide.

### How to overcome your night owl tendencies

If you find it hard to fall asleep early, you're not alone. The American Academy of Pediatrics says people your age are biologically programmed to stay up late.

But if your school starts super early, you're going to have to find a way to overcome your natural night owl tendencies. Below are some tips to help you fall asleep earlier.

If you can't fall asleep early because you have too much homework, perhaps you can drop one of your after-school activities so you can start your homework earlier in the day. It's not giving up; it's taking care of yourself.

Finally, if all of the tips below don't work, consider going in for a checkup. Your doctor can screen you for common teen sleep disorders.

**Cut back on caffeine.** It's not just in your favorite latte. There's caffeine in chocolate too.



**Take a 30- to 45-minute nap before dinner.** It's better than sleeping in, which can throw off the body's sleep cycle.

**Don't play on your phone or computer before bedtime.**



The light from the screen messes up the body's production of melatonin, a hormone that helps you fall asleep.



**Go out in the sun in the morning.** It will help regulate your body's biological clock.

**Get plenty of exercise.** Exercising one or two hours before bed will help your brain wind down.



“In high school, I thought our classes started too early. Most jobs don't require you to be at work by 7 a.m., so I don't think high school should start that early. If classes started a half hour or hour later, it would set a more realistic schedule and help students better prepare for college and real life.”

**Kendall Schlitt**

18, freshman at the University of Florida, graduate of Vero Beach High School



Think your school starts too early? Talk to your guidance counselor about starting a petition to send to your school board.



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# IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES



## There's more to college than what you see on TV.

**D**o you ever feel like all movies and TV shows about college life are always the same? You know the plot: A group of recent high school grads are dropped off on this huge campus by their parents. They all live in dorms with wacky roommates and attend classes taught by nerdy professors. On the weekends, they go to football games and toga parties.

We're here to tell you the truth: In real life, college is completely different.

But in a good way.

For one, you have options. Lots of options. You don't have to attend a giant university. You don't have to live on campus. And when it comes to the weekends, there's way more to do than football games and toga parties.

Here are the four types of schools you can attend in Florida, plus tips from students on why each type was the best choice for them.




### BUILD A COLLEGE LIST

**Building a college list is the first step** of the application process.

Before you can map out deadlines, await acceptance offers and evaluate financial aid offers, you'll have to decide which colleges and universities you'd be interested in attending.

[jkcf.org/our-stories/tips-build-college-list](http://jkcf.org/our-stories/tips-build-college-list)

SOURCE: COOKE FOUNDATION



Choosing the college, university or career center that's right for you will help you shine.  
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## STATE UNIVERSITIES



“A public university seemed like the best fit for me because they're relatively affordable. I felt like they give you the most bang for your buck.”

**Travis Hills**

22, 2019 graduate of Florida Polytechnic University, graduate of Tampa Bay Technical High School

**BY THE NUMBERS** Florida is home to 12 state universities, ranging in size from smaller schools like New College of Florida to bigger campuses like the University of Central Florida.

**HEADS UP!** Admission is competitive. If you want to attend a state university, talk to or check with your guidance counselor to make sure your grades and test scores are on track.

See page 53 for a list of state universities.



# PRIVATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

**BY THE NUMBERS** Florida has 54 private, not-for-profit colleges and universities offering four-year degrees. Plus, 11 private not-for-profit colleges and universities offering certificate and associate degrees.

**WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE?** Public colleges receive funding from the state. Private colleges generally don't. Because of this, private colleges typically have higher tuition, but they may also offer students large financial aid packages.

See page 57 for a list of private colleges & universities.



“I went to a small high school and thought I wanted to attend a large state university. But after I toured Florida Southern, I realized there were many benefits to attending a smaller school. My largest class had 30 students, and it's much easier to make new friends in a class of 30 than a class of 300.”

**Victoria Cangero**

21, senior at Florida Southern College, graduate of Pine View High School

## Let's Go to the Fair!

Attending college and school fairs is a great way to learn about all your options. Talk to your school counselor about college fairs at your school and in the community. The National Association for College Admission Counseling also offers free college fairs in larger cities like Tampa and Orlando. To learn more, visit [nacacfairs.org](http://nacacfairs.org).

### ASK QUESTIONS

What's college life like?

What majors

are popular on campus? Chatting with representatives from a variety of colleges can help you cement your own preferences.

### GATHER INFORMATION

Pick up brochures and other

materials about the schools that interest you. Ask admission reps to scan your barcode — an easy way to help colleges follow up with you after the fair.

# STATE COLLEGES



“At a state college, the benefits are endless, and there are opportunities everywhere. I've joined so many clubs and even studied abroad. I don't know if I would have done the same at a bigger university.”

**Danielle Tjon**

20, 2019 graduate of Broward College, graduate of South Plantation High School

**BY THE NUMBERS** Florida's 28 state colleges offer associate and bachelor's degrees in everything from business to marketing, nursing to aviation.

**DID YOU KNOW?** More than 60% of high school grads start their college careers at a state college.

See page 54 for a list of state colleges.

# PUBLIC TECHNICAL COLLEGES

**BY THE NUMBERS** Florida has dozens of career and technical schools — both public and private — offering super-specialized training in a specific skill or field.

**WHO ARE THEY BEST FOR?** If you know exactly what you want to do for a living — be it a professional chef, hairstylist or mechanic — these schools give you the skills you need to succeed. Many also help you find a job after graduation.

See page 59 for a list of public technical colleges.



“I didn't want to spend too much time in school before starting a career that would carry me through the rest of my life. Trade schools are a great option, especially now with the strong demand from the construction sector. You'll also have a skill that you could always fall back on for the rest of your life.”

**Adam Meyer**

29, 2019 graduate of Florida Technical College, graduate of Edison High School, Huntington Beach, CA

## Need help deciding?

Not sure which type of school is best for you? Consider these factors:

**What do you want to be when you grow up?** We've got tips to help you answer this important question on page 26.

**How important are extracurricular opportunities to you?** Some schools offer a lot of ways for students to get involved on campus. Others don't.

**What's the ideal class size for you?** Do you want to attend classes with hundreds of other students? Or do smaller classes sound more appealing?



# NOTHING'S GONNA HOLD ME BACK

Meet four students who wouldn't let anything stop them from achieving their goals.

Can't stop. Won't stop. That was the motto of these four students. They faced their personal challenges head on and didn't let anything hold them back. Here are their tips for how to keep going when life gets tough.



**Linda Hall**  
21, senior at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University,  
graduate of Stonewall Jackson High School, Manassas, VA

**I couldn't afford to go home.**

"I was the first in my family to attend college. To be honest, a lot of the time I felt like I had no idea what I was doing. I didn't realize that my financial aid package didn't cover housing. I was able to pull together some money to live on campus my freshman year, but I didn't have anywhere to stay that summer. I couldn't afford to go home. My mom also temporarily lost her home. Luckily, a friend let me stay with her for a few weeks and eventually I found a campus job that paid for my housing. Now I work about 30 hours per week and take 16 credits per semester. It's a lot, but at least I'm stable now.

Whenever I'm faced with an obstacle, I look at all the things I've had to overcome and tell myself that if I can make it through my previous hardships, I can make it through this one too."



**Alisson Diaz**  
20, 2019 graduate of the College of Central Florida,  
graduate of West Port High School

**I realized it's not a race.**

"My parents didn't attend college, but were always supportive of me and assumed that I knew how the application process worked. But I didn't! I didn't understand how big a deal the SATs were and wish I would have studied harder. I also didn't sign up for dual enrollment classes because I didn't realize how helpful it could be to earn college credits while still in high school.

When all of my friends graduated with their AA degrees and I didn't, I felt discouraged. But I realized that everyone has their own timeline. It's not a race. If you're like me and don't have people in your family to talk to about college, you can find your own role models. I Google people who have the jobs I'm interested in and read their resumes. I also read job descriptions to see what it would take to apply. If you're not sure you're ready for a big university, consider a state college. It may be more beneficial, financially and emotionally."



**Corkney Drew**  
18, freshman at Middle Georgia State University,  
graduate of Piper High School

**Follow your path.**

"By the time I graduated high school in Florida, I had attended four different schools. My mom's job required us to move a lot. It was stressful at times.

My grades were always my top priority, and I made sure to take advantage of all the resources available to me at each school, whether it was talking to the counselors, getting involved in after-school programs or joining study groups. It could also be pretty nerve-wracking to try and make new friends each year. But I always tried to stay positive and be true to myself.

You have to know what's right. For example, if you meet some new friends and they want you to skip class, don't. Don't do something just to impress people. You have to be a leader and follow your true path."




**Shepard Smith**  
18, freshman at the University of Florida,  
graduate of Sebastian River High School

**You have to find a way to keep going.**

"My mom passed away when I was a freshman in high school. I had to grow up a lot faster than other kids my age. The summer before my senior year, my dad got a new job and moved two hours away with my sister. I wanted to stay to finish my school's IB program. Living alone was hard at first. But then I realized that this was my dad's way of showing he trusted and respected me. My dad and sister came back on the weekends and eventually things got better.

When you're going through a challenging time, especially at a young age, you just have to find a way to put one foot in front of the other and keep going. Every step counts, even baby steps. Eventually, you will get through it."



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# What if I Don't Know What I Want to Be When I Grow Up?

You're not alone. Here are some tips to help you figure it all out.

Things are about to get real.

During your junior and senior years of high school, you have to make some major decisions about your future.

First up, you have to decide what kind of schooling or training you want to pursue after you graduate from high school.

Don't think you need any more education than a high school diploma? Consider these stats. As you can see, the more education you have, the more money you can make in the future.

On page 29 we talk about all of the different ways you can get career training after high school. You can attend a state or private university or go to a career school or state college.

To help you figure out which option is best for you, you have to start thinking about the dreaded question "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

Notice we didn't say you have to answer this question. You just have to start thinking about your options.

Average Annual Salary BY EDUCATION LEVEL	
Doctorate degree	\$84,396
Master's degree	\$69,732
Bachelor's degree	\$59,124
Associate degree	\$41,496
Some college, no degree	\$38,376
High school diploma	\$35,256
No high school diploma	\$25,636

**WHOA!**  
People with a bachelor's degree make more than **twice as much** as those without a high school diploma or GED.



## Begin with the End in Mind

Many students think they should pick a school, then decide what they want to study, and then use their training to find a career. Instead, ask yourself what careers you're interested in and what degree programs will help you get there. Then, apply to the schools that specialize in those majors or courses of study.

## Not sure? Don't stress!

As many as half of students enter college undecided about which major to pursue. And an estimated 75% change their major at least once over the course of their studies.

After you graduate from high school, your life will change. You might find yourself changing along with it. You may discover new passions and interests and find out you have strengths you never knew existed.

If you attend a college or university, you may also learn about new-to-you fields of study like marine biology, developmental psychology and packaging science.

How the heck can you know what you want to do if you don't know all the options available? To start, talk to your counselor about the resources available at your school. Some state colleges also allow local high school students to use their career planning tools. And don't forget all the great resources on [www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org). They offer several quizzes to help you discover your interests and career options.

Another great resource is [www.unmaze.me/college-unmazed-guidebook](http://www.unmaze.me/college-unmazed-guidebook). This handy guidebook goes in depth on the Florida state college and university system. It also provides tools to help you decide which degree program is best for you.



# Imagine the Possibilities

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- Game Development & Design
- Graphic Design
- Internet of Things
- Supply Chain Management
- Television Studio Production
- Transportation and Logistics
- Virtual and Augmented Reality



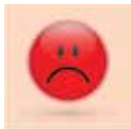
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## Think outside the box

One of the most common questions on any career assessment is “What do you love to do?” This is a great place to get started. But equally important are out-of-the-box questions like:



**What do you hate to do?** Chances are even if you don’t know what you want to do when you grow up, you know what you DON’T want to do. This can help you hone your focus. For example, do you hate being a stickler for rules and details? Then congrats, you know you don’t have to look at any accounting or finance majors. Instead, consider something more creative, like marketing or design.



**Who are your heroes?** Or the characters you most admire on TV and in the movies? What do they do? Even if they have a fictional job, like dragon slayer or vampire hunter, what qualities about their daily lives do you admire? Maybe you like how they work with a team to solve problems. Or maybe you think it’s cool they don’t spend all day in an office. If so, maybe you’d enjoy a job in sales or construction, which would allow you to spend more time on the road.



**What did you want to be when you were a little kid?** There’s a lot to learn from what your dream career was when you were in elementary school. And heck, maybe you still want to be an astronaut. There are schools in Florida that can help you pursue any goal — no matter how big! Check out the Discover Programs tool on [www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org) to learn about the degree programs offered at each school.



**Alex Bortorff**  
21, senior at New  
College of Florida

*“Your parents and mentors will probably tell you to do something you love and find a way to get paid for it. That is so true. Do you enjoy video games?”*

Consider majoring in computer science or art. Don’t pick a major because society tells you it’s a good idea. Pick something you genuinely want to pursue. While attending classes at Venice High School, I interned at the Missouri University of Science & Technology. Working in their labs helped me discover my passion for chemistry, which is what I decided to study in college. I love how studying chemistry helps me understand the world around me at a fundamental level. After earning my bachelor’s, I hope to pursue a Ph.D., then become a research and development chemist.”



## Let your interest guide you

As you’re discovering all the possibilities available to you, the better you know yourself, the better prepared you will be to recognize if an opportunity or field of study is a good fit for you.

Your school counselor can likely hook you up with some quizzes and resources for discovering your interests and passions.

There are also 100 CareerSource Florida centers across the state where you can meet with a career counselor and learn more about the options available to you.

### EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS

After signing up for a free account on [www.floridashines.org/find-a-career/plan-your-future](http://www.floridashines.org/find-a-career/plan-your-future), you can take the Kuder Career Interests Assessment\*. This well-respected quiz helps you explore career options by analyzing your level of interest in areas such as:

I like to perform for an audience.

STRONGLY DISLIKE / DISLIKE / NEUTRAL / LIKE / STRONGLY LIKE

I like to learn about recent advances in science and technology.

STRONGLY DISLIKE / DISLIKE / NEUTRAL / LIKE / STRONGLY LIKE

I like to work with families who are needy or poor.

STRONGLY DISLIKE / DISLIKE / NEUTRAL / LIKE / STRONGLY LIKE

I like to install flooring in a room.

STRONGLY DISLIKE / DISLIKE / NEUTRAL / LIKE / STRONGLY LIKE

I like to research climate change solutions.

STRONGLY DISLIKE / DISLIKE / NEUTRAL / LIKE / STRONGLY LIKE

I like to help students who are new to a school.

STRONGLY DISLIKE / DISLIKE / NEUTRAL / LIKE / STRONGLY LIKE

## CareerSource Florida: Your Source for Career Guidance

CareerSource Florida is a statewide organization that offers Floridians as young as 16 free job-prep services and training. Their local teams can help you with everything from picking a career to writing your resume to finding part-time jobs and internships in your community.

If you're feeling overwhelmed about your future career path, why not set up a meeting with one of their counselors?

“CareerSource Florida’s career counselors can help you figure out what you’re good at and how your current interests and passions can help shape your future career. You might even learn about job opportunities you’ve never heard of before. Before meeting with the counselor, take a few minutes to write down what you’re good at and what classes and volunteer or extracurricular activities you’ve enjoyed. This will help them suggest the best options for you.”



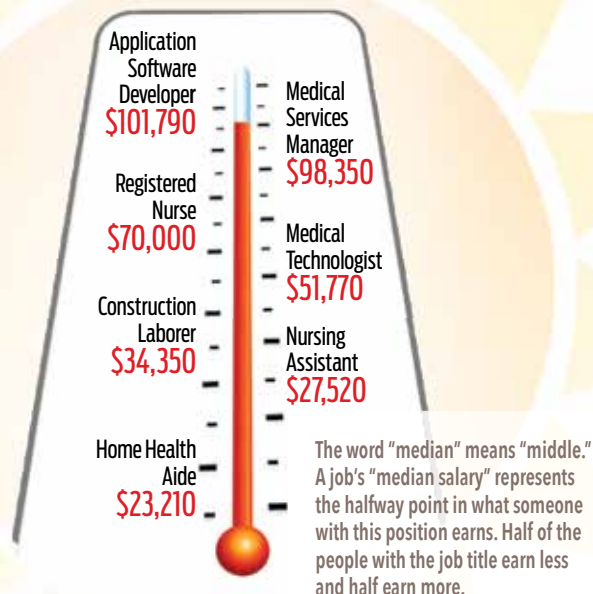
Michelle Dennard  
President and CEO,  
CareerSource Florida



CareerSource Florida offers 24 local workforce development boards and 100 career centers throughout Florida. To find one near you, visit [careersourceflorida.com/your-local-team/](http://careersourceflorida.com/your-local-team/)

## Get 'em while they're hot!

Here are the jobs expected to see the most growth in the coming years, listed from hottest to coolest annual median salary.



See the full list at [www.cnbc.com/2019/01/24/here-are-the-most-in-demand-jobs-for-2019](http://www.cnbc.com/2019/01/24/here-are-the-most-in-demand-jobs-for-2019)

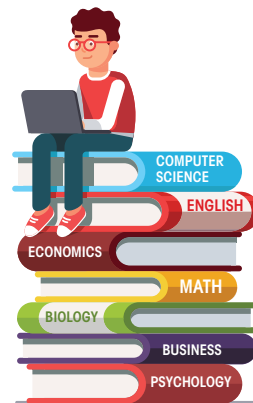
## Don't forget vo-tech training



The state recently passed a bill to promote more vocational and technical training in schools. The goal is to help prepare students for highly skilled careers that are in high demand — and pay well. It will also let students use their vo-tech training to meet some high school graduation requirements.

“I went to a vo-tech high school and learned to weld,” Republican Rep. David Smith told wptv.com. “It became very important to me, maybe critical to me, when my very first week in college, my parents’ tuition check bounced. I had a skill to fall back on, and I worked my way through college and graduated debt-free because I had a trade.”

# You Majored in What?



Check out the most popular — *and unique* — majors in Florida.

There are more than 300 schools and colleges in Florida, each offering dozens of degree programs. Here are some of the most popular majors at several Florida schools, plus fun facts about their degree programs.

## College of Central Florida

Ocala, with additional locations in Citrus and Levy counties

### Top Degree Programs

- Business
- Criminal Justice
- Early Childhood Ed.
- Nursing

**FUN FACT!** CCF offers the only two-year equine studies program in Florida. Students get hands-on experience at Vintage Farm, a 103-acre campus in Ocala. The college also has a state-of-the-art Health Sciences Simulation Center, where nursing students practice their skills on high-tech patient simulators.

### Top Degree Programs

- Biology
- Economics
- Political Science
- Humanities
- Psychology

## New College of Florida

Sarasota

**FUN FACT!** NCF is the only college in Florida that offers a major in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Every other year, the school hosts a Medieval & Renaissance Studies Conference that attracts medieval scholars from around the country.



**David Jackson III**  
21, senior at Florida A&M University, business administration major

“There are so many majors out there. If you’re curious about a specific major, I’d recommend taking an elective that covers a similar topic. This lets you take the major for a test drive. And it’s smarter than just taking so-called easy electives. You never know what you may learn in the course and how it can inspire you later.”

## Daytona State College

Daytona Beach

### Top Degree Programs

- Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management
- Business Administration
- Cosmetology
- Nursing Associate’s degree

**FUN FACT!** DSC also offers degree programs in cybersecurity and cyberforensics, broadcast TV production and music production technology.

## Florida Polytechnic University

Lakeland

### Top Degree Programs

- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Computer Science & Information Technology
- Electrical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering

**FUN FACT!** Florida Poly is dedicated exclusively to science, technology, engineering and math degree programs. Concentrations include cybersecurity, machine intelligence, health informatics, renewable energy and nanotechnology, to name a few.

### Top Degree Programs

- Biological Science
- Criminology
- Finance
- Political Science
- Psychology

## Florida State University

Tallahassee

**FUN FACT!** FSU students majoring in psychology can study abroad at the school’s two-month “Psychology in London” summer program. While finance students can get hands-on experience in the school’s state-of-the-art Trading Room, which replicates the ones used in Wall Street investment firms.





The TCC2FSU Program is ideal for students who wish to earn a degree at Florida State University after completing an Associate in Arts degree at Tallahassee Community College.

**TCC2FSU PROGRAM PERKS INCLUDE:**

- *One-on-one advising with transfer- focused TCC and FSU advisors*
- *FSU Campus Recreation passes available for purchase*
- *Opportunity to apply for special TCC2FSU transfer scholarships*
- *Low tuition rates for Florida students around \$100 per credit hour at TCC*

**FIND OUT MORE TODAY | [WWW.TCC2FSU.COM](http://WWW.TCC2FSU.COM)**



# What If I Don't Get Accepted to My Dream School?

There are plenty of other fish in the sea.

There's no way to sugarcoat it. Getting rejected from your dream school stinks. Here's how to deal.



**Let yourself grieve.** Give yourself time to process the rejection. Cry. Scream. Write in a journal. You have to get those emotions out before you can move on.



**Don't take the rejection personally.** The reason you weren't accepted may have been completely out of your control. Admissions officers look at everything from an applicant's hometown to the school's current demographics when making their decisions.



**Don't compare yourself to others.** Don't dwell on why one student was accepted to your dream school and you weren't. It's not going to change things.



**Accept that rejection is part of life.** We don't mean to be downers, but these things happen. A lot. By developing your coping skills now, you'll be able to better handle future rejections.



**Get excited about other schools!** Remember, this was just one school out of literally hundreds. Start getting excited about the other schools you applied to.

**“ If your application is denied, stay positive.**

Know that it is not the end. Many schools have competitive admissions and are not able to accept every good student who applies. You can always enroll at a state college, earn your Associate of Arts degree, then apply to another school as a transfer student. Many schools have programs and agreements in place to help make this a smooth transition. In most cases, you can still graduate from the school of your dreams four years from now."

*~Andy Telatovich,  
Associate Director of  
In-State Recruitment,  
University of South Florida*



**CLAIM  
YOUR  
CAREER**



**DaytonaState.edu**



# ENTER NOW TO WIN A \$1,000 GIFT CARD

See entry form after page 40 or enter online at FloridaNext.com

## Official Drawing Rules

1. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.
2. By entering the drawing, students may receive information from NEXT advertisers and sponsors. Complete privacy rules are available at [www.FloridaNEXT.com](http://www.FloridaNEXT.com).
3. To officially enter to win the prize, you must fully complete the entry card in this issue of NEXT or online at [www.FloridaNEXT.com](http://www.FloridaNEXT.com) during the 2019-20 school year. Entries from previous years will not be included in the drawing.
4. The drawing is open only to currently enrolled Florida students in grades 9 through 12.
5. One prize entry per student.
6. By participating in this promotion, each entrant agrees to be bound by the Official Drawing Rules.
7. Prize is non-transferable and is not redeemable for cash.
8. Prize drawing will be held July 2020. Prize is awarded based on a random drawing from the eligible pool of entries. The winner's name will be posted on the website in September 2020.
9. The winner will be notified by email or telephone immediately after the drawing. The winner will have one week from the initial notification to accept his or her prize.
10. Florida Trend's NEXT reserves the right to substitute a prize of equal value due to prize unavailability or other circumstances beyond its control.
11. Federal, state and local taxes are the sole responsibility of the winner.
12. Employees, officers and directors of Trend Magazines Inc., Times Publishing Company, their affiliates and agencies, their immediate family members and/or individuals living in the same household are not eligible to win.
13. All entries are the property of Florida Trend's NEXT, will not be returned and may be used in its mailing lists.
14. Drawing results will be available after August 2020 by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope to Florida Trend's NEXT, 490 First Ave. South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701. Results will be posted on [www.FloridaNEXT.com](http://www.FloridaNEXT.com).

## EVERGLADES UNIVERSITY



- ♦ *Alternative Medicine*
- ♦ *Aviation/ Aerospace*
- ♦ *Alternative & Renewable Energy*
- ♦ *Business*
- ♦ *Crisis & Disaster*
- ♦ *Land & Energy*
- ♦ *Hospitality*
- ♦ *Construction*
- ♦ *Environmental Policy*
- ♦ *International Business*
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Everglades University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award bachelor's and master's degrees.

# What If You Could Get Paid to Go to College?

You can! Here's how.

Scholarships are the best form of financial aid. Unlike loans, which have to be repaid, scholarships are free money given to you to help pay for your college expenses.

Think you have to be super smart or demonstrate significant financial need to get a scholarship? Think again. There are literally thousands of scholarships out there.

You might be able to land one because of a unique skill or talent. You might also be eligible for scholarships based on your ethnic background, the school you plan to attend or even the town where you grew up.



## How to Find Scholarships

To get started, have your family fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (aka the FAFSA). This will be used to determine your family's financial need.

Even if you think your parents are "too rich," filling out the FAFSA is still highly recommended. Some scholarships require you to have one on file even if the award is not dependent on family income.

Filling out the FAFSA also helps qualify you for other forms of financial aid, like grants, loans and work/study programs, which we'll talk about more in a second.

But the FAFSA is only the beginning. Here are three other types of scholarship programs, many of which require you to write an essay or submit an application separate from the FAFSA:

**National** – These are typically awarded by big companies and organizations. For example, Coca-Cola gives a \$20,000 scholarship to 150 students every year. Check out [coca-colascholarfoundation.org](http://coca-colascholarfoundation.org).

**Local** – Smaller companies and organizations in your community may also offer scholarships. They may not offer as high a payout as the national scholarships, but they're usually less competitive.

**Micro** – Want to start earning scholarships today? Check out Raise.Me. The platform allows colleges to award you money for accomplishing goals like getting good grades, completing projects and taking on leadership roles while you're in high school. While you may receive scholarship offers from multiple schools, you'll only be awarded the money by the school you decide to attend.



Financial aid programs are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis; the earlier you apply, the better. To learn more, check out [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov).

## Financial Aid Options

Scholarships aren't the only way to get money to pay for your college expenses. Here are three other types of financial aid:

**Grants** don't have to be repaid. *Who qualifies:* Usually based on financial need.

**Loans** have to be repaid, often with interest. *Who qualifies:* Everyone, though lower interest rates may be available to those who demonstrate financial need. Florida colleges and universities are required to provide you with an annual report that details how much student loan money you've borrowed, your anticipated total loan amount and expected monthly payments. See page 36 to learn more about student loans.

**Work-Study** is earned money, so there's nothing to repay. *Who qualifies:* This program provides students who demonstrate financial need with a part-time job where they can earn money while taking classes. Work schedules are designed to not interfere with your college course load. See page 38 to learn what it's like to have a work-study job.



In many cases, the money is given to the college or school you attend. Once your tuition and fees are paid, any money that's left over is sent directly to you. It's like you're getting paid to go to college. You can use the money any way you please, but don't be tempted to spend it all on clothes or a new phone. See page 46 to learn what one Florida college student does with the money he earns.



In Florida,  
the average annual  
in-state tuition  
at a public four-  
year institution  
costs around  
**\$6,300.**

It's one of the lowest  
rates in the country.



### SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIPS

Read all the instructions for applying.

- ★ **If you have to write an essay, be sure to read the prompt thoroughly.** Stay on topic and stick to the target word count.
- ★ **Read your essay aloud.** If a sentence sounds weird to you, it will likely sound weird to the judges.
- ★ **Don't pontificate.** (Don't use big words for the sake of using big words.)
- ★ **Show, don't tell.** Don't just say you have excellent leadership skills; give examples of how you use those skills in a team environment.



My top tip for applying to scholarships is to be yourself! If you like writing, look for writing scholarships. If you enjoy playing sports, apply for scholarships that relate to sports. If you're having trouble finding scholarships or applying, ask a teacher, mentor, school counselor, friend or family member for help."

**Ailyn  
Alissandra  
Alvarez Perez**  
16, junior at Boca Ciega  
High School



# Calculating the REAL COST of Student Loans



**BORROWERS  
BEWARE!**



After filling out your FAFSA (see page 34 to learn more), you may receive a financial aid package that includes student loans. This is money that is lent to you to help pay for college expenses. But you will eventually have to pay back all the money you've borrowed — plus interest.

We just want to stress that last bit one more time: Student loans have to be repaid. With interest.

What exactly does that mean? Here are five student loan vocab words to learn today. Plus an illustration of how interest works.

**Principal** The total sum of money borrowed plus any interest that has been capitalized. (We'll explain what capitalization is in a second.)

**Interest** This is a fee you pay to your lender — in addition to the amount of the original loan — as a cost of borrowing money.

**Subsidized Loans** If your student loan is subsidized, the lender pays the interest while you're in school and usually for the first six months after you graduate.

**Unsubsidized Loans** Or if your loan is unsubsidized, you are responsible for paying the interest at all times.

**Capitalization** The addition of unpaid interest to the principal balance of a loan. This is perhaps the most important concept to understand when borrowing money, whether it's student loans, credit card debt, a mortgage, you name it.

## How Capitalization Works

The majority of federal student loans are subject to daily interest. This means the lender charges you interest **every day**.

Let's say you borrow \$10,000 and the daily interest rate is 6.8%. Every day, you will be charged \$1.86 in interest.

After you graduate from college, many lenders will defer your payments for six months to give you time to find a job and get settled in your new career. During those six months, you won't have to make payments on your loan, but you'll still be charged the \$1.86 daily interest.

At the end of the six-month deferment, the daily interest charges will total \$340. If the interest is capitalized, it will be added to your initial principal of \$10,000. Now, you owe \$10,340, and your daily interest charge increases to \$1.93.

You don't just owe more money, you'll also have to pay more interest.



## Are student loans ... bad?

Student loans can be a vital part of your financial aid package. And many students consider it smart debt.

After all, if borrowing money now empowers you to pursue a quality education and get a high-paying job after graduation, you may be able to pay back the loans even quicker than you expected.

See page 26 to see how much more money you can make with a college or trade school degree compared to just a high school diploma.

You just have to understand what type of loan you're taking on and what the terms are. It's important you feel comfortable with all the fine print.



To learn more about student loans, visit <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/>

# ARE YOU THE KIND OF PERSON

**with a belief in the common good?**

You're positive that regardless of race, gender, or geographic location, good health is a universal right for all mankind.

You're a fighter. A voice for the voiceless; an advocate for the weak; a catalyst for change.

You're the kind of person who needs a career that reflects your passion.

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**#1** public health program in Florida  
*USNWR, 2015-2018*



# The Perks of Work-Study

How to get a college job that works for you.

After you fill out the FAFSA and begin receiving your financial aid package, you might qualify for and be offered a Federal Work-Study job.

Jobs can be located on or off campus. You might work at your school or at a local nonprofit or public agency. Some colleges also have arrangements with private companies in the community.

Federal Work-Study positions, unlike traditional jobs, are designed to let you focus on your studies. Your schedule will be based on your course load, and some employers will even let you study while you're on shift. Check out Stacey Pierre's story below to learn more.

## Get Ready to RISE!

Introducing an inspirational book EVERY STUDENT needs to read!



**“Concise, yet powerful!”**

**Wake, Rise, and Smile** is available on all major platforms. However, in order to receive the best rate, visit [goodnaturedlife.com](http://goodnaturedlife.com) and use promo code **Austin Franklin**.

“During college, I had two work-study jobs. First, I was an office assistant for the Pride Student Union, our school's student-run LGBTQ+ organization.

My second job was as a receptionist at our school's Honors Program. Here, I helped students and parents learn more about the program's requirements and how to apply.

For both jobs, my shifts were during the weekday. I always had nights and weekends off to do as I please.

During college, I had friends who worked at restaurants, shops and other businesses in town. They were always so stressed about their schedules and trying to find people to cover their shifts if they needed to miss work to study or attend a meeting. Taking advantage of the Federal Work-Study program was one of the smartest decisions I made in college.”



**Stacey Pierre**

22, 2019 graduate of Florida State University, graduate of Nova High School





**PAY LESS AND GRADUATE**

# Debt-Free

Take some time to apply for scholarships and look forward to celebrating graduation day free of debt.

With so many scholarships available, you can save thousands of dollars, graduating debt-free. Take a look at our list of over 80 scholarships, make a note of anything and everything that you might qualify for, and apply. You will be one step closer to receiving scholarships as soon as you apply, and even smaller scholarships will add up to big savings for you. That's money saved that you can spend on your future.

Don't stop with this list. There are organizations you can research in your own hometown, including local community service and family foundations, providing scholarships you may not even know about. Plus, there are scholarships your high school guidance counselor may know about in your own backyard. And don't forget to check out the Internet. We've listed several free scholarship search sites. Money may be waiting for you from a source you have not even heard of yet.

### ACADEMIC / LEADERSHIP

**AXA/U.S. News & World Report Achievement Scholarship**  
[www.axa-achievement.com](http://www.axa-achievement.com) | \$2,500 – \$25,000 | High school seniors. Community involvement and achievement. | **Dec. 2019**

**Elks Most Valuable Student**  
[www.elks.org/scholars/mvs.cfm](http://www.elks.org/scholars/mvs.cfm) | \$4,000 to \$50,000 over four years | High school seniors. Scholarship, leadership, financial need. | **11/5/19**

**Foot Locker Scholar Athletes**  
[www.footlockerscholarathletes.com](http://www.footlockerscholarathletes.com) | Multiple awards of \$20,000 over four years | High school seniors currently involved in high school, intramural or community-based sports. Leadership in sports, academics, achievement and essays. | **Dec. 2019**

**LifeSmarts Safety Smart Ambassador Scholarship**  
<http://lifesmarts.org/resources-2/safety-smart/safety-smart-ambassador-scholarship-application> | \$1,000 | Open to LifeSmarts Safety Smart Ambassadors who demonstrate leadership in the community by teaching important life lessons to younger students. | **12/1/19**

**Simon Youth Community**  
[www.syf.org/scholarships](http://www.syf.org/scholarships) | Up to \$1,500 | High school seniors who live near a Simon Property Mall. | **Feb. 2020**

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

**Burger King Scholar Program**  
<http://bkmclamorefoundation.org/who-we-are/programs/burger-king-scholars-program> | \$1,000 to \$50,000 | High school seniors with a passion for community service, minimum 2.5 GPA. | **12/15/19**

**Do Something Scholarships**  
[www.dosomething.org/us/about/easy-scholarships](http://www.dosomething.org/us/about/easy-scholarships) | \$1,000 to \$10,000 | Participate in campaigns to improve the community and document your participation to be eligible. | \*

**Educational Research Center of America's Scholarship Program**  
[www.studentresearch.org/our-scholarship-program](http://www.studentresearch.org/our-scholarship-program) | \$2,500 - \$15,000 | The Community Contribution Scholarship is open to all high school students who have recognized a need or problem in their community and have determined a way to address the issue. | **Jul. 2020**

**Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes**  
[www.barronprize.org/apply](http://www.barronprize.org/apply) | \$10,000 | Students up to age 18 who have executed a service project to help the community or protect the environment. | **4/15/20**

**Great Value Colleges Community Service Scholarship**  
[www.greatvaluecolleges.net/community-service-scholarship](http://www.greatvaluecolleges.net/community-service-scholarship) | \$1,500 | High school seniors who show exceptional passion for community service and have demonstrated concrete ways to enhance their education through service. | **Nov. 2019, Jul. 2020**

**TAKE Action!**

Search these free sites for scholarships and applications:

- Cappex.com
- CollegeScholarships.org
- FastWeb.com
- Niche.com/colleges/scholarships/
- Scholarships.com
- Unigo.com

\* Check website for multiple opportunities and deadlines.

**Jimmy Rane Foundation**  
[www.jimmyranefoundation.org/scholarship](http://www.jimmyranefoundation.org/scholarship) | \$500 - \$5,000/year, renewable | High school seniors who exhibit academic excellence, leadership skills and community involvement with demonstrated financial need. | **Feb. 2020**

**Prudential Spirit of Community Awards**  
[www.prudential.com/community/spirit/awards](http://www.prudential.com/community/spirit/awards) | \$1,000 or \$5,000 | High school students. Outstanding service to others. | **11/6/19**

**Stephen J. Brady Stop Hunger Scholarships**  
[www.us.stop-hunger.org/home/grants.html](http://www.us.stop-hunger.org/home/grants.html) | \$5,000 plus matching \$5,000 grant to your favorite hunger charity | Students who are driving awareness and mobilizing youth to be catalysts for innovative models that provide solutions to eliminate hunger in America. | **12/5/19**

**Young Women in Public Affairs**  
[www.zonta.org/Global-Impact/Education/Young-Women-in-Public-Affairs-Award](http://www.zonta.org/Global-Impact/Education/Young-Women-in-Public-Affairs-Award) | \$1,500 or \$4,000 | Young women ages 16-19 who demonstrate superior leadership skills and a commitment to public service and civic causes. | \*

## ESSAY CONTESTS

**B. Davis Scholarship**  
[www.studentawardsearch.com/scholarships.htm](http://www.studentawardsearch.com/scholarships.htm) | \$1,000 | High school juniors and seniors who plan to attend an accredited college or university. 1,000-word essay: Describe the three characteristics of leadership you value most and why they are so important. | **May 2020**

**Florida School Counselor Association**  
[www.fla-schoolcounselor.org/fscsa-scholarships](http://www.fla-schoolcounselor.org/fscsa-scholarships) | \$500 | High school seniors. Essay. | **Apr. 2020**

**Optimist International**  
[www.optimist.org/member/scholarships3.cfm](http://www.optimist.org/member/scholarships3.cfm) | Up to \$2,500 | Essay on "Is Optimism the Key to Achieving the Dreams You Imagine?" submitted to local Optimist Club. | **Jan. - Feb. 2020**

**Regions Riding Forward®**  
[www.regions.com/promo/black-history-scholarship](http://www.regions.com/promo/black-history-scholarship) | \$5,000 | High school seniors. 500-word essay on an African-American individual who has inspired and motivated you. | **2/28/20**

**Resume Companion**  
[www.resumecompanion.com/scholarship](http://www.resumecompanion.com/scholarship) | \$1,000 | High school seniors. Create a resume based on the life of any fictional or non-fictional character, from TV, history, literature or myth. | **Jul. 2020**

**The Law Offices of Sean M. Cleary Scholarship**  
[www.seanclearypa.com/scholarship](http://www.seanclearypa.com/scholarship) | \$1,000 | High school seniors. Essay on "Why You Shouldn't Drink and Drive" inspired by a personal story. | **8/31/20**

**Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Scholarship**  
[www.vfw.org/VOD](http://www.vfw.org/VOD) | \$1,000 to \$30,000 | 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Written and recorded essay (3-5 minutes) on "What Makes America Great?" | **10/31/19**

**ZipRecruiter Scholars Program**  
[www.ziprecruiter.com/scholarship](http://www.ziprecruiter.com/scholarship) | \$3,000 | High school seniors. Write a creative job interview follow-up email and generate a template for future use. | **11/30/19**

## ETHNICITY

**Arab America Scholarships**  
[www.arabamerica.com/scholarships](http://www.arabamerica.com/scholarships) | \$ Varies | Various scholarships for Arab American students. Check the website for a list of several scholarships and internship opportunities. | \*

**Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholars**  
[www.apiascholars.org](http://www.apiascholars.org) | \$ Varies | Students of Asian or Pacific Islander heritage. Minimum 2.7 GPA. | **1/10/20**

**Association on American Indian Affairs**  
[www.indian-affairs.org/scholarships.html](http://www.indian-affairs.org/scholarships.html) | \$500 to \$1,500 | Students enrolled in their tribe. Complete one application to be eligible for multiple awards. | \*

**Gates Millennium Scholarship**  
[www.gmsp.org](http://www.gmsp.org) | \$ Varies | Minority students who meet federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria and have demonstrated leadership abilities; must be nominated by an educator. | **Jan. 2020**

**Hispanic Scholarship Fund**  
[www.hsf.net/en\\_us/scholarships](http://www.hsf.net/en_us/scholarships) | \$ Varies | Various scholarships for Hispanic students. Minimum 3.0 GPA. | \*

**Jackie Robinson Foundation**  
[www.jackierobinson.org](http://www.jackierobinson.org) | Up to \$7,500 per year | Minority high school seniors. Demonstrate leadership and financial need. | **2/1/20**

**José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund**  
[www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org) | \$2,000 | Need-based merit scholarship for eligible students of Spanish culture who will attend Florida public or eligible private institutions. | **4/1/20**

**Ron Brown Scholar**  
[www.ronbrown.org](http://www.ronbrown.org) | \$10,000 per year; total of \$40,000 | African-American high school seniors. Academics, community service, financial need. | **11/1/19 to be eligible for Scholar Program and additional awards; 1/9/20 for Scholar Program only**

**Sons of Italy Foundation**  
[www.osia.org/programs/scholarships](http://www.osia.org/programs/scholarships) | \$4,000 to \$25,000 | Various scholarships for students of Italian heritage. | **Feb. 2020**

**United Negro College Fund**  
[www.scholarships.uncf.org](http://www.scholarships.uncf.org) | \$ Varies | Fill out student profile form online to search more than 7,000 scholarships | \*

## FIELD OF STUDY

**A-1 Auto Transport**  
[www.a1autotransport.com/a-1-auto-transport-scholarship](http://www.a1autotransport.com/a-1-auto-transport-scholarship) | \$250 - \$1,000 | Student planning to enroll in an institute, truck driving school or other logistics program. Essay required on topic related to automotive shipping. | **3/10/20**

**Aircraft Electronics Association**  
[www.aea.net/education/foundation/scholarships.asp](http://www.aea.net/education/foundation/scholarships.asp) | \$ Varies | Multiple opportunities for students seeking careers in aircraft electronics or aviation maintenance. | \*

**American Academy of Chefs**  
[www.acfchefs.org/ACF/Education/Scholarships](http://www.acfchefs.org/ACF/Education/Scholarships) | \$2,500, renewable | High school seniors accepted to an accredited, postsecondary college, with a major in either culinary or pastry arts, or be an ACF registered apprentice. | **10/31/19, 4/30/20**

**American Dental Education Association**  
[www.adea.org/studentawards](http://www.adea.org/studentawards) | \$ Varies | High school seniors enrolled as a part- or full-time student in a course of study in dental hygiene, education or public health. | **Nov. 2019**

**American Public Power Association**  
[www.publicpower.org/deed-funding-students](http://www.publicpower.org/deed-funding-students) | \$2,000 | High school seniors planning to pursue a certificate or degree that could lead to a career at an electric utility. | **10/15/19, 2/15/20**

**American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers**  
[www.ashrae.org/communities/student-zone](http://www.ashrae.org/communities/student-zone) | \$3,000 | High school seniors accepted into pre-engineering, engineering or engineering technology programs leading to a bachelor's degree in a course of study that traditionally has been a preparatory curriculum for the HVAC&R profession. | **5/1/2020**

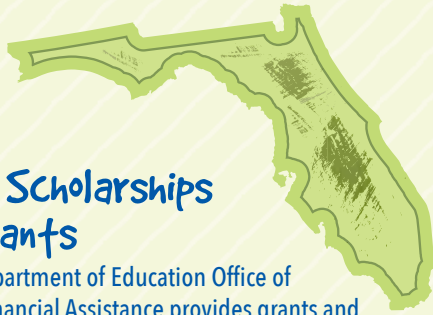
**AvaCare Medical**  
<https://avacaremedical.com/scholarship> | \$1,000 | High school seniors who are planning to pursue a degree in the medical field. Write about an act of kindness that inspired you. | **12/15/19**

**Florida Engineering Society**  
[www.fleng.org/scholarships](http://www.fleng.org/scholarships) | \$ Varies | Multiple scholarships for students interested in pursuing a career in engineering. Submit application to local chapter representatives. | \*

\* Check website for multiple opportunities and deadlines.

## State Scholarships and Grants

Florida Department of Education Office of Student Financial Assistance provides grants and scholarships to Florida residents to assist with financing postsecondary education. Application criteria and deadlines vary. Detailed information is available at [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org).



### Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association

[www.fngla.org/professional-development/overview/scholarships](http://www.fngla.org/professional-development/overview/scholarships) | \$ Varies | High school seniors preparing for a career in horticulture. | \*

### Florida Realtors Education Foundation

[www.floridarealtors.org/AboutFar/Scholarships](http://www.floridarealtors.org/AboutFar/Scholarships) | \$1,000 and up | High school seniors who will attend an undergraduate college or university and pursue a real estate related field of study. | **Mar. 2020**

### Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Scholarships

[www.gcsaa.org/education/scholarships](http://www.gcsaa.org/education/scholarships) | \$ Varies | High school senior pursuing a career in the golf course industry, future turfgrass researchers and children of GCSAA members. | \*

### James Beard Foundation

[www.jamesbeard.org/scholarships](http://www.jamesbeard.org/scholarships) | \$ Varies | High school seniors who plan to enroll in a course of study leading to an associate or baccalaureate degree at a licensed or accredited culinary school. | **May 2020**

### Joe Francis Haircare

[www.joefrancis.com/apply](http://www.joefrancis.com/apply) | \$1,200 | High school seniors applying for entrance into cosmetology/barber school with financial need. | **6/1/20**

### National Center for Women & Information Technology Award

[www.aspirations.org/participate/high-school](http://www.aspirations.org/participate/high-school) | \$500 and a computer | High school women in grades 9-12 who are U.S. citizens. Outstanding aptitude and interest in IT/computing and demonstrated leadership ability. | **Nov. 2019**

### National Society of High School Scholars Foundation

[www.nshssfoundation.org/scholarships](http://www.nshssfoundation.org/scholarships) | \$ Varies | High school seniors planning careers in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, business, economics, public policy, environmental science or sustainability. | \*

### Society of Exploration Geophysicists

[www.seg.org/Scholarships#eligibility](http://www.seg.org/Scholarships#eligibility) | \$500-\$10,000 per academic year | High school senior planning to pursue a college curriculum directed towards a career in applied geophysics or a closely related field, such as geosciences, physics, geology, or earth and environmental sciences. | **3/1/20**

### Ted Rollins Eco Scholars

[www.tedrollinsecoscholars.com](http://www.tedrollinsecoscholars.com) | \$1,000 | High school seniors enrolling in a sustainability-related field of study. | **Jun. 2020**

### Women in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

[www.womeninhvacr.org/webapp/p/244/whvacr-scholarships](http://www.womeninhvacr.org/webapp/p/244/whvacr-scholarships) | \$2,000 | Women entering the HVACR industry through a technical or trade school. | **6/1/20**

### Young Arts Awards Competition

[www.youngarts.org/apply](http://www.youngarts.org/apply) | \$250-\$10,000 | Artists in grades 10-12 or ages 15-18 on December 1, 2019, may apply. The Young Arts competition includes cinematic arts, dance, design arts, jazz, music, photography, theater, visual arts, voice, writing. | **10/11/2019**

## FLORIDA OR SPECIFIC COUNTY RESIDENTS

### Bailey Family Foundation

[www.bailey-family.org](http://www.bailey-family.org) | \$20,000 over four years | High school seniors in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Polk counties; one scholarship per high school. Minimum 2.5 GPA, essay, demonstrated financial need. | **2/28/20**

### Brevard Schools Foundation

[www.brevardschoolsfoundation.org/programs/scholarships](http://www.brevardschoolsfoundation.org/programs/scholarships) | \$ Varies | Multiple opportunities for high school seniors in Brevard County. | **Mar. 2020**

### Central Florida Foundation

[www.cffound.org/receive/scholarships](http://www.cffound.org/receive/scholarships) | \$ Varies | Multiple opportunities for high school seniors from Central Florida. Check website for eligibility. | \*

### Community Foundation for Northeast Florida

[www.jaxcf.org](http://www.jaxcf.org) | \$ Varies | Numerous opportunities for high school seniors in Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns counties. | **Mar. 2020**

### Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties

[www.yourcommunityfoundation.org/grants-scholarships](http://www.yourcommunityfoundation.org/grants-scholarships) | \$ Varies | Numerous opportunities for high school seniors in Palm Beach and Martin counties. | **Jan. 2020**

### Emerald Coast

<http://fun4emeraldcoastkids.com/Education-Childcare/Scholarship-Opportunities> | \$ Varies | Multiple scholarship programs for students in Bay, Okaloosa and Walton counties. | \*

### Ford Salute to Education

[www.stescholarships.org/how-do-i-apply](http://www.stescholarships.org/how-do-i-apply) | \$1,500 | Seniors at Miami-Dade or Broward County public or private high schools. Minimum 3.0 GPA, financial need, community involvement, academic achievement, leadership, character, life goals, obstacles overcome, objectives achieved. | **Feb. 2020**

### Selby Scholarship

[www.selbyfdn.org/scholarship-program.html](http://www.selbyfdn.org/scholarship-program.html) | \$ Varies | Graduating high school seniors or state college associate degree students in Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte or DeSoto counties who will pursue a bachelor's degree. Minimum 3.0 GPA, financial need, personal growth, values. | **4/1/20**

### Southern Scholarship Foundation Housing Award

[www.southern scholarship.org](http://www.southern scholarship.org) | Up to four years of college housing valued at nearly \$50,000 | Students who have been accepted to specific Florida colleges and universities. (Check website for details.) Minimum 3.0 GPA, financial need, character, motivation. | **Apr. 1 for Fall; Nov. 1 for Spring semesters**

### Southwest Florida Community Foundation

[www.floridacommunity.com/scholarships](http://www.floridacommunity.com/scholarships) | \$ Varies | Numerous opportunities for high school seniors in Lee, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Charlotte counties. | **Feb. 2020**

## HEALTH OR DISABILITY

### Jason Ackerman Foundation

[www.becauseofjason.org/programs](http://www.becauseofjason.org/programs) | \$ Varies | High school seniors who survived a tragic illness or circumstance. Minimum 2.5 GPA. | **May 2020**

\* Check website for multiple opportunities and deadlines.

### Lighthouse Guild Scholarship for the Blind

[www.lighthouseguild.org/programs-services/scholarships](http://www.lighthouseguild.org/programs-services/scholarships) | Up to \$10,000 | High school seniors who are legally blind with strong academic accomplishments. | **3/31/20**

### National Center for Learning Disabilities

[www.ncld.org/scholarships-and-awards](http://www.ncld.org/scholarships-and-awards) | \$2,500 to \$10,000 | High school seniors with a documented learning disability, demonstrated perseverance and commitment to achieving personal goals despite the challenges of their LD. | \*

### National Hemophilia Foundation

[www.hemophilia.org/Community-Resources/Scholarships](http://www.hemophilia.org/Community-Resources/Scholarships) | \$ Varies | Multiple scholarships for promising students in the bleeding disorders community. | \*

### Patient Advocate Foundation Scholarships for Survivors

[www.patientadvocate.org/connect-with-services/apply-for-a-scholarship/](http://www.patientadvocate.org/connect-with-services/apply-for-a-scholarship/) | \$3,000, renewable | Students who have been diagnosed with and/or been actively treated for a chronic, life threatening or life debilitating disease within the past five years. | **Feb. 2020**

### Sertoma Hard of Hearing

<https://sertoma.org/what-we-do/scholarships> | \$1,000 | High school seniors with clinically significant bilateral hearing loss pursuing four-year college degrees in any discipline, minimum 3.2 GPA | **May 2020**

## MEMBERS OF ORGANIZATIONS

### Florida American Legion

[www.floridalegion.org/programs-services/scholarships-benefits/\\$scholarships](http://www.floridalegion.org/programs-services/scholarships-benefits/$scholarships) | \$500 - \$2,500 | Multiple opportunities for high school students focused on veteran and military influences. | \*

### Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)

[www.fbla-pbl.org/fbla/membership-benefits/\\$scholarships](http://www.fbla-pbl.org/fbla/membership-benefits/$scholarships) | \$ Varies | Multiple opportunities for members of FBLA. | \*

### Marine Technology Society

[www.mtsociety.org/education/scholarships.aspx](http://www.mtsociety.org/education/scholarships.aspx) | \$ Varies | High school students accepted into full-time programs with focus in marine technology, marine engineering and/or marine science. MTS membership required. | **Apr. 2020**

### National Association for the Self-Employed Dependent

[www.nase.org/Membership/Benefits/NASE\\_Dependent\\_Scholarship\\_Program.aspx](http://www.nase.org/Membership/Benefits/NASE_Dependent_Scholarship_Program.aspx) | \$ 3,000 | High school seniors who are dependents of NASE members. Selection criteria include leadership abilities, strong academics, financial need. | **Apr. 2020**

### National Future Farmers of America

[www.ffa.org/scholarships](http://www.ffa.org/scholarships) | \$ Varies; more than \$2 million awarded each year | Numerous programs available to FFA members and a few programs for non-members. | **2/1/20**

### Phi Delta Kappa Prospective Educator

[www.pdkassociation.org/programs-resources/scholarships-awards/prospective-educator-scholarships](http://www.pdkassociation.org/programs-resources/scholarships-awards/prospective-educator-scholarships) | \$ Varies | Numerous opportunities for high school seniors who have a connection to PDK by having a family member or teacher who is a PDK member, or through membership in Educators Rising. | **Apr. 2020**

### Roofing Alliance Foundation

[www.roofingalliance.net/programs/scholarship](http://www.roofingalliance.net/programs/scholarship) | \$5,000/year, renewable | Immediate family members of employees or National Roofing Contractors Association members who pursue careers in the roofing or building construction industries in college or vocational programs. | **Jan. 2020**

### Scholarships for Military Children

[www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org) | \$2,000 | Dependent child of an active duty, reserve or retired member of the military. 3.0 GPA, essay. | **Feb. 2020**

## SPECIAL INTERESTS

### CARiD Photo Contest

[www.carid.com/scholarships.html](http://www.carid.com/scholarships.html) | \$1,000 | High school students enrolling in post-secondary education next semester. Create a photo inspired by any aspect of the automotive industry; make it creative, inspiring or thought provoking. | **10/31/19, 4/30/20**

## Bright Futures Scholarships Update



Did you know that the top Bright Futures scholarship level now pays full tuition and most fees, plus \$300 per semester for textbooks? Sweet!

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, funded by the Florida Lottery, provides scholarships for Florida high school grads with a record of high academic achievement, good test scores and community service. You can use the scholarship for a degree, certificate or applied technology program at most Florida public or private postsecondary education institutions.

### Here's how to make sure you get rewarded for your hard work.

- ✓ Go to [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN) to find out if you qualify.
- ✓ Go to [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPPRFILE/SAPPRFILE](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPPRFILE/SAPPRFILE) and submit a completed, error-free Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) during your last year of high school, by graduation.
- ✓ Take responsibility for tracking your application and award status online and keeping the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) informed about changes to your address or your educational plans.

## Is your scholarship search out of control? Keep it organized so you don't miss out!

Now that you're steaming ahead full blast on scholarship applications, you'll want to make sure that you keep track of all the requirements, deadlines, websites and notification dates. These days, there are lots of options to help you stay organized in the way that suits you best. Here are a few examples:

- Create a spreadsheet with columns for each requirement (transcripts, essays, test scores, financials, etc.) and rows for the individual applications.
- Use an electronic calendar to keep up with deadlines.
- Make a binder if you prefer to have everything on paper.
- Use a mobile app designed expressly for scholarship tracking.

Whichever way you choose, be sure to keep up with it and you'll be ready to cash in!!

### Florida Striders Track Club

[www.floridastriders.com/](http://www.floridastriders.com/) scholarship | \$1,000 (4 winners) | High school seniors from Northeast Florida who are runners and active in track and field events. Essay required. | **3/1/20**

### FormSwift Startup Scholarship

<https://formswift.com/startup-scholarship#eligibility> | \$1,000 | High school seniors. Create a business plan infographic for a company in one of the designated industries. | **Mar., Jun., Sep., Dec. each year**

### Girls Impact The World Film Festival Scholarships

[www.connecther.org/gitw/learn](http://www.connecther.org/gitw/learn) | \$1,000 - \$5,000 | High school students. Show in film what you can do to change the story! Submit an original short (3-6 minute) film that brings focus to a global women's issue. | **1/20/20**

### Scholastic Art and Writing

[www.artandwriting.org/what-we-do/the-awards/how-to-enter](http://www.artandwriting.org/what-we-do/the-awards/how-to-enter) | \$ Varies | 9th to 12th grade students whose creative work demonstrates originality, technical skill, and emergence of a personal voice or vision through art or writing. | \*

### Taco Bell Live Más Scholarship

[www.tacobellfoundation.org/live-mas-scholarship](http://www.tacobellfoundation.org/live-mas-scholarship) | \$5,000 - \$25,000 | High school students planning to attend a postsecondary education program. Submit a 2-minute video that tells the story of your life's passion. | **Feb. 2020**

### Vegetarian Resource Group

[www.vrg.org/student-scholar.htm](http://www.vrg.org/student-scholar.htm) | \$5,000 or \$10,000 | High school seniors. Demonstrated compassion, courage and a strong commitment to promoting a peaceful world through a vegetarian diet/lifestyle. | **2/20/20**



entertainment | media | arts | technology

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# Mentors Matter

## How to find a match

A mentor is someone, usually an adult, who helps you achieve your goals. By sharing what they've learned from their life experiences, they can help you overcome any obstacles that stand in your way.

### HOW TO FIND A MENTOR



#### Define your goals

Know what you're looking for in a mentor. Is it someone who has a job you're interested in pursuing? By defining your needs and goals, people are more empowered to help you.

Tip: Never ask someone if you can "pick their brain." Most professionals consider this phrase a huge turnoff.



#### Don't make it all about you

While much of the relationship will be focused on helping you grow as an individual, your mentor should also benefit from the experience. This can be accomplished by talking to them about your life and experiences.

Also, don't expect the mentor to do all the work. Come armed with questions and be able to define your goals for the relationship.



#### Start with your network

Ask your family and friends' families if they know someone who might be interested in working with you. You're more likely to find someone through a mutual connection than by contacting a stranger out of the blue.



#### Let mentors know how they helped

Don't just ask a few questions and then ghost your mentor. Let them know how their advice helped you achieve a goal or solve a problem. They'll be more likely to help you in the future.

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- **PERSONALIZED SUPPORT** – Students are assigned a dedicated advisor at both schools to keep them on track.



# Are You Ready to Start Your Career?

- Florida's 44 public technical colleges and five centers offer 200-plus programs.
- "Career in a Year" programs provide training for careers in manufacturing, health care, public safety, mechanics, computer programming, IT, gaming, digital tools and many more!
- Hands-on, real life experiences happen in classrooms, labs, simulations and registered apprenticeship programs — all delivering the skills you need to start your career. Get started today!

**Kira Burch** grew up at her father's side as he worked on airplanes. So her career choice was clear. At George Stone Technical College, Burch has completed general maintenance and is enrolled in airframe mechanics while apprenticing at ST Engineering under the guidance of seasoned instructors.

**Kira Burch**, George Stone Technical College, Pensacola

"I am having a good experience and have had great mentors."



**Gabriel Kavan** was an 11th grader who loved gaming when he enrolled in software and game design, programming and engineering courses at Orange Technical College. By the time his peers were graduating high school, Kavan had already earned three certificates and was pulling down a sweet salary at Steamroller Studios in Mount Dora.



"I'm living the dream."

**Gabriel Kavan**, Orange Technical College, Orlando

Learn more!

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CAREER IN A YEAR

# YOU CAN BE A

# Millionaire

The financial literacy skills you learn today can seriously affect your future.

The whole point of this magazine's existence is to help you figure out what you want to do after graduation so you can find a job you'll love. And let's be honest, we don't want you to just love your job, we also want to make sure it pays you a good salary so you can pursue your goals and, eventually, retire.

But no matter how much money you make, being able to follow your dreams and retire someday requires being smart about money.

While it may seem crazy to start thinking about your retirement now, the savings skills you develop today can help set you up for future success. Don't believe us? Read Alberto's story below.

Experts recommend having at least **\$1,000,000** in savings before you retire.



**Alberto Garcia Marrero**  
21, 2019 graduate of Florida International University, graduate of Coral Reef Senior High School

## My Plan to Retire a Millionaire

I learned at a young age how important it is to be smart about money.

The recession hit my family hard. We lost our home and the experience forever changed how I think about money.

### ◆ What happened?

My father lost his job during the recession. Even though I was only a kid, I had to quickly learn how to manage money and teach my parents, who had emigrated from Cuba and didn't speak English very well, how to budget and save.

It was hard, but my parents needed me. When I started working, I was able to help support them. I am a strong believer that the challenges we face when we're young shape who we become. It's true – what doesn't kill you makes you stronger, but only if you learn from it.

### ◆ What did the experience teach you about life after graduation?

That it's all about your management skills: time management and, especially, financial management.

I think the best way to improve those skills is to get a part-time job as soon as you're old enough to work. You don't have to work full time, just a few afternoons a week can pay off – literally.

No matter what you want to do when you get older, getting work experience now will be beneficial. You'll learn

how to work with people in an office environment. You also never know who you'll meet along the way.

### ◆ What should people do with the money they earn at their part-time job?

In this day and age, we're so used to instant gratification. But it's really important you don't get into the habit of spending everything you make.

My goal is to save 80% of my income. That's a lot, I know. But even if you can't put aside that much, it's important to save at least some of the money you earn. Skip a few visits to Starbucks and put \$50 a month into your savings account. Over time, that can add up to thousands of dollars.

### ◆ What do you do with the money you save?

I see my savings as an investment in my future. I've used my savings to join clubs, attend conferences around the country and invest in activities that will help me get into a good law school.

Right now, I'm making \$17 an hour working at a software company, which is a really great job and salary for an undergrad. I got this job because of the connections I made at school and in clubs.

With my savings, I can also consider traveling after I graduate from college, something most people in my situation wouldn't be able to do because they might have to work to pay off student loans or start saving for an apartment.

"As you can see, forgoing a few extra coffees a month can lead to bigger and better things in your future.



# Alberto's Tips for Saving



## Take advantage of the resources around you.

Your high school may offer programs like dual enrollment and advanced placement classes. These are free ways of earning college credit. Alberto says he earned 45 college credit hours in high school. At \$205.57 a credit, that's equivalent to saving \$9,250 on tuition.

$\$205.57$  Cost per credit hour  
 $\times 45$  College credits earned in high school  


---

 $\$9,250.65$  Saved



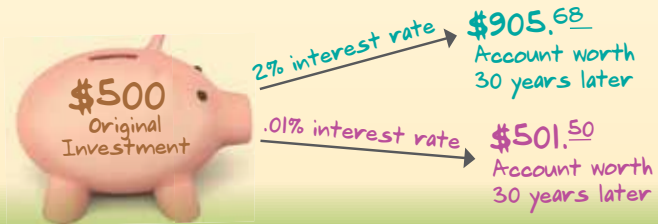
## Find a high-yield savings account.

Many banks offer a 0.01% interest rate. This is better than nothing, but if you can, find one that offers at least 2%.

Say you invest \$500 in a savings account that offers a 0.01% annual interest rate. At the end of two years, you would have earned 10 cents in interest, making your final balance \$500.10.

But if you had put it in an account that offers a 2% annual interest rate, you would have earned \$20.20 over those two years, putting your final balance at \$520.20.

After 30 years, the 0.01% account would be worth \$501.50 while the 2% account would be worth a whopping \$905.68.

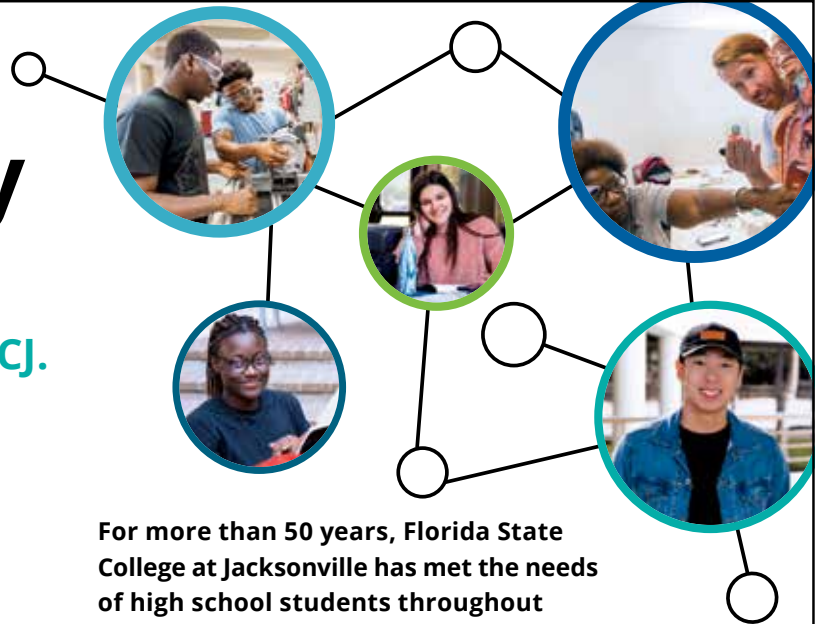


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# What Does it Take to Run for Office?



## You could be president!

One of the coolest perks of turning 18 is that you finally get to vote. Voting isn't just about choosing the next president. You can vote in local, state and congressional elections. Your vote lets you have a say in issues like health care, civil rights and education. But what if you want to do more than just have a say? You can take it to the next level and run for office.

We're here to cheer you on.

**Running for local offices** There are many offices in your city and county. You could get elected to the city council or school board. You could even run for mayor. Each city and county holds elections at different times. Google your county name and "supervisor of elections."

**Running for state offices** At the state level, you could run for governor or attorney general. Florida has 40 seats for state senators, 27 U.S. representatives, and officials overseeing finance and agriculture. You can follow this link to learn about Florida's election system: [dos.myflorida.com/elections](https://dos.myflorida.com/elections).

**Running for federal offices** Want to hang out in Washington? You could represent Florida in Congress or even run for president.

**What does it take to run for office?** Many elected positions have age requirements. You have to be 35 to run for president and 30 to run for governor of Florida. That's because the biggest indicator of success in an elected position is experience.

You should start seeking out leadership positions now, developing your political muscle. Most schools offer students the chance to run for student government. You can lead extracurricular activities like sports, band and theater.

You could also seek out leadership roles in your community. Check out Ashley's story below!



**Ashley Campbell**  
18, Freshman at the University of Tampa, graduate of Leon High School

## Taking the Lead

"During my senior year of high school, I served as the Leon County Schools Student School Board member. My job was to act as a direct link between the school board and all the students in the district. I didn't get to vote on any matters that came before the board, but I was always encouraged to share how I thought a

decision might impact my peers. If you want to get involved in politics, you can start by taking on leadership roles in something you're passionate about, whether it's art, music or sports. There are so many opportunities to get involved, especially when you're in school. Talk to your teachers and counselors to learn more about the opportunities available to you."

## How to register to vote

Visit [dos.myflorida.com/elections](https://dos.myflorida.com/elections) to download a registration form. Fill it out, then send it to your county's supervisor of elections. You'll find their address on the second page of the application. Once you get your voter ID card, you'll have the power to make a difference in your community and in the country. Nice!





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# What If You Could Be a Kid Forever?

**Sadly, you can't. Here's what changes when you turn 18.**



If you're reading this magazine, chances are you're already 18 or will turn 18 soon.

It's a big birthday; some would even say it's the biggest birthday of your life. Because when you turn 18 you are officially ... drum roll, please ... a grownup!

Being an official grownup means you now have a ton of new rights (vote, baby, vote!) as well as a ton of new responsibilities (who's stoked to pay all their own bills?).

Here's an overview of the major changes heading your way.

## YOUR RIGHTS

**You're 18! Now you can:**



**Vote** in the next election. See page 48 to learn how you can run for office, too.

**Get married** 



**Enter into contracts** like apartment leases

**Get a credit card** without asking your parents to co-sign



**Sue someone** if you feel you've been wronged

**Get non-emergency medical treatment** without your parent's consent



## YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

**But now that you're an adult, you have way more responsibilities, including:**

- ✓ That cool new credit card you just signed up for? If you can't make your minimum monthly payment, it's your problem to solve, not mom's or dad's. See page 46 to learn more about the importance of financial literacy.
- ✓ If you get in trouble with the law as an adult, it's waaaaay more serious. The adult and juvenile justice systems have totally different goals. When you're a minor (the technical term for anyone younger than 18), the court's goal is usually rehabilitation and treatment. But after you turn 18, the justice system's goal is to prevent future crimes. And sometime the system thinks the best way to prevent future crimes is to put the people who commit them in jail.
- ✓ Unless a court orders otherwise, your parents are not required to pay your bills or take care of you.
- ✓ Just as you can sue people who you believe have wronged you, you can also be sued.
- ✓ Now that you're all grown up, you may be called into jury duty. If you ignore your summons, you may face fines or be charged with contempt of court.
- ✓ Males must also register with the Selective Service when they turn 18.



Want to learn more about how turning 18 affects your legal status? Check out the Florida Bar Association app **Just Adulting**.

# Words Matter

## Making fake threats is no joke.



An increase in school shootings in recent years has many schools across the country on high alert. In addition to installing metal detectors and requiring students to wear clear backpacks, schools are also redefining what exactly constitutes a threat.

In some instances, students who make jokes about bringing a weapon to school or harming others could be expelled.

In Florida's Lee County, for example, the school board launched a campaign called "Fake Threat, Real Consequences." Students caught making a fake threat could be suspended, expelled, arrested and face up to 15 years in prison, as well as a \$10,000 fine.

The rules came up in part because of all the

classroom time that's lost when schools and law enforcement have to investigate a threat.

In addition to monitoring for fake threats, Florida schools are also on high alert to catch people who are serious about hurting others.

Some school districts are considering implementing social media monitoring tools to search posts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other sites for suspicious words that could indicate someone wants to hurt others.

The technology would monitor public posts for keywords like "bomb" or "gun." It could also find people who post ongoing complaints about a teacher or a specific student, as well as posts that indicate the person wants to harm themselves.

“Making fake threats is no joke. Lives have been lost and the stakes are just too high. Even if you're just joking around, you might end up in the principal's office or the police station.”

**Simon Casas**

18, freshman at the University of Central Florida, graduate of Sebastian River High School



### WHAT TO DO IF ...

- **You're frustrated with your school, another student or a teacher**

Do not make jokes about harming the person or hurting others at your school. Find a trusted adult you can talk to about your feelings and experiences. If the first person you speak with doesn't take you seriously, find someone else you can confide in. Do not give up. There is help out there.

- **Someone you know talks about hurting themselves or others**

Talk to your teacher, school counselor, resource officer or another adult immediately. Even if you think the person is only kidding, they may still be dealing with some serious issues and need help. You're not ratting them out, you're helping to keep them — and everyone at your school — safe.

- **If you see something suspicious at your school**

Tell an adult immediately, even if it means being late for class. If you see a gun or knife on campus, you need to get immediate help.

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# Feeling Anxious or Depressed?



**Keron Grey**  
18, freshman  
at Florida State  
University,  
graduate of Blanche  
Ely High School

## Talk About It.

About 20% of American teens struggle with some kind of mental health issue. The most common conditions are depression and anxiety.

“Life is a lot harder for teens nowadays,” says Keron Grey, 18, a freshman at Florida State University.

When Keron was a freshman in high school, she started feeling bad. She struggled to keep up with her classes and she stopped enjoying her extracurricular activities. At the time, Keron felt like there was no one she could talk to about her feelings. To help herself — and other students — process these emotions, she became an active leader in several organizations at her school.

She became the president and director of The Ladies of Intrigue at Blanche Ely High School, a group of 90 young women who get together several times a month to talk about the issues they’re facing and lean on each other for support. She also became part of a mentorship program that brings in local entrepreneurs and business leaders to talk to students.

“It’s brought me a lot of peace knowing I’m not the only one who experiences these ups and downs.”

## Don't suffer in silence.

Let's be real. Being a teenager is hard. The symptoms of anxiety and depression – irritability, difficulty sleeping, mood swings, feeling worthless, thoughts of death or suicide – can be confusing and scary. But asking for help is a sign of strength. Do not be afraid to reach out to the people around you for help.

People to consider talking to when you're feeling down:

- A trusted adult – whether it's your parents, a friend's parents or a family friend
- Guidance counselor or teacher you admire, or a former teacher
- Someone at your house of worship
- The non-emergency number for the local police department

**If you need immediate assistance, contact:**

Text **HOME** to **741741**

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline  
**1-800-273-TALK (8255)**

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# GET SMART GUIDE™

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- Private Career / Technical Schools / p. 58
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Florida's public and private colleges offer a wide range of degrees, certificates and experiences; many also offer online degree programs. Whichever path you choose, you can find the right place to pursue your goals in the Sunshine State.

The contents of the Get Smart Guide™ are provided as an information guide only. While reasonable efforts are made to ensure the accuracy of the information throughout, no responsibility is accepted by or on behalf of NEXT magazine for any errors, omissions or misleading statements on these pages or any site to which these pages connect. Fees and deadlines are subject to change. Check with individual schools for the most up-to-date information.

## STATE UNIVERSITIES

The State University System includes 12 universities making it the second-largest public university system in the nation.

### Florida A&M University

Tallahassee  
(850) 599-3796  
[www.famu.edu](http://www.famu.edu)  
Enrollment: 7,724  
Tuition/Fees: \$152  
Room/Board: \$10,986  
Accepted: 38%  
Deadline: 5/1

### Florida Atlantic University

Boca Raton  
(561) 297-3040  
[www.fau.edu](http://www.fau.edu)  
Enrollment: 23,238  
Tuition/Fees: \$201  
Room/Board: \$11,950  
Accepted: 48%  
Deadline: 3/1, 5/1

### Florida Gulf Coast University

Fort Myers  
(800) 590-3428  
[www.fgcu.edu](http://www.fgcu.edu)  
Enrollment: 13,624  
Tuition/Fees: \$204  
Room/Board: \$9,672  
Accepted: 62%  
Deadline: 11/15

### Florida International University

Miami  
(305) 348-2363  
[www.fiu.edu](http://www.fiu.edu)  
Enrollment: 41,796  
Tuition/Fees: \$206  
Room/Board: \$11,136  
Accepted: 52%  
Deadline: Rolling, 11/1 for merit aid

### Florida Polytechnic University

Lakeland  
(863) 583-9050  
[www.floridapoly.edu](http://www.floridapoly.edu)  
Enrollment: 1,389  
Tuition/Fees: \$165  
Room/Board: \$11,471  
Accepted: 51%  
Deadline: 11/1, 5/1  
*» Florida Poly is Florida's only public university dedicated exclusively to Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) and offers innovative undergraduate degree programs in emerging areas such as cybersecurity, machine intelligence and nanotechnology. Florida Poly partners with leading technology firms to shape an industry-relevant curriculum that connects students with immediate career opportunities. Florida Poly's campus is one of the most innovative, cutting-edge university facilities in Florida with the largest collection of 3D printers in higher education. Discover more on p. 4*

### Florida State University

Tallahassee  
(850) 644-6200  
[www.fsu.edu](http://www.fsu.edu)  
Enrollment: 32,316  
Tuition/Fees: \$216  
Room/Board: \$10,780  
Accepted: 35%  
Deadline: 11/1, 2/7  
*» Florida State University is a designated preeminent state research university with FSU researchers recently awarded over \$230 million to support biomedical, health sciences, high energy physics and marine biology. FSU is home to many nationally ranked programs, including the sciences, arts, business, communication and the law. With a strong culture of commitment to student success, FSU has the highest four-year graduation rate of any public university in Florida. Discover more on p. 13*

### New College of Florida

Sarasota  
(941) 487-5000  
[www.ncf.edu](http://www.ncf.edu)  
Enrollment: 808  
Tuition/Fees: \$231  
Room/Board: \$9,529  
Accepted: 77%  
Deadline: 11/1, 3/1

### University of Central Florida

Orlando  
(407) 823-2000  
[www.ucf.edu](http://www.ucf.edu)  
Enrollment: 58,402  
Tuition/Fees: \$212  
Room/Board: \$10,010  
Accepted: 50%  
Deadline: 12/1 for financial aid priority; 5/1

### University of Florida

Gainesville  
(352) 392-1365  
[www.admissions.ufl.edu](http://www.admissions.ufl.edu)  
Enrollment: 37,527  
Tuition/Fees: \$213  
Room/Board: \$10,220  
Accepted: 37%  
Deadline: 11/1

### University of North Florida

Jacksonville  
(904) 620-1000  
[www.unf.edu](http://www.unf.edu)  
Enrollment: 14,256  
Tuition/Fees: \$213  
Room/Board: \$9,720  
Accepted: 41%  
Deadline: 10/31, 5/1

### University of South Florida

Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee  
(813) 974-3350  
[admissions.usf.edu/next](http://admissions.usf.edu/next)  
Enrollment: 37,235  
Tuition/Fees: \$211  
Room/Board: \$11,836  
Accepted: 37%  
Deadline: 11/1, 1/15, 3/1  
*» The University of South Florida is a designated preeminent state research university, recognizing the institution's high performance and strong trajectory toward national excellence. The USF system offers a myriad of programs across 14 colleges, including a new cybersecurity major and a pre-med dual degree with business/biomedical sciences. Students have over 600 official organizations ranging from social to academic, political to religious and the arts. The USF College of Public Health has 10 centers addressing global areas of public health importance. Discover more on pp. 8-9 and 37*

### University of West Florida

Pensacola  
(800) 263-1074  
[www.uwf.edu](http://www.uwf.edu)  
Enrollment: 9,335  
Tuition/Fees: \$212  
Room/Board: \$10,062  
Accepted: 52%  
Deadline: 12/1, 5/1

**DATA KEY:** Enrollment: Undergraduates, Fall 2018. Tuition/Fees: For new undergraduate Florida resident at main campus per credit hour, Fall 2019. Room/Board: Double occupancy dorm room and meal plan for one academic year, 2019-20. Accepted: Percentage of first-time-in-college applicants admitted, Fall 2018. Deadline: Application deadline for Fall 2019 term; special financial aid and housing deadlines are listed first. Sources: State University System of Florida; FloridaShines.org; school websites

# GET SMART GUIDE™

## STATE COLLEGES

Florida's State Colleges are the primary point of access to higher education in Florida, with 65% of the state's high school graduates pursuing postsecondary education at one of these 28 colleges. Virtual tours of all the colleges are available on the Florida College System website at <https://www.floridacollegesystem.com/colleges.aspx>

### Broward College

Fort Lauderdale, Coconut Creek, Dania Beach, Davie, Miramar, Pembroke Pines, Weston (954) 201-7350

[www.broward.edu](http://www.broward.edu)

Enrollment: 40,784

Tuition/Fees: \$118

### Chipola College

Marianna (850) 526-2761

[www.chipola.edu](http://www.chipola.edu)

Enrollment: 2,081

Tuition/Fees: \$102

### College of Central Florida

Ocala, Chiefland, Lecanto (352) 873-5800

[www.cf.edu/whycf](http://www.cf.edu/whycf)

Enrollment: 6,820

Tuition/Fees: \$113

» *College of Central Florida has more than 140 academic pathways, including the only two-year Equine Studies program in Florida. CF is among the most affordable colleges in the United States with 76% of students graduating with no debt. CF has partnerships with University of Central Florida and University of South Florida to guarantee you admission after you complete your CF associate degree. Low-cost tuition combined with personal attention in the classroom makes CF a top choice for higher education. CF has a robust campus life, from the student newspaper to honor societies and pre-professional organizations.*

Discover more on p. 49

### Daytona State College

Daytona Beach, DeLand, Deltona, New Smyrna Beach, Palm Coast (386) 506-3059

[www.daytonastate.edu](http://www.daytonastate.edu)

Enrollment: 13,737

Tuition/Fees: \$102

» *Daytona State College offers over 100 programs to help students discover their career pathways and have flexible opportunities for employment upon graduation. DSC makes it easy to attend class with a variety of programs and services designed to meet students' needs. Daytona State students can take*

*advantage of the Associate of Arts/University Transfer degree with guaranteed admission to the University of Central Florida or can choose a direct path to the workforce and an exciting career.*

Discover more on p. 32

### Eastern Florida State College

Cocoa, Melbourne, Palm Bay, Titusville (321) 632-1111

[www.easternflorida.edu](http://www.easternflorida.edu)

Enrollment: 15,820

Tuition/Fees: \$104

### Florida Gateway College

Lake City, Bell, Cross City, Olustee (386) 752-1822

[www.fgc.edu](http://www.fgc.edu)

Enrollment: 3,385

Tuition/Fees: \$103

### Florida Keys Community College

Key West, Marathon, Tavernier (305) 296-9081

[www.fkcc.edu](http://www.fkcc.edu)

Enrollment: 862

Tuition/Fees: \$109

### Florida SouthWestern State College

Fort Myers, LaBelle, Naples, Punta Gorda (800) 749-2322

[www.fsw.edu](http://www.fsw.edu)

Enrollment: 16,556

Tuition/Fees: \$113

### Florida State College at Jacksonville

Jacksonville, Yulee (904) 646-2300

[www.fscj.edu](http://www.fscj.edu)

Enrollment: 23,413

Tuition/Fees: \$105

» *Florida State College at Jacksonville offers 13 bachelor's degrees, 49 associate degrees and more than 100 technical certificates and workforce certifications. Flexible class scheduling, online, hybrid and traditional classes are offered. Through strategic and collaborative partnerships with industry leaders, FSCJ can adapt to serve the changing high-demand economic workforce needs in the community. FSCJ has been named by the Aspen Institute as a Top 150 college in the nation for exceptional student outcomes.*

Discover more on p. 47

### Gulf Coast State College

Panama City, Port St. Joe, Southport, Tyndall Air Force Base (850) 769-1551

[www.gulfcoast.edu](http://www.gulfcoast.edu)

Enrollment: 5,644

Tuition/Fees: \$99

### Hillsborough Community College

Tampa, Brandon, MacDill Air Force Base, Plant City, Riverview, Ruskin (813) 253-7000

[www.hccfl.edu](http://www.hccfl.edu)

Enrollment: 23,183

Tuition/Fees: \$104

### Indian River State College

Fort Pierce, Indiantown, Okeechobee, Port St. Lucie, Sebastian, Stuart, Vero Beach

[www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu)

(772) 462-4722

Enrollment: 16,686

Tuition/Fees: \$104

### Lake-Sumter State College

Leesburg, Clermont, Sumterville (352) 787-3747

[www.lssc.edu](http://www.lssc.edu)

Enrollment: 4,812

Tuition/Fees: \$108

### Miami Dade College

Miami, Doral, Hialeah, Homestead (305) 237-8888

[www.mdc.edu](http://www.mdc.edu)

Enrollment: 54,973

Tuition/Fees: \$118

» *Miami Dade College offers more than 300 academic pathways on eight campuses, including computer animation & game art, cybersecurity, digital forensics, fashion design & merchandising, film/TV studio production and transportation. From student government to intercollegiate athletics, student-edited newspapers and literary magazines, internships and study abroad programs, MDC offers a full "college experience." New facilities include the Cloud Computing Center and the Center for Learning, Innovation and Simulation at the medical campus.*

Discover more on p. 27



### North Florida College

Madison  
(850) 973-2288  
[www.nfcc.edu](http://www.nfcc.edu)  
Enrollment: 1,229  
Tuition/Fees: \$103

### Northwest Florida State College

Niceville, Crestview, DeFuniak Springs, Fort  
Walton Beach, Hurlburt Field, Santa Rosa Beach  
(850) 678-5111  
[www.nwfsc.edu](http://www.nwfsc.edu)  
Enrollment: 5,497  
Tuition/Fees: \$104

### Palm Beach State College

Lake Worth, Belle Glade, Boca Raton,  
Loxahatchee Groves, Palm Beach Gardens  
(561) 967-7222  
[www.palmbeachstate.edu](http://www.palmbeachstate.edu)  
Enrollment: 31,816  
Tuition/Fees: \$101

» *Palm Beach State College offers bachelor's and associate degrees and certificates in over 130 programs of study. With five campuses, small class sizes, stellar professors and over \$80 million in financial aid awarded annually, PBSC delivers a quality education that is achievable and affordable. The Dr. Floyd F. Koch Honors College gives qualified students a challenging environment with opportunities for an interactive learning experience.*

Discover more on p. 19

### Pasco-Hernando State College

New Port Richey, Brooksville, Dade City,  
Spring Hill, Wesley Chapel  
(727) 847-2727  
[www.phsc.edu](http://www.phsc.edu)  
Enrollment: 11,525  
Tuition/Fees: \$105

### Pensacola State College

Pensacola, Century, Gulf Breeze, Milton  
(850) 484-1000  
[www.pensacolastate.edu](http://www.pensacolastate.edu)  
Enrollment: 9,773  
Tuition/Fees: \$105

### Polk State College

Winter Haven, Bartow, Lake Wales, Lakeland  
(863) 297-1000  
[www.polk.edu](http://www.polk.edu)  
Enrollment: 10,591  
Tuition/Fees: \$112

» *Polk State College has campuses and centers in every corner of Polk County offering bachelor and associate degrees, certificates and workforce*

*training programs. Specialized programs include aerospace science (with the new Aircraft Dispatcher Certification), digital media technology, fire science technology and supply chain management. PSC partners with the University of South Florida and Florida Polytechnic University on guaranteed admission to qualified students.*

Discover more on p. 18

### Santa Fe College

Gainesville, Alachua, Archer, Keystone Heights,  
Starke  
(352) 395-7322  
[www.sfcollege.edu](http://www.sfcollege.edu)  
Enrollment: 14,324  
Tuition/Fees: \$107

### Seminole State College of Florida

Sanford, Altamonte Springs, Heathrow, Oviedo  
(407) 708-4722  
[www.seminolestate.edu](http://www.seminolestate.edu)  
Enrollment: 18,104  
Tuition/Fees: \$104

» *Seminole State College offers seven bachelor's degrees in high-demand fields, associate's degrees and specialized career certificates, including global learning with study abroad and international partnerships. Seminole State is a Gold College in the Florida College System for graduation rates, job placement and graduate starting salaries. The DirectConnect™ program guarantees admission to the University of Central Florida for eligible students who first complete an associate degree at Seminole State College.*

Discover more on p. 52

### South Florida State College

Avon Park, Arcadia, Bowling Green, Lake Placid  
(863) 453-6661  
[www.southflorida.edu](http://www.southflorida.edu)  
Enrollment: 2,910  
Tuition/Fees: \$105

### St. Johns River State College

Palatka, Orange Park, St. Augustine  
(386) 312-4030  
[www.sjrstate.edu](http://www.sjrstate.edu)  
Enrollment: 7,503  
Tuition/Fees: \$108

### St. Petersburg College

St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo, Pinellas Park,  
Seminole, Tarpon Springs  
(727) 341-4772  
[www.spcollege.edu](http://www.spcollege.edu)  
Enrollment: 29,183  
Tuition/Fees: \$112

» *St. Petersburg College offers more than 110 degree and certificate programs, including many high-demand, high-skill industry-recognized workforce certifications. SPC is ranked #1 in Florida among state colleges for sending students abroad and is one of the top providers of online education in the Florida State College System. Two programs, FUSE and Ignite, guarantee admission to specific bachelor's programs at a University of South Florida System institution or Florida A&M University for eligible students who first complete an associate degree at St. Petersburg College.*

Discover more on p. 44

### State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota

Bradenton, Lakewood Ranch, Venice  
(941) 752-5000  
[www.scf.edu](http://www.scf.edu)  
Enrollment: 10,229  
Tuition/Fees: \$102

### Tallahassee Community College

Tallahassee, Havana  
(850) 201-8555  
[www.tcc.fl.edu](http://www.tcc.fl.edu)  
Enrollment: 11,914  
Tuition/Fees: \$101

» *Tallahassee Community College offers 70 different degree and certificate programs that encompass a variety of fields from business management to engineering, from nursing to law enforcement. The TCC2FSU and TCC2FAMU programs help students reach the goal of earning a four-year degree at Florida State University or Florida A&M University. The Student Leadership, Involvement and Civic Engagement (SLICE) office provides a hub for students to connect, lead and serve the community.*

Discover more on p. 31

### Valencia College

Orlando, Kissimmee, Winter Park  
(407) 582-1507  
[www.valenciacollege.edu](http://www.valenciacollege.edu)  
Enrollment: 46,521  
Tuition/Fees: \$103

**DATA KEY:** Enrollment: Total undergraduates, Fall 2018. Tuition/Fees: Lower Division, per credit hour for Florida residents, Fall 2019. Florida State Colleges are open access institutions that generally do not have strict application deadlines. However, specific deadlines do apply to certain academic programs. Contact colleges to learn which deadlines apply to you. Sources: Florida College System; FloridaShines.org

# GET SMART GUIDE™

## INDEPENDENT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES OF FLORIDA

Florida's 30 not-for-profit, private schools offer programs offered on main campuses, at more than 100 satellite sites and through more than 500 online degree programs. All are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools.

### AdventHealth University

Orlando  
(407) 303-7742  
[www.ahu.edu](http://www.ahu.edu)  
Enrollment: 528  
Tuition/Fees: \$12,240  
Room/Board: \$6,126  
Accepted: 87%  
Deadline: 7/1

### Ave Maria University

Ave Maria  
(239) 280-2500  
[www.avemaria.edu](http://www.avemaria.edu)  
Enrollment: 1,076  
Tuition/Fees: \$20,850  
Room/Board: \$11,436  
Accepted: 83%  
Deadline: 8/1

### Barry University

Miami Shores  
(800) 899-3100  
[www.barry.edu](http://www.barry.edu)  
Enrollment: 2,968  
Tuition/Fees: \$30,014  
Room/Board: \$11,100  
Accepted: 91%  
Deadline: Rolling

### Beacon College

Leesburg  
(855) 220-5374  
[www.beaconcollege.edu](http://www.beaconcollege.edu)  
Enrollment: 385  
Tuition/Fees: \$39,016  
Room/Board: \$11,390  
Accepted: 51%  
Deadline: Rolling  
(Students with language-based learning disabilities or ADHD.)

### Bethune-Cookman University

Daytona Beach  
(800) 448-0228  
[www.cookman.edu](http://www.cookman.edu)  
Enrollment: 3,483  
Tuition/Fees: \$14,814  
Room/Board: \$9,412  
Accepted: NA

Deadline: 12/1 for best admission/scholarship consideration, 5/15

### Eckerd College

St. Petersburg  
(800) 456-9009  
[www.eckerd.edu](http://www.eckerd.edu)  
Enrollment: 1,940  
Tuition/Fees: \$44,540  
Room/Board: \$12,586  
Accepted: 68%  
Deadline: Rolling

### Edward Waters College

Jacksonville  
(904) 470-8000  
[www.ewc.edu](http://www.ewc.edu)  
Enrollment: 925  
Tuition/Fees: \$13,525  
Room/Board: \$7,282  
Accepted: 56%  
Deadline: 7/31

### Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Daytona Beach  
(800) 862-2416  
[www.daytonabeach.erau.edu](http://www.daytonabeach.erau.edu)  
Enrollment: 5,601  
Tuition/Fees: \$35,814  
Room/Board: \$11,438  
Accepted: 65%  
Deadline: Rolling

### Everglades University

Boca Raton  
(888) 854-8308  
[www.evergladesuniversity.edu](http://www.evergladesuniversity.edu)  
Enrollment: 1,921  
Tuition/Fees: \$17,600  
No on-campus housing  
Accepted: 69%  
Deadline: Rolling  
» Everglades University offers bachelor's and master's degree programs that prepare students in a variety of fields of study, including alternative medicine, aviation/aerospace, alternative and

renewable energy, business/hospitality, construction/surveying, crisis and disaster, and environmental policy. EU partners with The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) to provide LEED-certification preparation in the construction management curriculum.

Discover more on p. 33

### Flagler College

St. Augustine  
(800) 304-4208  
[www.flagler.edu](http://www.flagler.edu)  
Enrollment: 2,920  
Tuition/Fees: \$18,950  
Room/Board: \$11,340  
Accepted: 57%  
Deadline: 11/1, 3/1

### Florida College

Temple Terrace  
(813) 988-5131  
[www.floridacollege.edu](http://www.floridacollege.edu)  
Enrollment: 494  
Tuition/Fees: \$17,142  
Room/Board: \$8,420  
Accepted: 74%  
Deadline: 8/1

### Florida Institute of Technology

Melbourne  
(321) 674-8000  
[www.floridatech.edu](http://www.floridatech.edu)  
Enrollment: 3,271  
Tuition/Fees: \$41,850  
Room/Board: \$12,880  
Accepted: 65%  
Deadline: Rolling  
» Florida Institute of Technology offers undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees that prepare students for careers of the future. Florida Tech is known worldwide for its uniquely strong aerospace engineering, space sciences, marine sciences, cybersecurity,

behavior analysis and aviation (flight) degree programs.

The residential campus life is rich in variety; you can relax in a botanical garden, attend a star-gazing party at the Ortega Telescope or check out the Florida Tech Jet Dragster Racing Team.

Discover more on p. 11

### Florida Memorial University

Miami Gardens  
(305) 626-3600  
[www.fmuni.edu](http://www.fmuni.edu)  
Enrollment: 1,068  
Tuition/Fees: \$15,536  
Room/Board: \$7,776  
Accepted: 33%  
Deadline: Rolling

### Florida Southern College

Lakeland  
(863) 680-4111  
[www.flsouthern.edu](http://www.flsouthern.edu)  
Enrollment: 2,518  
Tuition/Fees: \$36,348  
Room/Board: \$11,670  
Accepted: 50%  
Deadline: 11/1, 3/1

### Hodges University

Naples  
(888) 920-3035  
[www.hodges.edu](http://www.hodges.edu)  
Enrollment: 531  
Tuition/Fees: \$14,180  
Room/Board: No housing  
Accepted: 77%  
Deadline: Rolling

### Jacksonville University

Jacksonville  
(904) 256-8000  
[www.ju.edu](http://www.ju.edu)  
Enrollment: 2,292  
Tuition/Fees: \$36,670  
Room/Board: \$14,080  
Accepted: 90%  
Deadline: Rolling

### Keiser University

Fort Lauderdale  
(888) 534-7379  
[www.keiseruniversity.edu](http://www.keiseruniversity.edu)

Enrollment: 11,399  
Tuition/Fees: \$20,208  
Room/Board: \$11,296  
Accepted: NA  
Deadline: Rolling

» Keiser University serves approximately 18,000 students on 21 campuses in Florida, online and internationally. Committed to a "students first" philosophy, Keiser prepares graduates for careers in business, criminal justice, sports management, health care, technology, hospitality, education and more. Keiser's 100-acre flagship residential campus in West Palm Beach extends Keiser's educational offerings to more than 100 degree programs in Florida. A comprehensive college experience is available there for traditional students seeking dormitories, a culturally rich campus life comprised of students from a variety of international locations, athletics teams and a safe environment to live, learn, work and play. Discover more on p. 21

### Lynn University

Boca Raton  
(800) 994-5966  
[www.lynn.edu](http://www.lynn.edu)  
Enrollment: 2,049  
Tuition/Fees: \$38,210  
Room/Board: \$12,170  
Accepted: 70%  
Deadline: 11/15, 3/1

### Nova Southeastern University

Fort Lauderdale  
(800) 541-6682  
[www.nova.edu](http://www.nova.edu)  
Enrollment: 3,685  
Tuition/Fees: \$30,900  
Room/Board: \$12,928  
Accepted: 79%  
Deadline: 11/1, 2/12

### **Palm Beach Atlantic University**

West Palm Beach  
(888) 468-6722

[www.pba.edu](http://www.pba.edu)

Enrollment: 2,269  
Tuition/Fees: \$31,450  
Room/Board: \$10,120  
Accepted: 95%  
Deadline: Rolling

### **Ringling College of Art and Design**

Sarasota  
(941) 351-5100

[www.ringling.edu](http://www.ringling.edu)

Enrollment: 1,519  
Tuition/Fees: \$46,420  
Room/Board: \$14,670  
Accepted: 67%  
Deadline: Rolling

### **Rollins College**

Winter Park  
(407) 646-2161

[www.rollins.edu](http://www.rollins.edu)

Enrollment: 2,433  
Tuition/Fees: \$49,760  
Room/Board: \$14,470  
Accepted: 67%  
Deadline: 11/1, 2/1

### **Saint Leo University**

Saint Leo  
(800) 334-5532

[www.saintleo.edu](http://www.saintleo.edu)

Enrollment: 2,672  
Tuition/Fees: \$23,020  
Room/Board: \$12,728  
Accepted: 60%  
Deadline: Rolling

### **Southeastern University**

Lakeland  
(800) 500-8760

[www.seu.edu](http://www.seu.edu)

Enrollment: 4,877  
Tuition/Fees: \$25,870  
Room/Board: \$9,832  
Accepted: 48%  
Deadline: Rolling

### **St. Thomas University**

Miami Gardens  
(877) 788-7526

[www.stu.edu](http://www.stu.edu)

Enrollment: 899

Tuition/Fees: \$31,830  
Room/Board: \$11,700  
Accepted: 52%  
Deadline: Rolling

### **Stetson University**

DeLand  
(386) 822-7100

[www.stetson.edu](http://www.stetson.edu)

Enrollment: 3,111  
Tuition/Fees: \$46,030  
Room/Board: \$13,052  
Accepted: 68%  
Deadline: Rolling

### **University of Miami**

Coral Gables  
(305) 284-2211

[www.welcome.miami.edu](http://www.welcome.miami.edu)

Enrollment: 10,484  
Tuition/Fees: \$50,226  
Room/Board: \$14,108  
Accepted: 32%  
Deadline: 11/1, 1/1

### **University of Tampa**

Tampa  
(813) 253-3333

[www.ut.edu](http://www.ut.edu)

Enrollment: 8,146  
Tuition/Fees: \$29,208  
Room/Board: \$10,962  
Accepted: 49%  
Deadline: Rolling

### **Warner University**

Lake Wales  
(800) 309-9563

[www.warner.edu](http://www.warner.edu)

Enrollment: 818  
Tuition/Fees: \$21,694  
Room/Board: \$8,348  
Accepted: 35%  
Deadline: Rolling

### **Webber International University**

Babson Park  
(800) 741-1844

[www.webber.edu](http://www.webber.edu)

Enrollment: 587  
Tuition/Fees: \$26,116  
Room/Board: \$9,150  
Accepted: 40%  
Deadline: Rolling

## **PRIVATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES**

These nonpublic educational institutions hold a license from the Florida Commission for Independent Education. Schools with enrollment less than 200 are not included. Go to [www.fldoe.org/cie](http://www.fldoe.org/cie) for a complete list.

### **Altierus Career College\***

Tampa

[www.altierus.edu](http://www.altierus.edu)

### **Ana G. Mendez University System\***

Orlando, South Florida, Tampa

[agmus.suagm.edu/en](http://agmus.suagm.edu/en)

### **Art Institute of Tampa\***

Tampa

[www.artinstitutes.edu/tampa](http://www.artinstitutes.edu/tampa)

### **Baptist College of Florida\***

Graceville, Jacksonville, Orlando

[www.baptistcollege.edu](http://www.baptistcollege.edu)

### **Chamberlain University**

Jacksonville, Miramar

[www.chamberlain.edu](http://www.chamberlain.edu)

### **City College\***

Fort Lauderdale, Altamonte Springs, Gainesville, Hollywood, Miami

[www.citycollege.edu](http://www.citycollege.edu)

### **Columbia College\***

Jacksonville, Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Orlando

[www.ccis.edu](http://www.ccis.edu)

### **DeVry University**

Jacksonville, Miramar, Orlando

[www.devry.edu](http://www.devry.edu)

### **ECPI University**

Lake Mary

[www.ecpi.edu/regions/orlando](http://www.ecpi.edu/regions/orlando)

### **Florida National University**

Hialeah, Miami

[www.fnu.edu](http://www.fnu.edu)

### **Florida Technical College**

Kissimmee, Cutler Bay, DeLand, Lakeland, Orlando, Pembroke Pines, Tampa

[www.ftccollege.edu](http://www.ftccollege.edu)

### **Full Sail University**

Winter Park  
(800) 226-7625

[www.fullsail.edu](http://www.fullsail.edu)

» Full Sail offers associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees designed for the world of entertainment, media, arts and technology. On-campus and online degree programs are available in areas related to art and design, business, film and television, games, media and communications, music and recording, sports, and technology. Full Sail students can thrive on the "not your average college campus" with Hollywood-style sets, 3D-printing labs, game design studios, plus acres of creative spaces.

Discover more on p. 43

### **Herzing University\***

Winter Park

[www.herzing.edu](http://www.herzing.edu)

### **Johnson & Wales University\***

North Miami

[www.jwu.edu](http://www.jwu.edu)

### **Johnson University Florida\***

Kissimmee

[www.johnsonu.edu](http://www.johnsonu.edu)

### **Miami International University of Art & Design\***

Miami

[www.artinstitutes.edu/miami](http://www.artinstitutes.edu/miami)

### **Rasmussen College**

Orlando, Fort Myers, Land O'Lakes, New Port Richey, Ocala, Tampa/Brandon

[www.rasmussen.edu](http://www.rasmussen.edu)

### **South University\***

Orlando, Tampa, West Palm Beach

[www.southuniversity.edu](http://www.southuniversity.edu)

### **Southern Technical College**

Auburndale, Brandon, Fort Myers, Orlando, Port Charlotte, Sanford, Tampa

[www.southernstech.edu](http://www.southernstech.edu)

### **Strayer University**

Tampa, Baymeadows, Fort Lauderdale, Maitland, Miramar, Orlando, Palm Beach Gardens

[www.strayer.edu](http://www.strayer.edu)

### **Trinity Baptist College\***

Jacksonville

[www.tbc.edu](http://www.tbc.edu)

### **Trinity International University\***

Miami, Fort Lauderdale

[www.tiu.edu](http://www.tiu.edu)

### **University of Phoenix**

Jacksonville, Miramar, Orlando, Temple Terrace

[www.phoenix.edu](http://www.phoenix.edu)

### **West Coast University**

Doral

[www.westcoastuniversity.edu](http://www.westcoastuniversity.edu)

**DATA KEY:** Enrollment: Full-time undergraduates, Fall 2018. Tuition/Fees: One academic year, Fall 2018-19. Room/Board: Double occupancy dorm room and meal plan for one year, 2018-19. Accepted: Percentage of first-time-in-college applicants admitted, Fall 2018. Deadline: Fall term. Data provided by ICUF.

\* = Non-profit

# GET SMART GUIDE

## PRIVATE CAREER / TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

The following is a sampling of nonpublic, postsecondary educational institutions licensed by the Florida Commission for Independent Education. Schools with the highest enrollment in each category are listed alphabetically. The main campus is listed first. A complete list is available at [www.fldoe.org/cie](http://www.fldoe.org/cie).

### **COSMETOLOGY / MASSAGE**

#### **American Institute of Beauty**

Largo, St. Petersburg  
[aibschool.edu](http://aibschool.edu)

#### **Aveda Institute**

Orlando, Clearwater, Davie, Jacksonville, Tallahassee  
[www.beaveda.com](http://www.beaveda.com)

#### **Beauty Schools of America**

Miami, Hialeah, Homestead, North Miami Beach, South Beach  
[www.bsa.edu](http://www.bsa.edu)

#### **Bene's Career Academy**

New Port Richey, Brooksville, Spring Hill  
[www.benes.edu](http://www.benes.edu)

#### **Boca Beauty Academy**

Boca Raton, Parkland  
[www.bocabeautyacademy.edu](http://www.bocabeautyacademy.edu)

#### **Cortiva Institute**

Orlando, Pompano Beach, St. Petersburg  
[www.cortiva.edu](http://www.cortiva.edu)

#### **Empire Beauty Schools**

Lauderhill, Lakeland, Tampa, West Palm Beach  
[www.empire.edu](http://www.empire.edu)

#### **Florida Barber Academy**

Plantation  
[www.floridabarberacademy.edu](http://www.floridabarberacademy.edu)

#### **Hollywood Institute of Beauty Careers**

Hollywood, Orlando, West Palm Beach  
[www.hi.edu](http://www.hi.edu)

#### **La Belle Beauty Academy**

Hialeah, Miami  
[www.labellebeauty.net](http://www.labellebeauty.net)

#### **Paul Mitchell The School**

Orlando, Fort Myers, Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa  
[www.paulmitchell.edu](http://www.paulmitchell.edu)

#### **Sunstate Academy\***

Clearwater, Fort Myers  
[www.sunstate.edu](http://www.sunstate.edu)

### **MEDICAL / HEALTH**

#### **Academy for Nursing and Health Occupations\***

West Palm Beach  
[www.anho.edu](http://www.anho.edu)

#### **American College for Medical Careers**

Orlando  
[www.acmc.edu](http://www.acmc.edu)

#### **American Medical Academy**

Miami  
[www.ama.edu](http://www.ama.edu)

#### **ATA Career Education**

Spring Hill  
[www.atafl.edu](http://www.atafl.edu)

#### **Cambridge College of Healthcare & Technology**

Orlando, Palm Beach  
[www.cambridgehealth.edu](http://www.cambridgehealth.edu)

#### **Concorde Career College**

Jacksonville, Miramar, Orlando, Tampa  
[www.concorde.edu](http://www.concorde.edu)

#### **Galen College of Nursing**

St. Petersburg  
[www.galencollege.edu](http://www.galencollege.edu)

#### **Jersey College**

Tampa, Jacksonville, Fort Lauderdale, Largo  
[www.jerseycollege.edu](http://www.jerseycollege.edu)

#### **Praxis Institute**

Miami, Hialeah  
[www.praxis.edu](http://www.praxis.edu)

#### **Saber College\***

Miami  
[www.sabercollege.edu](http://www.sabercollege.edu)

#### **Southeastern College**

Miami Lakes, West Palm Beach  
[www.sec.edu](http://www.sec.edu)

#### **Ultimate Medical Academy\***

Clearwater  
[www.ultimatemedical.edu](http://www.ultimatemedical.edu)

### **MULTIPLE OFFERINGS**

#### **ASA College**

Hialeah, Dania Beach  
[miami.asa.edu](http://miami.asa.edu)

#### **CBT College**

Miami, Cutler Bay, Hialeah  
[www.cbt.edu](http://www.cbt.edu)

#### **Florida Career College**

Orlando, Boynton Beach, Hialeah, Jacksonville, Lauderdale Lakes, Margate, Miami, Pembroke Pines,

Tampa, West Palm Beach  
[www.floridacareercollege.edu](http://www.floridacareercollege.edu)

#### **Florida National University**

Hialeah, Miami  
[www.fnu.edu](http://www.fnu.edu)

#### **Florida Technical College**

Kissimmee, Cutler Bay, DeLand, Lakeland, Orlando, Pembroke Pines, Tampa  
[www.ftccollege.edu](http://www.ftccollege.edu)

#### **Florida Vocational Institute**

Miami, Miramar  
[www.fvi.edu](http://www.fvi.edu)

#### **Fortis College & Institute**

Cutler Bay, Orange Park, Pensacola, Port St. Lucie  
[www.fortis.edu](http://www.fortis.edu)

#### **South Florida Institute of Technology**

Miami, Hialeah  
[www.sf-institute.com](http://www.sf-institute.com)

#### **Southern Technical College**

Orlando, Auburndale, Brandon, Fort Myers, Port Charlotte, Sanford, Tampa  
[www.southernotech.edu](http://www.southernotech.edu)

### **SPECIALIZED FIELDS**

#### **Aviation Institute of Maintenance**

Orlando  
[www.aviationmaintenance.edu](http://www.aviationmaintenance.edu)

#### **CDA Technical Institute**

Jacksonville  
[www.cda.edu](http://www.cda.edu)

#### **Jones Technical Institute\***

Jacksonville  
[www.jtech.org](http://www.jtech.org)

#### **Mech-Tech Institute**

Orlando  
[www.mtifl.com](http://www.mtifl.com)

#### **National Aviation Academy**

Clearwater  
[www.naa.edu](http://www.naa.edu)

#### **Tulsa Welding School**

Jacksonville  
[www.weldingschool.com](http://www.weldingschool.com)

#### **Universal Technical Institute**

Orlando  
[www.uti.edu](http://www.uti.edu)

## PUBLIC TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Public career and technical schools are administered by county school boards and are accredited by the Council on Occupational Education. Information provided by the Florida Department of Education, Division of Career and Adult Education.

### BAY COUNTY

**Haney Technical Center**  
Panama City  
(850) 747-5500  
[www.bayschools.com/htc](http://www.bayschools.com/htc)

### BRADFORD COUNTY

**North Florida Technical College**  
Starke  
(904) 966-6764  
[www.nftc.edu](http://www.nftc.edu)

### BROWARD COUNTY

**Atlantic Technical College**  
Coconut Creek  
(754) 321-5100  
[www.atlantictechnicalcollege.edu](http://www.atlantictechnicalcollege.edu)

**Sheridan Technical College**  
Hollywood  
(754) 321-5400  
[www.sheridanttechnicalcollege.edu](http://www.sheridanttechnicalcollege.edu)

**William T. McFatter Technical College**  
Davie  
(754) 321-5700  
[www.mcfattertechnicalcollege.edu](http://www.mcfattertechnicalcollege.edu)

### CHARLOTTE COUNTY

**Charlotte Technical College**  
Port Charlotte  
(941) 255-7500  
[www.charlottetechcollege.net](http://www.charlottetechcollege.net)

### CITRUS COUNTY

**Withlacoochee Technical College**  
Inverness  
(352) 726-2430  
[www.wtcollege.org](http://www.wtcollege.org)

### COLLIER COUNTY

**Immokalee Technical College**  
Immokalee  
(239) 377-9900  
[www.itech.edu](http://www.itech.edu)

**Lorenzo Walker Technical College**  
Naples  
(239) 377-0900  
[www.lwtc.edu](http://www.lwtc.edu)

### ESCAMBIA COUNTY

**George Stone Technical Center**  
Pensacola  
(850) 941-6200  
[www.georgestonecenter.com](http://www.georgestonecenter.com)

### FLAGLER COUNTY

**Flagler Technical Institute**  
Palm Coast  
(386) 447-4345  
[fti.flaglerschools.com](http://fti.flaglerschools.com)

### GADSDEN COUNTY

**Gadsden Technical Institute**  
Quincy  
(850) 875-8324  
[www.gadsdentech.org](http://www.gadsdentech.org)

### HERNANDO COUNTY

**Suncoast Technical Education Center**  
Brooksville  
(352) 797-7091  
[www.suntech.edu](http://www.suntech.edu)

### HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

**Aparicio-Levy Technical College**  
Tampa  
(813) 740-4884  
[www.goALTC.com](http://www.goALTC.com)

**Brewster Technical College**  
Tampa  
(813) 276-5448  
[www.brewster.edu](http://www.brewster.edu)

**Erwin Technical College**  
Tampa  
(813) 769-5180  
[www.erwin.edu](http://www.erwin.edu)

**Learey Technical College**  
Tampa  
(813) 740-7763  
[learey.mysdhc.org](http://learey.mysdhc.org)

### INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

**Treasure Coast Technical College**  
Vero Beach  
(772) 564-4970  
<https://tctc.indianriverschools.org>

### LAKE COUNTY

**Lake Technical College**  
Eustis  
(352) 589-2250  
[www.laketech.org](http://www.laketech.org)

### LEE COUNTY

**Cape Coral Technical College**  
Cape Coral  
(239) 574-4440  
[www.capecoraltech.edu](http://www.capecoraltech.edu)

**Fort Myers Technical College**

Fort Myers  
(239) 334-4544  
[www.fortmyerstech.edu](http://www.fortmyerstech.edu)

### LEON COUNTY

**Lively Technical College**  
Tallahassee  
(850) 487-7555  
[www.livelytech.com](http://www.livelytech.com)

### MANATEE COUNTY

**Manatee Technical College**  
Bradenton  
(941) 751-7900  
[www.manateetech.edu](http://www.manateetech.edu)

### MARION COUNTY

**Marion Technical College**  
Ocala  
(352) 671-7200  
[www.mariontc.edu](http://www.mariontc.edu)

### MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

**D.A. Dorsey Technical College**  
Miami  
(305) 693-2490  
[www.dorseytechnicalcollege.com](http://www.dorseytechnicalcollege.com)

**The English Center**  
Miami  
(305) 445-7731  
[www.tecmiami.com](http://www.tecmiami.com)

**George T. Baker Aviation Technical College**  
Miami  
(305) 871-3143  
[www.bakeraviationtechcollege.com](http://www.bakeraviationtechcollege.com)

### Lindsey Hopkins Technical College

Miami  
(305) 324-6070  
[www.lindseyhopkins.edu](http://www.lindseyhopkins.edu)

### Miami Lakes Educational Center & Technical College

Miami Lakes  
(305) 557-1100  
[www.miamilakes.edu/](http://www.miamilakes.edu/)

### Robert Morgan Educational Center & Technical College

Miami  
(305) 253-9920  
[www.robertmorgantech.net](http://www.robertmorgantech.net)

### South Dade Technical College

Homestead  
(305) 248-5723  
[www.southdadetech.edu](http://www.southdadetech.edu)

### OKALOOSA COUNTY

**Okaloosa Technical College**  
Fort Walton Beach  
(850) 833-3500  
[www.otcollege.net](http://www.otcollege.net)

### ORANGE COUNTY

**Orange Technical College**  
[www.orangetechcollege.net](http://www.orangetechcollege.net)

**Avalon - Winter Park**  
(407) 622-2900

**MidFlorida - Orlando**  
(407) 251-6047

**Orlando**  
(407) 246-7060

**Westside - Winter Garden**  
(407) 905-2018

**Winter Park**  
(407) 622-2900

### OSCEOLA COUNTY

**Osceola Technical College**  
Kissimmee  
(407) 344-5080  
[otec.osceolaschools.net](http://otec.osceolaschools.net)

### PASCO COUNTY

**Marchman Technical College**  
New Port Richey  
(727) 774-1700  
[mtec.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://mtec.pasco.k12.fl.us)

### PINELLAS COUNTY

**Pinellas Technical College**  
[www.pcsb.org/myptc](http://www.pcsb.org/myptc)

**Clearwater**  
(727) 538-7167

**St. Petersburg**  
(727) 893-2500

### POLK COUNTY

**Ridge Technical College**  
Winter Haven  
(863) 419-3060  
[www.polkedpathways.com/ridge-technical-college](http://www.polkedpathways.com/ridge-technical-college)

### Traviss Technical College

Lakeland  
(863) 499-2700  
[www.polkedpathways.com/traviss-technical-college](http://www.polkedpathways.com/traviss-technical-college)

### SANTA ROSA COUNTY

**Locklin Tech**  
Milton  
(850) 983-5700  
[www.locklintech.com](http://www.locklintech.com)

### SARASOTA COUNTY

**Suncoast Technical College**  
Sarasota  
(941) 924-1365  
[www.suncoast.edu](http://www.suncoast.edu)

### ST. JOHNS COUNTY

**First Coast Technical College**  
St. Augustine  
(904) 547-3282  
[www.fctc.edu](http://www.fctc.edu)

### SUWANNEE COUNTY

**Riveroak Technical College**  
Live Oak  
(386) 647-4200  
[www.riveroakcollege.com](http://www.riveroakcollege.com)

### TAYLOR COUNTY

**Big Bend Technical College**  
Perry  
(850) 838-2545  
[www.bbtc.edu](http://www.bbtc.edu)

### WALTON COUNTY

**Emerald Coast Technical College**  
DeFuniak Springs  
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# COLLEGE ADMISSIONS MADE EASIER

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## DATES AND DEADLINES

### SUMMER/FALL SEMESTER START

#### July 1

Summer/Fall Application opens

#### November 1

Priority admissions completion deadline

#### January 1

Priority deadline for financial aid consideration

#### January 15

Application completion deadline for students to qualify for admissions scholarships

#### March 1

Final application deadline

### SPRING SEMESTER START

#### February 1

Spring Application opens

#### October 1

Preferred admissions deadline

#### November 15

Application completion deadline

Find out how you can join the herd at [admissions.usf.edu/next](https://admissions.usf.edu/next)



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