



  
**Florida's**  
College & Career Planner  
**2017-2018**

  
**FloridaShines**



## Florida's College & Career Planner 2017-2018

One day, your goal will be to find a job in a career that you really want to pursue. The level of education you achieve can determine the type of job you will be eligible for (and your potential income).

Today, many careers in business, education, technology, and a host of other fields require you to have a four-year degree (Bachelor's degree). Some careers in medicine or law require you to have an advanced degree such as a Master's or Doctorate degree. Other professions such as nursing or law enforcement may expect you to have at least a two-year degree (Associate's degree). Particular jobs in the computer, automotive, or construction industries require their employees to have Industry Certification to gain entry into that profession. What will you need?

It's important to think about careers early and map out a plan so you reach the goals and income level you want to achieve. The decisions you make about the high school courses you take can make all of this happen.

This College and Career Planner is brought to you by the FloridaShines – Student Hub for Innovative Educational Services - so you can make informed decisions about your educational options and find the best option that fits your needs. It will walk you through the many opportunities available and lay out the key information you need to make your own college and career plan.

### Real Life Examples

People with a college education typically earn more money during a shorter span of time. Check out these examples:

#### Buying Groceries

Terry is a dental assistant (two years of college). Terry generally will earn enough money to buy groceries for a week after working only one day.

Sam is a high school graduate and works as a salesperson in a department store. To buy the same groceries, it generally takes Sam three days' pay.

#### Buying a TV

Jamie is a college graduate and works as an accountant (four years of college). Based on her salary, Jamie could buy a large screen TV using less than two weeks' pay.

Chris never went to college and works as a waiter. Based on his salary, Chris will have to work two months to buy the same TV.

### How much money do you plan to make? (median annual earning-2016)





## It's a Florida Thing

FloridaShines is an online academic support system for Florida's students – whether attending classes online or in the classroom. As a middle or high school student, you can:

- Explore career and academic options
- Access high school transcript information
- Evaluate courses completed against the requirements for graduation, college and career readiness, and Bright Futures Scholarships
- Search college and university profiles and degree offerings
- See requirements for admission and transferring
- Find college- and university-level distance learning courses
- Search library offerings
- Apply online for admission and financial aid
- And so much more!

FloridaShines is a service provided by the Florida Virtual Campus and funded by the Florida Legislature so you can make informed decisions about your education options and find the best option that fits you.

Go to [www.FloridaShines.org](http://www.FloridaShines.org) to learn more.

## Career Planning

Exploring careers has never been easier! All of Florida's middle, high school, college, and university students, as well as all Florida residents, can access **MyCareerShines** for free through the FloridaShines website or [www.MyCareerShines.org](http://www.MyCareerShines.org). You can take assessments to learn about yourself, explore careers and school options, and use the financial aid planning tools to research sources of aid, including scholarships. You can also search for jobs, develop a resume, and practice job interview skills. Your end result is a plan for your life that is compiled in your individual portfolio.

## Find Your Career Cluster

Careers that have something in common are grouped together. Go to [www.MyCareerShines.org](http://www.MyCareerShines.org) to find out more about each of the 17 career clusters listed below and select the one that fits you best. Knowing your career cluster can help narrow down careers and academic programs you may want to pursue.

- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, Audio-Video Technology and Communications
- Business, Management and Administration
- Education and Training
- Energy
- Finance
- Government and Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution and Logistics



**Your Education. Your State. Your Options.**  
You don't have to go too far in Florida to find an option that fits you!

## State Universities

Florida offers you 12 public universities, many with branch campuses and centers throughout the state. State universities offer Bachelor's degrees in addition to Master's, Doctorate, and Professional degrees through on-campus and distance learning (online) courses. Because space is limited at each university, students must compete to be admitted. Keep in mind that there are minimum requirements just to apply and a university can have additional requirements as well.

## State University System (SUS) Fast Facts

- In 2016, over 352,000 students were enrolled in Florida's state universities.
- Current tuition and fees for Florida residents averaged \$198 a credit hour or \$5,943 for 30 hours (2 semesters).
- The SUS offers 11 different honors colleges and programs.
- There are over 300 online degree programs offered at state universities in Florida.
- To meet minimum requirements for SUS admission, universities will evaluate a student's College Prep curriculum, Grade Point Average (GPA), and test scores on a college entrance exam (SAT, ACT).

## State University System Admission Requirements

To qualify to enter one of Florida's public universities, a student must meet the minimum requirements. Each university may have higher and/or additional requirements. Check the admissions pages for universities that you may be interested in attending:

**Florida A&M University**

**Florida Atlantic University**

**Florida Gulf Coast University**

**Florida International University**

**Florida Polytechnic University**

**Florida State University**

**New College of Florida**

**University of Central Florida**

**University of Florida**

**University of North Florida**

**University of South Florida**

**University of West Florida**



## The College Prep Curriculum

Students must complete at least 18 credits of high school work in the five academic core areas listed below in addition to two academic electives to meet minimum eligibility. Not all courses that count for your high school diploma in a core area count for university admission. Your school counselor can assist you in selecting the right types of courses that meet these requirements.

Core Area	Credits Required*
English/Language Arts	4 credits (3 with Substantial writing.)
Mathematics	4 credits (Algebra 1 and higher)
Natural Science	3 credits (2 with substantial lab components)
Social Science	3 credits
Foreign Language or American Sign Language	2 credits (in same language) or demonstrated competency to the second high school level or higher
Approved Academic Electives	2 academic credits (or 1 academic elective and 1 ROTC credit)
<b>Total:</b>	<b>18 credits</b>

\*Source: *Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook*

## What do Freshmen in Florida Universities Look Like?

Below are the average GPAs and test scores for Fall 2017 Newly Admitted First Time in College Students at each of Florida's public universities, provided by the state universities. These profiles show you how to prepare academically to be a competitive candidate at one of Florida's State Universities.

University	Middle Range SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	Middle Range SAT Math	Middle Range ACT	Middle Range GPA
FAMU	500 – 590	500 – 590	18 – 21	3.0 – 3.49
FAU	560 – 630	580 – 620	23 – 27	3.80 – 4.45
FGCU	550 – 620	530 – 600	21 – 26	3.42 – 4.22
FIU	590	590	21 – 23	4.13
FSU	620 – 690	610 – 680	27 – 31	4.0 – 4.5
NCF	630 – 710	580 – 690	26 – 31	3.77 – 4.36
POLY	540 – 650	540 – 660	24 – 29	3.47 – 4.26
UCF	620 – 700	610 – 700	26 – 30	3.7 – 4.3
UF	630 – 710	640 – 730	28 – 32	4.3 – 4.6
UNF	610 – 670	590 – 660	25 – 29	3.6 – 4.4
USF	610 – 680	600 – 680	26 – 30	3.90 – 4.43
UWF	592	574	25	3.8



## Did You Know?

The Talented Twenty Program (<http://www.fldoe.org/Talented20/>) guarantees you admission into a state university (not necessarily the university of your choice) if you:

- Graduate with a standard diploma from a Florida public high school
- Rank in the top 20% of your graduating class
- Complete all 18 college prep credits required for state university admission
- Take the ACT or SAT (no minimum score)
- Be eligible for college-level coursework in all areas (i.e., Meet Board of Governors college level competency per Board Regulation 6.008)

If you are seeking admission to a state university based on Talented Twenty, please know that space fills up at the universities early. You should try applying through the standard way first in order to have the best opportunity for housing and financial aid opportunities. Students seeking admission after June have very limited opportunities.

**Industry Certifications** add to a student's portfolio; however, it does not count as one of the Mathematics or Natural Sciences college prep credits expected for state university admission.

## Timing Is Everything

All state universities prefer students to apply in the fall for admission to the university. This means that students thinking about enrolling as a freshman in college fall 2018 should apply in the fall of 2017 (the earlier the better). Space is limited, plus financial aid and housing decisions are made in late fall or early winter. Students are encouraged to apply to more than one institution. Please see your school counselor regarding the possibility of receiving a waiver that might be used to waive a postsecondary institution's application fee.

## Want to Save Money?

Talk to your school counselor about the possibility of enrolling in "accelerated credit" while in high school so that you may be able to earn college credit while also meeting the requirements for your high school diploma. Advanced Placement, dual enrollment and International Baccalaureate courses are just a few of the possible ways to earn credit. Consider focusing on Florida postsecondary "general education core courses" in order to ensure that the credit will count no matter which public Florida postsecondary institution you attend.



## Florida Colleges

The Florida College System provides 28 public colleges and community colleges at 179 sites across the Sunshine State. Florida College System institutions offer a wide variety of degrees and certificates, as well as training to obtain Industry Certifications. Earning a two-year Associate in Arts degree enables a student to seamlessly transfer to a university. The Associate in Science degree prepares students to directly enter the workforce. Certificates offered in the Florida College System prepare students with specific skills to fill workforce needs. Many state colleges offer four-year workforce bachelor's degrees in high demand, high need areas!

**Broward College**  
**Chipola College**  
**College of Central Florida**  
**Daytona State College**  
**Eastern Florida State College**  
**Florida Gateway College**  
**Florida Keys Community College**  
**Florida SouthWestern State College**  
**Florida State College at Jacksonville**

**Gulf Coast State College**  
**Hillsborough Community College**  
**Indian River State College**  
**Lake-Sumter State College**  
**Miami Dade College**  
**North Florida Community College**  
**Northwest Florida State College**  
**Palm Beach State College**  
**Pasco-Hernando State College**  
**Pensacola State College**

**Polk State College**  
**Santa Fe College**  
**Seminole State College of Florida**  
**South Florida State College**  
**St. Johns River State College**  
**St. Petersburg College**  
**State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota**  
**Tallahassee Community College**  
**Valencia College**

Students entering the Florida College System are strongly encouraged to select a major or meta-major upon entering. Meta-majors are eight groupings of similar academic majors that have similar core English and Math courses. The eight meta-majors are: a) Arts, Humanities, Communication and Design; (b) Business; (c) Education; (d) Health Sciences; (e) Industry/Manufacturing and Construction; (f) Public Safety; (g) Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; and (h) Social and Behavioral Sciences and Human Services. Math course requirements differ based on chosen meta-major. Please talk with an advisor to ensure you are taking the correct math course for your meta-major.

## FindMyCollegeMajor

*FindMyCollegeMajor.org* allows Floridians to search by zip code for certificate and degree programs available at Florida College System institutions. *Findmycollegemajor.org* also provides students information on tuition and fees, average time to degree completion, along with workforce and average wage outcomes for graduates of programs.

## Florida College System Fast Facts

- In 2015-2016, over 800,000 students were enrolled either full-time or part-time in Florida state colleges.
- Students who earn an Associate in Arts degree from the Florida College System are guaranteed admission to the upper division of a state university or a Florida College System institution.
- The average cost of tuition is much lower in the Florida College System compared to private institutions and public universities.

## Florida College System Fast Facts

Florida colleges offer an "open-door" admissions policy, which guarantees admission to a Florida College System Institution provided you have completed any of the following:

- Earned a standard high school diploma
- Earned a high school equivalency diploma
- Previously demonstrated competency in college credit coursework
- Some programs may have additional entry requirements. Please check with the institution you are interested in attending for specific information.

Upon admission, private high school and home schooled students are required to take the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (P.E.R.T.), ACCUPLACER, or present scores on the ACT or SAT to determine appropriate course placement. Students who entered 9th grade at a Florida public high school in 2003-04 and thereafter, and earned a standard diploma from a Florida public school are not required to take a common placement test and are not required to take developmental education courses. These students are considered exempt or college ready.

Baccalaureate degree admission requirements depend on the program of study. Students seeking a Bachelor's degree in the Florida College System are encouraged to contact the college of interest.



## Career and Technical Centers

Florida also offers students 49 accredited career and technical centers throughout the state, which provide the education and certification necessary to work in a particular career or technical field. Programs are flexible for students and provide industry specific education and training for a wide variety of occupations.

### Career and Technical Center Fast Facts

- Over 52,000 students enrolled in a Florida public career and technical center during the 2015-2016 year.
- More than 10,000 Registered Apprentices participated in an Apprenticeship program at their chosen career and technical center during the 2016-2017 year.
- 31 school districts have one or more accredited career and technical centers.
- The Bright Futures Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award is available to assist with the payment of educational expenses.

District	Florida Technical Centers and Colleges
Bay	Thomas P. Haney Technical Center
Bradford	Bradford-Union Technical Center
Broward	Atlantic Technical College
	Sheridan Technical College
	William T. McFatter Technical College
Charlotte	Charlotte Technical College
Citrus	Withlacoochee Technical College
Collier	Immokalee Technical College
	Lorenzo Walker Technical College
Escambia	George Stone Technical Center
Flagler	Flagler Technical Institute
Gadsden	Gadsden Technical Institute
Hernando	Suncoast Technical Education Center
Hillsborough	Aparicio-Levy Technical College
	Brewster Technical College
	Erwin Technical College
	Learey Technical College
Indian River	Technical Center for Career and Adult Education
Lake	Lake Technical College
Lee	Cape Coral Technical College
	Fort Myers Technical College
Leon	Lively Technical Center
Manatee	Manatee Technical College
Marion	Marion Technical College
Miami-Dade	D.A. Dorsey Technical College
	George T. Baker Aviation Technical College
	Lindsey Hopkins Technical College
	Miami Lake Educational Center and Technical College
	Robert Morgan Educational Center and Technical College
	<b>Continued</b>



## Continued

District	Florida Technical Centers and Colleges
	South Dade Technical College
	The English Center
Okaloosa	Okaloosa Technical College
Orange	Orange Technical College
	Mid-Florida Campus
	Orlando Campus
	Westside Campus
	Winter Park Campus
Osceola	Technical Education Center of Osceola
Pasco	Fred K. Marchman Technical College
Pinellas	Pinellas Technical College
	Clearwater Campus
	St. Petersburg Campus
Polk	Traviss Technical College
	Ridge Technical College
Santa Rosa	Radford M. Locklin Technical Center
Sarasota	Suncoast Technical College
St. Johns	First Coast Technical College
Suwannee	Riveroak Technical College
Taylor	Big Bend Technical College
Walton	Emerald Coast Technical College
Washington	Florida Panhandle Technical College

## Independent Colleges and Universities

In addition to public colleges and universities, Florida offers 30 private, not-for-profit educational institutions, all based in Florida and accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). These schools serve more than 154,000 students across Florida at over 100 main and satellite campuses. Florida's independent colleges and universities award 25% of Florida's bachelor degrees and 1/3 of all degrees. They vary in enrollment size from 200 to 26,000 students. Florida's independent colleges and universities guarantee access for all state college graduates as well. More than 95% of full-time undergraduate students receive some form of financial aid. Admission requirements vary by school, so students must stay informed about what each program requires.

## U.S. Military Entrance

The U.S. Military branches offer another option for students after high school graduation. The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is the required entrance test to enlist in the U.S. Military. For more information on the ASVAB, please visit <http://www.military.com/ASVAB>.

Please visit the websites below for more information related to entrance requirements:

- United States Air Force (<http://www.airforce.com/>)
- United States Army (<http://www.goarmy.com/>)
- United States Coast Guard (<http://www.uscg.mil/>)
- United States Marine Corps (<http://www.marines.com/>)
- United States Navy (<http://www.navy.com/>)



## Improve Your Chances of Being Admitted!

There are many ways to challenge yourself in high school, and in some cases earn high school and college credits at the same time. Get to know the “lingo” so an opportunity doesn’t pass you by. Each of these options can help improve your chances of being admitted to a Florida college, university, or career and technical center.

Accelerated course options vary by school. Set up a time to speak to your school counselor about these possibilities at the high school you will or already attend:

- **Honors Courses:** Rigorous, accelerated learning in particular subject areas. Can be taken on a course by course basis.
- **Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:** A nationwide program sponsored by the College Board consisting of more than 30 college-level courses and exams offered at participating high schools. College credit is earned by passing a highly rigorous exam. High school credit may also be awarded. See your school counselor.  
(<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org>)
- **International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program:** A two-year, internationally recognized program of study which allows you to earn college credit. Credit is earned by passing a highly rigorous exam.  
(<http://www.ibo.org/general/who.cfm>)
- **Dual Enrollment and Early Admission:** Take college courses at your local college, university, or technical center while you are still in high school. Earn college credits toward a certificate, Associate, or Bachelor’s degree. Remember that these courses begin your college grade point average. Grades count!  
(<http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5421/urllt/DualEnrollmentFAQ.pdf>)
- **Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE):** An internationally recognized program of study that can earn students up to one year of college credit. Credit is earned by passing a highly rigorous exam.  
(<http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/uppersec/aice>)
- **The International General Certificate of Secondary Education (Pre-AICE) Program (IGCSE):** Designed for students in grades nine and ten to prepare them for the AICE Program. College credit is typically not awarded for this program level. (<http://www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-secondary-2/cambridge-igcse/>)
- **College Level Examination Program (CLEP):** College credit is earned by passing a nationally standardized exam. High school credit may also be awarded. See your school counselor. There is no associated course or curriculum involved with the CLEP exam. (<http://clep.collegeboard.org/>)
- **Industry Certifications:** Industry Certifications are awarded by third-party entities for the successful demonstration of skills and competencies aligned to a designated career field. Students can get prepared to take industry certification exams while taking high school courses and even earn credit for high school graduation requirements by passing select industry certification exams. These credentials are industry-recognized and portable within Florida and, in most cases, to other states. Some Industry Certifications can lead to college credit towards an Associate degree at a college. Check out the list of Industry Certification Programs now available from many Florida public high schools.  
(<http://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-technical-edu-agreements/industry-certification.shtml>)
- **Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID):** A concentration of electives which promote college readiness can begin as early as elementary school and provide academic support through college. (<http://www.avid.org/about.ashx>)
- **Florida Virtual School (FVS):** Florida also offers students accelerated coursework through online learning. Courses include honors and AP levels. (<http://www.flvs.net>)



## My Way to Pay

You don't need to win the lottery to go to college in Florida! Every student can get some type of financial aid regardless of age or income as long as you meet some basic eligibility requirements. Use this money to help pay for your tuition, housing, books, and even living expenses while you attend a college, university, or career and technical center. Don't be shy! Last year, students in the United States received over \$200 billion in financial aid to pay for these programs, so take advantage of the opportunities that can make your education goals a reality!

There are several different types of financial aid, and you can earn more than one type. You just need to become familiar with what is available so you don't miss out!

## Types of Financial Aid

Scholarships	Grants	Work Study	Loans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Free money!</li><li>• Requirements for each scholarship must be met (academic, background, need, athletic, and/or program of study).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Free money!</li><li>• Does not need to be repaid.</li><li>• Provided by state and national sources.</li><li>• Amounts vary based on need, school cost, and/or enrollment status.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Earned money!</li><li>• Does not need to be repaid.</li><li>• Provided by state and national sources.</li><li>• Amounts vary based on need.</li><li>• School pays student to work part-time job on campus or within a community based program.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Borrowed money!</li><li>• Must be repaid with interest.</li><li>• Students or parents can borrow money to help pay for a student's college, university, or career and technical education.</li></ul>
<b>Example: Bright Futures Scholarship Program</b>	<b>Example: First Generation Matching Grant Program</b>	<b>Example: Federal Work Study Program</b>	<b>Example: Federal Perkins Loans</b>

## Finding Your Financial Aid

You have to rely on accurate information if you want to get the most money. Start by reviewing state and federal financial aid web sites.

- U.S. Department of Education Financial Aid (<http://studentaid.ed.gov/>)
- Florida Department of Education Financial Aid (<http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/>)

## Applying for Financial Aid

After a student has applied for admission to a future college, university, or career and technical center, the next step is to fill out financial aid applications. This is usually done after January 1 of your senior year. There are two applications you'll need to complete and both are available online:

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>)
- Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) ([https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/ua/sawstua\\_uaform.asp](https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/ua/sawstua_uaform.asp))



## The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

Florida has over 12 different scholarship and grant programs to help you pay for college. One of the most recognized programs is the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program (<http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf/>) that is made possible with proceeds from the Florida Lottery. This money can be used at a Florida university, college, or even a career and technical center.

As a Florida resident, you could earn Bright Futures scholarship money if you meet certain general and specific requirements. These requirements can change after each Legislative session, so it's important to stay aware of all the necessary details.

## Bright Futures Scholarship Award Requirements

Each Bright Futures scholarship award has its own academic eligibility requirements and award amounts. Here is a quick overview of the academic requirements for the Bright Futures Scholarships for students graduating in 2017-18:

Criteria	Florida Academic Scholars (FAS)	Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)	Gold Seal Vocational Scholar (GSV)	Gold Seal CAPE Scholar (GSC)
<b>GPA (weighted)</b>	3.5	3.0	3.0 weighted in core credits and a 3.5 unweighted in three CTE credits in one vocational program (taken over two academic years)	
<b>Required Credits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 English (3 with substantial writing)</li> <li>• 4 Mathematics (at or above Algebra 1 level)</li> <li>• 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)</li> <li>• 3 Social Science</li> <li>• 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 English (3 with substantial writing)</li> <li>• 4 Mathematics (at or above Algebra 1 level)</li> <li>• 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)</li> <li>• 3 Social Science</li> <li>• 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language)</li> </ul>	Courses required for high school graduation. Please refer to the appropriate requirements for the entering high school 9th grade cohort: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.fldoe.org/bij/studentpro/grad-require.asp">http://www.fldoe.org/bij/studentpro/grad-require.asp</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Test Scores</b>	1290 SAT or 29 ACT	1170 SAT or 26 ACT	SAT Critical Reading: 440 SAT Math: 440 or Rev. SAT Reading Test – 24 Rev. SAT Language Test – 25 Rev. SAT Math Test – 24 or ACT English: 17 ACT Reading: 19 ACT Math: 19 or P.E.R.T. Writing: 103 P.E.R.T. Reading: 106 P.E.R.T. Math: 114	
<b>Community Service Hours</b>	100 hours	75 hours	30 hours	30 hours



## High School Graduation

All of the resources outlined in this document have led up to one thing: creating your own career and education plan for high school. This plan should include your intended standard high school diploma option, graduation plan, career cluster, graduation goal, intended postsecondary major or meta-major and the courses you will take in order to earn your diploma.

## Diploma Options

Florida provides several different standard diploma options to all high school students. Each involves a set of minimum requirements established by the Florida Legislature. It is important to talk to your school counselor and stay informed about what you will need to achieve your goals. The pathways to earn a standard diploma include the following:

- 24-credit option
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) option
- AICE curriculum
- IB curriculum

## Graduation Plan

The 24-credit option is by far the most popular option. When a standard diploma is selected, you can choose to include course requirements for College Prep, Career Prep, or both. For example, if you plan to attend a state university to pursue a 4-year Bachelor's degree, selecting the College Prep or College & Career Prep plan will include the course requirements for state university admission, two of the higher Bright Futures Scholarship awards, and high school graduation. The chart below shows the various graduation plans available for a standard diploma.

Course Requirements Met by Graduation Plan	College Prep	Career Prep	College & Career Prep
State University Admission	X		X
Florida College Admission	X	X	X
Technical Center Admission	X	X	X
Bright Futures Scholarship - Florida Academic Scholars Award	X		X
Bright Futures Scholarship - Florida Medallion Scholars Award	X		X
Bright Futures Scholarship - Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award		X	X
High School Graduation	X	X	X

**Note:** Graduation plans are based on a 24-credit standard diploma only; additional requirements (beyond courses) may apply such as GPA, test scores, and community service. Speak with your school counselor and use the [Bright Futures Scholarship Eligibility Evaluation](#) and [High School Academic Progress Evaluation](#) on [www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org) to monitor your progress.



## High School Graduation Requirements

The chart below outlines the minimum 24-credit option standard diploma requirements for Florida public school students. It is important to note that individual high schools may have additional requirements and you should always consult your school counselor for assistance.

## High School Graduation Requirements

### 4 Credits English Language Arts (ELA)

- ELA I, II, III, IV
- ELA honors, AP, AICE, IB and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement.

### 4 Credits Mathematics

- One of which must be Algebra I and one of which must be Geometry.
- Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry).

### 3 Credits Science

- One of which must be Biology I, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses.
- Two of the three required credits must have a laboratory component.
- An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I).
- An identified rigorous computer science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I).

### 3 Credits Social Studies

- 1 credit in World History
- 1 credit in U.S. History
- 0.5 credit in U.S. Government
- 0.5 credit in Economics with Financial Literacy

### 1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts\* 1 Credit Physical Education\*

- To include the integration of health
- \* Special note: Eligible courses and eligible course substitutions are specified in the Florida Course Code Directory.

### 8 Elective Credits 1 Online Course Within the 24 Credits

- Students must meet the state assessment requirements (see left column).
- Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.



College Prep	Career Prep	College & Career Prep
3 credits in core academic areas	3 credits in single vocational/career education program	3 credits in core academic areas
2 credits in single World Language	5 credits in electives	2 credits in single World Language
3 credits in academic electives		3 credits in single vocational/career education program

## State Assessment Requirements:

Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- Grade 10 English Language Arts or a concordant score
- Algebra I end-of-course assessment or a comparative score

Information related to statewide assessment requirements is available in [Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments](#). See your school counselor for more information.

## GPA Requirement:

Students must receive a minimum of a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale to be eligible for graduation; State scholarships and state universities have higher GPA standards.

## Online Learning Requirement:

- At least one course within the 24 credits must be completed through online learning. Students may also satisfy this requirement with completion of
  - A blended learning course;
  - A course in which a student earns a nationally recognized industry certification in information technology that is identified on the Career and Professional Education Act (CAPE) Industry Certification Funding List (s. 1008.44, F.S.); or
  - Passage of the information technology certification examination without enrollment in or completion of the corresponding courses. (There are 45 industry certifications that will satisfy this requirement identified in the primary career cluster area on information technology on the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List.)

## State University System (SUS) Admission Requirements:

Students wanting to gain admission to competitive universities such as those in the SUS must complete the College Prep or College & Career Prep credit requirements (wherein all courses earned must satisfy admission requirements) and achieve GPA and entrance exam minimums as set forth by the university. To determine which courses meet SUS admission requirements, use the Comprehensive Course Table at <https://sso.osfaffelp.org/BFIEHS/Course/ComprehensiveCourse>.



## Make a Career & Education Plan

The following pages provide specific graduation requirements for the 24-credit option to earn a standard diploma based on a student's ninth grade year. Using the resources in this document and assistance from your school counselor or parent/guardian, you can create an academic plan for high school, which meets your selected career and education goals. (also available in pdf form)

<b>Name</b>		<b>Date</b>
<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>School District</b>	<b>School Name</b>

Create an academic plan for high school which meets the selected career and education goals.

<b>Diploma Option:</b>	<b>Graduation Plan:</b>	<b>Career Cluster or Meta Major of Interest:</b>
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	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English				
Mathematics				
Science				
Social Studies				
Fine/Performing Arts				
Physical Education				
Electives				
Total Credits				

The course listed above are for planning purposes only and are subject to change.

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Counselor Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

Additional requirements (beyond courses) may apply such as GPA, test scores, and community services. Speak with your school counselor and use Bright Futures Scholarship Evaluation and High School Academic Progress Evaluation on [www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org) to monitor your progress. When selecting dual enrollment courses, be aware of general education, meta-major math gateway course requirements, and common prerequisite requirements for your intended program.