



Class of 2027 - College Application Reminders

Important Reminders, Guidelines, and Deadlines | October 9, 2026

Dear Seniors and Families,

We are excited to share this important update as you continue your senior journey! This guide includes key reminders, resources, and upcoming deadlines to support you through the college application, scholarship, and financial aid process. Please review the information carefully and keep it handy throughout the rest of the semester.

1. Florida State University System (SUS) Matrix

Each year, the Office of the Board of Governors, in collaboration with state university admissions directors, publishes the State University System of Florida Admission Tour Matrix. Please refer to the guide below to review the admitted student profiles of each school.

 [The SUS Matrix 2026 Link](#)

2. College Application Boot Camp

Do you need help with your college applications? We have three more sessions available! Please see the attached document for dates and times.

 [College Application Boot Camp Schedule Link](#)

Want a basic overview and to-do list? View this document: [College Application Basics -- To-Do List](#)



CRITICAL ESSAY HELP DEADLINE

The last day for College Essay Help will be at the October 26 Boot Camp.

3. Schedule Changes After Submitting Applications

If you make any schedule changes after submitting your college applications, you **must notify the colleges**. This includes dropping or replacing classes that were initially listed on your application. Some schools may require prior approval before making any changes, so contact your colleges before adjusting your schedule.



4. FLVS / Online Platforms & Course Requirements

Guidelines for students taking courses through FLVS, Canvas, Palm Beach Virtual, Edgenuity, or outside platforms:



STRICT RANKING DEADLINE: DECEMBER 18, 2026 AT 11:59 PM

If you are completing a course that you wish to be considered with your first semester grades for ranking purposes, your teacher **MUST SUBMIT** your grade **NO LATER** than December 18, 2026, by 11:59 pm.

Any grade issued after December 18 will not be considered, even if you completed the course.

Please ensure that you contact your instructor to confirm that the grade is posted by the deadline. If you foresee an issue, please contact your counselor before the deadline.

- **Physical Education (PE) Course Deadline:** If you are currently enrolled in a PE course, you must complete it by January 4th, or it will be listed on your schedule.
- **Academic Progress & Graduation:** Please ensure you are making adequate progress in online classes to be on track for graduation and college admissions. This includes foreign-language courses required for college admissions.

5. Common App Requests

- **Counselor Invitations:** Students must invite their counselor to the Common App at least two weeks prior to their first application deadline. Your counselor must be invited to submit the required documents. Check with your counselor to ensure you added her correctly if you did not receive an email confirmation.
- **Remember to complete your “Admissions Term” and “Start date” for each school.**
- **Official Transcripts:** Students must also request an official transcript for the counselor to complete the school report. Select the option: Official electronic (at no charge) to be sent to the counselor to upload to the portal (Common App, Coalition, etc.; only 1 needs to be ordered for all schools listed on the portal) on the Transcript Request Form.

6. Request to remove test scores (PSAT/SAT/ACT/CLT) from the transcript

This process is handled at the district level. To request removal, the parent must submit the following form:

- [How to Request to Remove Test Score\(S\) from Transcript Fillable Form](#)

7. Transcript Request Guidelines & Procedures

Please review the instructions and important guidelines below before submitting transcript requests:

- **Submission Form:** Request transcripts by completing the [Transcript Request Google Form](#).



- **Fee & Payment Receipt:** All electronic transcripts are FREE. Students must pay a \$3.00 fee for each hard copy transcript and must pay it on School Cash Online prior to completing the Google Form.
- **Processing Lead Time:** Allow a minimum of 48 hours to 3 working days' advance notice for processing.
- **Application Portals:** Please indicate which application portal you are using. Once received from Ms. Bullock, your counselor uploads transcripts electronically for Common App, Coalition, SendEDU, and the Common Black College Application.
- **Florida Public Universities (STARS):** Florida Public Universities mainly accept the Self-reported Transcript and Academic Record System (STARS) instead of the transcript. Please check each school portal. Students must submit their STARS by the application or materials deadline (check the school's site for important deadlines) and MUST link STARS to the university once given access through the university's online portal.
- **Dual Enrollment Transcripts:** Dual enrollment transcripts must be sent directly from PBSC, FAU, UF, or other post-secondary programs to the university via their respective websites.



IMPORTANT ACCURACY CHECK

Please check SIS for accuracy before requesting your official transcript.

8. Recommendation Letters & Counselor Deadlines

- **Submission Process:** If you need a letter of recommendation (LOR), email your resume directly to your counselor and complete the letter of recommendation survey on Xello (located under the 'HOME' tab).
- **Florida Public Schools Exception:** Florida public schools do not require or accept letters of recommendation.
- **Survey Completion Guidelines:** Provide as many details as possible for the first six questions (the last two questions are optional). We strongly recommend that you complete the survey as soon as possible, regardless of your deadline.
- **Deadlines School Reports & LORs:** Some colleges/universities require a School Report by the October 15 deadline; however, the LOR is required on the Counselor's end (ie: the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of Texas at Austin).

Counselor Supporting Documents Deadline Schedule

Application Deadline	Counselor Supporting Documents Deadline
October 15th	October 1st
November 1st	October 15th
November 15th	October 31st
December 1st	November 14th
January 1st	December 5th



APPLICATION SUBMISSION POLICY

Please note that the submission of your application is NOT contingent upon your Counselor's submission of documents for your Common App — your Counselor's deadline may differ from yours.

Please submit your application first; thereafter, your Counselor will submit your documents according to their deadline.

9. Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Application

- **Application Opening Date:** The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship application opened on October 1st!
- **In-Class Assistance:** Counselors will assist you in signing up during your English class in late November/early December.
- **Official Website & Resources:** For more information, please visit the Florida Department of Education's Bright Futures website at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAids.org.

10. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

 [Financial Aid Coffee Talk SY27 Presentation Link](#) | [Recording Link](#)

2027-2028 FAFSA® Form Availability

The 2027-2028 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) is now available.

How To Prepare for the 2026–2027 FAFSA® Form

Here are key ways to get ready:

- **Create Account:** Create a StudentAid.gov account (if you don't already have one).
- **Gather Documentation:** Learn about the documents you may need to fill out the FAFSA form.
- **Determine Dependency Status:** Determine your dependency status and whether your parent(s) or spouse will be required to contribute information on your FAFSA form.
- **Identify Contributors:** If you're a dependent student, use the 'Who's My FAFSA Parent?' wizard to identify which parent(s) will be a required contributor on your form.

11. Scholarships & External Search Platforms

DSOA Scholarship Newsletter

Our [DSOA Scholarship Bulletin](#) is your go-to resource for current listings and application deadlines. **Access note:** The scholarship list is hosted on Gamma, which may be blocked on school Chromebooks. If you cannot open the link, please use a personal device, such as a phone, tablet, or home computer.

In addition, students are encouraged to explore other scholarship search platforms:



- [Fastweb](#)
- [Scholarships.com](#)
- [College Board's BigFuture](#)
- [Apply](#)

12. Contact & Assistance

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact your school counselor directly.