POST-SECONDARY ADMISSIONS PROCESS AND BF SCHOLARSHIP

BHS School Counseling

CHECK HAC TO VIEW COURSE REQUESTS!

- Log into student HAC account
- Click Classes button
- Click Schedule tab
- Need to change anything?
  - Fill out appropriate form on course selection website
- Parking passes are sold out at this point. If you didn't already pay for one see Mr. Sirak to get on the wait list. If you don't get a parking pass and you have modified, then you will need to drop your modified classes or your parents will need to pick you up every day.

Bright Futures Student Evaluation Information

Section 1

- Make sure your name is correct
- You must send your ACT and SAT and CLT scores to a public Florida University for it to show up on your evaluation (The February ACT will not be on this evaluation because this evaluation was done before the test)
- You must turn in all service or work hours directly to Mrs. Davis in the 2nd floor office for service hours to show up on your evaluation. You need 100 work or service hours for the scholarship that pays the most money.

Section 2

- Three columns for three award levels: FAS will pay the most money, so that should be your goal. You can see what you're missing in each column. Everyone is missing credits at this point because you still have one more year of high school.

Section 3

- This is your transcript data that Bright Futures uses to evaluate your GPA. Remember, Bright Futures calculates GPA differently than high schools. If you want to bring up your BF GPA, retake any classes you earned a D or F in on FLVS

Evaluation Key - https://www-bhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2023/04/Bright-Futures-Evaluation-Key.pdf

Bright Futures Requirements

Type	16 High School Course Credits [1]	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT®/CLT®/SAT®)	Volunteer Service Only	Paid Work Hours Only	Combination of Volunteer/ Paid Hours
FAS	4 - English *(three must include substantial writing)* 4 - Mathematics *(at or above the Algebra I level)* 3 - Natural Science *(two must have substantial laboratory)*	3.50	2023-24 Graduates: 29/96/1340 2024-25 Graduates: 29/96/1340	100 hours	100 hours	100 hours
FMS	3 - Social Science 2 - World Language *(sequential, in same language)*	3.00	2023-24 Graduates: 25/84/1210 2024-25 Graduates: 25/84/1210	75 hours	100 hours	100 hours

Gold Seal Vocational Scholar (GVS) can only be used to fund a career education, AS, or certificate program.

Bright Futures Information

You must apply for the scholarship by submitting a completed Florida Financial Aid Application on or after October 1 of senior year

Your goal should be to have all community service or work hours completed by the end of junior year

Bright Futures GPA is NOT the same as BHS GPA

Bright Futures weighs honors, AP, AICE and dual enrollment classes equally with 0.5 per credit earned – NOT 1.0 weight for AP/AICE or DE!

Bright Futures will also accept two additional academic electives toward the GPA calculation if it benefits the student.

"Bright Futures" receives student transcript information (courses, grades, and community service/work hours) twice a year when districts upload transcripts.

"Bright Futures" receives ACT and SAT and CLT test scores ONLY when students report scores to one of Florida's state universities

Bright Futures GPA cannot be viewed in HAC. Counselors do not have access to BF GPA

Students are permitted to use qualifying scores from the ACT and SAT and CLT until August after their graduating year.

If students use paid work experience only, OR a combination of community service and work hours to qualify for Bright Futures, it must be 100 hours – no matter the scholarship level.

Bright Futures Information

Stay on track for high school graduation

Take both ACT and SAT

Research and Visit Post-Secondary Schools

Earn 100 hours of community service or work hours

Complete grade forgiveness (as necessary)

Research what colleges want to see on your schedule for senior year (verify that your senior year schedule matches with what your #1 choice of college wants to see)

Reviewing Junior Year Goals

Reviewing your post-secondary options

Credential or Certificate

- Community/State College; example – FSCJ, SJRSC, J-Tech
  - Examples of careers: automotive, welding, HVAC, cosmetology, EMS, fire fighting

State College – (Two-Year, Associate Degree) – SJRCS, FSCJ, TCC, Valencia, Santa Fe

- **AS Degree** – Two-year degree then straight into the workforce
  - Examples of careers: nursing, air traffic controller, dental hygienist, radiological tech, IT
- **AA Degree** – Two-year degree that transfers to a four-year college/university to earn Bachelor's Degree

Four Year College or University (Four-Year, Bachelor's Degree)

- Master's Degree - Can be obtained after Bachelor's Degree
- Doctorate Degree - Can be obtained after Master's Degree
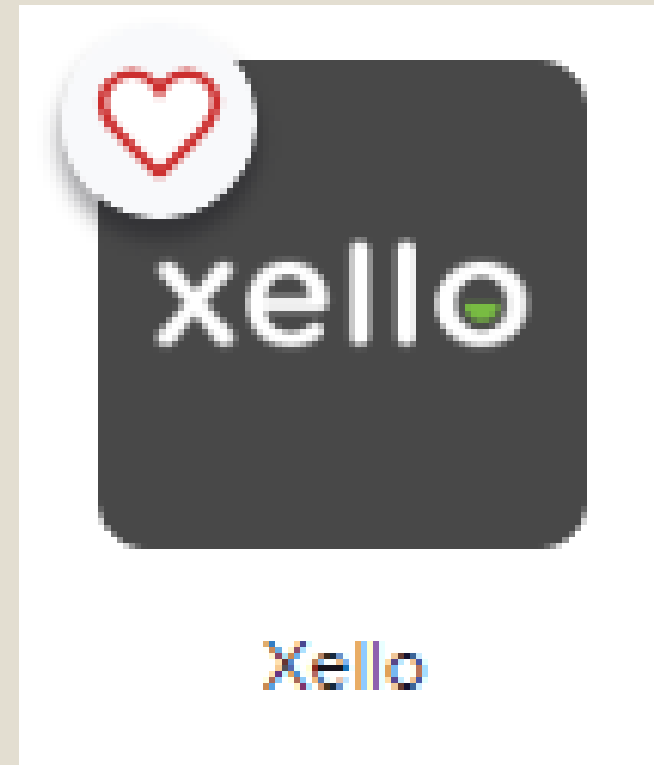
Military – ASVAB test

Applying to Post-Secondary Education

○ Begin the search process now
  ◦ Make a list of all colleges or postsecondary opportunities that are interesting to you
  ◦ The colleges that you are interested in can fall into one of the following categories:
    ◦ Match (your academic credentials fall well within the school's range for average freshmen)
    ◦ Reach (your academic credentials a little fall below the school's range for the average freshmen)
    ◦ Safety (your academic credentials fall above the school's range for the average freshmen)
  ◦ Request information about each college/vocational school
  ◦ If possible, visit colleges that you are interested in
○ You are applying to college/university with:
  ◦ Transcript/GPA through the end of Junior year
  ◦ ACT/SAT scores (deadline varies by college)
  ◦ **Strength of Senior Year Schedule**
  ◦ Activities/Resumes throughout High School

What to think about when researching post-secondary education

◦ What is the graduation rate?

◦ What is the cost?

◦ What is the percentage of students who come back after freshmen year?

◦ Does the college offer my major?

◦ Compare and research colleges
  ◦ https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/
  ◦ Xello (log in via Clever on Beachside website)

Xello

Get out paper for notes...

What are some things you will need to know when completing an application?

What do you need <u>before you start</u> the application process?

- Look at the websites of all the colleges you are applying to and make a list of the following:
  - Application deadlines
  - Admission essay requirement and topic
  - Letter of recommendation requirement
- Current academic history (you can view this in HAC on the transcript tab)
- Ordering transcripts via Parchment after August 1or via website before August 1- https://www-bhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/transcript-requests/
- ACT, SAT and/or PERT score reports (send score reports directly from your ACT or SAT account)
- List of extracurricular activities (inside and outside of school)
- High school code – 102-813
- Information about you
  - Social Security Number (memorized)
  - Parent(s)/Guardian(s) level of education, occupation, income

When to apply?

- **Scholarships**
  - There are scholarships you can apply for NOW as a junior and you should continue looking for scholarships throughout college

- **College/University/Vocational School**
  - By October 31 of senior year
  - Firm deadline vs. Rolling admissions (larger window, decision within a few weeks)
  - Even if the deadline is in May or the college is on a 'rolling admission', we suggest applying by Oct 31 for access to scholarships, housing, etc.
  - Can start as early as summer between 11/12 grade year – UNF 'Apply in July'
  - You are applying with the cumulative GPA from the end of junior year, ACT and SAT test scores obtained by August 2024 and strength of your senior schedule.

College Application Fees

◦ Colleges charge a fee to apply! Application fees vary but could be between $35-$50, depending on college

◦ SJRSC and FSCJ will come to BHS in March and will allow you to apply for FREE! So, pay attention to those dates when they are posted on Schoology!

◦ There is never a fee associated with scholarships

◦ SAT, ACT, or NACAC college application fee waivers can be used to waive college application fees

   ◦ If you took the ACT or SAT with a fee waiver, see your counselor about obtaining college application fee waivers.

◦ If using fee waivers (free and reduced lunch), contact each college to determine how they would like the fee waivers submitted. Every college has a different process.

ACT and SAT Score Reports

The only way a college will see your ACT/SAT score is if you SEND your scores to them! Do this for free when you register for your test or pay a fee afterwards.

ACT

- www.actstudent.org
- Log in and send your scores to the college(s) of your choice
- If you didn't send scores when you registered for the test, then this will cost money

SAT

- www.collegeboard.org
- Log in and send your scores to the college(s) of your choice
- If you didn't send scores when you registered for the test, then this will cost money

High School Transcript

◦ Official record of academic performance and testing history
  ◦ Different than a credit detail report that a counselor can print for you

◦ Request transcripts via Parchment after August 1or via website before August 1- https://www-bhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/transcript-requests/

◦ Check with the college or scholarship organization to determine how they want to receive the transcript
  ◦ Electronically
  ◦ US Mail

◦ Transcripts MUST be kept in sealed envelope, otherwise they are invalid

Letter of Recommendation

◦ Everyone will have to provide a transcript, but not necessarily a letter of recommendation

◦ Check to see if letter of recommendation is required

◦ Who should you ask to write a letter? Ask an adult in your life, who is not related to you, who knows you well and would say really nice things about you!

◦ Give them a resume or brag sheet of your achievements to help them

◦ Ask well in advance of the deadline – bare minimum 2 weeks

◦ Give instructions to writer about how to submit the letter of recommendation

  ◦ Directly to you?

  ◦ Uploaded electronically?

  ◦ Sent directly to college or scholarship organization?

◦ Send a thank you note!

Applications

- Two ways to apply to colleges:
  - Most colleges have their own online application or
  - Common App

- Submit the application and all other requirements before the deadline – these deadlines are firm!

- It would be helpful to have your parent/guardian close by while filling out applications

- Have your academic history, extra curricular activities, essays and ACT/SAT score reports with you while filling out the application

- Organize yourself – put all the information you need in one notebook/folder so that you'll have it handy

- Break down the application process in small chunks – you don't have to do it all in one day!

Get Organized !

Keep a folder/file/binder with everything that is needed to apply for multiple scholarships and colleges.

- Application deadlines
- ACT/SAT/ scores
- High school transcript (request from Parchment after August 1)
- Letters of recommendation (because you may be able to use one for multiple applications)
- Resume of activities, community service, and leadership roles
- Essays (because you may be able to use one essay for multiple applications)
- High school code – 102-813
- Parents level of education, occupation, income
- Memorize social security number

Get an appropriate e-mail address

- JohnSmith01@gmail.com (YES)
- BigDaddy01@gmail.com (NO)

UNF Preview Day and Apply in July!

◦ April 26 – UNF Preview Day - https://www.unf.edu/visit/junior-preview.html

◦ We haven't gotten official dates from UNF about Apply in July and they haven't updated their website yet but have verified with the rep that **it is happening again**.

◦ Students graduating from high school in 2025 can register for the Apply in July event to receive an early UNF admission decision! The event will take place throughout July at several locations.

◦ Students will need to submit the 2025 UNF institutional application, which usually opens July 1, as well as a copy of their 9th-11th grade transcript and SAT and/or ACT scores, prior to the event.

◦ https://www.unf.edu/visit/apply-in-july.html

US Service Academy Applications

United States Military Academy – West Point

United States Naval Academy

United States Air Force Academy

United States Merchant Marine Academy

◦ Click link/scan code for required documents and timeline for the nomination process:

◦ https://www.rickscott.senate.gov/services/academy-nominations

QUESTIONS?