



FYI – FCTC Showcase Field Trip

- Date: Thursday, November 5
- Time: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm
- What: An event to learn more about the programs at First Coast Technical College.
- How do you sign up: Go to the school counseling office during lunch to get a field trip form.
- Completed forms must be turned in by October 23

Available programs to visit:

- Automotive
- Agriculture
- Cosmetology
- Early Childhood Education
- Culinary Arts
- Surgical Technology
- Diesel
- Cybersecurity
- Dental Assisting
- EMT/Paramedic
- Practical Nursing
- Firefighter
- HVAC
- Welding
- Industrial Machinery Maintenance



FYI – College Application (and Bright Futures) Help Sessions

- October 8
 - Anytime between 4th, 5th, and 6th Periods
 - Media Center
 - Seniors should come during lunch or modified period or with a **pass from their teacher.**
 - Seniors will be able to work on college, post-secondary, and/or scholarship applications with help from their counselor.

FYI – Transcripts and Recommendation Letters

Transcripts

- Request all transcripts via Parchment



Recommendation Letters

- You must ASK for a letter. Don't just put our name down in CommonApp and assume that is it.
- If a letter is **required**, you must ASK.
- Then we will send you a brag sheet to fill out.



FYI – Turning in Acceptance Letters

- Turn in **ALL** letters – university, college, vocational, and military (even if you are not attending that school)
- They will be displayed outside the 1st floor offices
- How to turn in letters:
 - Email PDF (not screenshot) of all acceptance letters and scholarship offers to Ms. Cashwell OR
 - Make a copy of the acceptance letters and scholarship offers and drop them by Ms. Cashwell's office in building 4



Financial Aid

Beachside High School Counselors

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

- Must take ASVAB



What is Financial Aid?

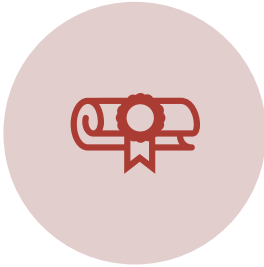
Financial aid is ANY Resource that can help you pay for college.

- Grants (you don't have to pay back)
- Loans (you DO have to pay back)
- Scholarships (you don't have to pay back)
- Work-Study (you don't have to pay back)

You can use financial aid to help pay for:

- Tuition
- Books
- Room & Board
- Supplies
- Transportation

Four Ways to Apply for Financial Aid



FEDERAL STUDENT
AID (FAFSA)



FLORIDA FINANCIAL
AID (FFAA, AKA
"BRIGHT FUTURES")



INSTITUTIONAL
FINANCIAL AID



SCHOLARSHIPS



Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Who should apply?
 - EVERYONE who wants to go to any type of school after high school, regardless of income
- When should you apply?
 - October of your senior year AND every year after that while enrolled in college (check with your college for specific deadlines)
- What does this application cover?
 - Grants, Loans, and Work-Study provided by the Federal Government
- What do you need?
 - <https://studentaid.gov/articles/things-you-need-for-fafsa/> - StudentAid.gov account, parent email address, federal income tax return (accessible online, records of child support, records of assets, list of schools you are interested in attending)
- How do you apply?
 - Go to <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
- If you are taking classes during the summer immediately after senior year, you ALSO need to complete the 2026-27 FAFSA form, which is open now.



Institutional Financial Aid

- Who should apply?
 - Talk to the college/university financial aid office to determine what programs you will qualify for
- When should you apply?
 - Contact college/university as every school has different deadlines
- What does this application cover?
 - Grants and Scholarships provided by the University or College
- What do you need?
 - Usually, the FAFSA must be filled out first but contact the college/university to find out more information
- How do you apply?
 - College and Universities generally have a separate application process for financial aid

Example of Institutional Financial Aid - SJRSC

This one application is for 200 scholarships

 / [Foundation](#) / Scholarships

Foundation

SCHOLARSHIPS

The SJR State College Foundation offers a wide range of scholarships each academic year, thanks to the generous contributions of individuals, families, businesses, non-profit organizations, and community partners who believe in investing in students like you. Their support helps open doors to education, eases financial burdens, and creates opportunities for success. Scholarship award amounts vary and are often based on factors such as academic achievement, donor-stipulated criteria, and financial need.

We invite you to apply for scholarships through our online portal system. One single application puts you in the applicant pool for [all scholarships](#).



Eligibility

New or returning SJR
State students

Full-time or part-time
students

Students with a **Minimum
2.0 GPA**

Students must complete the scholarship application and all acceptance steps if selected.



Application Window

Apply for Scholarships:
October 1 – June 1

Priority Review Deadline:
April 1

Students are encouraged to apply early and check back frequently, as additional opportunities may become available throughout the application period.



How to Apply

Complete the general application by logging in with your SJR State credentials.

[APPLY NOW!](#)

We recommend completing the [FAFSA](#) because some but not all scholarships require it.

CONTACT US

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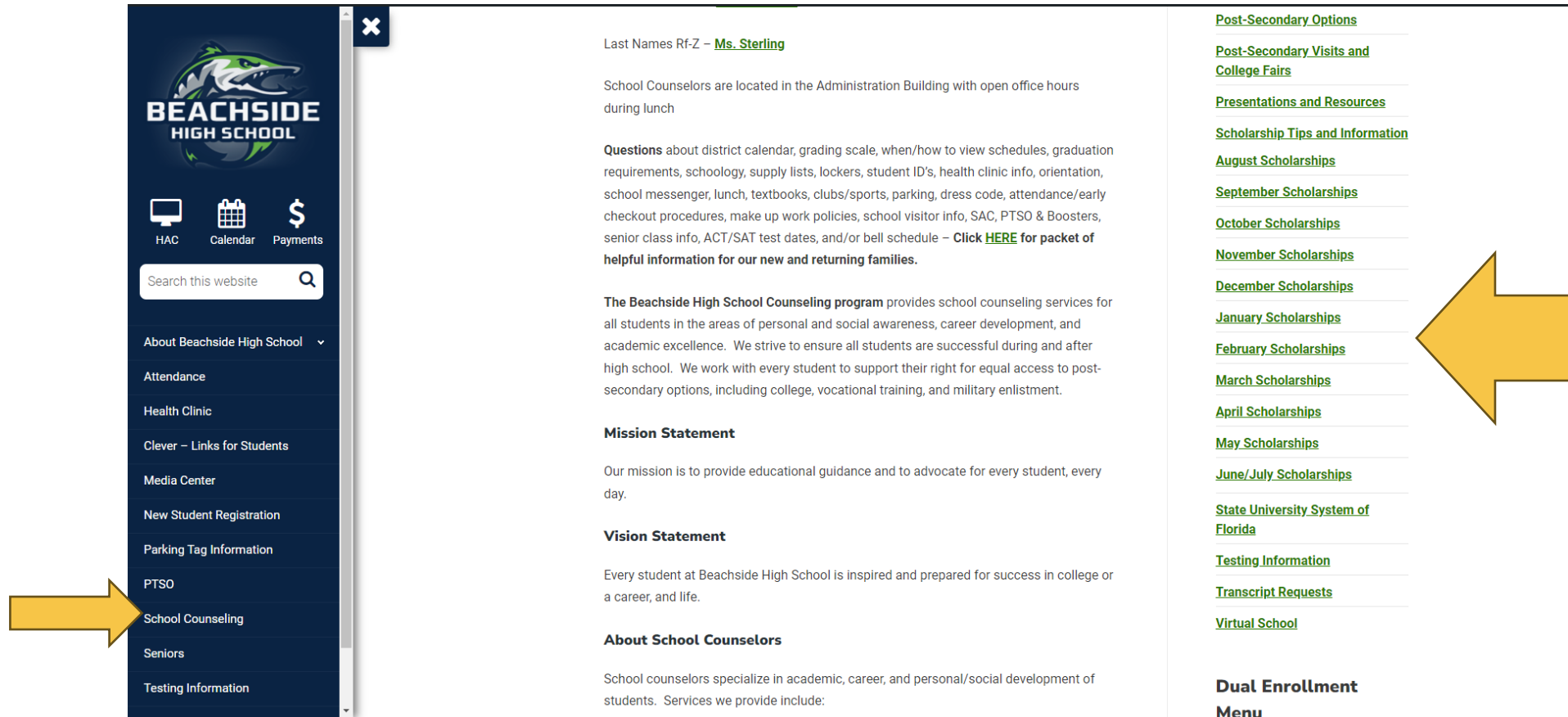




Scholarships/Private Aid

- Who should apply?
 - EVERYONE
- When should you apply?
 - Now and continue searching for scholarships even when you're in college
- What do you need?
 - Academic history, letter(s) of recommendation, essay(s), scholarship application, ACT and SAT scores
- How do you find scholarships?
 - <https://www-bhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/scholarships/>
 - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
 - <https://www.raise.me/join/5778868440>
 - <https://www.fastweb.com/>
 - <https://finaid.org/scholarships/>
 - Parents' Employers
 - Civic and church organizations

Scholarships on the BHS website



The image is a screenshot of the Beachside High School website. On the left is a dark blue sidebar with the school's logo at the top. Below the logo are icons for 'HAC', 'Calendar', and 'Payments'. A search bar is present. A yellow arrow points to the 'School Counseling' link in the sidebar menu. The main content area has a white background. At the top, it says 'Last Names Rf-Z - [Ms. Sterling](#)'. Below this, it states that school counselors are in the Administration Building during lunch. A paragraph follows, listing various resources available, with a yellow arrow pointing to the text 'Click [HERE](#) for packet of helpful information for our new and returning families.' Below this is a section titled 'The Beachside High School Counseling program' which describes the services provided. Further down are sections for 'Mission Statement' and 'Vision Statement'. At the bottom of the main content area is a section titled 'About School Counselors'. On the right side of the website is a vertical list of links under the heading 'Post-Secondary Options'. A yellow arrow points to the 'Post-Secondary Options' link at the top of this list. The list includes links for 'Post-Secondary Visits and College Fairs', 'Presentations and Resources', 'Scholarship Tips and Information', and a series of monthly scholarship links from August to June/July. Other links include 'State University System of Florida', 'Testing Information', 'Transcript Requests', and 'Virtual School'. At the very bottom right is a section titled 'Dual Enrollment Menu'.

BEACHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

HAC Calendar Payments

Search this website

About Beachside High School ▾

Attendance

Health Clinic

Clever – Links for Students

Media Center

New Student Registration

Parking Tag Information

PTSO

School Counseling

Seniors

Testing Information

Last Names Rf-Z – [Ms. Sterling](#)

School Counselors are located in the Administration Building with open office hours during lunch

Questions about district calendar, grading scale, when/how to view schedules, graduation requirements, schoology, supply lists, lockers, student ID's, health clinic info, orientation, school messenger, lunch, textbooks, clubs/sports, parking, dress code, attendance/early checkout procedures, make up work policies, school visitor info, SAC, PTSO & Boosters, senior class info, ACT/SAT test dates, and/or bell schedule – Click [HERE](#) for packet of helpful information for our new and returning families.

The Beachside High School Counseling program provides school counseling services for all students in the areas of personal and social awareness, career development, and academic excellence. We strive to ensure all students are successful during and after high school. We work with every student to support their right for equal access to post-secondary options, including college, vocational training, and military enlistment.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide educational guidance and to advocate for every student, every day.

Vision Statement

Every student at Beachside High School is inspired and prepared for success in college or a career, and life.

About School Counselors

School counselors specialize in academic, career, and personal/social development of students. Services we provide include:

Post-Secondary Options

[Post-Secondary Visits and College Fairs](#)

[Presentations and Resources](#)

[Scholarship Tips and Information](#)

[August Scholarships](#)

[September Scholarships](#)

[October Scholarships](#)

[November Scholarships](#)

[December Scholarships](#)

[January Scholarships](#)

[February Scholarships](#)

[March Scholarships](#)

[April Scholarships](#)

[May Scholarships](#)

[June/July Scholarships](#)

[State University System of Florida](#)

[Testing Information](#)

[Transcript Requests](#)

[Virtual School](#)

Dual Enrollment Menu

Scholarship Tips



Start searching for scholarships early and continue searching throughout college.



Apply to EVERY scholarship for which you are eligible.



Essays can be reused and tailored for each new application.



Review your social media accounts and remove inappropriate material.



Make sure you have an appropriate e-mail address.



Scholarships – Get Organized!

- Make a list of deadlines and don't miss them
- Keep a folder/file/binder with everything that is needed to apply for multiple scholarships.
 - ACT/SAT/CLT scores
 - High school transcript (request one from Parchment)
 - Letters of recommendation, **if required** (because you may be able to use one for multiple scholarships)
 - Resume of activities, community service, and leadership roles
 - Essays (because you may be able to use one essay for multiple scholarships)



Scholarships – Beware of Scams

- NEVER pay for scholarships or searches.
- Scholarships are never guaranteed.
- Feel too good to be true? Do more research and ask around.
- Trust your instinct.
- Scholarships are gifts; they never have to be repaid.
- Don't give out bank account, credit card, or social security information.



Florida Financial Aid

- Who should apply?
 - EVERYONE
- When should you apply?
 - Application opens October 1
- What does this application cover?
 - Grants and Scholarships provided by the State Government, including Bright Futures
- What do you need?
 - Helpful hints guide located here: <https://www.bhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2026/10/FFAA-Helpful-Hints-Class-of-2027.pdf>
- How do you apply?
 - Go to <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/>

Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) and Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) Award 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 <i>(three must include substantial writing)</i> 4 - Mathematics <i>(at or above the Algebra I level)</i> 3 - Natural Science <i>(two must have substantial laboratory)</i>	3.50	2026-27 Graduates ² : 29/95/1330 2027-28 Graduates ³ : 29/96/1350	100 hours	100 hours	100 hours
FMS	3 - Social Science 2 - Foreign/World Language <i>(sequential, in same language)</i>	3.00	2026-27 Graduates ² : 24/82/1190 2027-28 Graduates ³ : 25/83/1200	75 hours	100 hours	100 hours

100% of tuition and specific fees

75% of tuition and specific fees

Snapshot of Bright Futures



You must apply by submitting the Florida Financial Aid Application



The scholarship will renew automatically every year if the student maintains the required GPA and credit hours



Seniors should **try** to meet all Bright Futures requirements by the end of FIRST semester



You must have all service/work hours turned in by May 20, 2027



ACT and SAT exams taken through August 31, 2027 will be accepted for evaluation purposes. You must send your ACT and SAT scores to a public Florida University for it to show up on your evaluation

What should seniors do NOW to qualify for Bright Futures?



Complete the Florida Financial Aid Application today – even if you don't qualify yet



Review your Bright Futures student evaluation report in Xello



If you see any errors on section 3, notify your school counselor immediately



Take note of what is 'missing' to qualify for each award



Take steps to improve your Bright Futures GPA if it is borderline



Submit any remaining service hours/work hours by winter break



Take or re-take the ACT, CLT, or SAT and report your scores to a Florida public university



Bright Futures Early Evaluation

Students cannot lose an award based on early evaluation unless they fail to earn a standard Florida high school diploma from a Florida public or FDOE-registered private high school.

Early Evaluation is based on:

- Required coursework and GPA through 7th semester (1st sem of senior year)
- Coursework in progress for 8th semester (2nd sem of senior year)
- Service/work hours earned and turned in by December 18
- Test scores for tests taken by January 31
- Transcripts should be submitted within 30 days of the end of each semester (SJCS D will submit all senior transcripts to Bright Futures automatically)



Bright Futures Final Evaluation

Final Evaluation is based on:

- All required coursework and GPA completed by high school graduation
- Service hours completed and turned in by May 20, 2027
- Test scores for all tests taken through August 31 of high school graduation year
- High school graduation date associated with earning a standard high school diploma
- Transcripts should be submitted within 30 days of the end of each semester (SJCSD will submit all senior transcripts to Bright Futures automatically)



AICE Diploma Bright Futures Evaluations

- Students awarded an IB, AICE, or AP Capstone Diploma will receive notifications of eligibility determination from FLDOE in early fall after a list of IB, AICE, or AP Capstone Diploma recipients has been received from SJCSD.

Bright Futures Eligibility Notifications for Senior Year



Upon creation of a Student Account, students will receive a User Name and Password.



Students must check their online account for award notices – **students are responsible for keeping their demographic information updated and tracking their application and award status.**



Office of Student Financial Aid will post official award eligibility or ineligibility determinations to student online accounts.

Do Now:

- Scan QR code for Bright Futures Student Evaluation Key





Bright Futures Evaluation in Xello

HOW TO FIND YOUR BRIGHT FUTURES REPORT IN XELLO

Step 1 - Clever → Xello

Log in to Clever, then select Xello.

Step 2 - Goals & Plans

From the Xello home page, click Goals & Plans at the top of the screen.

Step 3 - College Planning

Under Goals & Plans, select College Planning.

Step 4 - Scholarships → Check Eligibility

Scroll to the Scholarships section. Find Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and click Check Eligibility.

Your Bright Futures Report will open and show your current progress toward earning a Bright Futures Scholarship.

Your report helps you track your progress toward requirements such as:

- Required coursework
- GPA
- Community Service/Work Hours
- SAT/ACT/CLT test scores

Bright Futures Evaluations in Xello

Instructions for Students:

- Once your **Bright Futures Report** has been uploaded to Xello you will access this from the **College Planning** page.
- Locate your College Planning page from your **quick links**, under **Goals & Plans**

The screenshot shows the Xello student dashboard for a user named Lauren. At the top, there's a navigation bar with icons for Home, About Me, Explore, and Plans. Below this, the user is greeted with "Hey Lauren!". A "To-do list" on the left shows progress on tasks like "Complete the Learning Style quiz (optional)", "Add 1 life experience", "Add 2 education experiences", "Add 1 work experience", and "Build your resume (optional)". A central menu has three tabs: "About me", "Explore options", and "Goals & Plans". The "Goals & Plans" tab is active and highlighted with an orange box, showing sub-links for "My goals and plans" and "College Planning", with an arrow pointing to "College Planning". At the bottom, there's a section for "The Real Game" with a "View game" link and a piggy bank icon.

- In the Scholarships section, click on “**Check Eligibility**” to open your report (don’t forget to also boost your Scholarship profile!)

COLLEGE PLANNING

This screenshot displays the "COLLEGE PLANNING" section of the Xello interface. It features a header for "College applications" with a "Create Your First Application" button and a "View My Applications" link. Below this is a "Scholarships" section showing "0 saved scholarships" and a "Boost your scholarship profile" button. A progress indicator shows "3 / 22". A prominent box highlights the "Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program", explaining that students must view their evaluation from May 21, 2025, to check eligibility. It provides contact information for the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) and includes a "Check eligibility" button with a progress bar.



Bright Futures Student Evaluation Information

- Section 1
 - Make sure your name is correct
 - You must send your ACT, CLT, and SAT scores to a public Florida University for it to show up on your evaluation. If you took the ACT, CLT or SAT after 6/1/2026 then it may not be on this evaluation.
 - You must turn in all service or work hours directly to Ms. Fortier in the front office for service hours to show up on your evaluation. You need 100 hours for the scholarship that pays the most money.
- Section 2
 - Three columns for three award levels. You can see what you are missing in each column.
- 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
- Bright Futures evaluations will be uploaded in Xello again in April

Let's apply for Florida Financial Aid together ...

- Go to this website - <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home>
- You can use your phone or laptop
- You will need access to your personal email address for a verification code
- The helpful hints guide is a step-by-step guide that will help you with every single question. Do not take it with you.



Let's apply for Florida Financial Aid together ...



Welcome to Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs

Students must submit a completed Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) to OSFA for programs denoted by an asterisk (*). In order to apply for State Scholarship & Grant Programs, a student must first **create an SSO Account** and a Student Profile.

First-Time Applicants

Students must submit a completed Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) to OSFA for programs denoted by an asterisk (*). In order to apply for State Scholarship & Grant Programs, a student must create an account in a multi-step process.

1. First, create your student account using the button below.
2. Second, create a Student Profile and submit a Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) by selecting the Student Sign-In button to continue.

Create Student Account →

Student Sign-In →

For assistance completing the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA), review the guide below for step-by-step instructions.
2027-28 FFAA Reference Guide

Returning Students

Students seeking to access their existing account must use the Student Sign-In button.

Here, students will be able to view and update state aid information on file using their Financial Aid Recipient History (FARH). Students can view program eligibility determinations, disbursement history, and correspondence history, in addition to updating personal demographic information and the postsecondary institution a student is planning to attend.

Student Sign-In →

For assistance with the student login process, use the Student Account Creation and Login Guide.
Student Account Creation and Login Guide

Check Your School Eligibility

Eligible High Schools

Verify if your high school is a participating Florida public or private high school.

Eligible Postsecondary Institutions

Verify if the postsecondary institution you are planning to attend is eligible to disburse state aid.

High Schools →

Postsecondary Institutions →

- Before verification code and Single Sign-On (SSO) is created, click “Create Student Account”
- After verification code and Single Sign-On (SSO) is created, click “Student Sign-In”
- The helpful hints guide is a step-by-step guide that will help you with every single question. **Do not take it with you.**

A decorative vertical bar on the left side of the slide, featuring a gold color and a pattern of various financial symbols including dollar signs, yen signs, and the hash symbol.

Issues with ACT/SAT Scores or need to update Social Security Number

- Contact Customer Service at 888-827-2004
- Email OSFA@fldoe.org

A decorative border on the left and right sides of the slide, featuring a repeating pattern of various currency symbols (dollar, euro, yen, pound) in a golden-yellow color.

Questions?

College Application/Bright Futures
Help Session: THIS WEEK
10/8 4th -6th periods

Open office hours during your lunch