

## A TIMELINE

### EIGHTH GRADE

- I. Begin to plan classes needed for high school  
Required Classes  
4 English  
3 Social Science  
3 to 4 Sciences  
4 Math (Algebra I and above)  
2 Foreign Language
- II. Explore interests and identify talents

### NINTH GRADE

- I. Focus on adjusting to high school and making good grades
- II. Register for scholarship searches such as fastweb.com
- III. Begin to job shadow or explore other careers.
- IV. Begin to visit colleges. Check out the web sites of the colleges that interest you. Take advantage of e-tours and get a virtual tour of the campus.
- V. Get involved in community service activities. Keep a log recording your activities.
- VI. Get involved in extracurricular activities.
- VII. Read!!! It's the best way to improve test scores.
- VIII. Plan summer activities that will increase your knowledge.

### TENTH GRADE

- I. Go to college fairs and begin a list of schools.

- II. Visit colleges
  - A. Make appointments with admissions counselors
  - B. Make a list comparing key points
- III. Take the PLAN (pre-ACT) and PSAT
- IV. Take the ACT and SAT
- V. Consider taking dual enrollment or AP classes

#### ELEVENTH GRADE

- I. Continue to take challenging classes.
- II. Take the PSAT/NMSQT
- III. After test preparation retake the SAT or ACT
- IV. Narrow down school choices.
  - A. Reach schools
  - B. Mid-range schools
  - C. Safety schools
- V. Begin to work on getting letters of recommendation.
- VI. Apply for schools that allow early application.
- VII. Sign up for the final ACT or SAT, if necessary.

#### TWELFTH GRADE

- I. If necessary, take the final ACT or SAT
  - II. Begin applying for colleges
    - A. Online applications
    - B. Transcripts (college and high school)
    - C. Write essays
    - D. Obtain letters of recommendation
    - E. Interviews
- FINISH ALL APPLICATIONS BY NOVEMBER 1

- III. Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- IV. After acceptance letters, apply for financial aid
- V. Make final choice and put down deposits on school and dorm

TAKE SUMMER OFF (MAYBE) AND GET READY FOR COLLEGE!!

### THREE SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID

- I. Private and Corporate Sponsors
  - A. Fastweb.com
  - B. Grants
- II. State and Federal Aid
  - A. Florida Bright Futures
  - B. Pell Grant and other Federal programs
- III. College Scholarships

### FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM ADMISSIONS

- 1. Size
- 2. GPA accepted for fall admissions
- 3. SAT accepted for fall admissions
- 4. Scores mixed
- 5. Essay
- 6. Classes weighted
- 7. Time to apply
- 8. Financial aid deadlines
- 9. Tuition and fees
- 10. Honors programs