

What Does “College and Career Ready” Mean?

Students are college and career ready when they have the knowledge, skills, and academic preparation needed to enroll and succeed in introductory college credit-bearing courses within an associate- or bachelor-level degree program without the need for remedial courses. Students need these same attributes and levels of achievement to enter and succeed in postsecondary workforce education programs or to obtain a job that offers a living wage and the chance for career advancement.

Middle School Promotion to High School

Promotion from a Florida public middle school to high school requires successful completion of all grade-level requirements (grades 6–8) in the public school district. Promotion from middle school requires that a student successfully complete the following courses:

- English – 3 middle school or higher courses
- Mathematics – 3 middle school or higher courses
- Social Studies – 3 middle school or higher courses, including one semester of study of state and federal government and civics education (beginning in 2014–15, a passing score on the Civics End-of-Course [EOC] Assessment)
- Science – 3 middle school or higher courses
- Career and Education Planning – 1 course (students will develop a personalized academic and career plan)

High School Graduation Requirements

Florida students entering high school may choose from the following options to earn a standard diploma:

- 4-year, 24-credit program
- 3-year, 18-credit college preparatory program
- 3-year, 18-credit career preparatory program
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Program
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program

All students, regardless of graduation program, must still earn a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale and achieve passing scores on the Grade 10 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test® 2.0 (FCAT) Reading and specific EOC assessments to graduate with a standard diploma.

For students who enter 9th grade, course credits required for the 4-year, 24-credit program and both 3-year, 18-credit accelerated programs options listed above include the following:

English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits to include the following: <i>2012–13 and beyond</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 credit in Algebra 1 by passing the EOC assessment • 1 credit in Geometry by passing the EOC assessment • 1 credit in Algebra 2
Science	3 credits to include the following: <i>2012–13 and beyond</i> 1 credit in Biology by passing the EOC assessment <i>2013–14 and beyond</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 credit in Biology by passing the EOC assessment • 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics or its equivalent • 1 credit in an equally rigorous science course
Social Studies	3 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 credit in World History • 1 credit in U.S. History • .5 credit in U.S. Government • .5 credit in Economics

In addition, credit requirements specific to the graduation program chosen include the following:

24-Credit Program	3 credits 1 credit in Fine or Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts 1 credit in Physical Education to include the integration of health 8 electives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one course within the 24-credit program must be completed through online learning (For students with disabilities, an Individual Educational Plan (IEP) team could make a determination to waive the online requirement if inappropriate)
3-Year, 18-Credit College Preparatory Program	2 credits in World Languages 2 credits in electives
3-Year, 18-Credit Career Preparatory Program	4 electives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 credits in single vocational/career education program and 1 elective credit OR • 3 credits in single career/technical certificate dual enrollment and 1 elective credit OR • 4 credits in vocational/career education (including 3 credits in 1 sequential career and technical education program)

Early Graduation

Students who complete a minimum of 24 credits, achieve a cumulative GPA of a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, and earn a passing score on the statewide assessments required for high school graduation have an option to graduate in fewer than eight semesters (four years).

Accelerated Programs for High School Students

Studies show that students who complete a solid academic program in high school, including advanced courses, are more likely to be successful in college. Florida provides several acceleration mechanisms that give students an opportunity to earn high school and college credit simultaneously. For more information on program availability, contact a school counselor.

Examples of acceleration mechanisms and advanced coursework options with specific website resources include the following:

IB Diploma Program <http://www.ibo.org>

AICE Program <http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/uppersec/aice>

- The International General Certificate of Secondary Education Program (IGCSE, known as Pre-AICE) is 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> (click on Cambridge Secondary 2 14–16 years)

Dual Enrollment and Early Admission
<http://www.fldoe.org/articulation/pdf/dualenrollfaqs.pdf>

Advanced Placement (AP) Program
<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html>

The Florida Virtual School (FLVS) offers students access to AP courses
<http://www.flvs.net>

Planning for Success

It is more important now than ever to plan ahead by selecting the right courses in high school. There are specific requirements for obtaining a high school diploma and qualifying for admission to a college or university. The Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC) provides a variety of online services for students from Florida’s public high schools, colleges, and universities. The FLVC’s academic advising services make it easy for high school students to prepare for college or a career after graduation. Students can monitor their progress by running evaluations against their transcript information and the requirements for high school graduation, college and career readiness, and Bright Futures Scholarships. For more information, visit <http://www.flvc.org>.

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) – Florida, Get Ahead of the Game!

College-bound student athletes will need to meet more rigorous academic rules to receive a scholarship at a NCAA Division 1 and 2 college or university. For information on the rules, visit <https://web1.ncaa.org/hsportal/exec/links?linksSubmit=ShowActiveLinks>.

Bright Futures Scholarship Requirements for 2013 Graduates

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program’s purpose is to reward students for their academic achievements during high school by providing funding to attend postsecondary education in Florida. Students who complete a standard diploma through any of the five options (including IB and AICE) may be considered for a Bright Futures Scholarship.

Florida Academic Scholar (FAS) and Florida Medallion Scholar (FMS) Awards Requirements include the following:

- 16 credits of college preparatory academic courses
- 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
 - 4 Mathematics (Algebra 1 level and above)
 - 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
 - 3 Social Science
 - 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language)

To be a Florida Academic Scholar: 3.5 weighted GPA in the above courses, 100 community service hours, and a best composite score of 1280 on the SAT (based on combined Critical Reading and Math sections only) or 28 on the ACT (excluding the writing section)

To be a Florida Medallion Scholar: 3.0 weighted GPA in the above courses, 75 community service hours, and a minimum score of 1020 on the SAT (based on combined Critical Reading and Math sections only) or 22 on the ACT (excluding the writing section)

Up to 2 additional optional credits from courses in the academic areas listed above, or in fine arts courses from the student’s high school transcript, may be used to raise their Bright Futures GPA if necessary.

Test Score Requirements for Bright Futures				
		Florida Academic Scholar		Florida Medallion Scholar
Year	SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT
2013	1280	28	1020	22
2014	1290	29	1170	26

Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) Award

Requirements include the following:

- 16 core credits required for high school graduation
- 4 English
- 4 Mathematics (including Algebra 1)
- 3 Natural Science
- 3 Social Science (U.S. History, World History, .5 credit U.S. Government, and .5 credit Economics)
- 1 Fine OR identified Practical Art; OR .5 credit in each
- 1 Physical Education (to include integration of health)

3.0 weighted GPA in the core credits above required for graduation

A minimum of 3 career and technical education credits in 1 vocational program with an unweighted 3.5 GPA in those courses

Test Scores – Students must earn the minimum score listed below on each section of the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT), SAT, or ACT (test sections cannot be combined)

- PERT: Reading 104/Writing 99/Math 113
- SAT: Reading 440/Math 440 – <http://www.collegeboard.org>
- ACT: English 17/Reading 18/Math 19 – <http://www.act.org>

30 community service hours

College or career preparatory diplomas may be used to qualify for GSV, with appropriate career and technical education electives.

For other ways to qualify for Bright Futures and for more information, visit <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf>. For other financial aid information, visit the Office of Student Financial Assistance at <http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org>.

Postsecondary Options

State University System (SUS) Minimum Admissions Requirements

Admission into Florida's public universities is competitive. Acceptance is determined by enrollment limitations and the qualifications of the freshmen applicant pool. Prospective students should complete a rigorous curriculum in high school and apply to more than one university to increase their chance for acceptance. To qualify to enter one of Florida's public universities, a first-time-in-college student in summer 2011 or later must meet the following minimum requirements:

- High school graduation with a standard diploma
- Admission test scores
- 16 credits of college preparatory academic courses – see Bright Futures requirements (FAS and FMS)
- 2 approved electives

The university calculates the high school GPA using a 4.0 scale from grades earned in high school academic core courses (additional weights may be assigned for grades in AP, dual enrollment, honors, IB diploma program, AICE program, and other advanced courses).

Although the potential for academic success is primary, many other factors may be considered in reviewing a student's application for admission. These may include, but are not limited to, a combination of test scores and GPA that indicates potential for success, improvement in high school record, family educational background, socioeconomic status, graduation from a low-performing high school, graduation from an IB program, geographic location, military service, special talents or abilities, or other special circumstances.

For more information on individual Florida public universities, visit <http://www.flbog.org/aboutsus/universities>.

SUS Admissions Matrix (Fall 2011 Admits)			
	Middle Range GPA	Middle Range SAT	Middle Range ACT
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU)	2.9–3.4	870–1030	18.7–22.7
Florida Atlantic University (FAU)	3.2–3.8	1020–1150	21.7–25.2
Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU)	3.0–3.7	960–1100	20.2–23.75
Florida International University (FIU)	3.4–4.0	1080–1190	23.5–26.5
Florida State University (FSU)	3.6–4.2	1160–1300	25.5–28.7
New College of Florida (NCF)	3.7–4.3	1220–1390	27.2–31.0
University of Central Florida (UCF)	3.6–4.2	1180–1310	25.0–28.5
University of Florida (UF)	4.1–4.4	1200–1370	26.7–30.5
University of North Florida (UNF)	3.5–4.2	1140–1270	24.5–27.5
University of South Florida (USF)	3.6–4.1	1110–1270	24.5–28.5
University of West Florida (UWF)	3.0–3.8	930–1130	20.5–25.2

The Florida College System

The Florida College System includes 28 state colleges, colleges, and community colleges. These institutions offer career-related certificates and two-year associate degrees that prepare students to transfer to a bachelor's degree program or to enter jobs requiring specific skills. Many also offer baccalaureate degrees in high-demand fields. Florida College System institutions have an open door policy. This means that students who have earned a standard high school diploma, have earned a high school equivalency diploma, or have demonstrated success in postsecondary coursework will be admitted to an associate degree program. Students earning a College Placement Test-Eligible Certificate of Completion will be admitted to an associate degree program upon completing a college placement test but are not eligible for federal financial aid. Some students may be required to take noncredit developmental education courses in English and Mathematics if they cannot demonstrate college-readiness on an approved assessment.

For more information on Florida colleges, visit <http://www.fldoe.org/CC>.

Florida's 2 + 2 Articulation System

Florida is nationally recognized for its highly effective articulation between and among institutions. Students can begin their postsecondary studies at a Florida college and, after earning a 2-year associate degree, transfer to a 4-year degree program at a state university, a Florida college that offers 4-year programs, or a private university.

Students who choose to transfer to a state university are guaranteed admission, although not necessarily to the university or program of their choice. About 40% of juniors and seniors in the state universities began their postsecondary studies at a Florida college.

Transition Services for Individuals with Disabilities

As students exit high school and begin postsecondary education, the laws and regulations governing the requirements for services received as they transition from the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This transition affects the types of services provided and the responsibilities of students and educational institutions. College students with documented disabilities are eligible to receive support services and accommodations. Resources related to postsecondary transition services for individuals with disabilities include the following:

- Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities: A Guide for Families <http://www.fldoe.org/ese/rtf/TransitionGuide.rtf>
- Florida Colleges – Disability Support Services <http://www.fldoe.org/cc/educators/Disability/dss.asp>
- State University System of Florida – Services for Students with Disabilities <http://www.flbog.org/forstudents/ati/disabilities.php>

U.S. Military Entrance

The U.S. Military branches offer another option for a student 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>.

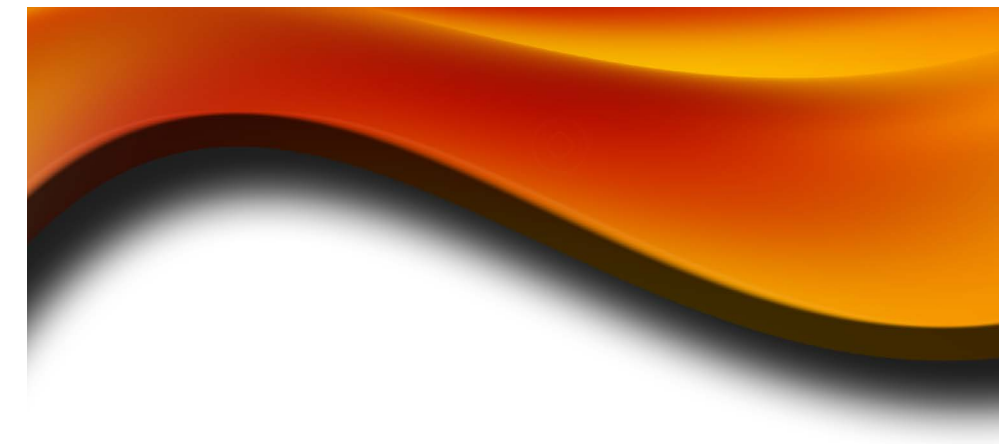
Visit the websites below for more information related to entrance requirements:

- United States Air Force <http://www.airforce.com>
- United States Army <http://www.goarmy.com/cl5.html>
- United States Coast Guard <http://www.uscg.mil>
- United States Marine Corps <http://www.marines.com>
- United States Navy <http://www.navy.com>



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Pathways to Success: College and Career Readiness



Middle and High School Planning Guide for Students & Parents