

PREPARING FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Senior Presentation

2011-2012

ABOUT ME AND THE LAB

- Ms. Youngman, College and Career Counselor
 - IB Graduate
 - Elon University (Undergraduate), FSU (Graduate)
 - Guidance Counselor for 4 years in Pasco County
 - Office located in the College and Career Lab, Room 111A
- What does the lab provide?
 - Testing (SAT, ACT, PSAT, SAT Subject Tests, AP) resources and study guides
 - Scholarships/Financial Aid
 - College Information
 - Computers for research
 - It is NOT a safe haven from classes ☺
- What can I help you with?
 - Assistance with college/career plans
 - College Visits
 - Information on financial aid and scholarships
 - Questions concerning standardized tests
 - Bright Futures



POLICIES AND PROCEDURES



- Appointments
 - Complete a Counselor Request form, located in the Guidance Office
 - Please write the reason you need to see me so I can be prepared with materials for the appointment
 - Turn in the request to the Guidance Office or in the mailbox by the lab, Room 111A
 - You will receive a pass to see me as soon as possible
 - Your teacher must sign off on the pass you are given to be released from class
- Walk-ins are welcome if...
 - You have a SIGNED pass from your teacher
 - This includes your homeroom, student assisting and JA teachers
 - It is your lunch period, before school or after school
 - Availability not guaranteed
- When you enter the College and Career Lab...
 - Please have your pass WITH teacher signature
 - Sign in using on the College and Career Lab Notebook
 - Also sign out when you leave
- Scheduling a College Visit:
 - Write your name on the list of the college(s) you are interested in attending
 - Please review any Quick Facts posted on the college sign up sheet
 - Maximum sign up is 5; therefore, please only sign up for schools you are seriously considering
 - Check the schedule outside Room 111A for changes and updates to visits
 - Plan ahead! Mark your calendar and make arrangements with your teacher **beforehand** for make-up work
 - A day or two before, come by to pick up your College Visit Pass. It will not be delivered to you.
 - Teacher signature on your college visit pass is **required** to attend. You will be sent back to class to obtain your teacher's signature.



RESOURCES FOR COLLEGE INFORMATION

- College Board – collegeboard.org
 - College Matchmaker
 - Informative Articles
 - Student Search Service
 - Provide personal information and preferences on College Board exams
 - Schools and scholarship programs use information to find potential applicants/matches
 - 1,100 participating schools and scholarship programs
 - Participants send you information on: college visits, application process, special programs, financial aid and campus life
 - Benefits:
 - Schools and scholarships find YOU
 - Opportunity to be introduced to unfamiliar schools that might be a great match
 - Exact exam scores are not shared to participants
- College Visits
 - Check the calendar posted outside Ms. Youngman’s room, 111A.
 - Hillsborough County College Visits
 - Open House, off campus visits
- Florida Choices – facts.org
 - School Finder
 - Compare Schools
 - Career Inventories



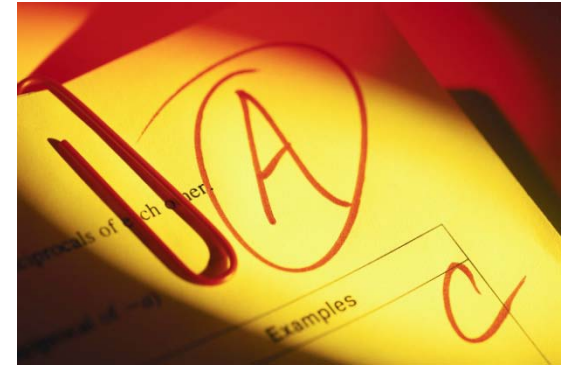
APPLICATION NO NO'S & SIMPLE MISTAKES THAT COULD BE COSTLY

- Misspelling, grammatical errors
- Not submitting your application
- Forgetting your signature
- Listing inaccurate extracurricular activities
- Inappropriate email address
- Not checking email
- Help from others



TESTING

- Test Code for SAT/ACT: 101-705 (Code needed to register)
- SAT
 - Register on www.collegeboard.org
 - Practice/Study materials available in lab and online
 - SAT Online and CollegeEd
 - Cost: \$49
- SAT Subject Tests
 - Required for some colleges and universities
 - Check testing requirements; schools may require specific Subject Tests
 - Make sure you've taken prerequisite courses needed for Subject Test
 - www.sat.college.org – practice and test strategy materials
 - Cost: \$22 basic fee (per registration) + \$11 per subject + \$22 language w/ listening test (if applicable)
 - Tip: Sign up for all of your Subject Tests at one time to avoid multiple basic test fees
- ACT
 - Register on www.actstudent.org
 - Practice/Study materials available online
 - Cost: \$34 without writing, \$49.50 with writing
- SAT/ACT Waivers – Available from Ms. Youngman
 - Available to students on free/reduced lunch only
 - 2 waivers for each test allowed
 - If you register for a test using a waiver and do not test, you do not get a replacement waiver
 - Waivers can't be used to sign up for late registration deadlines



BRIGHT FUTURES = BIG CHANGES!



- How to Earn...
 - Academic and Medallion: Graduate with completed IB curriculum, obtain qualifying test scores and community service hours listed below
 - Automatically receive/upgrade to Academic scholarship if IB diploma is earned (results in July)
 - CAUTION: don't assume you will get the IB diploma and choose not to attempt earning the required scores
- 2012 Testing Requirements (SAT – Reading and Math, ACT – Composite)
 - Academic: 1270 SAT, 28 ACT
 - **Medallion: 980 SAT, 21 ACT**
 - Bright Futures takes highest combined score for SAT and ACT
 - SAT: Critical Reading and Math
 - ACT: English, Reading, Math and Science
 - June is the last opportunity to test for eligibility
- Community Service Requirements
 - **Academic: 100 hours**
 - **Medallion: 75 hours**
 - Hours from other CAS categories can overlap
 - See Ms. Boyce (CAS hours coordinator) to make sure hours are completed
- FAFSA must be completed in January
- Apply for Bright Futures at www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org beginning in December
- You will not receive either award if BOTH applications are not submitted



SCHOLARSHIPS

- Tips
 - Be prepared...most scholarships require writing essays!
 - One small essay can equal BIG money!
 - Turn in your resume to Ms. Youngman
 - Contact information
 - Colleges you're applying to
 - Anticipated major
 - On/Off campus activities
 - Don't wait until the last minute
 - Watch out for scams! Report to www.ftc.gov
 - Look for local scholarships
 - Hillsborough Education Foundation – educationfoundation.com
- Scholarship Bulletin
 - Updated monthly
 - Posted outside Ms. Youngman's room, 111A
 - Check with teachers as well
 - Posted online
- Student Search Service
- Websites
 - www.facts.org /Florida Choices
 - www.collegeboard.org
 - www.collegeanswer.com
 - www.college-scholarships.com
 - www.fastweb.com
 - www.free-4u.com
 - www.freeschinfo.com
 - www.scholarships.com
 - www.wiredscholar.com



FINANCIAL AID



- Net Price Calculator
 - Located on College/University web sites and collegeboard.org
 - Provides estimate of financial aid and what you will be expected to pay at various schools
 - Tip: Use parents' most recent tax return, W-2 or pay stub
 - Save information and calculations by creating an account with College Board
- Contact admissions or financial aid counselors at schools you are interested in
 - What percentage of financial need is met?
 - Readily available jobs on campus?
 - Automatic Merit/Need Scholarships?
- Financial Aid Night
 - January 31st, 7:00pm in Auditorium
 - Other dates are available at other school campuses
- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
 - www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - Opens in January
 - Must be filled out to qualify for Bright Futures
 - Money is first come first serve → apply ASAP
 - Requires tax information
- Other sites
 - <http://studentaid.ed.gov>
 - www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org
- Student Loans
 - Some debt after school is likely
 - CAUTION!
- Questions regarding tax information and financial aid policies need to be directed to a financial aid counselor/professional



I GOT IN!!! NOW WHAT?



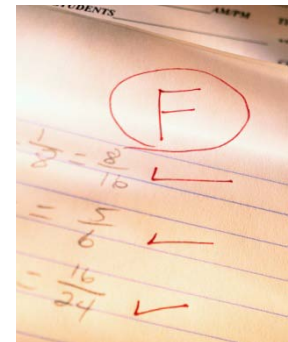
- 1.) Notify the school you choose to attend.
- 2.) Inform the schools you are rejecting.
- 3.) Complete school's financial aid application
 - Watch out for deadlines!
- 4.) After graduation, send final transcript.



DON'T CELEBRATE TOO MUCH!



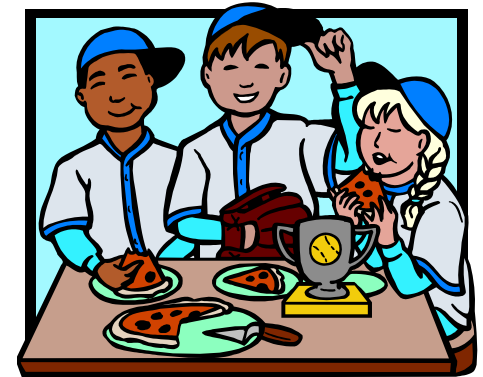
- Read your acceptance letter carefully. After congratulations, do you see, “pending final transcript.”?
- Your acceptance can be taken away for the following reasons:
 - Dropping your challenging courses after 1st semester
 - Slacking in classes allowing grades to drop
 - Excessive absences in the 2nd semester
 - Major discipline issues
- The above actions can also result in loss of scholarships!



I GOT IN!!! NOW WHAT?



- 5.) Send in requested medical documents
 - May require a recent physical
 - Vaccinations
- 6.) Review housing options and send in requests ASAP.
- 7.) Set up a meal-plan if needed.
- 8.) Register for classes.
- 9.) Save money!
- 10.) Have fun and get involved!





**HAVE A GREAT SENIOR YEAR!
PLEASE SEE ME FOR ANY
QUESTIONS!**

Ms. Youngman

Room 111A

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