



Enrolled

# Planning Checklist

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- 11<sup>th</sup>** **12<sup>th</sup>**  **Develop good study habits.**  
Set up a daily time schedule for studying. Study until it becomes a habit, not a chore. Remember, practice makes permanence!
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- 11<sup>th</sup>** **12<sup>th</sup>**  **Take coursework seriously.**  
Grades count toward Bright Futures Scholarships. Continue doing well in your required classes to maximize your choices after high school.
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- 11<sup>th</sup>** **12<sup>th</sup>**  **Discuss your educational plans.**  
Talk with your parents, teachers, and school counselor about your plans for the future.
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- 11<sup>th</sup>** **12<sup>th</sup>**  **Look at admission requirements.**  
Start looking at admission/acceptance requirements for the top schools and colleges with the major(s) you are interested in.
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- 11<sup>th</sup>** **12<sup>th</sup>**  **Stay Involved!**  
Continue with school and extracurricular activities as well as voluntary service hours for potential scholarships. Keep complete records of these activities. Consider asking for a reference letter.
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- 11<sup>th</sup>**  **Register and take the PSAT/NMSQT in Fall.**  
This will help you plan your coursework for your senior year. It will give you insight into how you might do on the SAT/ACT and what classes can help you strengthen your scores.
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- 11<sup>th</sup>** **12<sup>th</sup>**  **Use *FloridaShines*.**  
Go to <https://www.floridashines.org> to review your academic transcript, your Bright Futures initial eligibility, and review course offerings or request a catalog from colleges and technical schools you may be interested in.
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- 11<sup>th</sup>**  **Learn about ways to pay for school**  
Continue to find out as much as you can about financial aid: scholarships, grants, work study, and loans.
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- 11<sup>th</sup>**  **Talk to your school counselor.**  
Find out about dual enrollment and Advanced Placement opportunities through your school. If you have the required GPA for enrollment, take the PERT to see if you can take advantage of this opportunity.
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- 11<sup>th</sup>**  **Ask about your courses.**  
Check with your school counselor to make sure your courses meet college requirements and will prepare you for your expected major in college.
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- 11<sup>th</sup>**  **Explore information about colleges.**  
Check sources of information available from your school counselor. Go online or write to colleges for applications for admission and financial aid.
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11<sup>th</sup>



### **Develop valuable job skills.**

Look at CTE courses offered at your school and at MTI (buses take you to and from your school daily; block classes), to see if available programs and certifications fit with the career interests you have. Talk with your guidance counselor about enrolling.

11<sup>th</sup>



### **Prepare for college entrance exams.**

Study and prepare for the SAT, ACT, and/or PERT.

11<sup>th</sup>



### **Register for and take SAT and/or ACT.**

Register for May or June SAT and/or register for the April or June ACT (check deadlines). Call CF or see your school counselor to register for PERT.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Research financial aid.**

Investigate financial aid possibilities (scholarships, grants, work study, loans) and check deadlines for special scholarship competitions..

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12<sup>th</sup>



### **Explore Dual Enrollment.**

Check into taking dual enrollment courses during the summer and/or during senior year.

11<sup>th</sup>

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Sign up for Advanced Placement exams.**

Check with your school counselor to sign up for Advanced Placement Exams

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Finalize your list of colleges.**

Select the final list of colleges you want to apply to (usually three) and discuss your choices with your school counselor. Your selections should include at least one that you feel will definitely accept you.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Continue excelling.**

Remember that your overall high school grade point average, classes you take, college entrance examination scores, extracurricular activities, class rank, and recommendations of your high school are very important factors in college admission.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Pay attention to deadlines.**

Submit applications for admission, financial aid, and scholarship applications. Be sure to check deadlines.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Retake SAT, ACT, and/or PERT.**

If your scores are lower than the requirement for admission to the college of your choice, retake the SAT, ACT, and/or PERT.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Visit your top colleges.**

Contact the colleges you have applied to and ask to visit. A visit will help you see whether or not you are really interested and will help you see how one college differs from another. It will also allow you to talk with students about the strengths and weaknesses of an institution.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Check and recheck.**

Check with the colleges you are applying to make sure you have done everything necessary for admissions and financial aid.



Find YOUR future.



12<sup>th</sup>



### **Complete the Florida Financial Aid applications.**

Go to *FloridaShines* (<https://www.floridashines.org>) to complete the Florida Financial Aid Applications. The window opens each October 1 for the following school year.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Complete the Federal Student Aid application.**

Complete the free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available online at Federal Student Aid (<https://fafsa.ed.gov/>). The window opens each October 1 for the following school year.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Submit financial aid forms.**

Submit the financial aid forms required by the institution(s) where you are applying.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Check to see if documents have been sent.**

Check with your school counselor and teachers to see that secondary school reports, letters of recommendation and transcripts have been sent. Have mid-year grades sent to the colleges that require them. **Make sure you request these well before your deadline (a minimum of 2 weeks).** School counselors and/or teachers may not have time to do them by your deadline if you wait until the last minute.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Check into CLEP examinations.**

Look into the possibility of taking CLEP examinations, which can give you credit for college course(s) without taking the course(s).

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Talk with your school counselor as you hear from colleges.**

Bring your letters of acceptance and/or rejection to your school counselor as you hear from colleges. Knowing your status, your counselor will be better able to assist you.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Keep your school counselor informed.**

Let your school counselor know about your financial aid package(s) and your counselor can answer any questions you may have about admission and financial aid.

12<sup>th</sup>



### **Make a decision on financial aid.**

Be sure that you and your parents clearly understand what is being offered before making a decision on accepting a financial aid package.

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### **Request final high school transcripts.**

Have your school send final transcripts to the college you will attend.



Find YOUR future.