You've Applied: Next Steps

Applying to college is an important step in continuing your education, but it's not the last step! Here is what you will need to do next:

Finalize your application

- ☐ Make sure your application fee has been paid
- ☐ Make sure your transcripts have been sent

Apply for financial aid

- ☐ **Create your FSA ID**, the username and password that you will need to log into the Federal Student Aid website.
  - You and your parent will each need to create your own FSA ID. Get started at studentaid.gov.
- ☐ **Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**.
  - Some aid is on a first-come, first-served basis. The earlier you complete the FAFSA, the more likely you are to receive some forms of financial aid. Get started at studentaid.gov.
- ☐ **Complete the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)**.
  - The FFAA opens October 1. Complete the FFAA here.
  - It is necessary to complete this application to receive state-funded grants and scholarships, including Bright Futures.
- ☐ **Apply for grants and scholarships**, which do not need to be paid back.
  - Florida offers both need- and merit-based scholarships, including Bright Futures, First Generation Matching Grant, and Florida Student Assistance Grant.
  - Some of these scholarships require that you complete the FFAA.
  - Research local scholarships through your education foundation, community foundation, or by speaking with your school counselor. Also, check out FCAN's Scholarship Resources page.

Get ready to go!

- ☐ Accept an admission offer by May 1.
- ☐ Attend new student orientation.
- ☐ Sign up for housing and a meal plan (if you plan to live on campus).
- ☐ Submit your housing deposit by the deadline (check your college's website for more information).
- ☐ Get necessary supplies, like books, dorm room essentials, etc.
- ☐ Register for classes if you did not already do so at student orientation.
- ☐ Have a great first semester!