PLANNING FOR UF

Each school year, there are numerous things you can do to help prepare yourself for college. Even though high school graduation may be years away, it is never too early to begin learning about what it takes to get accepted into the college of your choice.

- In middle school, speak with your guidance counselor for the opportunity to take some high-school level courses (for example, Algebra 1, physical science, or a foreign language). These courses will count for high school graduation and for college admission consideration.
- What are your interests and skills? This is a time to begin thinking about what type of extracurricular activities you wish to pursue in high school. How you spend your time outside the classroom is an important consideration in UF’s admissions process.
- What are your favorite subjects? Start thinking now about matching your academic talents with a possible college major and eventual career.
- Involve your family members, community leaders and school counselors to help you and to offer advice on staying on the right path.

Arrange your class schedule to complete the following college preparatory classes in high school:
- English (with substantial writing) – 4 Units
- Math (Algebra I, Algebra II, Formal Geometry, and additional math beyond Algebra II) – 4 Units
- Natural Science (2 of the 3 units must include a laboratory) – 3 Units
- Social Science – 3 Units
- Foreign Language (two sequential years in the same language) – 2 Units
- Total Units – 16* Units

*The university recommends that you complete at least four additional academic units of electives. The more academic units you complete, the more competitive your application.

Start taking academically challenging courses such as Honors and AP, Pre-IB and IB, Pre-AICE and AICE, or Dual Enrollment.

- Explore careers and jobs you find interesting. Talk with professionals in those fields and find out what kind of education is required, as well as what colleges offer those majors.
- Attend a college fair to gather information and talk with representatives from several schools. Ask your counselor for a schedule of college fairs in your area.
- Begin your college research. Where would you like to go? What would you like to study? Consider admission requirements.
- Take the PSAT or PLAN tests if offered. The PSAT and the PreACT are great ways to prepare for the SAT and ACT, respectively.
- Talk to your parents or guardians about your plans for college.
- If you are a Florida resident, ask your counselor for information about the Bright Futures and Benacquisto scholarships.
The eleventh grade is often the most challenging academically. Take Honors, AP, IB, AICE or academic dual enrollment classes if they are offered.

If you did not take the PSAT 10 or PLAN in the 10th grade, register early in your junior year. You must take the PSAT (11th grade only) to be considered for the National Merit Scholarship.

Register for the SAT and ACT in your junior year. The SAT and ACT are very different types of assessments. Consider taking both tests before your senior year begins.

Continue your extracurricular activities and assume additional responsibilities and leadership roles. Explore opportunities in your community; part-time employment and volunteer activities can strengthen your application.

Establish a professional email address that will remain constant throughout your college search and application process.

Arrange to take the SAT and/or ACT again early in twelfth grade. Test scores are due to UF by December 15. Only your highest subsection scores will be considered.

Take a full load of academic classes, including Honors, AP, IB, AICE or academic dual-enrollment classes.

Make plans to attend a college fair or a UF admissions presentation.

If applying to UF, submit your application by November 1 of your senior year. Other required materials include the Student Self Reported Academic Record (SSAR) due December 1 and SAT or ACT test scores due December 15.

If you are taking AP, IB and/or AICE classes, be sure to take the exams for those classes at the end of the year.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opens October 1. Obtain the financial aid forms either online or from your high school counselor. UF's priority deadline for the FAFSA is December 15.

Keep up with your coursework! All offers of UF admission are tentative if you have high school or collegiate coursework in progress. Final admission is dependent on receipt and review of your final transcripts. Admission offers are subject to cancellation if your final coursework does not meet admission requirements.

Test score submission deadline and deadline for results of FAFSA to UF.

Admission decision notification for priority applications.

$200 tuition deposit due to confirm UF enrollment.

Last day for applicants to send UF their final high school transcripts.

For more information, check out the admissions planning website: admissions.ufl.edu/apply/plan

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