



Young Women's Preparatory Academy College Bound Newsletter

April 2010

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Guidance Counselor, Ms. Gottlieb

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"I have an open door policy. That means that

Words from FSU about Senioritis

Senioritis is a problem for some high school seniors. Each year Florida State University rescinds about 30-45 students due to poor performance during the 2nd semester of their senior year.

Below is a copy of the email we sent out to remind seniors of their responsibilities prior to finishing high school.

Laquisha Persak, FSU Admissions: lpersak@admin.fsu.edu

We are delighted that you will be joining us at The Florida State University. This is an exciting time in your life and you should be proud of your academic and extracurricular successes that have helped you achieve this goal.

After you graduate, please send us a final, official high school transcript with your graduation date and senior grades posted. If you have taken college course work, i.e. dual enrollment, we will also require your college transcript(s). Your final grades will be considered as we finalize your admission to the University.

If you are receiving low grades in your senior courses, you should contact our office immediately. D's or F's in your senior courses and/or in any dual enrollment coursework may result in your admission being rescinded. As you prepare for final exams, please remember that your enrollment at The Florida State University is contingent upon successful completion of your senior year!

An extraordinary group of students comprise the Class of 2014 and we are pleased that you will be among them. We will see you soon!

P.S. When taking your AP, IB, or AICE exams, make sure you list FSU as a recipient of your score reports. And, don't forget to send us your scores from those AP, IB, or AICE tests that you took in your sophomore and junior years.

How to Pry More Money Out of the Cold, Stingy Fingers of the Financial Aid Office

By: Andy Lockwood and Peter "College Pete" Ratzan, College Planning Specialists www.FinancialAidBUZZ.com/reports

Appealing Your Financial Aid Award

Most college financial aid offices mail their financial aid award letters in March and April. Unfortunately, many families are not happy with the contents of

if the door is open –
“come on in” you are
welcome anytime.”



College Searches

FACTS.org

College Board:

ACT:

Princeton Review:

EduPrep:

Search for colleges,
and scholarships:

College and scholarship
searches

Knowledge for College:

Art and Design Colleges:

College Accreditation:

Colleges that Change Lives:

Florida Health Careers:

Colleges in the UK:

Virtual College Tours:

College Confidential
College View

Occupational Outlook
Handbook

The common Application:

these letters. This piece will share a few tips on how to improve your financial aid award and get the money you deserve for your student's education. To learn more, please go to: www.FinancialAidBUZZ.com/Krop

Award Letter Follow-up

For those of you who complete and have not heard from your college yet. I strongly recommend that you call your college to confirm that they have received your Student Aid Report (SAR) This report comes as a result of your FAFSA. This is what the college financial aid office uses to determine how much your family can afford to pay (EFC) and how much financial aid you will need. **PLEASE CALL AND CONFIRM THAT THEY HAVE YOUR SAR AND ALSO ASK THEM WHEN YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR COLLEGE AWARD LETTER.** When you receive your award letter please evaluate it based on COLLEGE COST (MINUS) YOUR EFC (MINUS) YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARD. This should give you an idea if you need to pay any more for college.

I am very happy to sit down with you or your parent and help you evaluate your award letter. It is the money that will help you determine which college you will select to attend.

Pell grants on the line

By Jennifer Liberto, senior writer March 20, 2010: 9:00 AM ET
www.cnnmoney.com

WASHINGTON (CNNMoney.com) -- On Sunday, the House is set to vote on an historic overhaul of the nation's health care system. It will also take up an issue that will get far less attention but could affect the wallets of millions of Americans.

The nation's popular Pell grant program, which provides federal grants to millions of Americans based on financial need, is facing a \$19 billion budget gap.

The economic downturn is a big part of the cause. Federal officials who run the program were caught off guard by the sheer number of people who went back to school and earned low enough incomes to qualify for the grants. They underestimated the number of recipients for this year by 765,000. To read more about this topic, please go to: [Pell Grants](#)

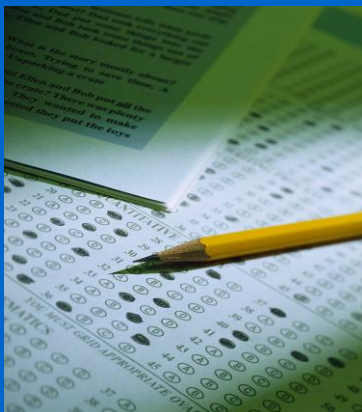
Florida Senate panel OK's tougher Bright Futures standards

By ROBERT SAMUELS

From the Monday, March 22, 2010 Miami Herald

<http://www.miamiherald.com/>

A Florida Senate committee approved a bill Friday that would impose tougher standards for getting a Bright Futures scholarship. Only Sen. Dan Gelber, a Democrat from Miami Beach, opposed the bill.



TESTING

Here are some websites that provide SAT and ACT preparation

[Number2.com](#)

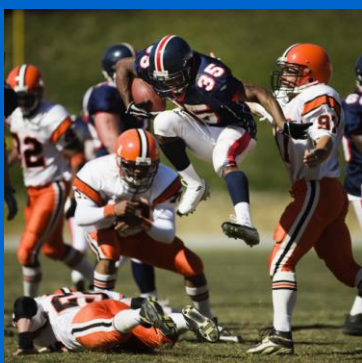
[Max the Test](#)

[Princeton Review](#)

State University Minimums:

SAT: Math: 440 / Verbal: 440 / writing: 440

**ACT: 17 English / 18 Reading
19 Math**



NCAA INFORMATION

NCAA online:

NCAA Clearinghouse initial eligibility

Recruiting search website:

[CampusChamps.com](#) -

Tennis Recruiting:

If you have any favorite websites that you would like to share with us,

Among other things, the proposed overhaul of the program includes raising SAT requirements by up to 80 points, reducing the time a student has to use the money and restricting funding only to classes the student needs to graduate.

"If we don't take these steps, there is no way we will have the money in the more challenging years, the next two years ahead," said state Sen. Evelyn Lynn, a Republican from Ormond Beach who heads the committee.

[Read More...](#)

Colleges cut back on generous financial aid

Posted by Lauren Kelleher February 12, 2010 1:45 pm

www.cnnmoney.com

The college admissions process is already a crapshoot without throwing in the financial aid game. Subsidized Stafford loans, unsubsidized Stafford loans, Pell Grants, DirectPLUS loans — it all adds up to a bewildering tangle for which families of prospective students are turning to financial aid consultants to sort out.

And now, making the task of financing a recession-era college education even more difficult, colleges are withdrawing generous no-loan policies they implemented as the stock market hit its giddy heights. To read more about this topic, please go to: [Award Cutbacks](#)

How to Qualify for More Financial Aid

The College Solution Newsletter by Lynn O'Shaughnessy

Most parents assume that they won't qualify for financial aid, but they are often wrong. You can learn more about financial aid and who qualifies by reading some of my recent college blogs at [TheCollegeSolutionBlog](#) and [CBSMoneyWatch](#).

[The Secret to Snagging More Financial Aid](#)

[7 Myths about Financial Aid](#)

[How to Decode a Financial Aid Letter](#)

[Decoding a Financial Aid Letter Part II](#)

[Why Saving for College Won't Hurt Financial Aid Chances](#)

CollegeWeekLive, the Free Online College!!

Are you deep in the college admissions process? CollegeWeekLive, the free online college fair!.

Sign-Up for free now at www.CollegeWeekLive.com.

At CollegeWeekLive, you can . . .

- Chat live with admissions reps and students from hundreds of colleges: from ivy leagues such as Yale and Dartmouth, to state

please e-mail the links to me at:

igottlieb@dadeschools.net



Common Application Errors

"I'll start the application next week." Don't run out of time to complete the application. Give yourself at least two weeks to find mistakes.

"I already ran a spell-check on my computer." Words can be spelled correctly but used incorrectly. Ask a counselor, teacher or family member to proof read the application to catch any errors or poor phrasing.

"One copy is enough." Print out any online forms and keep copies of all paperwork.

"I can send my application as soon as I'm finished." Before you seal the envelope or click "Send" on your computer, double- and triple-check that you have included all necessary materials.

Follow-up in two weeks to verify that all mailed materials have been received.

"I assume this is right." If you're confused by a question or any part of the application, ask someone. A quick call to the admissions office can save you from making an embarrassing error

schools such as UCLA and Arizona State and more. Click here for participating schools:

<http://www.collegeweeklive.com/colleges.html>.

- Watch live video presentations: topics include scholarships and financial aid, tips on the college admissions timeline, picking the school for you, and more.
- Get answers to questions in real-time from admissions experts
- Be eligible for \$10,000 in scholarships and other fun promotions just for attending!

CollegeWeekLive partners include the US Departments of Education, SallieMae, ACT, Hispanic Colleges and Universities (HACU) and more.

Sign-Up for free now at www.CollegeWeekLive.com.

[CollegeWeekLive – the World's Largest College Fair](#)
[As Featured on ABC World News](#)

In partnership with the U.S. Department of Education

[Sign Up Free Now](#)

Upcoming CollegeWeekLive Events

May 6

CollegeWeekLive FLORIDA DAY

May 18

CollegeWeekLive TEXAS DAY

Colleges: Some you may and some you may not know – Check out: <http://www.collegesofdistinction.com/home>

Cornell College

"Cornell's One-Course-At-A-Time schedule sets them apart from the rest of the pack. Students learn subjects in short, intense courses that allow for personalized instruction and more opportunities for experiential learning." Perched above the splendid Cedar River Valley in Eastern Iowa, Cornell College graduates students with strong backgrounds in the liberal arts—students who can write, think, and communicate effectively. With its One-Course-At-A-Time calendar, Cornell offers a unique opportunity for students to learn through in-depth and focused study, which minimizes distractions, increases flexibility, and helps students better retain their knowledge. To learn more about Cornell College, please go to: **[School Website • info@studenthorizons.com](#)**

Lawrence University

"Lawrence stresses the link between thought and reflection, teaching students to apply liberal learning to real world situations." Left side. Right side. Lawrence has your brain covered. Lawrence provides a quality education, outstanding faculty, close faculty-student collaboration, and a tradition of excellence in music and the arts unmatched by any other college of its size. An education at Lawrence combines both mind and spirit. Students participate in retreats and seminars at the idyllic 425-acre estate on Lake Michigan, Bjorklund vid Sjon (Birch Forest by the Water)...To learn more about Lawrence University, please go to: **Web site at <http://www.lawrence.edu>**

Pacific University

"As one of the oldest institutions of higher learning in the west, Pacific



You must go to Ms. Roundtree to request copies of your Transcripts to be sent to those Colleges you applied to.



**National Association for
College Admission Counseling**
Guiding the way to higher education



Steps to College

Steps to College is NACAC's online newsletter for and about

University provides broad-based learning with practical application. Upon graduation, Pacific students are prepared to make dynamic contributions to the larger community." Applied learning and education for the individual With programs designed for the individual, Pacific offers an excellent education at a great value. Pacific University places a high value on the importance of integrating a liberal arts philosophy and curriculum with professional education. Graduates gain a solid academic background and build practical skills in 52 majors. To learn more about Pacific University, please go to: **Web site at [School Website](#) • info@studenthorizons.com**

Suffolk University

"The intellectual atmosphere in Boston helps students to thrive academically and culturally. At SU, there is a strong emphasis on preparing students for a diverse, global society." Emphasis on Teaching, Scholarship, and Community. Suffolk University (SU), founded in 1906, is a private university set on historic Beacon Hill in Boston, Massachusetts. The intellectual atmosphere in Boston helps students to thrive academically and culturally. At SU, there is a strong emphasis on preparing students for a diverse, global society. To learn more about Suffolk University, please go to: **Web site at: [School Website](#) • info@studenthorizons.com**

Western Carolina University

"Resting in a scenic valley in the Appalachian Mountains, Western Carolina students get to know their instructors, explore the over 150 student organizations, collaborate with faculty on research, and take classes in foreign countries." Our goal is your success.

Resting in a scenic valley in the Appalachian Mountains of Western North Carolina. Western Carolina University is home to students from all over the country and world. At Western, students get to know their instructors, explore the over 150 student organizations, collaborate with faculty on research, and take classes in foreign countries. With an innumerable list of academic areas of study there is something at Western for every student. To learn more about Western Carolina University, please go to:

Web site at: [School Website](#) • info@studenthorizons.com

The Campus Visit—Considering A College's Surroundings

By: Mark Montgomery, Educational Consultant and Professional College Tour Taker - Written on March 1, 2010

When touring a campus, it's important to remember that in choosing a college you are also choosing the community in which the college or university exists. So make time during your visit to investigate the town and the campus environs. You should drive into the neighborhoods that surround the campus. Be on the lookout for commercial centers near campus. Find out if the college offers some sort of shuttle buses: where do these go, and how regularly do they run?

As you become acquainted with the area surrounding the campus, here are a few thing to keep in mind: To learn more, go to their website at: <http://greatcollegeadvice.com/the-campus-visit-considering-a-colleges->

students in the school-to-college transition.

Resources and Tips as You Begin Your College Search

- Surviving Your College Search: The Adventure Begins
- An Internet Road Map for the College-Bound Student
- Career Planning and College Choice
- College Rankings: Helpful or Hurtful?
- Faring Well at College Fairs
- College Visits: A Planning Checklist

Preparing for College While You're in High School

- Choosing High School Courses for College Success
- Choosing High School Activities Wisely
- MySpace in College Admission

Choosing the Best-Fit College

- Is a Large or Small College Right for You?
- Career and Technical Colleges: Careers in Focus
- Tips for Visual and Performing Arts Students
- Community College: A Viable Option

The College Admission Process

- The Parts of an Admission Folder
- Admission Tech 101: What Students Need to Know
- Early Decision/Early Action: Does the Early Bird Get the Worm?
- Getting Great

surroundings/

The Dos and Don'ts of Successful Campus Visit For Parents and Students

By: Mark Montgomery, Educational Consultant and Professional College Tour Taker - Written on March 2, 2010

As you plan the general goals of your campus visits, plan the logistics, take the tour, listen to the information session, and investigate the campus surroundings, keep in mind these few tips for making the visit as productive, successful, and fun as possible.

Parents:

Don't ask too many questions, either in the information session or during the [...] To learn more, go to their website at: <http://greatcollegeadvice.com/the-dos-and-don%e2%80%99ts-of-successful-campus-visit-for-parents-and-students/>

Timeline For Juniors – Ms. Gottlieb's Wish List?!?

1. **BEGIN YOUR COLLEGE SEARCH EARLY** (like...right now!!!) Beyond the obvious, get to know what GPA and SAT/ACT score will give you your best chance of being accepted. Make a table of application requirements (essays, recommendation letters, community service, SAT II requirements and so on)

2. **TEST EARLY: complete all SAT/ACT testing by the end of your junior year.** Plan out a strategy as to which tests and what dates to register for. Allow for time to either take a test preparation class or work with a tutor if you find yourself scoring below what you need to get into your dream college.

3. **APPLY EARLY:** Students applying in September, October and November have a better chance than those applying in late December, January, February and March (slim chance). Achieving your target GPA and Test scores by the end of your junior year will also allow you to take advantage of Early Decision and Early Action deadlines in October and November.

4. **BEING ACCEPTED EARLY:** By applying early, you may be accepted early. Just think how nice it would be to go you your family parties and dinners in December and tell everyone that you have already been accepted to college!!!

5. **APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID EARLY:** By being accepted early, you can apply for financial aid (FAFSA) early – beginning January 1 of your senior year. "The early bird gets the worm" is so true when it comes to financial aid. **MONEY RUNS OUT!!!!**

6. **EVALUATE YOUR AWARD LETTERS:** If you apply for financial aid early, you will receive your financial aid award letter early. You will now be able to sit down with your parents and go over with them the financial "bottom line" of your final college selection.

7. **YOUR FINAL CHOICE...AND THE WINNER IT!!!!:** This whole process boils down to the day you select "the winner". Most colleges would like an answer from you by May 1st. Remember not only should you notify the college that you'll be attending "that you're cumin" but it is also courteous to notify

- Recommendations
- Top Ten Tips for Writing the College Essay
- Help with the Writing Process
- The Truth About College Interviews
- The Waiting Game: What if I'm Wait-Listed?
- Making the Final Decision

Financial Aid

- Focus on Financial Aid: An Introduction
- Focus on Financial Aid: How to Apply
- Focus on Financial Aid: Terminology and Words to Know
- Focus on Financial Aid: Resources
- The Scoop on Scholarships
- Financial Aid Basics
- Financial Aid Myths and Misconceptions
- Financial Aid Words to Know

For Parents

- Off to College? Enter Here: The Changing Parent/Child Relationship
- For Parents: Preparing Your Child for the Social Aspects of College
- Tips for Parents: Countdown to College
- Tips for Parents: Helping Your Child Through College Admission
- Books for Parents of College-Bound Students
- A Parent's Guide to Financial Aid
- Everyone in My Child's Space

Online Personality and Career Interest Tests

These resources are of value for those who want to learn about themselves.

those colleges that you are declining. A nice courteous and thoughtful letter on your part may very well open up a slot for another well deserving student.

And so begins another wonderful and exciting journey in your life.

Considering Community College?

by April Conyers on March 12th, 2010 | 5:31 pm – www.zinch.com

When deciding which college is right for you, it's important to look at all types of schools. Community colleges are cost effective for students who don't know what they want to major in and usually allow students to have a flexible schedule. Also, the classes at a community college tend to be smaller than the traditional 4-year college.

With tuitions on the rise, community colleges are growing more popular. Some junior colleges even promote more of the "college life" experience. In addition, once you are finished with your associate's degree from an accredited community college, it's fairly easy to transfer for to a university to finish your bachelor's. To read more about this topic, please go to:

[Community College](#)

I would like all juniors to finish their SAT/ACT testing by the end of their junior year...just ask a senior why?

2010 SAT and ACT Test Dates

REGISTRATION DATES

National Test Dates	Test	REGULAR Postmark Deadline	LATE Postmark Deadline
2010			
May 1	SAT I & II	March 25	April 8
June 5	SAT I & II	April 29	May 13
June 12	ACT	May 7	May 21

Register online at:

SAT: www.collegeboard.com

ACT: www.act.org

Paper registration forms are available in Ms. Gottlieb's office, Room 111A

Colleges that accept ACT scores in lieu of SAT Subject Tests

http://www.compassprep.com/admissions_req_subjects.asp

X maintains an up-to-date list of colleges that require Subject Tests. An asterisk next to the number of Subject Tests required means that school allows the "ACT Only" option. Whether it is as legitimate an option, especially for mainstream kids, is the subject of much debate in my little corner of the

- Personality tests
- Career Tests
- Just for Fun



Careers and Majors

- Cutting Edge Majors

These aren't your parents' college majors. New trends and technologies have made their mark on the world. Colleges have responded by creating exciting new areas of study. These majors are hot right now because of business demands, expanding technologies and current events.

- College Majors for In-Demand Careers

If you need a clear path to a job after graduation, one of these majors might be right for you. These majors are tied to some of the hottest, most in-demand careers in the country today.



world.

At a glance, the list includes Amherst, Barnard, BC, BU, Brandeis, Brown, Bryn Mawr, Connecticut College, Duke, Johns Hopkins, McGill, Pomona, RPI, Swarthmore, Tufts, Penn, Vassar, Wellesley, Wesleyan, and Yale.

There is no senioritis



at



YWPA!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!