

# Cougars Reality Check

## College Fairs

NACAC College Fair –

<https://www.nacacfairs.org/virtual/> or Orlando, FL on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1 – 4 p.m.

Countryside High College Fair – Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> 6-8 p.m.

Make it a priority to meet with college representatives from various colleges and universities all over the nation to explore your options.

## Bright Futures Scholarship

All volunteer/work hour submissions for review, approval, logging hours, etc. must be completed through Profferfish via Clever.

The Legislature reserves the right to make **changes to the funding and renewal requirements for ALL Bright Futures** students (initial and renewal) each academic year. It is the responsibility of the students and parents to sign up and check qualifications for this scholarship opportunity.

Seniors apply for Bright Futures Scholarship on December 1<sup>st</sup>! G.P.A., SAT/ACT test score and volunteer hour requirements may be reviewed at:  
[www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/ssfad/bf/](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/ssfad/bf/)

## Visit our State Universities Online

Take time to take a Virtual Tour this year of the State Universities right here in Florida:

Florida A&M University	<a href="http://www.famu.edu">www.famu.edu</a>
Florida Atlantic University	<a href="http://www.fau.edu">www.fau.edu</a>
FAU/ Honors College	<a href="http://www.honorscollege.edu">www.honorscollege.edu</a>
Florida Gulf Coast University	<a href="http://www.fgcu.edu">www.fgcu.edu</a>
Florida International University	<a href="http://www.fiu.edu">www.fiu.edu</a>
Florida Polytechnic Univ.	<a href="http://www.floridapolytechnic.org">www.floridapolytechnic.org</a>
Florida State University	<a href="http://www.fsu.edu">www.fsu.edu</a>
New College of Florida	<a href="http://www.ncf.edu">www.ncf.edu</a>
University of Central Florida	<a href="http://www.ucf.edu">www.ucf.edu</a>
University of Florida	<a href="http://www.ufl.edu">www.ufl.edu</a>
University of North Florida	<a href="http://www.unf.edu">www.unf.edu</a>
University of South Florida	<a href="http://www.usf.edu">www.usf.edu</a>
University of South Florida St. Pete	<a href="http://www.usfsp.edu">www.usfsp.edu</a>
University of West Florida	<a href="http://www.uwf.edu">www.uwf.edu</a>

## What will Senior Year & College cost me???

Senior Night – Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at CHS @ 6 p.m.

COLLEGE COSTS FALL INTO FIVE CATAGORIES:

**Tuition and Fees:** Charge for instruction and services

**Books and Supplies:** Books, pens, pencils, paper, supplies

**Room and Board:** Food and housing

**Technology:** Electronic devices

**Personal Expenses:** Laundry, phone bills, supplies, clothing

**Transportation:** Car, gas, tolls, plane, train

## ESTIMATING YOUR EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION:

Use the Student Aid Index (SAI) to calculate your estimate on the [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) web site.

## SCHOLARSHIPS VS FINANCIAL AID

**Scholarships** are provided from private sources and do not have to be repaid. Check out our scholarship board by the lunch room, guidance hallway, binder in Mrs. DeGarmo's office & our school website for scholarship listings.

**Financial Aid** is provided by Federal and State Governments and may or may not have to be repaid.

**FAFSA & Bright Futures 101 @ CHS~ TBD**

**FAFSA Completion Events ~ TBD**

## FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.raise.me](http://www.raise.me)

**\*\*NEVER PAY FOR SCHOLARSHIP MONEY\*\***

## HOW TO GET FINANCIAL AID?

1. Apply for admission to your future school. You can't get money if you don't attend that college.
2. Fill out the FAFSA in Dec., which is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This is a must! Create your FAFSA ID at: [StudentAid.gov](http://StudentAid.gov) and get it on-line at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).
3. Wait for a "package." This is a financial award package from one or more of the colleges/ universities to which you applied. The \$ amount they offer you is based on your FAFSA information. Each school may offer different types of aid through CSS/Profile, <http://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>
4. Pick your package. Once you have decided on an offer, send your materials to the financial aid office at your college/university.

Meet with Ms. Blalock in J1 – College & Career Coordinator to help you with your college and scholarship search.

Pick up a copy of our quarterly Guidance Newsletter in Student Services & posted on our website for the latest information!

# Senior Calendar

## AUGUST 2023

- Review Career Plans
- Complete College research and plan visitation when possible
- Narrow college choices to 5 schools to which you want to apply
- Complete your high school resume or "Brag" sheet
- Submit applications to state universities
- SAT- 8/26
- Bright Futures approvals on Profferfish

## SEPTEMBER 2023

- Senior Night – 9/14 6 p.m.
- Senior seminars ~ Intro. to eDocs
- Request electronic transcripts via eDocs
- Naviance ~ Match your CommonApp / sign FERPA
- ACT – 9/9
- Bright Futures & FAFSA 101 Session at CHS ~ TBD
- Meet with college representatives / college visits
- Work on Senior Portfolio, Resume & Letters of Rec.
- Complete Early Decision and Early Action applications

## OCTOBER 2023

- CHS College Fair ~ Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> 6-8 p.m.
- ASVAB test ~ TBD
- SAT – 10/7
- In-School SAT for Seniors – 10/11 \*Last paper test
- Naviance ~ Complete tasks assigned
- FAFSA Completion Event – TBD
- UF Spring 2022 DE applications due Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>
- Work on application essays
- If needed, complete CSS/Financial Aid *PROFILE* on Collegeboard.com
- Meet Early Decision or Early Action deadlines

## NOVEMBER 2023

- SAT – 11/4
- SPC Spring 2022 DE Applications due 11/16
- Naviance ~ Apply to college / Scholarship search
- Work on Senior Portfolio, Resume & Letters of Rec.
- Work on college applications with Nov. deadlines.
- Begin applying for scholarships
- Complete your Bright Futures hours before Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> if you want to know eligibility by the end of S1.
- Create a FAFSA ID at: StudentAid.gov

## DECEMBER 2023

- FAFSA opens Dec. 1st
- Complete your Bright Futures Application online at [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org) to include the FFAA
- SAT- 12/2
- ACT – 12/9
- Naviance ~ Apply for scholarships
- Check to see if your college/university needs you to have a CSS/Financial Aid *PROFILE*
- Complete S1 virtual classes
- Check your end of semester grades/credits

## JANUARY 2024

- 1<sup>st</sup> semester grad checks – Talk to your School Counselor if you need credit recovery
- Complete your FAFSA application for fall term 2024
- Apply for Pinellas Ed. Foundation Scholarship
- Naviance ~ Financial Aid Survey
- Finalize college choices
- Visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for information about financial aid
- Visit [www.opportunity.collegeboard.org](http://www.opportunity.collegeboard.org) to apply for their scholarships

## FEBRUARY 2024

- ACT – 2/10
- Be sure all necessary materials have been sent to your chosen colleges
- Don't get "senioritis"; colleges want to see strong second semester grades
- Expect to receive your Student Aid Report (SAR), which outlines Expected Family Contributions for the school year.
- Continue to apply for scholarships

## MARCH 2024

- Anticipate award letters from financial aid outlining your financial aid assistance
- Be sure your colleges/universities have received all necessary information
- SAT– 3/9
- Continue scholarship search
- Wrap up volunteer / work hours for Bright Futures

## APRIL 2024

- ACT – 4/13
- Naviance ~ Senior Exit Survey
- Prepare for May AP Examinations, if applicable
- Admissions decisions arrive
- Review college acceptances; perhaps revisit your top choices
- Review financial aid packages; talk with college financial aid officers
- Check dates for housing deposits
- Continue scholarship search

## MAY 2024

- College / Military Signing Day – TBD
- Awards Night – TBD
- SAT – 5/4
- AP Exams 5/6 thru 5/17
- Any FLVS/PVS courses must be completed by 5/3
- \*Graduation rehearsal (TBD)
- \*Graduation (TBD)
- Request final transcripts via eDocs
- Apply for scholarships
- Bright Futures hours due / Update and Finalize Bright Futures Application

## JUNE 2024

- SAT – 6/1
- ACT – 6/8