

A photograph of a science laboratory with students working at a table. Two girls are in the foreground; one is looking through a microscope while the other looks on. A third student is partially visible on the right. The background shows lab equipment and storage bins. A semi-transparent dark overlay covers the image, with white text centered over it.

# Riverview IB: College/University Admissions

# The *Common Application* and *SchoolLinks*

- By now you should ALL have an active *Common Application* account through which you will apply to most colleges <https://www.commonapp.org/>
- You *must* "Match" your *CommonApp* and *Schoolinks* accounts in order to request transcripts and teacher letters of recommendations

# *SchoolLinks*

- Your *SchoolLinks* accounts are active and must be updated
- Access *SchoolLinks* by signing in to your *MySCS* account and clicking on *the SchoolLinks tile*
- Instructions for completing tasks and 'matching' with *CommonApp* have been sent home *AND* will be the topic in Friday's Career Advisory period
- You *must* "Match" your *CommonApp* and *SchoolLinks* accounts in order to request transcripts and teacher letters of recommendations

# Florida State University

- Priority Deadline October 15th (Decision on 12/12)
- *Common Application* submitted October 15th
- **SSAR** and **Testing must be received by 10/22**
- The December 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Deadline is NOT advised
- FSU requires testing. You may self-report through the *Application Status* page
- *No* recommendations are accepted
- FSU Honors College application is indicated within the FSU application. Apply in December
- Apply for Housing *ASAP* once you have applied
- Pathways options - ;see FSU Admissions page

# Florida State (FSU) Acceptance Rate – Class of 2028

Out of the 76,748 applications for admission into the Seminole Class of 2028, just 16,748 were accepted. As such, the FSU acceptance rate was 22% for the Class of 2028.

Historical Florida State acceptance rates are as follows:

	Applicants	Admits	Acceptance Rate
Class of 2027	74,038	18,793	25%
Class of 2026	78,088	19,552	25%
Class of 2025	65,256	24,184	37%

## Admissions Trends & Notes — Class of 2028

- ▶ FSU's number of first-year applications has increased by over 150% since 2016.
- ▶ The FSU acceptance rate has dropped 15 points since 2020.
- ▶ 88% of admitted students were in the top 10% of their class.
- ▶ 21% are the first in their families to attend college.
- ▶ Admitted students came from all 67 Florida counties and 719 Florida high schools.
- ▶ 48 countries and all 50 states were represented in the pool of accepted students.
- ▶ The top three areas of study for admitted applicants were business, engineering, and biology.

## How Florida State Rates Applicants

- ▶ Only one factor at FSU is ranked as “very important” to the admissions process: rigor of high school course load. 12 other factors are deemed as “important”: class rank, GPA, standardized test scores, essay, extracurricular activities, talent/ability, character/personal qualities, first-generation status, geographical residence, state residency, volunteer work, and work experience.

# University of Florida - ALL Apply!

- Early Action *Due by November 1st* (Decision 1/24/25)
- *Common Application* submitted by November 1st
- *SSAR* (by November 15th)
- Testing required. Scores must be reported/received by 11/15 (Self-report in UF portal)
- *No teacher recommendations accepted*
- Emphasis on metrics (weighted gpa & rigor). If within their middle 50% your activities and essay are critical
- UF Honors College application within the application



# University of Florida Acceptance Rate — 2024

For the Class of 2027, the University of Florida received roughly 67,000 total applications. 16,634 of those applicants were accepted for an overall UF acceptance rate of 25%, similar to the year prior.

Historical University of Florida acceptance rates are as follows:

	Applicants	Admits	Acceptance Rate
Class of 2026	64,473	15,054	23%
Class of 2025	51,207	15,431	30%
Class of 2024	48,193	15,002	31%
Class of 2023	38,069	13,925	37%

## What class rank do you need to get accepted to UF?

Among enrolled 2022-23 first-year students, 84% hailed from the top 10% while 98% earned a place in the top quarter. Accordingly, you'll need to be near or at the top of your graduating class to have a shot at consideration.

# How the University of Florida Rates Applicants

In sum, the University of Florida considers six factors as “very important” to the admissions process: rigor of high school course load, GPA, essays, extracurricular activities, talent/ability, and character/personal qualities. Items that are “important” as part of the admissions process are: standardized test scores, first-generation status, volunteer work, and work experience. “Considered” factors are: class rank, geographical residence (Florida residents are at an advantage), and the level of demonstrated interest. Legacy status is no longer considered.

Straight from the UF admissions office:

- ▶ “Few students are admitted purely on academic merit. While the potential for academic success is a primary consideration, UF’s comprehensive holistic application review also considers personal essays, academic awards, extracurricular activities, family background and home community.”

# State University System Updates

- Key Information
  - All Florida Public Universities except FAMU now use the *CommonApp* (or their own institutional app)
  - Most also require the *SSAR*. You must upload to each
  - USF uses a consolidated application for all campuses
  - UCF now has an October 15th early deadline but uses its own self-reporting system (*SPARK* by 11/1). Rolling admissions thereafter
  - *Apply early for priority scholarship and admissions consideration (Rolling applications)*
  - Pay close attention to housing processes, Honors College info, FAFSA deadlines, etc.
  - More updates possible...

# Student Self-Reported Academic Record (SSAR)

- UF/FSU, USF and most Florida public universities require you to complete what is known as the **SSAR**. It is a separate website where you will enter all completed coursework (including DE)
- <https://ssar.selfreportedtranscript.com/Login.aspx>

## Welcome to the Self-Reported Academic Record (SSAR-SRAR)!

The SSAR allows students to self-report courses and grades that have been completed, or will be attempted (e.g., to be your course in progress), for high school credit.

Since accuracy is important, please use an unofficial transcript/grades report (e.g., online report card) or score report as a reference when you complete the SSAR.

► [Create an Account](#)

► [Preferred Browsers](#)

Note: Your SSAR and/or SRAR account is the same beginning August 1, 2022.

## Self-reported Student Academic Record



Let's get started with your SSAR.

SSAR Email Address [Forgot Password?](#)

[Create SSAR Account](#)

[Continue ►](#)

- You only need to complete the **SSAR** once. However you must link it to each application once invited in the application portals
- Please use FOCUS to complete the **SSAR**. Go to Grades-->View Detailed Report. Enter letter grades only
- Instructions for completing and uploading the SSAR
  - <https://admissions.ufl.edu/apply/freshman/ssar>
  - <https://admissions.fsu.edu/first-year/ssar/>
  - <https://www.usf.edu/admissions/freshmen/admission-information/ssar.aspx>

# Transcript Release Authorization

- Complete the **Transcript Request** form (green sheet). This grants permission to send your transcripts to college
  - Colleges *must* reflect those in your *SchoolLinks* list
  - Include *all* colleges (even SSAR colleges, e.g. UF/FSU)
  - Please adhere to the following deadlines to assure timely submission of transcripts/recommendations
    - *October 4th* for Early and Rolling/Priority deadlines
    - *December 2nd* for Regular Decision
  - You may submit multiple transcript request forms

# Private College/University & Public Out of State Deadlines

- Early v. Regular Admissions deadlines
  - Most early deadlines are November 1<sup>st</sup> including most out-of-state public universities (some earlier)
  - Early Decision (binding) 11/1
  - Restrictive Early Action and Early Action 11/1
  - Be aware of Priority Scholarship deadlines (Emory/Vandy/BU and others)
  - Rolling deadlines. The earlier the better
- Regular Deadlines occur in early January (as do EDII)



# Private Colleges/Universities General Requirements

- All but a few will use and require the *Common Application* and the CA main essay (exceptions include)
- Most require additional, school-specific supplemental essays (shorter). Large, public universities typically do not have supplements (*CommonApp* essay only)
- Most private colleges require 1-2 teacher letters of recommendation and one counselor letter
- Some more selective colleges offer interviews

# Teacher Recommendations

- Please request letters by **October 4th** for early priority applications and **December 2nd** for Regular Decision applications. This allows teachers 3+ weeks notice
- Teacher Letters of Recommendation
  - Personally ask recommenders first!
  - Request teachers electronically through *Schoolinks* (You must first sign the *FERPA waiver* and then MATCH your *CommonApp* and *Schoolinks* accounts)
  - Provide teachers with LoR Student Information form

# Recommendation Protocol

- If your college/university requires a recommendation, you must complete the information form for me. If you would like to meet and discuss, please schedule a meeting with Ms. Ellis.



# College Recommendation Questionnaire for Dr Minor



# FAFSA 2025-26!

- o The 2025-26 FAFSA will open on October 1st on a limited basis, and will open for all by December 1st, 2024
- o *ALL* students (parents) should complete and submit the FAFSA *regardless* of financial situation.
- o Most colleges require FAFSA completion for financial aid *and* scholarship eligibility. *This includes merit-based scholarships, work study opportunities, loans and more*

# Bright Futures 2025-26

- o Florida Academic Scholars (100% tuition+)
  - o GPA 3.5 weighted (recalculated)
  - o *SAT 1340 (CR/M) or ACT 29 - superscored*
  - o 100 Community Service Hours (or work\*)
- o Florida Medallion Award (appx 75% tuition)
  - o GPA 3.0 weighted (recalculated)
  - o *SAT 1210 (CR/M) / ACT 25 - superscored*



## Bright FUTURES & the IB Diploma

- If you receive the IB diploma, you will automatically be eligible for the florida academic scholars award (100% tuition).

# Miscellaneous / Reminders

- o All applications *must* appear in *SchoolLinks*. This list must also appear on your **Transcript Request** form
- o You are strongly encouraged to submit applications *early*. Transcripts and Recommendations are sent *after you submit*
- o Review the *Scholarship* section on *Schoolinks*
- o Please see me or email if you have questions