

Applying to Florida Public Universities

The following is helpful information for researching and applying to the Colleges and Universities within the State of Florida University System. Freshman applications for Florida public universities (academic year 2017-18) are now open.

State University System of Florida

University websites and information for applying to Florida public universities and colleges can be accessed through the State University System [Florida Shines](#) website or directly through the website for each school.

The State University System Matrix is a *very* helpful tool for comparing various State University campuses ([SUS Matrix 2015](#)). The 2016 matrix will be available in late September.

Deadlines

The University of Florida has a single deadline of November 1st. Florida State University has two deadlines, one in mid-October and the other in December. You are *strongly* encouraged to apply by the FSU Early Application deadline (October 19th). Your chances for admission are significantly diminished if you wait to apply. All other Florida public universities utilize various *Rolling Admissions* plans. In every case, *the earlier you apply the better*. Each also have priority scholarship deadlines. This means that in order to be considered for scholarship aid you must apply by a specific date. You need to research and know these dates and deadlines for schools you are interested in attending. Once again, your chances of both being accepted and getting scholarships are much greater if you apply early.

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You should apply through the specific university website. All students are advised to apply to two or more Florida public universities and to do so early.

Transcript Request

UF and FSU use what is called the Academic Self-Report (SAR and SSAR). You will visit a website and enter all academic coursework you have taken in high school. Your guidance counselor will provide you with a copy of your academic transcript to help you to complete the SSAR. Your counselor is also available to help you. If you are applying to both UF and FSU you will only need to complete the SSAR once.

All other state universities require an official transcript from your high school. You will need to request your transcript from your guidance office.

Letters of Recommendation

State University schools do not require letters of recommendation from either teachers or a guidance counselor. The exception to this is New College.

University of Florida

- UF uses the Coalition application. Begin your [UF application here](#)
- Deadline: November 1, 2016

Florida State University

- Begin your [FSU application here](#)
- Deadline: October 19, 2016 - You must meet this early deadline if you are interested in attending Florida State. Admission decision is available online 12/8/16.
- Like UF, Florida State uses the Self-Reported Student Academic Record [SSAR](#) for reporting academic coursework. This must be completed by the October 15th deadline.

Bright Futures

Information can be accessed through the [State Scholarship and Grant Programs](#) website. The Bright Futures link describes current requirements and awards amounts. Be sure to follow legislative updates and any changes to the current program. All students will be assisted in signing up for Bright Futures starting in December 2016.