



Follow us our official Facebook page, Hillsborough Education Foundation, and on Twitter & Instagram @hillsedufnd

My College Success Coach is \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

What date did/will you meet with your College Success Coach?

Quarter 1 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter 2 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter 3 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter 4 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter (8/12/2024-10/11/2024)

Maintain "Active" status according to the Take Stock requirements for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter.

Circle your current Status. ACTIVE WARNING PROBATION 1 PROBATION 2 PROBATION 3

What date did/will you meet with your College Success Coach in Q1? Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Create a GPA goal to reach for each semester and review your 4 year final cumulative GPA.

12<sup>th</sup> Grade GPA Goal Semester 1: \_\_\_\_\_ 12<sup>th</sup> Grade GPA Goal Semester 2: \_\_\_\_\_ 4 Year Cumulative GPA Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

*Are you on track with the GPA requirements for your top 3 schools?*

Stay involved in at least **one** school club this year. **What Club?** \_\_\_\_\_

Don't forget to have senior pictures taken. Even if you choose not to purchase a package, check with your school's yearbook advisor about having a photo made for the yearbook and for other senior recognition opportunities (such as, Take Stock in Children).

Register for either the ACT or SAT to retake **before December** of this year. If you can, retake them BOTH.

[www.actstudent.org/regist/dates.html](http://www.actstudent.org/regist/dates.html) <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/registration/dates-deadlines>

What dates will you take the test: ACT: \_\_\_\_\_ SAT: \_\_\_\_\_

*Remember: focus on the test in which you already scored better to achieve your admission goals.*

Don't forget about: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation/free-act-test-prep.html> & [sat.collegeboard.org/practice/](https://sat.collegeboard.org/practice/) for free practice questions, tips, study guides, and tests for the ACT and SAT.

Explore taking the CLT as a testing alternative to earn scores needed to receive the Bright Futures. Learn more at [www.cltxam.com/clt-florida/](http://www.cltxam.com/clt-florida/).

Begin developing outlines and rough drafts for your college and scholarship essays. When the first drafts are completed, ask for feedback from your mentor, teachers, and others.



- Consider whom you will need to ask for recommendations. Colleges may want specific people to do this. Give those people plenty of advance notice and have forms or website information available for them when you ask. Be sure to thank them later.
  - What are your top three choices for college:  
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_
  - If you feel very strongly about 1 or 2 schools, consider applying early. These early application deadlines are often in October. Check with each school's website to find out early application deadlines. Complete those applications first!
  - Remember community service hours and/or paid work hours are needed to be eligible for every level of the Florida Bright Futures scholarship. If you are completing community service hours only, **30** hours are required for the Gold Seal level, 75 hours are required for the Medallion level, and 100 hours are required for the Academic Scholar level. If you select to complete paid work hours or a combination of community service and paid work hours to meet Bright Futures requirements, then 100 hours are required for each Bright Futures Scholarship Award level (Gold Seal, Medallion, and Academic Scholar levels).  
**Community Service hours earned to date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Paid Work hours earned to date:** \_\_\_\_\_
  - You can review all Bright Futures requirements at <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN>.
  - Be sure to check out other scholarships and grants available to Florida students through the Office of Student Financial Assistance at <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home>
  - Update your scholarship plan to keep track of the scholarships you are applying for throughout your senior year. Keep a copy of all the paperwork you submitted for each scholarship!
  - Find 2 more scholarships to add to your scholarship plan. *Talk with your guidance counselor to learn about local scholarships. Most colleges and universities list their local scholarships on their financial aid webpage or on their School's Foundation website. You can also search online for additional scholarship opportunities using free search engines such as: <https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Training/find-scholarships.aspx>. REMEMBER you should NEVER PAY to search for scholarships or apply for scholarships*
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter** (10/12/2024-12/20/2024)
  - Maintain "Active" status according to the Take Stock requirements for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter.
- Circle your current Status.**      ACTIVE      WARNING      PROBATION 1      PROBATION 2      PROBATION 3



What date did/will you meet with your College Success Coach in Q2? Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Have ALL your college applications completed by **November 1!**

*Remember: Schools can accept you without all requirements being met with a final decision made at the end of the school year.*

**Apply for admission to the colleges you have chosen. Be sure to do the following:**

- Complete your essays and attach them to your application. Be sure to keep copies.
- Check the college website for scholarships that apply to incoming freshman. Note the deadline for these scholarships, as they can be early. Apply as directed.
- Check on your recommendation letters. Keep any copies that are given to you, or documentation that indicates they were done on-line.
- Have your transcripts sent to the colleges where you have applied. Your application is not complete until they have received them.
- Wait one or two weeks, and then check with the admissions office where you have applied to confirm that they have received your application and all supporting documentation.
- Check with your guidance counselor to find out when your local scholarships packet will be available.

Which colleges/universities/technical schools have you applied to for admissions?

School: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you in the process of completing applications for any college/universities/technical schools?

Schools: \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL** students need to complete the 2025-2026 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) after it opens on **October 1, 2024!**

*The FAFSA application: for students entering college for the 2025-2026 school year, your parents' 2023 income tax records are needed. Be sure to keep a copy of all documentation.*

*When attending college, the FAFSA needs to be filed for EACH year attending college.*

*If you plan on starting school in the summer, you also need to complete the 2024-2025 FAFSA application to receive financial aid for the summer term. This application is already open to complete.*



- Important Information to know concerning FAFSA:**
  - Some scholarship money is dependent on FAFSA being completed and is given out on a first-come-first-served basis.
  - You should check your email daily for financial aid and scholarship deadlines and any additional information that may be required.
  - Colleges often require additional documentation of income called a verification worksheet. Make sure you fill out any forms asked for in a timely manner. If you have any concerns or questions, contact the financial aid office at the college.
  
- Apply for the **Florida Bright Futures Scholarship** by completing the [Florida Financial Aid Application](#) (FFAA). This application will also allow you to apply for additional state scholarships and grants. **It is best to complete it before you graduate.** The absolute final deadline is August 31<sup>st</sup> of the year you graduate high school.
  
- Over the winter holiday I will earn volunteer (community) service hours and/or paid work hours for Bright Futures.  
I will volunteer at \_\_\_\_\_  
I will work at \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Update your high school resume with awards/achievements, paid or volunteer work, extracurricular activities, classes taken, fluent language(s), and technical skills from 1<sup>st</sup> semester.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter** (12/21/2024-3/14/2025)

- Maintain "Active" status according to the Take Stock requirements for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter.
- Circle your current Status.**    ACTIVE        WARNING        PROBATION 1        PROBATION 2        PROBATION 3
- Did you reach your 1<sup>st</sup> semester GPA goal?    \_\_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_\_ No
  - What date did/will you meet with your College Success Coach in Q3?**    **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_
  - If you plan on attending a summer session you must also complete the **2024-2025 FAFSA** (Federal deadline to submit June 30, 2025).
  
  - Notify the colleges and universities that have accepted you of your plans by their deadline. Check the website of each college to determine when the colleges/universities must be notified of your final decision.
    - *"Yes, I will attend" or "No I have decided to attend another institution."*
  - Check on housing deadlines and apply for your choice of housing by your selected school's deadline. You will need to send a deposit for your housing.



- Look over the meal plans offered by your college and discuss them with your parents. Select the plan that best fits your needs.
- Don't forget to sign up for an orientation session at your college. There is a charge for these, and some require an overnight stay. The earlier you go to orientation, the better class selection you will have.
- Over spring break, I will earn volunteer (community) service hours and/or paid work hours for Bright Futures.  
 I will volunteer at \_\_\_\_\_  
 I will work at \_\_\_\_\_

**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter (3/15/2025-5/30/2025)**

- Maintain "Active" status according to the Take Stock requirements for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter.

Circle your current Status.      ACTIVE      WARNING      PROBATION 1      PROBATION 2      PROBATION 3

- What date did/will you meet with your College Success Coach in Q4?      Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Are you on track to reach your 2<sup>nd</sup> semester GPA goal?      \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
- No senioritis!** Be diligent in keeping up with deadlines for any paperwork the college requires. Keep working hard so that your final transcript will be acceptable to your college.
- Update your high school resume with awards/achievements, paid or volunteer work, extracurricular activities, classes taken, fluent language(s), and technical skills from your 12<sup>th</sup>-grade school year.

- Attend the **Mandatory Senior College Prep Workshop**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

*\*The final documents for your scholarship activation are given at this event. **DO NOT MISS IT!***

- Your College Success Coach will have you fill out the *Florida Prepaid College Foundation Scholarship Activation Form for Take Stock in Children Students*. Each year thereafter, you will be required to complete an online survey sent to you via email from Florida Prepaid in order for your tuition to be paid by Florida Prepaid.

***Florida Prepaid tuition account is your Take Stock scholarship!***

- Be sure you know the type of Florida Prepaid College Plan you are utilizing.
- Keep your Florida Prepaid College Plan Scholarship account information in a safe place! You will need this information when you pay your tuition.





- ❑ Have your high school send your final transcript to the college you will be attending. If you took Dual Enrollment classes, you need to also request a copy of your college transcript sent to the College/University you plan to attend. The College will expect **YOU** to be responsible for your finances and education.
- ❑ If you plan to live on campus, check out your college's website to review their suggested college packing list. There is also a packing list included in the College Success Guide that is provided by the Take Stock in College and Career program.
- ❑ Be sure to engage with the Take Stock in College and Career program staff to learn tips and strategies to ensure a smooth college transition!



***Congratulations!***  
**You've made it!**

***Don't forget to thank the people  
who helped you along the way!***