

STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL SENIOR YEAR



Take an SAT and/or ACT ASAP.

Regardless of your educational plans, every student should plan to take one! Having a test score may be useful in the future, and it's required to earn the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship. Students with free or reduced lunch receive waivers for test fees. Pick up a waiver in Rotary Futures. Register for tests online: **SAT Test:** www.collegeboard.org **ACT Test:** www.act.org Essay/Writing test is optional and not required by Florida schools. Refer directly to specific college for requirements.

CHECK YOUR BRIGHT FUTURES STATUS ONLINE.

Check your status at www.FloridaShines.org > Go to College > Pay for College. Get Florida Identifier Number from Guidance, Registrar, or Rotary Futures. Shows Bright Futures GPA and any missing requirements. The website is ONLY updated twice per year. Remember—your Bright Futures GPA is NOT your report card GPA. Seniors ONLY apply online for Bright Futures (and other Florida grants) after October 1st of senior year.

Meet with your guidance counselor.

Make sure you have met graduation requirements and have an appropriate senior schedule.

Visit Colleges or Schools and visit with College Reps at VHS.

Campus visits are very important to the decision-making process. Schedule campus tours online. College reps will visit VHS in the fall. Visit Rotary Futures for a schedule of these visits.

Visit Rotary Futures to begin the scholarship search!

500 scholarships valued at over \$60 million dollars are in the Student Scholarship Management System located in the Rotary Futures College Resource Center. Now is the time to start your scholarship search!

Plan to complete the FAFSA in October! (only use FAFSA.gov website)

The FAFSA is the federal financial aid application. The application for the next school year (Fall 2020-July 2021) opens October 1st. Many colleges have PRIORITY financial aid deadlines of November 1st, November 15th, December 1st, etc. A completed FAFSA is required for most scholarships, too.

- FINANCIAL AID PRESENTATION, Sept. 24th, 5:30-6:30 pm, in the VPAC
- FAFSA Night (FAFSA completion assistance), Oct. 10th, 4:30-7:30 pm, VHS Media Center

Plan to apply to at LEAST 3 schools by Nov. 1st (Reach, Target, & Safety)

Applications are online and many are available in the summer. ****DO NOT WAIT FOR FALL TEST SCORES OR GPA IMPROVEMENTS TO BEGIN THE PROCESS.****

Stay informed!

Sign up for Remind Texts, read the Pathfinder, and check the VHS and Rotary Futures websites. Listen to announcements. Make sure VHS has your correct address to receive important mailings.

Visit the Rotary Futures College Resource Center!

Rotary Futures is available to assist parents and students through this entire process. Open Tuesdays - Fridays 7:00 am - 3:30 pm. Closed Mondays and school holidays. (Parents should call to make sure we are not closed due to meetings, classroom presentations, unexpected technology issues, etc.) **LIKE us on Facebook and FOLLOW us on Instagram to get notices and reminders!!**



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