

# BTHS Post-Secondary Readiness Milestones

## Junior Year - FALL

- Participate in and track extracurricular activities: sports, clubs, and community service/work hours (required for Bright Futures scholarships).
- Order a transcript from Parchment to check for errors and remaining credits needed:  
<https://www.parchment.com/u/registration/9276/account>
- Attend college visits or postsecondary websites to review programs, admissions requirements, freshman profile, costs, and AP equivalents.
- Explore career and college opportunities on [www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org)
- Attend the NACAC College Fair in October as well as other college and career fairs in the area.
- If applicable, register and take the PSAT at your school (cost – about \$20).
- Participate in test prep for ACT/SAT.
- If interested in going into the military, talk to a recruiter and take the Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) in October.
- If needed, contact your counselor about eligibility for ACT/SAT fee waivers (free and reduced lunch as well as several other criteria).
- Register for ACT and/or SAT for the spring [www.act.org](http://www.act.org), and [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) Use your school code so results come to your school.

## Junior Year - SPRING

- Research post-secondary institutions and programs of study to aid in senior year course selection.
- Registration in January/February through pre-scheduled appointments.
- Order a transcript; check for errors and needed credits.
- Take the SAT and/or ACT – SEND SCORES TO AT LEAST ONE SCHOOL IN FLORIDA for Bright Futures purposes.
- Complete and submit community service/work hours.
- Attend college visits or postsecondary websites to review programs, admissions requirements, freshman profile, costs, and AP equivalents

## Summer Before Senior Year

- Complete online courses.
- Visit college campuses.
- Work on community service/work hours.
- Apply for scholarships.
- Create a resume.

## Senior Year, Semester 1

- Participate in and track extracurricular activities: sports, clubs, and community service/work hours (required for Bright Futures scholarships).
- Discuss credit check with your school counselor.
- Complete testing requirements.
- Complete online courses.
- Update resume.
- Order a transcript from Parchment to check for errors and remaining credits needed:  
<https://www.parchment.com/u/registration/9276/account>
- Apply to universities and colleges. If required, request letters of recommendation in person at least 3 weeks in advance.
- Apply for financial aid.
- Apply for scholarships.

## Senior Year, Semester 2

- Check transcript for accuracy.
- Complete any missing graduation requirements.
- Check your Bright Futures Eligibility; once you decide on a post-secondary institution, update your Bright Futures account with accurate information so your scholarship money goes to the correct institution.
- Apply to state (community) colleges.
- Apply for scholarships.
- Request a final transcript be sent to your post-secondary institution through Parchment

## Parchment & Ordering Transcripts

- Transcripts show the cumulated weighted and unweighted GPA, class rank, letter grades and service hours.
- All transcript requests MUST be requested through Parchment at:  
<https://www.parchment.com/u/registration/9276/account>
- All transcripts are loaded in Parchment EACH SEMESTER.
- Request an unofficial transcript be sent to your email each semester.

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## Grade Forgiveness

- Students can retake classes in which they earned a D or F.
- All grades appear on the transcript. Forgiven grades will still show but will not be included in GPA calculation.
- Juniors should complete grade forgiveness before the beginning of their senior year.
- Options for grade recovery: St. Johns Virtual School and Florida Virtual school (flvs.net) and/or the Edmentum lab at BTHS.
- Student Athletes cannot complete grade recovery on Edmentum per NCAA guidelines. They can use FLVS, SJVS or retake the course at with a Teacher in a class setting.

## SAT and ACT

- Students register online [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org), [www.act.org](http://www.act.org), [www.cltxam.com/](http://www.cltxam.com/)
- Registration deadlines are usually a month before the test date.
- All SAT and ACT testing occurs in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade center at BTHS on a Saturday. Students will need to arrive by 7:45 a.m. for check in. You need to print your admission ticket, #2 pencils, a calculator, bottled water and snacks. Testing usually ends around 1 p.m.

## Community Service & Paid Work Hours

- **Service hours:** Must be a NON-PROFIT organization; documented on letterhead with the number of hours worked, description, contact signature, parent and student signature; Volunteer Service Plan completed and attached.
- **Work Hours:** Submit copies of pay stubs up to 100 hours, Volunteer Service Plan completed and attached.

## Financial Aid

- Federal Aid – FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid); [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) ; opens December 1<sup>st</sup> of senior year
- State of Florida Aid – Bright Futures; [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org) ; opens October 1<sup>st</sup> of senior year
- Institutional Aid – Apply via the college/university you will attend.
- Private Aid – free money from organizations interested in helping students; scholarships and important information are on the School Counseling page of the BTHS website: <https://www-bths.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/>

## Bright Futures

- You must APPLY for Bright Futures by submitting the Florida Financial Aid Application no later than August 31 after high school graduation.
- Read over the 2023-2024 Bright Futures Student Handbook, Chapter 1.
- Know all the requirements for the Florida Academic, Florida Medallion, and Gold Seal Vocational Scholarships.