



**JACKSONVILLE
CLASSICAL ACADEMY**

COLLEGE CRASH COURSE

SEPTEMBER 17, 2026



Overview

- Welcome & Introductions
- FAFSA
- Bright Futures
- Standardized Testing
- Choosing The Right Path



Introductions

Gwen Doyle
High School History

Colleges:

University of Florida

Areas of Study:

History and Sociology

Favorite College Memory: Having friends and family visit me at the Swamp and attending a Gators game with them!

A Challenge Experienced in The Admissions Process:

Never being told about the Bright Futures Scholarship and almost missing out.



Michaela Richmond-Clements
Student Support Counselor

Colleges Attended:

University of Colorado Boulder (My Reach School)
University of Oklahoma (My Target School)

Areas of Study:

Psychology, Education, Leadership, Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Favorite College Memory: Watching Ralphie run at Folsom Field for the first time.

A Challenge Experienced in The Admissions Process: Not knowing my school counselor and doubting my chances of admission.





JXC's Partnership with Families

As a parent, guardian, or trusted adult, your role is to **support, guide, and encourage** your student. It is not to make every decision for them. Help them stay aware of deadlines, understand financial considerations, and navigate logistics while allowing them to own their applications, choices, and voice.

At JXC, we see this as a partnership: **you are the primary guide, and we are here to provide resources, expertise, and support along the way.**



FAFSA 2027-2028

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is a form utilized to apply for financial aid for college, career school or graduate school. The FAFSA form to determine how much financial aid you're eligible to receive, which could include grants, scholarships, work-study funds, and loans.

The form is completed annually and **opens on October 1st**, for the 2027/2028 academic year.

- Create a StudentAid.gov account
- Collect income and asset information, along with dependency status
- Parent contributor email address, you cannot qualify without their participation.
 - Adding them DOES NOT make them responsible for paying for your school costs.
- Must be completed by June 30th, 2028. Don't wait!



Florida Financial Aid

The FFAA is completed and submitted to the Office of Student Financial Aid to apply for state scholarship and grant programs. The FFAA will be available to graduating high school seniors and prior-year graduates only. Seniors must submit the FFAA to be considered for eligible state-funded scholarship and grant programs. The application opens **October 1**.

- Bright Futures (Due: **August 31**)
- Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased Disabled Veterans (Due: April 1)
- Rosewood Family Scholarship (Due: April 1)
- Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship (Due: April 1)
- Randolph Bracy Ocoee Scholarship Program (Due: April 1)
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If a student does not apply for the scholarship by the deadline, **a student cannot receive the scholarship!**



Florida Bright Futures

To qualify for Bright Futures you must:

- Be a Florida resident and a U.S. Citizen or eligible noncitizen, as determined by the student's postsecondary institution
- Complete the FFAA during your senior year between **October 1st 2026 and August 31st 2027**.
- Earn a standard Florida high school diploma, or its equivalent, from a Florida public high school or registered Florida DOE private high school or complete a home education program.
- Not have been found guilty of, or pled nolo contendere to, a felony charge, unless the student has been granted clemency by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Executive Office of Clemency.
- Be accepted by, and enrolled in a degree or certificate program at, an eligible Florida public or independent postsecondary institution.
- Be enrolled for at least six non-remedial semester credit hours (or the equivalent in quarter or clock hours) per term.
- If not funded in the academic year immediately following high school graduation, apply within five years of high school graduation to have the award reinstated.



Bright Futures Designations

Florida Academic Scholar

- 3.5 Cumulative Weighted GPA
- 1330 SAT Score
- 29 ACT Score
- 95 CLT Score
- 100 Service Hours

This scholarship covers 100% tuition and eligible fees at eligible Florida public institutions. Florida Academic Scholars will also receive a \$300 per semester book stipend. Private institutions award a dollar amount per credit hour. This scholarship automatically renews, students must maintain an unweighted GPA of 3.0 throughout college to maintain their scholarship.

Florida Medallion Scholar

- 3.0 Cumulative Weighted GPA
- 1190 SAT Score
- 24 ACT Score
- 82 CLT Score
- 75 Service Hours (100 Preferred)

This scholarship covers 75% tuition of eligible fees at eligible Florida public institutions. Private institutions award a dollar amount per credit hour. This scholarship automatically renews, students must maintain an unweighted GPA of 2.75 throughout college to maintain their scholarship.

*Both awards may be applied toward summer semesters



High School GPA

Florida Bright Futures recalculates your GPA using only core academic classes (English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages). It builds on a standard 4.0 unweighted scale by awarding 0.5 bonus points for full-year Honors courses and 1.0 point for full-year AP courses.

Bright Futures assigns the following values to grades depending on the course type:

Regular / Standard Courses: A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0

Honors Courses: A = 4.5, B = 3.5, C = 2.5, D = 1.5, F = 0

AP Courses: A = 5.0, B = 4.0, C = 3.0, D = 1.0, F = 0

This means a grade of "A" in an AP class gives you a 5.0 toward your recalculated average, while an "A" in an Honors class gives you a 4.5. The state uses this new value to find your average, which requires a minimum of 3.5 for the Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) award and a 3.0 for the Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) award.



Volunteer and Paid Work Hours

Florida Statute 1009.534

The student must complete a program of volunteer service or paid work, as approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home education program students, which **must include 100 hours of volunteer service, paid work, or a combination of both.** The student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area. The student **must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect** upon his or her volunteer service or paid work experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not limited to, **a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office.** The hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the student performed the volunteer service or paid work.



Volunteer Guidelines

- Volunteer service hours may be completed at **school** or within the **local community**
- Students must preform services **outside** of school hours.
- Students may not be paid for volunteer service rendered.
- Volunteer service involving academic requirements for a class will not count.
- Service may not be performed for a **student's family or for a profit-making organization**, except for institutions like hospitals, nursing homes, or the humane society.
- Volunteer work for the purpose of promoting a particular religious or political point of view or person cannot count in this program.
- Common activities that are **no longer eligible** are acolyte, altar server, lay reader, vacation bible school, summer camp, babysitting, church choir or clerical work for religious, political or profit making organizations.
- Community service projects should benefit the entire community. This means that community service for events such as dances, carnivals, festivals, summer programs, etc. must be open to everyone, including those outside of a neighborhood or organization, and not require payment to participate in the event.



Volunteer Opportunities

At Jacksonville Classical

- Volleyball and Basketball games (Concessions or tickets)
- Large event support (JHOP)
- Student planned, coordinated, and executed event
- Tutoring other students outside of school

In Jacksonville

- Just Serve
- United Way
- Brooks Rehabilitation
- Jacksonville Humane Society or ACPS
- Jacksonville Zoo
- City Events (Must be open to the public)
- Civics Groups (Mission House or Rethreaded)
- Feeding NE Florida



Reflection

For hours completed on or after August 12, 2021, students must submit a reflection log for their Bright Futures Community Service Hourse to be approved. This is for paid AND volunteer hours.

Examples of reflection questions:

What impact did your service have on the social/civic/professional area that you identified?

Identify one way the service activity could have been improved.

Explain a valuable moment you experienced during your service activity.

Would you recommend this activity to other students? Why or why not?



Volunteer Hour Submission Deadline

Seniors must submit their service hours no later than **Friday, April 2nd at 3pm.**

Late submissions will not be collected.

Freshman, Sophomores and Juniors must submit their service hours for the year no later than **Friday, April 2nd at 3pm.** If they complete a service activity after April 2nd, they will hold on to their hour sheet until the start of the next school year.



Other Scholarship Opportunities

Big Future: Backed by the College Board, this platform contains thousands of vetted scholarships. It features excellent filtering options to find awards tailored to your major, demographics, and location.

Scholarships360: Highly recommended for curated, vetted opportunities. You can browse localized listings and apply to exclusive, no-essay scholarships directly through their app.

Bold.org: A specialized platform that offers hundreds of exclusive, niche scholarships. Once you create a profile, you can apply for multiple awards using a single application to save time.



Which Test Should I Choose?

ACT - If you are a fast paced worker, a student who excels at reading comprehension, or a science lover looking to be tested on how well you can read graphs, charts, and scientific studies.

SAT- If you want more breathing room, if math is your strong suit, or if you dislike long reading passages.

CLT- If you excel at reading older, complex literature, you rely on logic rather than math formulas, and you know the formal grammar rules inside and out.



Can I superscore?

Yes! Students are able to superscore the ACT, SAT, and CLT.

Superscoring takes the highest score from each individual section across all exams taken. To use superscores, you must send *ALL* score reports to Bright Futures and the colleges you apply to.



CLT Example

Example: Superscoring to reach an 84

Test 1

Verbal Reasoning	31 / 40
Grammar/Writing	26 / 40
Quantitative Reasoning	14 / 40
Total Score	71 / 120

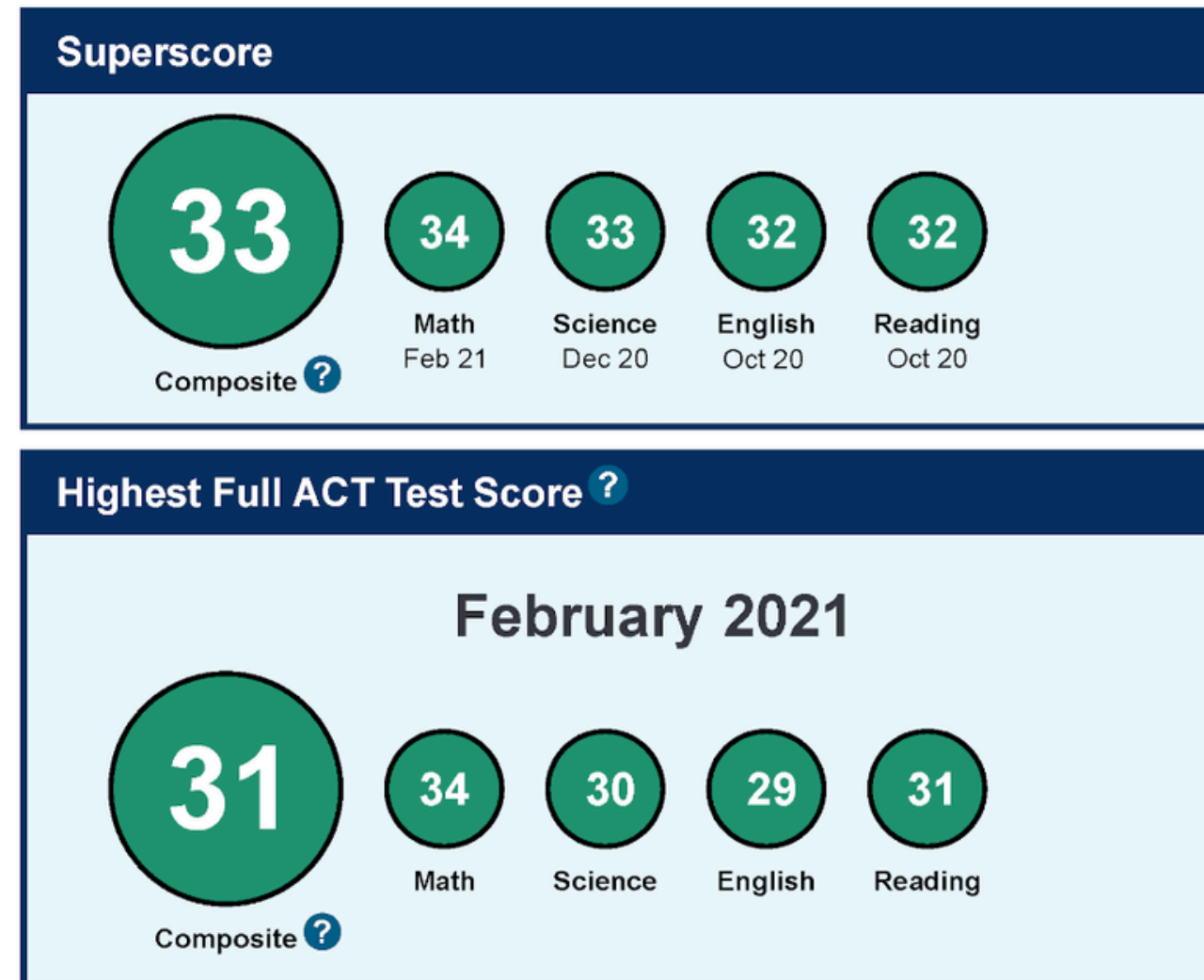
Test 2

Verbal Reasoning	25 / 40
Grammar/Writing	29 / 40
Quantitative Reasoning	24 / 40
Total Score	78 / 120

$$31 + 29 + 24 = 84$$



ACT Example



Excerpt from Kayla's ACT Superscore Report at My ACT



SAT Example

	EBRW	Math	Total
March 2021	640	720	1360
May 2021	680	660	1340
Superscore	680	720	1400



How Do I View & Send My Scores?

All 3 testing suites will require you to create an account.

Once an account is made you will be able to open your scores, and choose “Send Score”

- ACT scores will be sent directly to Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program or code 0095
- SAT scores must be sent to at least one Florida public college or university (UF/FSU/UNF). The institution allows Florida Bright Futures to access them via the state test-score repository.
- CLT scores will be sent directly to Florida Bright Futures

If choosing to super score you must select every test date you want to be considered, they will be compiled for you upon receipt.

Once you have initiated your request to send scores directly to your specific institution or to Bright Futures, it takes **5-10 business days** for them to be accepted and review.



SAT Testing

Upcoming Test Dates:

October 3rd 2026 - Deadline to sign up is September 18th

November 7th 2026 - Deadline to sign up is October 23rd

December 5th 2026 - Deadline to sign up is November 20th

Finding your SAT Center

First pick your test date. Then using the SAT Suite College Board Test Center Search, enter your zip code to find the closest location. Once you've found your testing center, log into your account to register for your exam.



ACT Testing

Upcoming Test Dates:

October 17rd 2026 - Deadline to sign up is September 29th

December 12th 2026 - Deadline to sign up is November 6th

Finding your SAT Center

First pick your test date. Then using the ACT Suite Test Center Loca, enter your zip code to find the closest location. Once you've found your testing center, log into your account to register for your exam.



CLT Testing

Students will take the CLT during school hours. More information will be provided as the test date gets closer.

If a student wishes to take the CLT again, they may do so but will be responsible for the cost of the additional test.



How Much Do The Tests Cost?

SAT: \$68 for the standard exam including reading, writing, and math sections. This will be completed digitally.

ACT: \$70 for the standard exam including the core english, math, and reading sections.

CLT: \$112 for the standard, online/remotely proctored exam which would be completed at home.

*All testing suites offer Fee Waivers, to learn more please refer to each platforms Fee Waiver section and requirements.



How Do I Prepare?

There are a ton of online test prep programs, such as Khan Academy, that you can choose from.

Some programs are free, some programs are not.

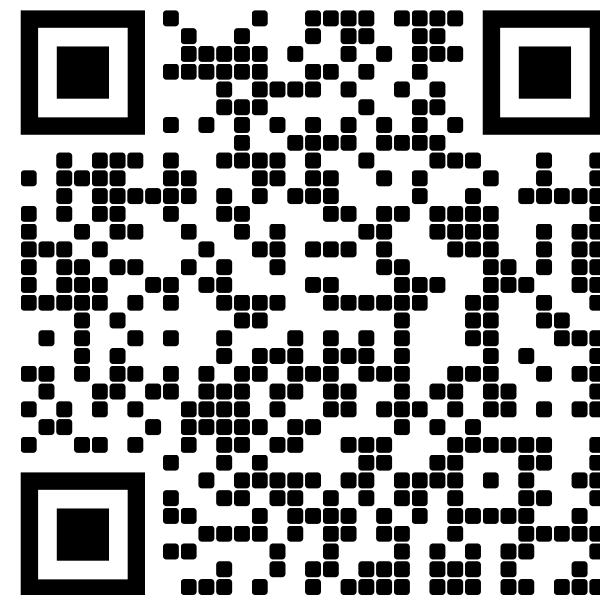
All testing suites offer practice exams which students can take to see what they know and what they need to continue to work on.

Video demonstrations online are very beneficial.



Introducing Roots & Wings

Roots & Wings is a guide designed to help JXC students and families navigate life after high school. It includes helpful information, important deadlines, resources, and guidance for exploring college, careers, trades, military service, and other post-secondary paths.





Question QR Code

Please utilize the QR code below in order to submit questions. All questions will be reviewed and follow up emails with answers will be provided in the coming weeks.

