



**JACKSONVILLE  
CLASSICAL ACADEMY**

**COLLEGE ADMISSIONS NIGHT**

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**OCTOBER 9, 2025**



# Overview

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- Questions



# Welcome & Introductions

- Principal: Nick Barker
- Upper School Assistant Principal: Joe Stabile
- Director of Student Life: Courtney Hughes



# JXC's Partnership with Families

- **Our Philosophy:** Parents and guardians are the primary guides in the college decision-making process.
- **Our Role:**
  - Provide support, resources and expertise along the way
  - Prepare students for all post-graduation paths: College, Career, Military, etc.
- **Shared Responsibility:** Parents lead the process, with JXC administration and counselors offering structured guidance and encouragement.



# Graduation Requirements

- English - 4 Credits
- Mathematics - 4 Credits
  - Algebra 1, Geometry, Math, Math
- Science - 3 Credits
  - Biology, Science, Science
- History - 3 Credits
  - World History, American History, US Government (.5 credits)  
and Economics (.5 credits)
- World Language - 2 Credits



# Graduation Requirements

- PFA (Performing, Practical or Fine Art) – 1 Credits
- Health and Physical Education – 1 Credit
- Personal Financial Literacy – 1 Credit
- Electives – 5.5 Credits
- Must have at least a minimum cumulative unweighted GPA of 2.0 or higher
- Must pass reading assessment, math assessment, F.A.S.T Grade 10 Reading and Algebra 1 EOC



# Junior Year Objectives

- Prioritize academics – all grades are heavily weighted in college admissions.
- Testing matters – take the PSAT/NMSQT (scholarship opportunities) and start ACT/SAT testing in spring.
- Research colleges – build a balanced list (reach, match, safety), attend college fairs, and visit campuses.
- Deepen involvement – take leadership roles and engage meaningfully in activities.
- Meet with counselors – review college plans, course choices, and timelines.
- Understand costs – explore scholarships (including Bright Futures) and start discussing financial aid.



# Senior Year Objectives

- Summer:
  - Focus on college essays, finalizing your college list, and continued test prep.
  - Gather recommendation letters. It's polite to ask Junior year teachers if they would be willing to write those letters over the summer, when they have more time available to them.
- Prepare Applications – complete applications and write personal statements
- Take/Retake Tests (if required) – SAT/ACT/CLT or AP exams
- Apply for Financial Aid & Scholarships – Submit FAFSA, CSS Profile, and search/apply for private scholarships.
- Stay Academically Strong – Keep grades up! Colleges look at senior-year transcripts.
- Participate in Extracurriculars – Continue involvement, leadership, or community service for stronger applications.



# Preparing for Post Graduation

## Individual Goal Setting

- Reflect on strengths, interests and values
- Explore options: [MyFuture.com](https://www.myfuture.com)
- Set SMART goals (clear and realistic)
- Partner with family & counselors for support
- Stay flexible

## Building Your College List

- Tools:
  - [College Scorecard](#)
  - [FLDOE Higher Education](#)
- Consider: Admission requirements, Programs & majors, Location & cost, Application deadlines
- Aim for 8–12 schools total. Include a mix of reach schools, match schools and safety schools.



# Standardized Testing

- Start Junior Year
- Accepted Tests: SAT, ACT, CLT
- SAT/ACT: Saturdays at DCPS schools, advanced registration required
- It is recommended that students take the SAT, ACT and CLT
- Fee waivers:
  - Families can request them directly through college board website
  - Students get TWO waivers total per test
- Scores can be sent directly to selected colleges/universities electronically:
  - Each school has their own SAT/ACT/CLT score requirements
  - Highest score from each content section is used for final score



# Standardized Testing Dates

**Duval County SAT Dates:** November 8, December 6, March 14, May 2, June 6

- Register for the SAT [HERE](#)

**Duval County ACT Dates:** October 18, December 13, February 14, April 11, June 13, July 11 plus some Sundays also available.

- Register for the ACT [HERE](#)

**Classical Learning Test (CLT):** all JXC students take the CLT annually on campus during the school day





# Campus Tours

- When & How to Schedule:
  - Plan tours early (Junior Year is ideal)
  - Apply directly on college websites
- Virtual Options:
  - FL Colleges: [FLDOE College Virtual Tours](#)
- Visit your top schools in person if possible.



# Application Timeline

- Every college has unique deadlines
- Match deadlines to your desired start date
- Stay organized:
  - Make a checklist
  - Track deadlines
  - Submit early when possible



# Scholarships



- Big Future
- State Programs: Benacquisto, Bright Futures, First Generation Matching Grant, Florida Work Experience Program, Rosewood Scholarship, etc.
- National Merit Scholarship

## Florida Bright Futures

- Create an account beginning October 1 of your Senior year.
- Deadline: Tests accepted through August 31 of graduation year
- Students should apply regardless of college goals

[Florida Bright Futures Website](#)



# Designations for Bright Futures Scholarship

## Florida Academic Scholar

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

- Covers 100% tuition and eligible fees
- Private Institutions award a dollar amount per credit hour
- Automatically renews, students must maintain an unweighted GPA of 3.0



# Designations for Bright Futures Scholarship

## Florida Medallion Scholar

- 3.0 GPA
- 1190 SAT
- 24 ACT
- 82 CLT
- 75 Service Hours

- Covers 75% tuition and eligible fees
- Private Institutions award a dollar amount per credit hour
- Automatically renews, students must maintain an unweighted GPA of 2.75



# Financial Aid & FAFSA

- Complete FAFSA: [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)
- Know your deadlines (May 16, 2026). Although May 16<sup>th</sup> is the deadline, most of the funds will be gone WELL before then. It is VERY important to submit FAFSA applications as soon as they open. Financial aid packages are first-come, first-served.
- Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA): [Apply Here](#)



# Contact

**Nick Barker, Principal**

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**Joe Stabile, Upper School Assistant Principal**

[jstabile@jacksonvilleclassical.org](mailto:jstabile@jacksonvilleclassical.org)

**Courtney Hughes, Director of Student Life**

[chughes@jacksonvilleclassical.org](mailto:chughes@jacksonvilleclassical.org)



# Questions

**How can I be sure my student is on track to graduate?**

Use the graduation progression template and meet with guidance counselors regularly to review credits, test scores, and requirements.

**Does JXC partner with any colleges?**

Flagler College, University of Florida - Hamilton School, FSCJ - Dual Enrollment

**What extracurriculars can we expect to see available at JXC to help with college admission success?**

Athletics, Clubs, National Honors Society, Student Council, Volunteer Opportunities



# Questions

**How can I check to make sure my student is on track to graduate?**

Refer to graduation progression template and focus.

**What happens if my student fails a required class or test?**

If a student fails a required class, it must be retaken to earn credit for graduation. Required exams can be retaken until the passing score is achieved. Counselors and parents will work together on a recovery plan, which may include summer school, tutoring, or credit recovery.

**Can Bright Futures be combined with other scholarships?**

Yes. Students may stack Bright Futures with other state, institutional, and private scholarships to reduce costs.



# Questions

## **Do all colleges require SAT/ACT scores?**

MOST schools require tests. ALL of our state universities require SAT/ACT/CLT for entrance. And most of the colleges that went test-optional during and post-covid are going back to requiring tests.

## **Who should write letters of recommendation?**

Teachers, coaches, mentors, youth group leaders, club advisors, etc.

## **Who should help my student with their college essays?**

Students should write their own essays so their authentic voice comes through. Parents, teachers and counselors can encourage brainstorming and give light feedback, but essays should not be rewritten for them. Many colleges value authenticity over polish - they want to hear the student's story.



# Questions

**Will JXC host any kind of Career day events for students to see what kind of jobs they may like?**

We have hosted career day on campus for the past two years and will continue to do so every Spring (typically April/May). JXC also hosts a College fair annually in the Spring in conjunction with career day.

**How we be informed of these things like career day and College fairs?**

The Jet Gazette is the best way to be informed of Jax Classical events. There is also a student information board where students can see information about upcoming opportunities.