



# SEMINOLE COUNTY VIRTUAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR CONNECTOR

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Grades 9-11 Edition  
September/October 2022

Greetings SCVS students and families. This newsletter has important high school related information and updates. Please reach out if you have any questions.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students receiving a standard high school diploma from Seminole County Public Schools must meet the below requirements. It is highly recommended that college bound students complete a minimum of two credits of the same world language. This is also a requirement for the Bright Futures scholarship.

**DIPLOMA PATHWAY REQUIREMENTS  
CLASS OF 2021-2024**

STANDARD DIPLOMA PATHWAY	REQUIREMENTS (must include (1) online course)
	<p>English Credits (English 1 – English 4) or equivalent accelerated course(s)-4 credits            Math Credits Grades (9-12) (must include Algebra 1 &amp; Geometry)-4 credits            Science Credits (must include Biology I, (3) courses must contain a lab component, and 2 Equally Rigorously Courses)-4 credits            Social Studies (must include World History, US History, 0.5 US Government &amp; 0.5 Economics)-3 credits            Fine or Performing Arts, Speech &amp; Debate or Practical Art-1 credit            ½ Personal Fitness and ½ PE Elective-1 credit            Elective Credits-9 credits            Have a minimum, cumulative GPA of at least a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale  <b>**An approved Computer Science course may take the place of a math or science credit**</b></p>
TESTING REQUIREMENTS	<p>Passing Score on: Grade 10 ELA FSA or concordant score &amp; Algebra 1 EOC or comparative score            EOC's in Algebra 1*, Geometry, Biology I &amp; US History will count as 30% of the students overall grade  <b>**A passing industry certification may take the place of a science or math credit**</b>            Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry).            An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I).</p>

## HOMEROOMS

High school students are required to attend a once a month virtual homeroom that will last approximately 30 minutes. Students have received notification from their homeroom teacher about the dates and times.

## JUNIOR CREDIT CHECKS

SCVS School Counselors, Mr. Rob Washburn and Mrs. Betsy Gendreau, are scheduling in person or virtual junior credit check meetings starting in January. Stay tuned for further information regarding scheduling these meetings.

## PLANNING FOR YOUR FUTURE

Now is the time for high school students to start thinking about your plans after high school. Will you attend college, attend a trade school, join the military, or go to work full time?

### Explore Careers & Identify your interests:

Visit the US Bureau of Labor Statistics to find the most updated information on hundreds of occupations that provide most of the jobs in the United States.

<https://www.bls.gov/>

For College and Career resources visit

<https://www.Floridashines.org>

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/career-search/career-quiz>

To utilize an interest inventory, try Next Move by utilizing the QR code in the center of the page.



### Research Colleges, Universities, and Technical/Vocational Schools:

Universities are typically larger and have vast offerings in both undergraduate and graduate programs. Colleges typically are smaller and offer 2 year degrees, technical/vocational programs, and some also offer undergraduate and graduate programs.

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/collegesearch>

Vocational and technical programs are shorter programs that will prepare students for immediate employment.

<https://www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/vocational-trade-school/>

## MILITARY OPTION

Visit [www.military.com](http://www.military.com)

Take the ASVAB test. ASVAB Career Exploration Program is a career planning resource designed to help young people align their strengths and discover career options. Contact your SCVS Counselor for more information.

## COLLEGE 101 WEBINARS

Planning your education after high school is a big step that can come with a lot of questions. Learn how to select a college, how to apply, and how to fund your journey during College 101 webinars this fall. These webinars are FREE and packed with great information about the next steps to take to go to college.

<https://www.floridashines.org/go-to-college/get-ready-for-college/college-101-event>

## COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

If you plan to attend a 4 year university, grades 11-12 are encouraged to take the **SAT and/or ACT**.

**November 1<sup>st</sup>**- SCVS 11<sup>th</sup> grade students are signed up to take the **ACT** at no cost at their zoned high school from 7AM- 12 PM. Contact Trish Horel with questions. [Horelpa@myscps.us](mailto:Horelpa@myscps.us)

Students can register to take the SAT or ACT exams on select Saturday dates. Fee waivers are available for eligible students. Use the College Board (SAT) and ACT websites below for more information on cost and scheduling.

SAT <https://www.Collegeboard.org>

ACT <https://www.act.org>

**October 12<sup>th</sup>** - SCVS students in grades 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> can take the **PSAT** at no cost at their zoned high school from 7AM-12PM.

The PSAT won't count towards your college admissions applications, but it is the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship. Some of the highest scoring students may win scholarship money. Use the PSAT as practice for the SAT and ACT and an important guidepost on your college admissions journey. Contact Trish Horel with questions. [Horelpa@myscps.us](mailto:Horelpa@myscps.us)

## STATE OF FLORIDA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program establishes lottery funded scholarships to reward Florida high school graduates for high academic achievement. It is YOUR responsibility to apply and check the requirements that include minimum GPA, test scores, and volunteer or paid work hours.

<https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN>

Updated forms for the Bright Futures community service/paid work hours requirement will be available on the SCVS School Counselor page by November or December 2022. The revised guidelines will allow students to use community service OR paid work hours but NOT a combination of the two.

## CHECK EMAILS AND COMMUNICATE

Check your school email through the CLEVER portal- Office 365 at least 2 TIMES PER WEEK

COMMUNICATE with your SCVS teachers and School Counselor if you have questions or need help with something. Use the information below to contact your SCVS School Counselor:

**Rob Washburn**

Certified School Counselor

Assisting students with last name A-K

Email: [Rob\\_Washburn@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:Rob_Washburn@scps.k12.fl.us)

Phone number: (407)746-6757

**Betsy Gendreau**

Certified School Counselor

Assisting students with last name L-Z

Email: [Betsy\\_Gendreau@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:Betsy_Gendreau@scps.k12.fl.us)

Phone: (407) 494-0643

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU THIS  
SCHOOL YEAR!**

