

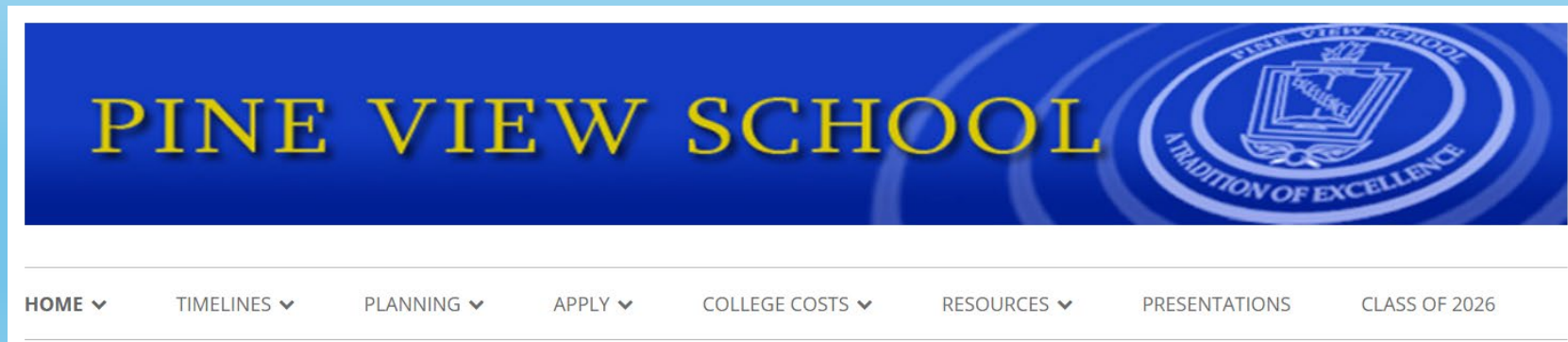
Welcome to Pine View School 12th Grade Fall College Night

September 10, 2026

It's Time to Apply!

Application information and all forms and presentations, including this powerpoint, are uploaded to the Pine View College Counseling website under [Class of 2027](#)

The August “letter” was sent via email and is posted to the PVS college website as well. It includes important instructions and forms for applying

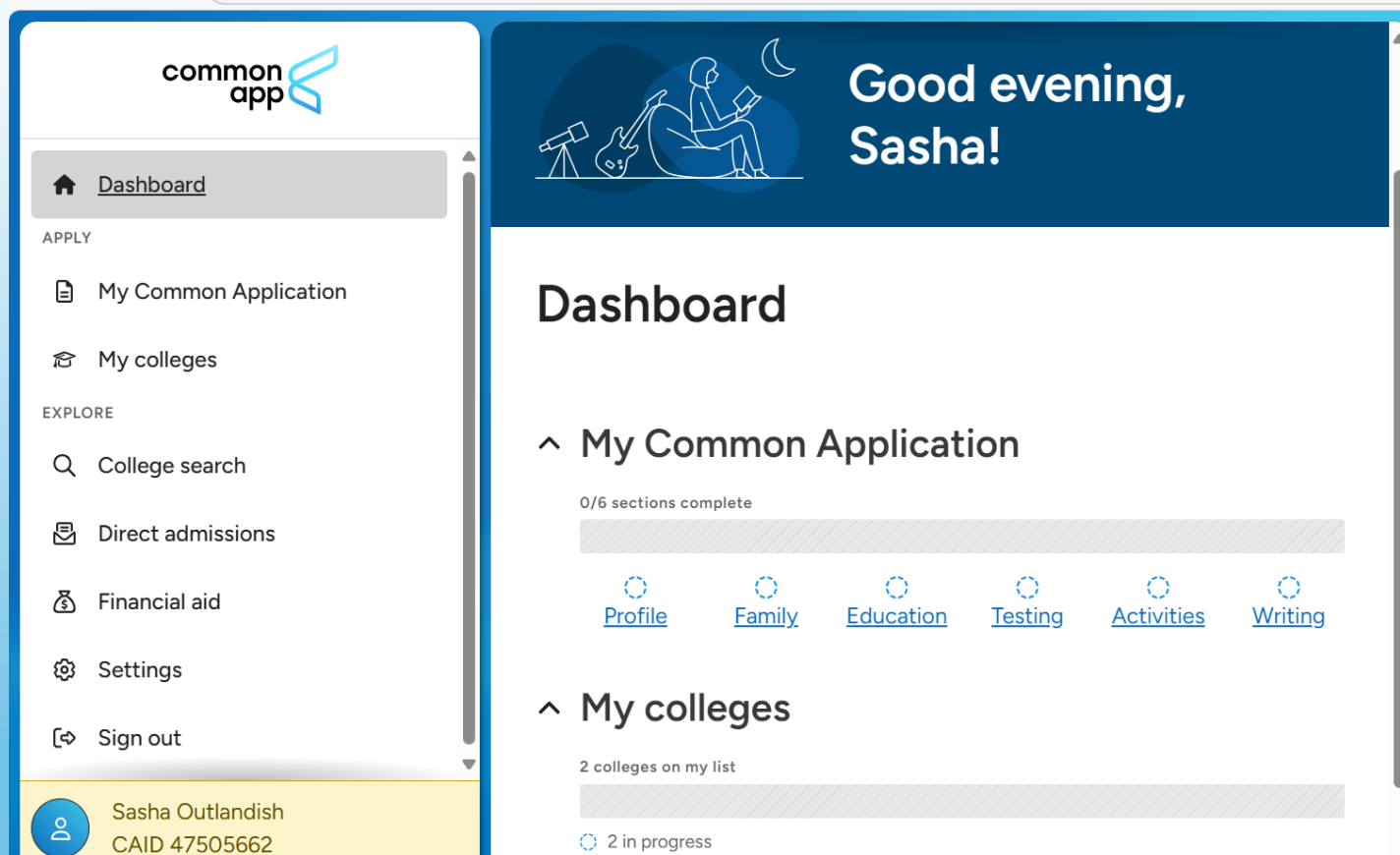


The Common Application and SchoolLinks

- By now ALL students should be working in their *Common Application* accounts through which they will apply to most colleges
<https://www.commonapp.org/>
 - *Common App* Instructions and screenshots to follow
- Students *must* "Match" their *CommonApp* and *SchoolLinks* accounts in order to request transcripts and teacher letters of recommendations
 - Please follow instructions shared in the August Advisory Period, or in your *SchoolLinks* account



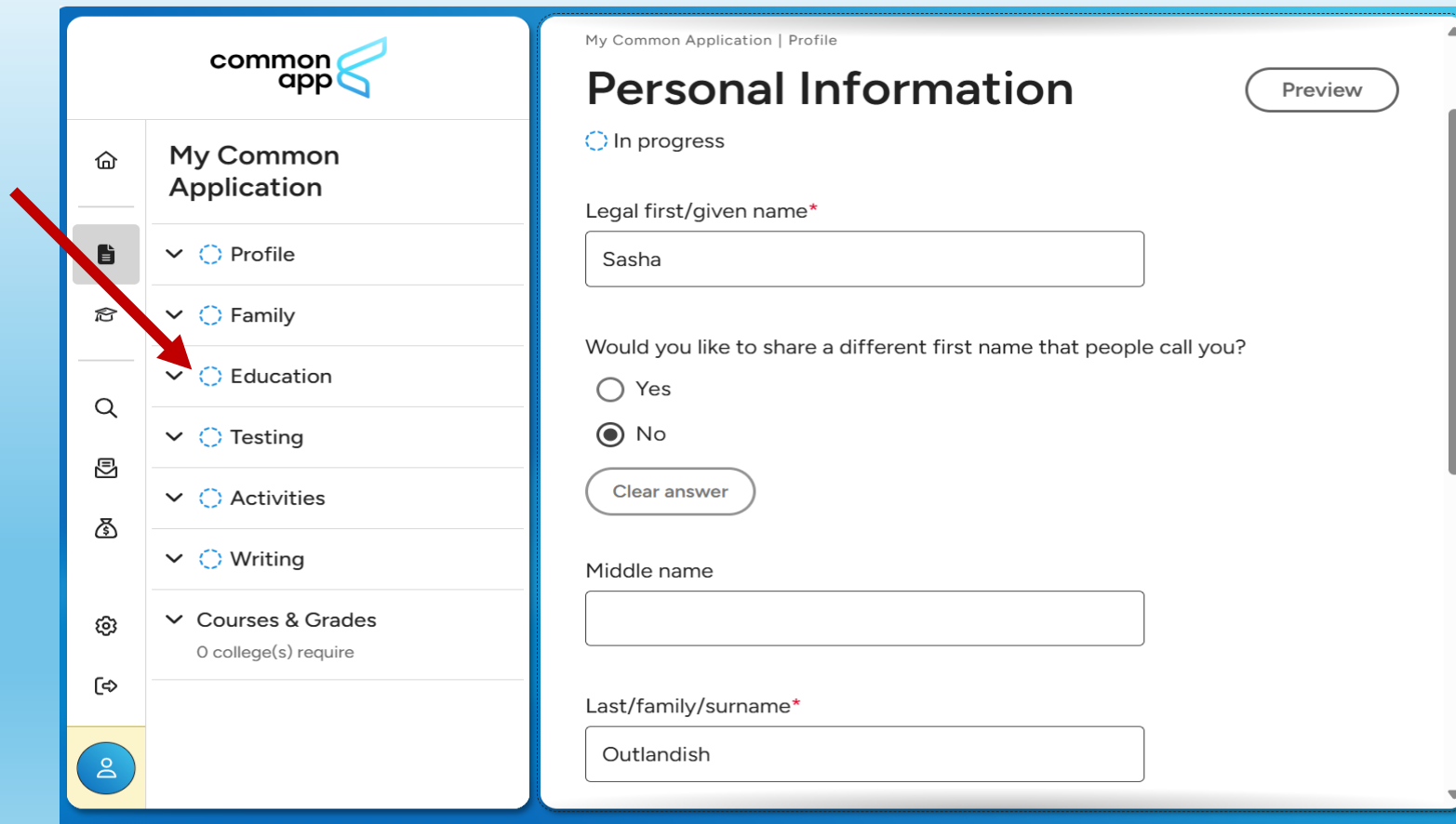
The Common Application (Student Review)



The CA is divided into **My Common Application** (Applicant Info) and **My Colleges**, where all college requirements, deadlines, and information are accessed, and college-specific elements of the application are completed

My Common Application

Under [My Common Application](#) there are six required sections, under which there are numerous sub-sections



The screenshot displays the 'My Common Application | Profile' page. On the left is a sidebar with the 'common app' logo and a list of sections: My Common Application, Profile, Family, Education, Testing, Activities, Writing, and Courses & Grades (0 college(s) require). A red arrow points to the 'Education' section. The main content area is titled 'Personal Information' and includes a 'Preview' button. It shows 'In progress' status and fields for 'Legal first/given name*' (Sasha), 'Would you like to share a different first name that people call you?' (No selected), 'Middle name', and 'Last/family/surname*' (Outlandish). A 'Clear answer' button is also present.

common app

My Common Application

- Profile
- Family
- Education
- Testing
- Activities
- Writing
- Courses & Grades
0 college(s) require

My Common Application | Profile

Personal Information

Preview

In progress

Legal first/given name*

Sasha

Would you like to share a different first name that people call you?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Clear answer

Middle name

Last/family/surname*

Outlandish

The *Education* Section

A few portions of the **Common App** that ALWAYS cause confusion:

- **Date of entry** into Pine View August 2023 (Freshman year)
- **Under Grades**
 - Graduating class size: 167
 - Class rank reporting: NONE
 - GPA Scale Reporting: 4.0
 - Cumulative GPA: Report your *WEIGHTED* GPA
 - GPA Weighting: Weighted
- **Current or Most Recent Year Courses.** We are Semester-based
- **Honors** entries (5). Report Academic Honors (it's okay if you have none)

Testing and the Common Application!

Reporting Test Scores (ACT/SAT)

- On the Common App, report ACT scores, SAT scores, or both*
- **ACT** Report your highest individual Composite score and highest individual section scores earned so far (Science is optional)
- Score reports are ordered directly through testing agencies

Always check each university's specific score-reporting requirements

- Some schools (e.g., FSU, UF) allow applicants to 'self-report'
- Entering scores on the Common App does **not** count as "self-reporting"
- Most other schools require official scores sent directly from the testing agency to admissions

The *Activities* Section (10 slots-50 Characters!)

Use as many slots as you can. Note limitations. Be strategic!

The *Writing* Section – Personal Essay (support)

My Common Application | Writing

Personal Essay

Preview

✓ Complete

Some colleges require submission of the personal essay with your Common App. You may submit a personal essay to any college, even if it is not required by that college. If not required by a college, you will be given the option during submission to include your essay or not for that college.*

☒ I understand

Here is the current list of colleges on your Dashboard and whether they require the Personal Essay.

Required	Not Required
- Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art - University of Florida	Virginia Tech

The essay demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. What do you want the readers of your application to know

- Personal Essay topics (650)
- **Additional Information**
 - Would you like to share any details about challenges or other circumstances you've experienced? (250 words)
 - Would you like to share any additional details or qualifications not reflected in the application? (300 words)

College Search and My Colleges

This screenshot shows the 'My colleges' page in the Common App. The left sidebar contains the 'common app' logo and a navigation menu with icons for home, documents, education, search, messages, wallet, settings, and a profile icon. The main content area is titled 'My colleges' and includes a sub-header 'Application requirements'. Below this, there is a list of colleges: Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art, University of Florida, and Virginia Tech. Each college entry shows its logo, name, a link to 'Add your term or admission plan', and the application status 'Application - In progress'. A 'Show more details' link is also present for each college.

My colleges

Sort my colleges by: College Name ▾

Overview

- ✓ Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art
- ✓ University of Florida
- ✓ Virginia Tech

Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art
[Add your term or admission plan](#)
Application - In progress
[Show more details](#)

University of Florida
[Add your term or admission plan](#)
Application - In progress
[Show more details](#)

Virginia Tech
[Add your term or admission plan](#)
Application - In progress
[Show more details](#)

This screenshot shows the 'College information' page in the Common App. The left sidebar is identical to the previous screenshot. The main content area is titled 'College information' and includes contact information for the Cooper Union: 'admissions@cooper.edu', 'Phone (212) 353-4120', and '41 Cooper Sq, New York, NY 10003-7102, USA'. Below this, there are sections for 'Application deadlines' and 'Links'. The 'Application deadlines' section lists 'Fall 2026 (Early Decision for School of Engineering)' with a deadline of 'November 01, 2025', 'Fall 2026 (Early Decision for School of Architecture & School of Art)' with a deadline of 'December 01, 2025', and 'Fall 2026 (Regular Decision for All Programs)' with a deadline of 'January 05, 2026'. The 'Links' section includes links to the 'College website', 'Admissions office', 'Financial aid', 'Virtual tour', and 'College Navigator'. Social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube are also displayed.

My colleges | Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art

College information

admissions@cooper.edu · Phone [\(212\) 353-4120](tel:(212)353-4120)
41 Cooper Sq
New York, NY 10003-7102
USA

Application deadlines

- Fall 2026 (Early Decision for School of Engineering)
Early Decision · November 01, 2025
- Fall 2026 (Early Decision for School of Architecture & School of Art)
Early Decision · December 01, 2025
- Fall 2026 (Regular Decision for All Programs)
Regular Decision · January 05, 2026

Links

- [College website](#)
- [Admissions office](#)
- [Financial aid](#)
- [Virtual tour](#)
- [College Navigator](#)

[Other deadline information](#)

Florida Public Universities

The Florida State University

- Both Early Action and Early Decision October 15th deadline - *Common Application* or FSU institutional application
- **STARS** and **Testing** must be uploaded to your FSU Portal by 10/22
- The later December 1st Regular Deadline is NOT advised
- You must self-report or send test scores (Self-report through the FSU *Application Status* page after you apply)
- Recommendations are NOT accepted
- FSU Honors College application is indicated within the FSU application. Application essay due in December
- Accept/Defer/Deny on December 17th
- Pathways options may be assigned. See FSU Admissions page
- If deferred, decisions will be released on February 18th

University of Florida

- Early Decision due by October 15th
 - *STAR and Scores deadline* October 22nd
- Early Action due by November 1st
 - *STAR and Scores deadline* November 8th
- Self-report or send test scores (Self-report in UF portal)
- Teacher recommendations are NOT accepted
- Emphasis on metrics (weighted gpa & rigor)
- Regardless your activities and essay are critical (+one supplement)
- UF Honors College application is *within* the application
- Accept/Defer/Deny
- Early Decision release on December 11th
- Early Action release January 22nd
- If deferred, decisions will be released on March 19th

University of Florida Supplemental Essay

Please provide more details on your most meaningful commitment outside of the classroom while in high school and explain why it was meaningful. This could be related to an extracurricular activity, work, volunteering, an academic activity, family responsibility, or any other non-classroom activity. (100-250 words)

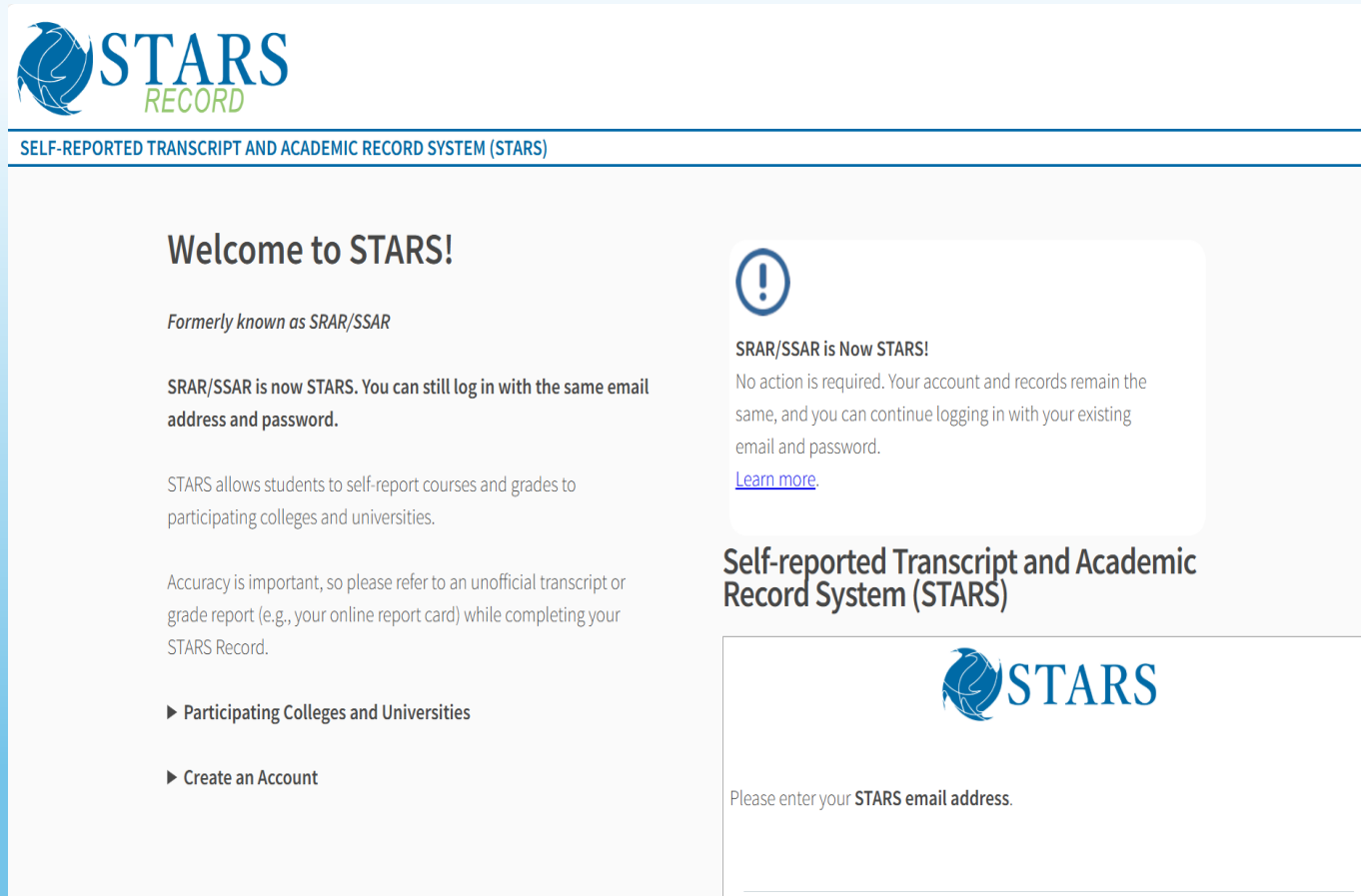
Honors Essay Prompt (2026-27) (400 words)

The UF Honors Program's mission is to connect, nurture and engage the next generation of scholars who change the world. How do you envision yourself contributing to this mission? Consider the people, experiences, resources, and aspirations that have shaped your journey thus far and your future plans.

State University Information/Updates

- Key Additional SUS Information
 - All Florida Public Universities now use the *CommonApp* (or own institutional)
 - Most also require the *STARS* (*Not FGCU and FIU-transcripts*)
 - **USF** uses a consolidated application for all campuses
 - Early Action: CommonApp by November 2
 - *STARS/Testing* by November 16 (12/9)
 - Regular Decision: Apply by December 16
 - *STARS/Testing* by January 15 (2/10)
 - **UCF** has an October 15th early deadline but uses its own self-reporting system (*SPARK and Test Scores* by 11/15). Rolling admissions thereafter (12/4)
 - *Always apply early for priority scholarship and admissions consideration. Pay attention to housing processes, Honors College, FAFSA deadlines*

Self-Reported Transcript and Academic Record System (STARS)



The screenshot shows the STARS website interface. At the top left is the STARS RECORD logo. Below it is a navigation bar with the text "SELF-REPORTED TRANSCRIPT AND ACADEMIC RECORD SYSTEM (STARS)". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a "Welcome to STARS!" heading, followed by the text "Formerly known as SRAR/SSAR", a paragraph stating "SRAR/SSAR is now STARS. You can still log in with the same email address and password.", another paragraph explaining that STARS allows students to self-report courses and grades, and a final paragraph about accuracy. At the bottom of this column are two links: "Participating Colleges and Universities" and "Create an Account". The right column features a yellow box with an exclamation mark icon, containing the heading "SRAR/SSAR is Now STARS!", a paragraph stating that no action is required and accounts remain the same, and a "Learn more" link. Below this box is the heading "Self-reported Transcript and Academic Record System (STARS)" and a login section with the STARS logo and a text input field labeled "Please enter your STARS email address."

Welcome to STARS!

Formerly known as SRAR/SSAR

SRAR/SSAR is now STARS. You can still log in with the same email address and password.

STARS allows students to self-report courses and grades to participating colleges and universities.

Accuracy is important, so please refer to an unofficial transcript or grade report (e.g., your online report card) while completing your STARS Record.

- ▶ Participating Colleges and Universities
- ▶ Create an Account

Self-reported Transcript and Academic Record System (STARS)

Please enter your STARS email address.

- UF/FSU and most Florida public universities require you to complete what is known as the **STARS**.
- A separate website where you will enter all completed coursework
- Instructions for completing the **STARS** appear on the pvs counseling website
- STARS instructions

Self-Reported Transcript and Academic Record

- Please use FOCUS to complete the [STARS](#). Go to Grades-->View Detailed Report. Enter letter grades only (no +/-)
- You only need to complete the [STARS](#) once. However, you must link it to each application once invited to do so in your application portals

It is recommended that you enter ALL high school courses and grades by SEMESTER for consistency. [recommended by UF, FSU and USF Admissions]. For 9th grade you should simply enter your year-long grade twice, once for the Fall semester and again for Spring (.5 credit per). Enter your 10-11th grade courses and pending 12th grade courses on a semester basis as they appear on your transcript.

- Note that UCF uses its own system known as [SPARK](#)

Private Colleges & Universities

Private Universities General Requirements

- Most will use and require the *Common Application* and Essay
- Most require additional, school-specific *supplemental essays*.
Large, public universities typically do not have supplements
(*CommonApp* essay only)
- Most private colleges require 1-2 teacher *letters of recommendation* and one counselor letter
- Several more selective colleges offer interviews

Teacher Recommendations

- Please request letters by **October 5th** for early and priority applications and **December 18th** for Regular Decision applications (or earlier). This allows teachers 3+ weeks notice
- Letters of Recommendation
 - Personally ask recommenders first!
 - Request teachers electronically through [SchooLinks](#) (You must first sign the *FERPA waiver* and then MATCH your [CommonApp](#) and [SchooLinks](#) accounts). Tap on each college to request
 - Provide teachers with the LoR *Student Information* form
- Outside recommenders should be invited via email through the [Common Application](#)

Counselor Recommendation & School Report

- A Counselor recommendations is required by most private colleges (those that require teacher letters). It is automatic and does not require you to request it from me. That said...
- *PLEASE* make certain that you upload your resume/activities list and previously assigned questionnaires and prompts to *Schoolinks* (and/or send copies to me via email)

Miscellaneous To Do and To Know

Transcript Authorization Form

The Transcript Request form grants Pine View permission to send transcript materials and recommendations to colleges

- Colleges *must* reflect those in *SchoolLinks*
- Include *all* colleges (even STARS colleges, e.g. UF) Please adhere to the listed deadlines to assure timely submission of materials
 - *October 5th* for Early and Priority deadlines
 - *December 18th* for Regular Decision

Multiple transcript request forms may be submitted

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF TRANSCRIPTS			
I _____ request that Pine View School send my academic transcript, teacher and counselor recommendations and other pertinent school records to the following colleges and/or universities. I understand that the first five transcript requests are free ; that a charge of \$2.00 will be collected for each additional request. Indicate EA if you are applying <i>Early Action</i> , ED <i>Early Decision</i> or ROLL <i>Rolling</i> or RD <i>Regular Decision</i> for the corresponding college/university. Note: Requests made after the dates below must be discussed with guidance and may NOT receive priority or preferential support.			
EARLY ACTION OR EARLY DECISION REQUESTS DUE ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 5th			
REGULAR DECISION OR ROLLING DECISION REQUESTS DUE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 18th			
College/University	EA/ED/ Roll/RD	Application Deadline	Entered in SchoolLinks (Y/N)
1 _____	_____	_____	_____
2 _____	_____	_____	_____
3 _____	_____	_____	_____
4 _____	_____	_____	_____
5 _____	_____	_____	_____
6 _____	_____	_____	_____
7 _____	_____	_____	_____
8 _____	_____	_____	_____
9 _____	_____	_____	_____
10 _____	_____	_____	_____
Adult Student/Parent/Legal Guardian rights under Florida State Board of Education Rule 6A 1.955			
• Right to Access (a copy of records may be obtained at cost of reproduction) • Right to Privacy (Right to waive access to confidential letters and statements) • Right to Challenge (Right to challenge the contents of records provided through a hearing) • Right to Notification (Right to know that records are being transferred)			
Information will NOT be disclosed to any other party except school officials with a legitimate educational interest without prior written consent of Adult Student/Parent/Legal Guardian.			
I have been informed of and understand my rights regarding the release and transfer of these records.			
Adult Student Signature (18 or older) _____		Date _____	
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____		Date _____	
Office Use Only / Date Received _____			
Revised 6/2026			

Early Decision Agreement EDI/EDII

If you and your family decide to apply under an Early Decision plan, either in state to UF or FSU, or to an out of state university, you must complete and sign ED Agreement forms required by both the college and Pine View

You will acknowledge:

- Your understanding of the binding nature of an ED application
- That you may only make one ED application (and follow the restrictions of other Early Action placed upon ED applicants)
- Agree that, if accepted, you will withdraw all other applications

PINE VIEW SCHOOL EARLY DECISION AGREEMENT 2026-27

Each Pine View student and his/her parent filing an **Early Decision** application must sign the following statement and submit it along with the Transcript Request form to the Guidance Office by October 15th, 2026 (EDII-December 18th, 2026). Please affirm the following:

- 1) I am applying Early Decision to only one institution (public universities excepted);
- 2) If accepted, I agree to withdraw all other applications at the time of notification and not submit additional applications;
- 3) I have researched and am aware of the potential implications of acceptance and rejection of an Early Acceptance offer, and that my high school college resource officer has shared this information with me;
- 4) I am applying under this plan in good faith.

I AM/WE ARE REQUESTING THAT PINE VIEW SCHOOL SEND TRANSCRIPT MATERIALS TO THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTION UNDER AN EARLY DECISION PLAN:

IF A POSITIVE DECISION REGARDING THIS APPLICATION IS REACHED BY THE INSTITUTION NAMED ABOVE, IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT ALL OTHER APPLICATIONS WILL BE WITHDRAWN AT THE TIME OF NOTIFICATION.

_____ Parent Signature	_____ Student Signature
_____ Date	_____ Student Name Printed

THIS CONTRACT IS INTENDED FOR PINE VIEW SCHOOL ONLY. IT DOES NOT REPLACE AN INDIVIDUAL COLLEGE'S EARLY DECISION OR COMMON APPLICATION CONTRACT. PLEASE FOLLOW ALL COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCEDURES.

Revised June 2026

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- The 2026-27 FAFSA will open on October 1st
- It is strongly recommended that *ALL* students (parents) should complete and submit the FAFSA *regardless* of financial situation
- Most colleges require FAFSA completion for financial aid *and* scholarship eligibility. This includes *work study opportunities, loans, and in many cases, merit-based scholarships*
- The earlier the better. Money is awarded on a “first come, first serve” basis. Early completion makes award letters and negotiations possible!
- Please join us on October 8th for our Financial Aid presentation

Bright Futures 2027-28

Florida Academic Scholars (100% tuition+)

- GPA 3.5 weighted (recalculated)
- *SAT 1330 (CR/M) or ACT 29 - Superscored*
- 100 Community Service Hours (or Work)

• Florida Medallion Award (appx 75% tuition)

- GPA 3.0 weighted (recalculated)
- *SAT 1190 (CR/M) / ACT 24 – Superscored (Must include Science)*
- 75 Community Service Hours (or 100 Work)

The Bright Futures application opens October 1st. All PV students will be asked to apply regardless of their college intentions! Instructions will be emailed home and shared in classroom presentations *If possible, try to meet testing thresholds and complete/submit Service/Work hours by the Early Evaluation deadline (by end of 1st semester)*

Appointments with Mr. Bergman

- If applying to Florida Public Universities *only* there is no urgency to meet (unless you wish). You may also email me anytime, anything
- *If* applying early or under special circumstances and we have not met, it is strongly advised we meet before submission. This includes ED or REA plans, Questbridge, or through a Military Academy or athletic recruitment process

Final Thoughts and Miscellaneous Reminders

- You are strongly encouraged to submit applications *early*.
Transcripts and Recommendations are sent *after you submit*
- The 2027-28 FAFSA will open October 1st. Most colleges require FAFSA completion for financial aid *and* scholarship eligibility. We recommend ALL families complete the FAFSA regardless of financial situation
- The initial Bright Futures Application also opens October 1st
- Upcoming Events:
 - September/October Classroom Visits
 - October 2nd UF and FSU Rep Visit (Periods 2-4)
 - October 8th FAFSA/Financial Aid Night (Virtual)

Q & A!