

# Class of 2024

## COLLEGE, HERE WE COME . . .

*A Project in New Beginnings Due: Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>*



What better way to begin your senior year in high school than with a college project! Because you are college bound, we will explore together many components of the college selection process such as scholarship and financial aid, research, and, of course, the admissions essay.

**NOTE: If your project is late for any reason, the most you will receive on it is 50%. Therefore, if you know you are going to be absent for any reason on the due date, you must turn in the assignment early for full credit.**

### Contents and Requirements:

**Presentation:** All components of this project need to be typed and organized and placed into a presentation folder (NOT placed into a manila folder) with your name and class period on the front. The binder should be a soft, flexible presentation folder – not a hard binder. You should include both a title page and a table of contents. Graphics will add cleverness and appeal to your project--you need to use them. Think of the project as a presentation you would present in corporate America. It should look professional while also displaying uniqueness because it is all about you.

### Component 1: Terms

These are terms that you will encounter as you complete your college research, and while most are probably familiar to you, some you may not recognize. Define each. Your definitions do not have to be long, but they do need to be in complete sentences. They also need to be in YOUR words so that I know that YOU understand them. Do not copy your friend's work or from the Internet. Read the definition and then summarize in your voice.

1. Academic Major /Minor
2. Add/Drop
3. Advisor
4. Associate's Degree
5. Course Catalog
6. Credit (semester/ quarter hours)
7. Early Decision
8. Early Action
9. Freshman 15
10. Prerequisite
11. Rate My Professor
12. Room and Board
13. Resident Assistant (RA)
14. Teaching Assistant

## **Component 2: Academic Goals – Must double space! No MLA, but make your page creative!**

In a few paragraphs, please explain your goals for your life during and after college. In the first paragraph, explain your goals for college including what majors you are considering and information on specific ways you will stay focused in college in order to earn your degree.

In the second paragraph, share a career or two that you hope to procure upon graduation. Please reference your YouScience results from Junior year. This may include an additional graduate or professional school. What do you hope to accomplish, and how will your college or post-high school experience get you there? How does this field relate to your career goal? (Check out the Occupational Outlook Handbook [www.bls.gov/ooh](http://www.bls.gov/ooh) --it is FULL of interesting ideas, goals, occupations/jobs, that might spark your interest!) If you honestly do not know what your future goals are, then you need to discuss/contemplate what your interests are and what your long-term desires are as well as various fields that you find intriguing.

## **Component 3: College Search and Applying. (Lots of creative design in this component!)**

**Three Fact Sheets:** Create an informational sheet on three colleges of your choice:

(A) Your “dream” school (one you would love to attend, but might be a stretch either academically or financially)

(B) Your “hope” school that you would really like to attend and think you could be accepted.

(C) Your “should” school that you feel you can get into with no problem and still be happy attending.

Make sure that you label these colleges as your “dream, hope, should” school. At least one of the colleges should be a Florida college or university. Maybe look at schools that you never have heard of before this project in order to extend your range of possible choices. SCOIR, U.S. News and World Report, Forbes, Niche and Newsweek have great information; some include rankings of various colleges and universities. Each fact sheet should include, but is not limited to the following: (Graphics/Logos are needed in this section)

1. Name of College
2. Application deadline
3. Middle 50% SAT Scores, ACT Scores, and GPA
4. Appealing information about the school and location. (This information should be specific to you! If the college is in Hawaii and you love the beach, say that! Little insights will help you make this big decision!) **One full paragraph**
5. Student population
6. Student/teacher ratio
7. Cost of tuition and fees; in other words, how much will it cost you/your parents each year to attend BEFORE any financial aid is considered? You should list each college’s TOTAL costs.
8. TOTAL costs include tuition, room and board, books, general cost of living for you, etc.
9. Major(s) that might appeal to you and a brief description of these programs.

**Component 4: Application Completion:** Apply to at least one of the schools you researched and turn in everything required for admissions (please see details in counseling lesson in August). Make sure as part of your proof you take a screen shot showing that all required documents have been submitted.

**Note: I would recommend University of North Florida’s “Apply in July” program.**

## **Component 5: Scholarship Application**

Use Fast Web (fastweb.com), Big Future Scholarship Search (College Board), and/or www.collegedebtfree.org to find and apply for at least one scholarship. Other locations to find scholarships are local businesses where you work, companies where your parent's work, and local non-profit organizations. You must print out the document with the name of the scholarship and all requirements and then show proof of meeting all of those requirements. For example, if there is an essay requirement, show proof of the completed essay.

This scholarship should NOT include Florida Scholars/Bright Futures Program. These are scholarships you find to supplement your college costs. One student a few years ago was of Greek descent and found several scholarships which applied to her; also, there are many scholarships available if you have any Native-American blood. Don't just look at the first one or two listed—those will be the ones that EVERYONE tries to get.

## **Component 6 – College Admissions Essay (Writing Grade) – MLA FORMAT**

You will write an epiphany essay answering the prompt either from your top college admissions website or from Common App if applicable. **This will count as a separate writing grade** as well as part of the college project. YOU MUST INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR ROUGH DRAFT WITH MY EDITS THAT WERE RETURNED TO YOU WITH A FINAL DRAFT IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FULL CREDIT IN YOUR PROJECT.

## **Component 7 - Resume**

Many colleges today are requiring that students not only fill out the application and write an essay, but also that they submit a resume, which lists and documents interests, extracurricular activities, etc.

Make sure that you explain all the entries. Attached in the College Project module is a GENERAL resume form for you to follow. Be aware that some colleges require their own formats and/or questions for these forms; however, this form will give you a good start in completing the process. Make sure that your resume contains explanations for your clubs and organizations—don't put Delta Tau Sigma; explain what it is. Don't put Best Buddies; explain what it is. Don't put Habijax volunteer; explain what you did.

Below is a great website with sample resumes:

<https://resumegenius.com/resume-samples/college-student-resume-example>

## **Component 8: Parent/Student Survey Forms**

Many colleges and/or scholarship applications require that you have at least one teacher or guidance recommendation. You and your parents need to print and fill out the "College Counseling Survey for Students" and "College Counseling Survey for Parents" (these are online surveys completed in junior year) as completely as possible to aid your teacher(s)/counselors in preparing any future recommendations so that they will have the best possible insight into you as a person and as a student!

## **Component 9: Social Media – Must double space and format in MLA**

Clean up your Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts. Place professional photos of you on these type of chat groups. In other words, do not have pictures of you holding alcoholic beverages, holding cigarettes or other smoking items, and no pictures of bikinis or skimpy clothing of any sort. If you have used non-Christian language in the past, delete those words and phrases. Colleges frequently look at these sites and just based on your pictures alone may determine whether you get into their college or not.

For this component, read the 3 of the following 4 articles/blogs. Then write a 3-4 paragraph summary formatted in the following way:

Introduction – Overall what you have learned to protect your reputation and future as it relates to your social media.

Paragraph One – A paragraph using evidence from your first article in the form of a quote to make your point.

Paragraph Two – A paragraph using evidence from your second article in the form of a quote to make your point.

Paragraph Three – A paragraph using evidence from your third article in the form of a quote to make your point.

Conclusion – Wrap up your essay by explaining what you did to change anything on your social media.

If you did not have to change anything, write about what you believe is the purpose of your social media as a Christ follower.

1. They Loved Your G.P.A. Then They Saw Your Tweets. - NYTimes.com

<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2013/11/10/business/they-loved-your-gpa-then-they-saw-your-tweets.html>

2. How Your Social Media Presence Affects College Admission <https://blog.collegevine.com/how-your-social-media-presence-affects-your-college-applications/>

3. Social Media Today Affects College Admissions Tomorrow <http://mycollegeguide.org/articles/college-admissions/social-media-affects-college-admissions>

4. Social media cost this star athlete his Division I scholarship—now he's trying to educate others

<https://blogs.usafootball.com/blog/3962/social-media-cost-this-star-athlete-his-division-i-scholarship-now-he-s-trying-toeducate-others>

## **Component 10: Senior Yearbook Quote/Bible Verse**

Choose two quotes: the first is a favorite Bible verse; the second is a quote which you like or which summarizes your personality. The yearbook sponsor and staff will decide which they will use; however, if your personal quote is in ANY WAY inappropriate for this project or for the yearbook, your scripture will be what is in the yearbook under your name and you will not receive credit for the quote. Please type these two quotes on paper and give the name for the quote as well as the chapter and verse for the scripture. There will also be a separate assignment in Canvas where you will type these two quotes for Administration and Dean approval.

Note: Remember that a yearbook is a printed, permanent record of your high school years. How you present yourself matters. This quote is part of your permanent legacy and allows you to inspire and lead the underclassmen. It is not all about being funny or edgy.

## **Component 11: College Visits – Creativity on this page a plus!**

You will attend at least 3 college visits in one of the following ways:

- The Counseling Department sets up college visits during Activity Period at the beginning of the year. There is a sign-up sheet at each session. Make sure you sign the sheet and that you keep a list of the schools you visited and their dates to include in your project. Also, write down for each visit five unique facts you learned during the presentation. A unique fact is NOT that their mascot is the elephant. Find facts that are applicable to your interests and goals for the university experience. The counselors will confirm your attendance.
- A scheduled tour on a college campus is also acceptable. Please type the name of the college that you visited, the date and five unique facts you learned during the presentation. A unique fact is NOT that their mascot is the elephant. Find facts that are applicable to your interests and goals for the university experience. You will need to turn in a brochure signed by the tour guide and the date confirmed in an e-mail of the scheduled tour.

## **Component 12: Alumni Perspective**

Choose two alumni that graduated from Providence in the last 10 years and interview them asking the following questions. Only one of the two can be a graduate from last year. (This can be a phone interview or in-person interview). Please share their name at the top of this typed document as well as the university they are attending. Hint: We have about 5 teachers on staff who graduated from Providence if you are struggling to find people.

1. Looking back at the college selection process, what do you feel like you did well throughout the process?
2. Looking back at the college selection process, what do you feel like you could have done better in the process?
3. Are you currently attending, or did you attend the school that was your top choice at the end of your Junior year? If no, walk me through the process of what changed. If yes, how did you know it was your top school?
4. How stressful has the financial process of the attending or graduating from college been. Explain your answer.
5. On a scale on 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest, rate your experience thus far with the university you are attending or did attend. Explain your answer.

## **In-Class College Presentation (Homework Grade)**

You will sign up to present one of your three colleges to the class in a 3-4 minute presentation. No more than two presentations of the same university can be presented in one section. Must use tools which can include a PowerPoint presentation, a poster or other creative devices. Dressing in school colors or paraphernalia is highly recommended. Please do not stand up and just report five facts about the school. Show video, sing the fight song, bring in food that is indicative to that state or school EX) Gator Tail for UGA! In other words, make this fun for the class! We will present these the week the college project is due. You must either provide a poster or PowerPoint presentation.