

# FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

# Counselor Information

## 2016-2017

### *Greetings!*

As we busily prepare for a new admissions cycle, I know some of you might be anxious about all the changes you will be encountering this year:

- the new SAT,
- the opening of FAFSA on October 1, and
- the Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success and its application platform.

The ever-changing landscape of college admissions makes our collaboration more important than ever! I'm hopeful that by working together, we can successfully assist students in the pursuit of their "best-fit" college.

### NEW THIS YEAR AT FSU

**SAT/ACT Changes:** As you would expect, we will accept both the new and the old SAT. The optional essay for either exam will not be required and will not be used in our admissions review. While we will continue to super score both the ACT and SAT sub scores, we will not mix the new and old SAT test scores when super scoring. The latest test dates that we will accept for our final admissions notification on March 16, 2017 are the January SAT and February ACT.

**Financial Aid Changes:** The priority deadline for financial aid and admissions scholarships is December 1, 2016. Students are strongly encouraged to submit their 2017-2018 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in October, but no later than December 1, 2016. Students can use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to import their parent/legal guardian tax information into their FAFSA. More information regarding the changes to the FAFSA can be found at [studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa](http://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa). While an exact date has not been determined, we hope to send out official financial aid award letters to all of our currently enrolled and admitted students before the end of December.

**Application Changes:** Florida State University is a member of the Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success, but we will not use the Coalition's application for students seeking

admission for summer or fall of 2017; however, we expect to be ready to use the Coalition application for the 2018 admissions cycle.

**CARE Changes:** Diversity, access, and affordability continue to be a top priority for Florida State in 2017. The CARE program was expanded this past year to 400, up from 350 the prior year, and it will continue at this higher level this year. CARE students will no longer be required to send us an official high school transcript as part of the application process. Instead, we are requesting that CARE applicants complete the SSAR like all our other applicants. CARE applicants must complete a supplemental CARE application found in Part 2 (Checklist) of the application.

My first year as Director was very exciting, and I appreciate the opportunity that I had to get to know many of you more closely. If we haven't had the chance to talk yet, I hope you will feel free to call me if I can ever be of assistance to you and your students. As always, thank you for all you do for your students and for FSU. I appreciate you!

Warm Regards,



Hege Ferguson  
Director  
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[hferguson@fsu.edu](mailto:hferguson@fsu.edu)

*P.S. We would be happy to connect with you and your students via SKYPE. Contact Julie Richardson at [jmrichardson2@fsu.edu](mailto:jmrichardson2@fsu.edu) to schedule a time.*



**Stay Informed** Join our email listserv at [admissions.fsu.edu/counselors](http://admissions.fsu.edu/counselors) to receive the latest news from Florida State.

**Keep Us Informed** Are you hosting a College Fair? Direct your College Fair invitations to [collegefairinfo@fsu.edu](mailto:collegefairinfo@fsu.edu).

A PREEMINENT FLORIDA UNIVERSITY

## Freshman Notification Dates

Application and All Supporting Documents Received by

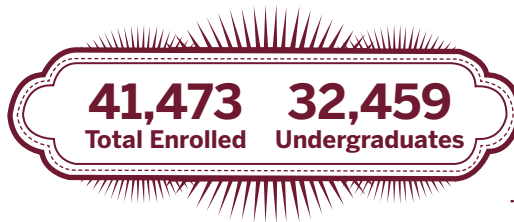
Oct. 19, 2016

Jan. 18, 2017

Decision Available Online on

Dec. 8, 2016

Mar. 16, 2017



Retention Rate

93%

Tallahassee, FL  
The Capital City



Voted Most Beautiful College Campus House Beautiful

87% In-State

7% Out-of-State

6% International

Graduation Rate  
79%

## New Essay Topic

This year's essay topics are described below. Applicants should choose one topic.

- Describe an experience from your life that either demonstrates your character or helped shape it.
- Describe a time when you made a meaningful contribution to others in which the greater good was your focus. Discuss the challenges and rewards of making your contribution.
- Has there been a time when you've had a long-cherished or accepted belief challenged? How did you respond? How did the challenge affect your beliefs?

ESTIMATED  
*cost* OF  
ATTENDANCE  
(FALL + SPRING, 15 HOURS PER SEMESTER)

TOTAL IN-STATE

\$18,064

\*estimate

TOTAL OUT-OF-STATE

\$33,231

\*estimate

## Visiting Campus

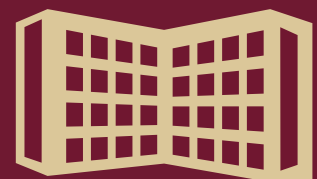
We would love to have you visit our campus to see what it's like to be an FSU Seminole! We offer campus tours Monday through Friday, typically at 9:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. If you would like to schedule a personalized campus visit, please contact our Assistant Director, Mark Meloney, at [mmeloney@fsu.edu](mailto:mmeloney@fsu.edu). If you cannot make it to campus, check out our virtual campus tour at [visit.fsu.edu](http://visit.fsu.edu).

Preview is an event for accepted freshmen to experience life as a Seminole for a day. **Preview dates for 2017 are: March 24, March 31, April 7, and April 21.** Each event is capped at 450 students and registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

*tuition & fees*

IN-STATE  
\$6,516

OUT-OF-STATE  
\$21,683



*housing*  
\$6,550

MOST POPULAR  
*meal plan*

\$3,998

*books & supplies*

\$1,000



\*The above totals do not include the cost of health insurance. Students who do not show proof of existing comparable coverage may enroll in the school-sponsored plan at a cost of \$2,262/year.

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### UNIVERSITY FRESHMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Accepted freshmen will be automatically considered for our University Freshman scholarship. A separate application is not required. Scholarships are competitive and awarded based on academic merit (combination of weighted academic core grade point average AND test scores). The award is \$9,600 distributed over four years. Scholarship funds are limited, so students are encouraged to apply for admission by October 19 to be admitted in December for priority consideration. Scholarship awards will be made in December and continue until all available funds are exhausted.

### PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Accepted freshmen who received the University Freshman Scholarship in December are eligible to apply for the Presidential Scholars Program. The program application deadline is January 25th, 2017. Students selected as Presidential Scholars will receive the \$9,600 University Freshman Scholarship plus a separate \$9,600 Presidential Scholarship, both distributed over four years. An additional \$12,000 will be granted for educational enrichment opportunities. The total value of this scholarship is \$31,200 over four years. Out-of-state applicants will also receive a full out-of-state tuition waiver. Detailed information about this scholarship can be found at [presidentialscholars.fsu.edu/](http://presidentialscholars.fsu.edu/).

### BENACQUISTO SCHOLARSHIP

(formerly Florida Incentive Scholarship Program)

Named after Florida Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto, this prestigious scholarship is available to National Merit Finalists who are Florida residents graduating with a Florida standard high school diploma or the equivalent. The amount of the award equals the institutional cost of attendance (minus the sum of Bright Futures and the National Merit scholarship). The total value of this scholarship is over \$80,000 distributed over four years. Along with the scholarship, Benacquisto recipients are guaranteed admission into FSU's University Honors Program.

### NATIONAL MERIT FINALIST SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is available to non-Florida residents listing FSU as their first choice with the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The award includes a waiver of the out-of-state portion of the tuition cost, the \$9,600 University Freshman Scholarship, and any National Merit Scholarship. The total value of this scholarship is over \$69,000 over four years and guarantees admission into FSU's University Honors Program.

### OUT OF STATE TUITION FEE WAIVERS/ SCHOLARSHIPS

#### FULL WAIVER OF OUT-OF-STATE TUITION FEES

Accepted out-of-state freshmen will be automatically considered for Out-of-State Tuition Fee Waivers/Scholarships. A separate application is not required. Waivers/Scholarships are competitive and awarded based on academic merit (combination of weighted academic core grade point average AND test scores). The total amount of this award varies since the out-of-state tuition fee is assessed per credit hour. Currently, the total value of a 100% Waiver/Scholarship is \$57,720 based upon 30 semester hours of credit taken each year for four years (approximately a \$481 reduction per credit hour). Please note: Our study-abroad program does not assess out-of-state fees, so this award cannot be applied to the cost of studying abroad.

#### PARTIAL WAIVER OF OUT-OF-STATE TUITION FEES

Accepted out-of-state freshmen will be automatically considered for Out-of-State Tuition Fee Waivers/Scholarships. A separate application is not required. Waivers/Scholarships are competitive and awarded based on academic merit (combination of weighted academic core grade point average AND test scores). The total amount of this award varies since the out-of-state tuition fee is assessed per credit hour. Currently, the total

value of a 50% Waiver/Scholarship is \$28,920 based upon 30 semester hours of credit taken each year for four years (approximately a \$241 reduction per credit hour). Please note: Our study-abroad program does not assess out-of-state fees, so this award cannot be applied to the cost of studying abroad.

### CARE APPLICANTS

First generation-in-college freshmen who are socio-economically disadvantaged should apply to the Summer Bridge Program offered by the Center for Academic Retention and Enhancement (CARE). Typically 400 students are selected for this program each year. These students will receive substantial financial aid support and additional support services designed to motivate and assist students in their transition from high school to college.

Students should express their interest in CARE in Part 1 of our online application for admission at [admissions.fsu.edu/undergradapp/](http://admissions.fsu.edu/undergradapp/). Like all students, **CARE applicants must complete the SSAR** and request official test scores be sent to FSU. In addition, CARE applicants must submit the 2016-2017 **AND** 2017-2018 FAFSA and the CARE essay. The supplemental CARE application, application fee waiver, and the required essay are located in Part 2 (Checklist) of the application. The essay topic is:

***Resiliency shows your ability to adapt and succeed in spite of obstacles or other challenges. In 650 words or less, please give an example of how you were resilient and what you learned from that experience.***

### NEW ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

In December 2015, Florida State received the largest gift in its history - \$100 million - from Jan Moran and the Jim Moran Foundation. This gift will help create **the nation's largest interdisciplinary, degree-granting school of entrepreneurship**. The Jim Moran School of Entrepreneurship will offer B.S. and B.A. degrees with majors that will serve students who want to combine their interest in a wide variety of fields (such as art, music, law, education, criminology, social work, etc.) with training in entrepreneurship.

Florida State, through the College of Medicine, is excited to offer a new **Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences**. Students can select one of three interdisciplinary majors: Pre-Health Professions; Community Patient Care; or Health Management, Policy, and Information. These programs will help prepare students for entry into professional training programs or become part of the healthcare workforce.

In addition, we are now offering a **Bachelor of Science degree in Environment and Society** through the College of Social Sciences. This degree combines courses from the social sciences and the sciences to investigate today's pressing issues such as ecosystem management, climate changes, resource conservation, land use planning, severe storm mitigation, and environment health – including how those issues are scientifically evaluated and their resolutions formulated into public policy.

**The College of Education** has made some changes to their teacher education programs to better prepare students for the classroom. For STEM students interested in teaching, FSU-Teach features a double major: one in the STEM major and one in science and mathematics teaching. For students interested in working with elementary students, special needs populations, English Education, or Social Science Education, FSU now offers combined degree programs that will allow students to graduate with a BS and MS in five years. All of these programs are structured to emphasize actual work in schools and the latest educational research.

# Meet Our Experts

## FRESHMAN ADMISSIONS



**Julie Richardson**  
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## TRANSFER ADMISSIONS



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**Mike Sklens**  
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## SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE

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