A Message from the Director

Our Decision Day is always filled with so much emotion. On one hand, we are very excited to welcome our Class of 2024. On the other hand, we are sad that we were not able to offer all students the opportunity to start at FSU in their first year of college. We had to make some very difficult choices but, in the end, we feel confident in our decisions. Because we practice holistic review, there generally is not only one reason for why we were not able to offer admission and that may be difficult to reconcile for some. However, if the student is set on graduating from FSU, we encourage the student to consider our transfer options found at https://admissions.fsu.edu/transfer/.

More than 60,800 students applied to Florida State University - an increase of 8.3 percent over last year’s record number of total applications received. Starting Thursday evening, students are able to log in to their FSU Application Status Check page and learn their admission status. As is our tradition, the Office of Admissions will stay open until 9 pm to answer any questions from students and their family members as they learn their admission decision.

FSU was able to offer admission to students representing 66 counties in Florida and from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Twenty-one percent of our admitted students will be the first in their family to attend college. The quality of our applicant pool remained very strong, and we saw another increase in our accepted student profile (https://admissions.fsu.edu/freshman/req.cfm). Approximately 6,000 first-year students are expected to be a part of our Class of 2024, and we could not be more excited to welcome them all to campus.

As always, feel free to email me at hferguson@fsu.edu or call me at 850.644.1389 should you have any questions regarding your students. The phone number is my direct line, so I ask that you please not forward this newsletter so that I can better assist my counselor colleagues in a timely manner. We also encourage you to check out the counselor portal on Slate.org (see page two of this newsletter for more information) to view your students’ admission decisions.

All of us at Florida State are truly humbled by the number of students who have expressed an interest in FSU and we are grateful for your support - THANK YOU!

Warm regards,

Hege Ferguson
Director
COUNSELOR PORTAL ~ SLATE.ORG

Slate.org is a free tool that allows high school and independent counselors to view their students’ application status. Counselors are also able to upload an official transcript and other documents through this portal.

To register, simply visit Slate.org and click the registration link in the top menu. The first counselor to register from a school will be the designated person to manage permissions for that specific school. Check out a video overview (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ONvjjEibalY) of how to register and manage your school's Slate.org profile.

FSU FACTS

Total Enrollment..........................42,876
Undergraduate Enrollment ..........33,000
Student-to-Faculty Ratio .............. 22:1
In-State Students .........................86%
Out-of-State Students...................14%
Retention Rate ..............................93%
Four-Year Graduation Rate ..........72%
Six-Year Graduation Rate ..........80%

SAT Total ..................................1290-1410
ACT Composite ........................... 29-32
Academic Core GPA ...................... 4.1-4.5

2020 Fall - Middle 50%
Academic Core GPA ...................... 4.1-4.5
ACT Composite ........................... 29-32
SAT Total ..................................1290-1410

2020 Summer - Middle 50%
Academic Core GPA ...................... 3.9-4.4
ACT Composite ........................... 26-30
SAT Total ..................................1200-1330

Top Five States
Florida
Georgia
New York
New Jersey
North Carolina

Top Five Majors
Biological Science
Exploratory/Undecided
Business
Engineering
Chemistry/Biochemistry

Top Five Areas of Employment
for FSU Graduates
Technology
Financial
Marketing
Education
Health

NEXT STEPS FOR ACCEPTED STUDENTS

Students admitted to Florida State who have made the decision to attend the University for the Summer or Fall 2020 term should complete the following steps before they arrive on campus:

CLAIM YOUR FSUID*

Students will receive an email from FSU Information Technology Services (ITS) containing their FSUID. The FSUID is the students’ unique user name for access to campus systems and resources, including myFSU portal, Canvas, OMNI, campus Wi-Fi, and more. The email will also contain a unique, nine-digit EMPLID required to activate their FSUID account. For directions on how to claim the FSUID, see page 9 of this newsletter.

ADMISSIONS DEPOSIT

The University requires a non-refundable admission deposit of $200 from first-year students accepted for the summer or fall terms. The deposit confirms a student’s enrollment intention and secures their place in our first-year class. While all selective universities require students to pay a deposit to save a spot in their first-year class, students should be advised to submit only one deposit. Once a student decides that Florida State is their college choice, they should submit their deposit no later than May 1. If a deposit is not received by May 1, admission to the University is subject to cancellation. Students can pay their admission deposit by logging in to their Application Status Check (https://admissions.fsu.edu/statuscheck/). For directions on how to pay the admission deposit, see page 7 of this newsletter.

If a student is Pell-eligible, they may qualify for a waiver of the admissions deposit. To request this waiver, please email admissions@fsu.edu listing “Deposit Waiver” in the subject line.

HOUSING ON CAMPUS

Students admitted to Florida State that want to live on campus need to complete a contract for Housing. To complete this contract, students need to first claim their FSUID and then go to their myHousing portal at housing.fsu.edu/myhousing. Fall/Spring contracts are available beginning February 5. For more information on University Housing, see page 5 of this newsletter.

ORIENTATION

After claiming the FSUID and paying the $200 non-refundable admission deposit, students will need to first complete the Online Pre-Orientation Module by logging in to the myFSU portal at my.fsu.edu. Students will then need to register for a required Orientation session by logging in to their myFSU portal. In the portal, students will see the following prompt: Have you registered for New Student Orientation? To register or update the reservation CLICK HERE. Students will need to click the link and complete their reservation. Space will be saved once payment is received and an email will be sent to their FSU email account. The Orientation registration window opens February 10.

For students who accepted an option through the Seminole Pathways Program or a Spring Offer should only complete the step indicated with an asterisk (*).

FINAL OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS & TEST SCORES

All admitted students will need to send the Office of Admissions an official, final high school transcript reflecting their graduation date sent directly from their school to the University. If a student earned college credit in high school (dual enrollment), they must also send an official college transcript(s). All official transcripts must be received by July 15, 2020.

All official test scores (ACT and/or SAT) must be received at FSU from the respective testing agency by May 20, 2020.

A PREEMINENT FLORIDA UNIVERSITY
**Schedule Changes/Term Changes**

Admitted students must notify the Office of Admissions regarding any possible changes to their high school schedule by contacting our office at 850.644.6200 or admissions@fsu.edu.

Students who wish to change their admission term from **Summer to Fall** must do the following:

- Be formally admitted for the Summer (this includes accepting the non-binding summer offer).
- Update their SSAR with mid-year grades and provide updated test scores (if applicable).
- Contact the Office of Admissions via phone 850.644.6200 or email admissions@fsu.edu to request a term change.

Students who wish to change their admission term from **Fall to Summer** must do the following:

- Update their SSAR with mid-year grades and provide updated test scores (if applicable).
- Contact the Office of Admissions via phone 850.644.6200 or email admissions@fsu.edu to request a term change.

**Scholarship Criteria**

Students who are awarded a scholarship from the Office of Admissions are notified at the same time decisions are released. These awards are posted as a letter on the Application Status Check page. All first-year applicants were automatically considered for the following scholarships:

- **Benacquisto Scholarship Program (National Merit Finalist)**
  - A merit scholarship program for all National Merit Finalists that listed FSU as their first choice that covers the entire cost of attendance of an undergraduate degree.
  - For in-state students - scholarship is currently valued at $22,128 per year (renewable for four years).
  - For out-of-state students - scholarship will also include an out-of-state tuition waiver bringing the total scholarship value to $36,526 per year (renewable for four years).
  - Questions regarding this scholarship opportunity should be directed to admissions-benacquisto@fsu.edu.
- **University Freshman Scholarship**
  - $2,400 per year; $9,600 over four years.
  - Students must be a Florida resident.
- **100% Out-of-State Tuition-Reduction Waiver/Scholarship**
  - 100% reduction of OOS tuition portion - $14,444 in savings per year/$481 per credit hour (does not equate to in-state tuition).

**Conditions of Admission**

If a student earns a grade(s) below a C during their senior year, they must immediately contact the Office of Admissions. Any grade(s) below a C is subject to the offer of admission being rescinded. A cumulative college GPA below 2.0 (dual enrollment) will result in the offer of admission being rescinded. Students who don’t meet the conditions of admission should contact our office immediately (850.644.6200).

Admitted students should update their SSAR to include first-semester grades by March 1. They will need to log in to the SSAR website (https://www.selfreportedtranscript.com/ssar/login.aspx) and submit the updates by clicking the Complete button at the bottom of the Review/Submit section. Students must re-lock their SSAR or Florida State will not receive their updated information.

Admitted students will also need to update their SSAR with their final, senior-year grades upon earning their high school diploma.

In addition to updating the SSAR, students must send the Office of Admissions their final, official high-school transcript with their graduation date and senior grades posted as well as final dual enrollment transcript by July 15, 2020.

All official test scores (ACT and/or SAT) must be sent by the respective testing agency by May 20, 2020.

Once the Office of Admissions has received all final, official documents, we will confirm that the student graduated, verify that the information reported on the SSAR and the self-reported test score form matches and review final senior-year grades. Any discrepancies could result in the students offer of admission being rescinded.

**Appeals**

Students who did not receive a favorable admission decision and who wish to appeal may submit a formal appeal. Detailed information about our appeals process can be found at [http://admissions.fsu.edu/freshman/appeal/](http://admissions.fsu.edu/freshman/appeal/)

To submit an appeal, students must do the following:

1. Update SSAR with mid-year grades.
2. Send an email with a statement explaining why he/she wishes to appeal. The email should be sent to admissions@fsu.edu with Appeal in the subject line.
3. Request official high school and college (if the student dual enrolled) transcripts be sent to Florida State.
4. Students submitting a medical or disability appeal must provide relevant medical documentation or a psychoeducational evaluation.
5. Letters of Recommendation can be submitted, but it is not required.

The deadline to receive all documents for a **Disability Appeal** is February 12 with the student receiving a final decision by February 21.

The deadline to receive all documents for a **General Appeal** is April 3 with the student receiving a final decision by April 17. Please note general appeals will not be reviewed until April.

All appeals are reviewed by the University Admissions Committee and all decisions are final.
SEMINOLE PATHWAYS / SPRING OFFER

Students selected by the Office of Admissions to participate in the Seminole Pathways Program will be able to join us on the Tallahassee campus after completing one of four pathways. In addition, students who received a Spring Offer were not eligible for the Seminole Pathways Program.

SEMINOLE PATHWAYS PROGRAM:

**FSU Panama City Pathway**

Students who choose this pathway start their FSU experience in the summer term by completing an online course and then continue in the fall and spring semesters at our bay-front campus in Panama City, Florida. After the spring 2021 term, you are welcome to continue your education through graduation in one of FSU Panama City's diverse and growing programs or continue your academic pathway at the FSU Tallahassee campus. More information on this Pathway is available on the FSU Panama City website (http://pc.fsu.edu/seminole-pathway).

**FSU International Programs First Semester Abroad Pathway**

Students who choose this pathway start their FSU experience in the summer term by completing an online course offered through International Programs. In addition to successful completion of the online course, they will enroll for the fall term at one of our study abroad centers in London, England; Florence, Italy; Valencia, Spain; or Panama City, Republic of Panama. Following the fall term, they will be eligible to join us in Tallahassee in January. More information on the First Semester Abroad program is available on the International Programs website (https://international.fsu.edu/FYA.aspx). Note: separate fees apply.

**FSU International Programs First Year Abroad Pathway**

Students who choose this pathway start their FSU experience in the summer term by completing an online course offered through International Programs. In addition to successful completion of the online course, they will enroll for the fall, spring, and the following summer terms at one of our study abroad centers in London, England; Florence, Italy; Valencia, Spain; or Panama City, Republic of Panama. Following the year abroad, they will be eligible to join us in Tallahassee for the Fall. More information on the First Year Abroad program is available on the International Programs website (https://international.fsu.edu/FYA.aspx). Note: separate fees apply.

**Transfer Pathway**

Students who choose this pathway start their college career at an accredited college and transfer to Florida State University for the spring term (January). Students must complete a minimum of 15 semester hours of approved college coursework in the Fall term and earn a minimum 3.0 grade point average. Their coursework must include ENC 1101 (English Composition) and either MAC 1105 (College Algebra), MGF 1106 (Mathematics for Liberal Arts), or MGF 1107 (Topics in Practical Finite Mathematics) depending on math placement and major, unless they have already earned course credit through an accelerated mechanism such as AP, IB, AICE, or dual-enrollment. While students can transfer from any regionally accredited college, we highly recommend that they consider transferring to us from Tallahassee Community College.

**Spring Offer:**

Students selected for Spring admission (January 2021) will be able to join us on the Tallahassee campus after completing a semester of college coursework at another institution. Students who accept the Spring Offer must enroll in at least 15 semester hours of college credit at another institution in the fall and must earn a minimum 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) college grade point average with no grade below C. If students take classes in the summer, their college GPA for that term must also be 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) with no grade below C. More information on the Spring Offer is available on the FSU Office of Admissions website (http://pc.fsu.edu/seminole-pathway).

Students who receive a Seminole Pathways or Spring Offer have until March 4, 2020 to accept the offer.
University Housing

University Housing offers you a diverse living and learning community with suite-style and apartment-style residence halls. Each residence hall has unique characteristics. Detailed information on each hall can be found at the University Housing website (housing.fsu.edu).

Fall/Spring housing contracts for students admitted for the summer and fall term opens February 5, while Summer housing contracts for students admitted for the summer will open on February 12. We recommend that students who plan on attending FSU complete a contract as soon as possible. Housing on campus is limited.

Once a housing contract is completed, admitted students have seven days to pay the $225 deposit.

Accepted students are also encouraged to check out the different Living-Learning Communities (LLC) offered at Florida State. An LLC consists of a small group of students who live together, share an interest, and take one or two of their classes together, usually in a small classroom inside their residence hall. Detailed information about each Living-Learning Community can be found at the following website: https://housing.fsu.edu/living-learning-communities.

Financial Aid

To apply for Financial Aid, admitted students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

- Summer 2020 admits must complete both the 2019-20 FAFSA & 2020-21 FAFSA.
- Fall 2020 admits only need to complete the 2020-21 FAFSA.

If a student will be receiving Florida Bright Futures, or any other state-of-Florida scholarship, please confirm that FSU’s school code (371) is listed on the state scholarship application. Students can update this information online or by calling the State of Florida Office of Student Financial Assistance at 1.888.827.2004.

Students must first claim their FSUID and then log in to their myFSU portal to view their financial aid award package released in mid-February. Visit the Office of Financial Aid website (financialaid.fsu.edu) for more information.

Honors Program

The Honors Program at Florida State University is a vibrant and engaged community of young scholars who excel both in and outside the classroom. Honors students will have access to enroll in specialized, smaller honors courses and participate in the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program during their first year.

Honors students have the opportunity to live in Landis Hall during their first year. Housing on campus is not guaranteed. We encourage students to submit their housing contract as soon as possible.

All high school students accepted to Florida State with a scholarship offer are welcome to apply to the University Honors Program. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. on February 16, 2020. For students interested in the Honors Medical or Legal Scholar Programs must submit a supplemental application. Detailed information about the Honors Program and all additional programming can be found at honors.fsu.edu.
The American Gap Association defines a gap year as a “structured period of time when students take a break from formal education to increase self-awareness, learn from different cultures, and experiment with possible careers.” The year should engage students in new, challenging experiences that encourage them to reevaluate themselves and their world.

Students who are admitted on January 30 are eligible to apply for the FSU Gap Year Fellows program. Applications are due February 24, 2020. The application will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and students will be notified of their deferment status/funding by April 1.

Detailed information on being a Gap Year Fellow can be found at cre.fsu.edu/programs/fsu-gap-year-fellows.

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**Gap Year Contact Info**
cre.fsu.edu/programs/fsu-gap-year-fellows
cre@fsu.edu
850.644.1842

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**Accepted Student Visits**

The Office of Admissions will be hosting Accepted Student Visits beginning February 3 through April 17. Admitted students will see a link to sign-up for an accepted student event on their Application Status Check page after reviewing their decision letter. Students who received a Pathways or Spring offer must first accept the offer before they can register for an accepted student event. Additional information about the events offered each day are available on the Accepted Student Visit Schedule accessible through the Application Status Check page. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. We also encourage you to check out our virtual tour at visit.fsu.edu.

For questions about the event, please contact Julie Rubin, Associate Director.
Email: julie.rubin@fsu.edu; Phone: 850.644.1270

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**Campus Initiatives**

**Engage 100**
Engage 100 is designed to connect, engage, and challenge students during their first semester at FSU. These small, mentor-guided group experiences are focused on a particular topic or curriculum that will assist students with thriving in our university community.

Please visit engage100.fsu.edu to learn more.

**Degree in Three**
A special program designed to assist students who wish to graduate in three years or less. This program is typically best for students who enter FSU with college credit earned through AP, IP, AICE or dual enrollment.

Please visit gps.fsu.edu/degree-in-three to learn more.

**More in Four**
A program that gives students the possibility to graduate with a bachelor’s degree in three years and then concentrate on a master’s and/or Graduate Certificate program at FSU; thus, allowing students to get the most of their financial aid package and experiences on campus.

Please visit gps.fsu.edu/more-in-four to learn more.

**Freshman Interest Groups (FIG)**
A FIG is a pre-packaged cluster of high-demand freshman courses linked by a theme or academic program.

Advantages in registering for a FIG include: taking classes with the same students, taking classes that fulfill general education requirements, meeting students with similar interests, and forming your own FSU community.

Visit fig.undergrad.fsu.edu to explore your choices.

**Student Resilience Project**
The Student Resilience Project is a program required for all new undergraduate students. It is a web-based, research-informed toolkit developed to encourage students’ wellness by helping them learn to manage stress in healthy ways and increase their sense of belonging on campus.

The website features videos, skill-building activities, resources, and information, including podcasts by campus experts.

Learn more about the Student Resilience Project at strong.fsu.edu.
HOW TO PAY A DEPOSIT

Below is essential information that students will need to pay their deposit at Florida State University:

1) Log in to your Application Status Check page at: admissions.fsu.edu/statuscheck.

2) On your status check page, scroll down to the Admission Deposit section and click Pay Admission Deposit.

3) On the Make A Payment screen, students will select the deposit description charge that reads Adm Deposit Undergrad; the item term will either read 2019 Summer or 2019 Fall; and the outstanding charge will be $200.

4) Check the Select to Pay box next to the outstanding charge; the deposit payment amount of $200 will appear under Total Charges and Payments; students will then click Continue.

5) On the Payment Method screen, students can choose to pay by either credit card or electronic check.
   • Paying by credit card will add a $4.60 service fee for total of $204.60.
   • Clicking Continue will take them to the FSU Student Tuition Fees screen.
   • Fill in the credit card payment information.

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**HOW TO PAY A DEPOSIT**

- Paying by electronic check will not add a service fee charge.
- Clicking **Continue** will take them to the **FSU Student Tuition Fees** screen.
- Select the account type—personal or business—then click **Next**.
- Fill in the bank account information.

6) After filling in all the required fields on the billing address payment screen, click **Next**.

7) Next, verify that the billing address, payment method, and payment amount is correct. Then click **Pay Now**.

8) A screen with red text appears. Students must select the check box on this page and click **Submit** to proceed.

9) If payment was accepted, students receive the following confirmation screen.

**Please Note:** If you do not see the above screen saying that payment was successfully processed, do not pay again. For any questions on whether payment was successfully processed, students should call Student Business Services at 850.644.9452.

Payments made electronically may take up to 24 hours to post to a students’ MyFSU account. **DO NOT** attempt to pay the same charges multiple times if you do not see your payment posted to your account. If your payment does not appear within 24 hours, please contact Student Business Services at 850.644.9452 or studentbusiness@fsu.edu.

Students can also pay their admission deposit via mail by sending a check or money order, made out to Florida State University, to Student Business Services. Students should include their EMPLID on their payment.

**Address:**
Student Business Services
Florida State University
A1500 University Center
Tallahassee, FL 32306

Students can also pay their admission deposit in person with cash or check at Student Business Services, located at A1500 University Center. **Payments must be received in the Office of Student Business Services by May 1.**

10) Once the admission deposit has been paid or waived, students will also see confirmation on their Application Status Check.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Admission Deposit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your admission deposit has been received.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Admission Deposit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your admission deposit has been waived.</td>
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</table>
HOW TO CLAIM YOUR FSUID

After gaining acceptance to Florida State University, you will receive an email from FSU ITS Announcements. The email will contain your FSUID as well as your nine-digit EMPLID. Before you can use your FSUID, you must finish setting up your account. Please visit the myFSU portal (my.fsu.edu) and click on ‘Activate/Manage FSUID’.

Below is a step-by-step process to claim your FSUID and complete the activation process:

1) Go to my.fsu.edu.
2) Under the garnet Sign In button, click on Activate/Manage FSUID.

3) On the FSUID Management page, as a new or first-time user (if you have not previously set security questions or have not reset your password since June 1, 2018), click Activate Your FSUID/Set Security Questions.

4) To activate your permanent FSUID, read the information on the Account Activation screen and click Proceed.

5) On the FSUID Activation screen, enter the EMPLID, First Name, Last Name and Date of Birth - all four fields are required. You can find your EMPLID by logging in to your Application Status Check page or by viewing the email you received from ITS Announcements. Then click Continue.

6) Depending on the information that is currently on file or that was submitted during the application process, students will see one of the following two screens:

6a) Students that provided their Social Security Number during the application process will be prompted to enter the last five digits of their SSN to verify their account. Then click Continue.

6b) Students that did not provide their Social Security Number during the application process will be prompted to enter the email address that was used to register an FSU account (as a former student, current applicant, or employee of the university). Then click Continue.

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7) Students will then be required to select three security questions and enter the answers to each question. These questions will be used to verify the students’ identity and to reset their password. It is very important to remember the exact answers to the questions (i.e. including punctuation, case sensitive, etc.). Then click Continue.

SECURITY QUESTIONS

FSU uses security questions to provide an extra layer of protection for your account. These questions will be used to verify your identity and reset your password if you ever forget it.

Select three distinct security questions and enter your answers (with at least 3 letters/numbers per answer) below. It is very important to remember your answers exactly as you type them.

- What was the first thing you learned to cook?
- What was the first thing you learned to cook?
- What was the first thing you learned to cook?

Continue

8) Finally, students will need to enter a password for their account. Students must follow the requirements that are listed on the screen. After confirming the password, click Continue.

ACCOUNT ACTIVATION

Success! Your account activation is complete.

Your FSUID: TZZ1TEST6

myFSU Portal

9) If the password is accepted, students will receive confirmation that the FSUID and its corresponding account has been successfully activated. The student can then proceed to their myFSU portal.