

# Applying to Colleges & Universities

Please first read over Steps 1-7 below, highlighting the steps you must follow to apply to most colleges and universities. Then, read and complete Steps A-J in order to apply specifically to FIU.

1. To begin the application process, always **read the admission's website of that institution directly**, carefully noting the "how to Apply" instructions (which can include more than just submitting the Common App), "deadline" information, "Financial Aid Application Instructions," and "Scholarship" information.
2. **Some institutions require "official" SAT or ACT Test Scores** (those sent from the testing agency directly). Scores must always arrive by the deadline given in in the "how to apply" instructions on each institutions online admission's pages. [Review the email from Mr. Demopoulos with advice on which test scores - ACT vs SAT - to use](#). Scores can arrive separately and before the rest of your application does!
  - [F.I.U. is an example of an institution that does NOT allow for the student to self-report their test scores](#). You have to officially request College Board or ACT, Inc. to send your score reports to that admission's office. **Have your SAT and/or ACT scores sent immediately upon deciding to apply as these can take 2-6 weeks to arrive**, given that each college sets up their own method for receiving test scores, causing time frames for delivery to vary from institution to institution.
    - ➡ If an institution allows you to "Self-Report" scores, read the instructions given by that admission's office online or contact admissions to find out how to self-report in the acceptable way.
  - [If a test score receive by deadline is less than 2 weeks away or that institution or you are unsure if scores will arrive in time](#), pay to **rush or send as priority SAT/ACT scores** (which will then take a week), **if that institution does not allow you to self-report**, so you don't miss your deadline. [Be aware that not all colleges will accept rush reports, however, so it's important to double-check with each admission's office before paying for this option!](#)
  - **Some institutions allow Score Choice and some do not**. Score Choice means the applicant can choose which test day results to send and which not to send. If an institution does **not** allow Score Choice, you must send them **all** test scores from every time took that particular type of test.
  - If you need to send a particular test day score, send scores from one or more specific test events or days.
    - ➡ ACT, Inc. also allows you to select to send your superscore, which is made up from your best individual scores to create the best overall composite score. When institutions receive your superscore they not only receive those scores, but also scores from your highest test event, as well as the events that make up that overall.
      - ACT, Inc. charges \$18.50 per test date per report. For students who qualify for ACT's fee waiver, additional score reports are free. **As of 2020, the ACT no longer offers priority score reports to test takers.**
    - ➡ SAT is sent through College Board, which allows you to send either all SAT scores or only some SAT scores. Again, students can view each selected school's policy requirements and choose only to send what is required.
      - College Board charges \$12 per report. For students who qualify for a fee waiver, they are granted unlimited score reports for free. [Rush reports are currently \\$31 per report.](#)
3. **Submit your order to A.U.C.'s College Office so school documents are prepared and mailed out to Admissions on time** (i.e. official high school transcript, school profile, counselor and teacher evaluations, school report, fee waiver, and more, depending on what that Admission's Office accepts and requires).
  - Complete an [AUC College Application Checklist & Transcript Order Form](#) (found in Archie under the Resources link of your College Counseling & Career class). Submit this PDF into your personal **Slack** channel **2 to 4 weeks prior to your application deadline**
  - Right after posting your order form in Slack, drop off physically in A.U.C.'s College Office one [blank 9"x12" envelope](#) along with **4 forever stamps**.

4. **Some institutions may require that you send your official Dual Enrollment College Transcripts or AP Score Reports to admissions.** A large portion of institutions will **not** require separate college transcripts to be sent from a university or college where you took an additional class **IF** the Dual Enrollment courses you completed appear on your official high school transcript. Most Common App schools will allow you to **self-report AP scores**, which you do by listing them in the Testing section of the Common Application. However, there are always exceptions.
- Since F.I.U. requests AP scores be submitted, **order your AP Score Reports from College Board to be sent to F.I.U...**
  - **All D.E. completed at public Florida universities appears on A.U.C.'s transcripts.** D.E. courses from private institutions do **not**.
    - ➔ If you completed D.E. coursework at any college or university (public or private) and an Admission's Office (**like F.I.U.**) tells you to submit official transcripts for non-A.U.C. coursework directly from the institutions where you completed those classes, or you wish to show D.E. courses completed at private institutions, **order official D.E. transcripts to be sent to admissions from the institutions where you completed your graded D.E. courses** (M.D.C., U.M., F.S.U. etc).
5. **If you are part of the Federal Lunch Program this school year, you qualify to use a college application fee waiver so you don't have to pay the application fee.** You must indicate which fee waiver you will use on the **AUC College Application Checklist & Transcript Order Form**.
- **You** are responsible for uploading the correct Fee Waiver form to A.U.C.'s College Office in Slack.
    - ➔ **Common App schools** will require the Common App fee waiver form, which you are to complete and submit in Slack, along with all other Common App forms A.U.C. will request you to upload.
    - ➔ **NON-Common App schools** usually accept the NACAC Fee Waiver. For F.I.U., therefore, you must **submit to A.U.C. in Slack a NACAC Fee Waiver form with the students' portion completed in GoodNotes on your iPad first (not typed)** so A.U.C. can submit to admissions the fee waiver, along with your transcript and school documents, to admissions
      - ✓ **A blank NACAC Fee Waiver form is posted for you in Archie under your College Counseling & Career class' resources link**
6. **Do not wait to be admitted before submitting the financial aid paperwork.** Read the financial aid instructions on the institutions' admissions pages so you know what is due and when.
- **Financial aid or scholarship application materials may or may not be due on the same date as the student portion of the application.**
    - ➔ Financial aid application materials can include the Federal "calculator" known as the **FAFSA**, the private College Board's **CSS Profile** and/or **iDocs**, or other application forms.
  - **For need-based aid, F.I.U. requires you to complete the FAFSA** (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>), but not the CSS Profile or iDocs. **For the Class of 2024 cohort, the FAFSA will not become available until December, at the earliest!** Though the F.I.U. priority deadline to do so is March 1, completing it now is better since you are applying for admission now and financial aid money can run out.
7. **Complete the online undergraduate application for admission** (*For F.I.U., follow steps A - H below*). Give yourself several weeks to write and edit mandatory and optional essays when they are part of an application.
- You are applying - in most cases - for **Fall of 2024 admission**.
    - ➔ If your SAT/ACT scores and GPA are considerably **below the averages seen in Part C of the Common Data Set for that institution**, you may want to consider applying for **Summer 2024 or Spring 2025 admission instead**, if such options are available, as doing so can increase your chances of being admitted into what is a reach.

# Completing the F.I.U. Admission's Application

- A. Complete & submit in your private AUC College Counseling Slack channel an [AUC College Application Checklist & Transcript Order Form](#) (found in Archie under the Resources link of your College Counseling & Career class).
- After posting your order form in Slack, drop off physically in A.U.C.'s College Office one blank 9"x12" envelope along with 4 forever stamps.
- B. Proceed to the [F.I.U. Undergraduate Application](#) (using Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari) by going to the URL below. As you are probably aware of if you were considering applying to FIU previously, [FIU has an early, non-binding deadline for applicants who wish to compete for academic scholarships of October 23](#) (transcripts and test scores being due by November 7), after which admission decisions will be rolling, the final deadline to apply being March 26 (transcripts and test scores due by April 1). Rolling deadline for international applicants is March 5 (transcripts and test scores due by March 19).
- [https://pslinks.fiu.edu/psc/cslinks/EMPLOYEE/CAMP/c/OAA\\_ONLINE\\_APPLICATION.OAA\\_SIGNON\\_COMP.GBL?Page=OAA\\_APPLICATION01&Action=U&TEMPLATE\\_ID=FIU\\_UGRD](https://pslinks.fiu.edu/psc/cslinks/EMPLOYEE/CAMP/c/OAA_ONLINE_APPLICATION.OAA_SIGNON_COMP.GBL?Page=OAA_APPLICATION01&Action=U&TEMPLATE_ID=FIU_UGRD)
- C. You must sign into your application user account with your User Name and Password. If you do not have an account, please click on the ["Click here to register now"](#) link to create your User Name and Password. Then, log in to your application account.
- D. Click on **"FIU Undergraduate Application"**
- E. Begin completing the **Biographical Section** first. All starred fields must be completed to be able to proceed to the next page.
- F. Next, complete the **Applicant Interest** section.
- For Admit Type, put **"Freshman"**
  - For Term you are applying for, put **"Fall 2024"** if your unweighted GPA is close to a 2.8 or higher.
    - ➔ If you AUC **unweighted GPA is around or between 2.6-2.7**, we suggest you apply directly for **Summer 2024**
    - ➔ If your AUC **unweighted GPA is around or below 2.5 (under 2.6)**, we suggest you apply directly for **Spring 2025**
  - ✓ For your information, some of the Mid-50% statistics for admitted FIU students last year were:
    - **Students Admitted for Fall Term**
      - Recalculated GPA 4.1-4.7 (*no more than midway between you current unweighted and weighted GPAs*), SAT 1240-1370, ACT 26-30
      - Fall Term Admission Rate among First Time in College Applicants = 32.6%
    - **Students Admitted for Summer Term**
      - Recalculated GPA 3.9-4.4 (*no more than midway between you current unweighted and weighted GPAs*), SAT 1060-1170, ACT 21-24
  - For Location, put **"On Campus"**
  - For Campus, most of you would put **"MMC"** - the Modesto Maidique main FIU campus.
  - Enter your **Major** or Track of interest when prompted to do so.
    - ➔ **To help you strategize which major to select if your science and math grades are a weakness in your transcript:** note that your STEM (Science/Math) grades will undergo additional scrutiny if you select certain limited access majors like Engineering, Architecture, Nursing, Accounting, Dietetics, Computer Science, meaning F.I.U. is looking for a **stronger performance in high school science and math classes** when considering whether or not to accept a student into F.I.U. if they state they want to study these majors compared to if they state they want to study other majors instead.
  - You will also select that you attend or are currently enrolled in a high school. Then **look up Archimedean Upper Conservatory** in the fields that appear.
    - ➔ For Start of High School, select **08/31/2020**
    - ➔ For End of High School, select **06/06/2024**

➔ For Date of Graduation, select either the same date as the end of high school or the day of your ceremony, which is **06/03/2023**

- Next you will add the colleges and the dates of attendance for the institutions where you completed Dual Enrollment courses. Select that you **"did not earn a degree"** when asked.

➔ The **GPA and the total number of credits** (of just those D.E. classes) completed at that institution can be found on the **Unofficial Transcript** that you downloaded from your accounts within that particular D.E. institution.

- After you complete the Parent information subsection, move on to the **financial aid subsection**:

➔ Be sure to check off that you **ARE** interested in financial aid if that indeed is the case!

➔ Make sure you check off that you **ARE** interested in the Honors College.

G. Next, complete the **Background** section.

- **ONLY** answer yes to the disciplinary question about Academic Misconduct and to the Behavior Misconduct **IF** you have checked with Ms. Anitha Shetty and you **DO** have an **official disciplinary entry** in our system that related to one of the two types of misconduct asked about!

➔ If you have **no** official record of disciplinary misconduct at A.U.C., answer **no** to these school-related misconduct questions *(even if you may have served a detention or two or indoor suspension)*

H. Next, proceed to the **Residency** section.

- If you are a **dependent of a Florida resident** then you will qualify to pay for in-state tuition at our Florida public universities instead of the higher-priced out-of-state tuition.
- Most of you will select the option 1. am a **dependent student** (under 24 years old) as I am eligible to be claimed as a dependent under the federal income tax code by my parent/legal guardian. The 'claimant' (parent/guardian) has maintained legal residence in Florida for at least the past 12 consecutive months. **Do read each option carefully though in case another option applies to you instead.**
  - ➔ Since you are most likely a dependent of a Florida resident, **your parent/legal guardian will be the claimant (not you), who has to prove they are a Florida resident** and so it is the information and documentation of your parent that you will be sharing and uploading into the F.I.U. application.

I. Lastly, proceed to the **Confirmation & Payment** section.

- The F.I.U. application costs **\$30**, which must be paid either by credit card online or by a check mailed into the F.I.U. admission's office. If paying online, click on the **"Make a Payment"** button to do so.
  - ➔ If you qualify for a NACAC application **fee waiver**, select that you will pay the application **by check**. **Instead of mailing in a check, A.U.C. will submit the NACAC fee waiver you submit in Slack** (see bullet #5 above).
- On the final page, make sure you click yes to officially **submit** your application to F.I.U.

J. Finally, **submit the following OFFICIAL test scores** directly from the testing agencies. **FIU does not allow students to self-report test scores.**

- **AP Scores** must be sent from College Board. FIU is looking for AP scores of 3 or higher. Scores submitted after the application deadline will not be considered.
- **SAT or ACT scores** must be sent from College Board or ACT, Inc, respectively. Test scores submitted after the deadline will not be considered for admissions or scholarships.

# Happy applying!