



**Class of 2028** -- It is never too early to start thinking about your future – what you will do after high school. What type of post-secondary education is right for you? What career path interests you? What education is needed for that career? Students have many options and should begin researching and planning well before senior year. This allows students to take the right steps to achieve their goals.

## **College Options**

### **4-year College or University**

Students planning to earn a Bachelor's degree should research 4-year colleges and universities. Visit the college websites to learn more about their majors/programs, admission criteria and more. Admission is selective, with your high school academics being the most important consideration.

Examples:

	<u>Mid Range GPA</u>		<u>Mid Range GPA</u>
FSU	4.2-4.6	FAU	3.73-4.34
UF	4.5-4.7	UCF	4.01-4.55
USF	4.07-4.55	UNF	4.14-4.57

### **State Colleges/Community Colleges**

State colleges award Associate of Arts (AA) degrees, Associate of Science (AS) degrees and many offer a limited number of 4-year Bachelor's degrees. The AA degree is a pathway to then transfer to a 4-year university to obtain a Bachelor's degree. AS degrees are designed to provide technical skills to move into a career. An example of this type of school is State College of Florida (SCF).

### **Technical College**

Technical colleges train students for a variety of career fields such as automotive service technology, carpentry, cosmetology, dental assisting, nursing assistant and digital design. Many of these programs can be completed in less than one year. An example of this type of college is Manatee Technical College (MTC).

### **Military**

Serving our country in the armed forces is also an option for high school graduates. Whether it's the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard, students interested can talk with recruiters and understand the criteria and commitment to enlist.

## **College Planning Checklist – Key Steps**

1. Visit the **Class of 2028 Schoology pages** weekly. This is where important information regarding college and career planning will be shared. (on Schoology, click "Courses" then look for the class page; on the Class page, click "Updates" on the left side menu).
2. **Grades matter!** Your grades in 9th will affect your overall GPA, critical for college acceptances. Do not dig yourself into a hole that will be difficult to get out of next year!
3. Explore career options using Xello. You can access Xello via your SSO – look for the Xello tile. More information about Xello and other career exploration resources are on the College and Career Center page of the MHS website.
4. Be sure you are on the path to **complete 2 to 3 years of the same world language (foreign language)** – a requirement for most colleges and one of the requirements for the Florida Bright Futures scholarship program.

## XELLO - Resource for College and Career Planning

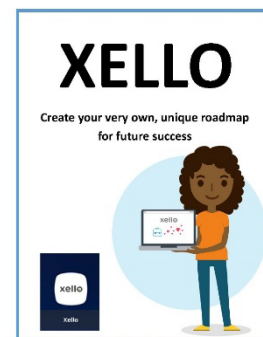
Xello is a free career exploration platform. Students can complete interactive career, personality and learning style assessments to help them better understand their unique interests, skills, and strengths. Xello can help connect students to relevant career options.

Students can explore all the features of Xello and learn more about careers and the education needed for those careers.

You will log into your Xello accounts through your Classlink Single Sign On. Look for the Xello tile towards the bottom.

Across the top are the key sections:

- **Home**
- **About Me** – simple self-assessments to help you discover your interests, skills, and more and how they relate to careers
- **Explore** – careers, colleges, majors
- **Plans**- set personal goals



**Learning about career options is a great way to determine what type of college may be right for you. Log in to Xello today learn how to create your own unique roadmap for future success!**

## MHS College and Career Center

Resources for college and career planning including:

- Planning for College/Careers
- Applying to College
- Paying for College



To access the page, go to the MHS website – click the “Academics” tab – then click “College and Career Center”

### College and Career Center

The College and Career Center provides resources to help students plan for college and career, including researching colleges, college applications, financial aid, scholarships, SAT/ACT testing and more. Check the resources below. Contact: Linda Norris, College and Career Advisor, [norrisl@manateeschools.net](mailto:norrisl@manateeschools.net)

**Class of 2025 - The Free Application for Federal Student Aid opens December 1, 2024. We encourage all seniors to complete the FAFSA to see if they are eligible for federal aid to help pay for college (4-year colleges/universities/2-year schools like SCF and technical colleges like MTC all accept the FAFSA). Create your account - called the FSA ID - now so you'll be ready to fill out the FAFSA in December/January. MHS will host a FAFSA Workshop on January 23rd with experts here to help students/parents complete the online form. See the "Paying for College" section below for more information and links.**

<b>PLANNING FOR COLLEGE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ <a href="#">Checklist for Seniors</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">Class of 2025 - College Planning Handout August 2024</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">Checklist for Juniors</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">Class of 2026 High School and College Planning Handout October 2024 - NEW</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">Checklist for Freshmen &amp; Sophomores</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">SAT/ACT/CLT Test Dates for 2024-2025</a></li></ul>	<b>APPLYING TO COLLEGE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ <a href="#">MHS College Handbook Class of 2025</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">College Information Night for Seniors Class of 2025 Presentation</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">Florida Public Universities - Profiles - Mid Range GPA/Test Scores</a><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ See details about each institution</li></ul></li><li>◦ <a href="#">Steps to the Application</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">Common App First Year Users Guide</a></li></ul>	<b>PAYING FOR COLLEGE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ <a href="#">MHS 2024-2025 Scholarship List</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">Other Scholarship Resources</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">Scholarship Tips</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">Paying for College - Four Key Sources of Aid</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Resources/Info</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">What is the FAFSA? video</a></li><li>◦ <a href="#">How to Create Your FSA ID</a></li></ul>
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