Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Is my application complete?
These items must be received by the end of the day (11:59 p.m.) on November 1 to receive a decision on January 30, 2020:

1) Submit the Application (either through FSU, Common or Coalition)
2) Submit the Application Fee (pay or waiver)
3) Submit your 32-character SSAR ID through the Application Status Check page
4) Submit at least one complete set of test scores (ACT or SAT) on the Self-Reported ACT and/or SAT Score form through the Application Status Check page
5) If a CARE Applicant – complete the CARE Application
6) The essay and resume are not required elements of the application process; although they are strongly recommended

I'm applying to FSU, and I submitted the Common or Coalition application at 11:59 p.m. on November 1. Did I meet the deadline?
Yes. You will receive an email from our office with instructions to log in to the Application Status Check. Once logged in, be sure to link your SSAR, self-report all your ACT and/or SAT test scores, and upload the essay and resume (unless they were included with your Common or Coalition application), right away.

I'm applying to Film, Music, Theatre, Music Theatre or Studio Art and I submitted the Common or Coalition application at 11:59 p.m. on November 1. Did I meet the deadline?
Yes. You will receive an email from our office with instructions to log in to the Application Status Check. Once logged in, be sure to link your SSAR, self-report all your ACT and/or SAT test scores, and upload the essay and resume (unless they were included with your Common or Coalition application), right away. On the Application Status Check you will also have access to the special program supplemental application which will provide important information regarding the due dates for their materials.

I submitted my SSAR/resume/essay/test scores but they do not show as being received yet on the Application Status Check. How do I know that you have received them?
Be patient...due to the high volume of students applying close to the deadline, there is a longer wait time for checklist items to update. We should be caught up by mid-November.

When will the essay and resume, included with the Common or Coalition application, be reflected on the Application Status Check?
We should be caught up by mid-November. We strongly encourage you to log in to the Application Status Check page at that time to check your application for completeness.

What is the SSAR?
The SSAR is a self-reported student academic record that lists all courses and associated grades that have been attempted, or will be attempted, for high school and/or college credit. The SSAR is required for review unless you have attended a high school that does not follow an academic curriculum patterned after the U.S. or have earned a GED. It is very important that you use your high school transcript when completing the SSAR. If you have any questions about the SSAR, check out our how-to videos at https://admissions.fsu.edu/freshman/SSAR/videos/.
My counselor mailed in my transcript to FSU. Do I still need to complete the SSAR?
All students should submit the SSAR unless you have attended an international high school that does not follow an academic curriculum patterned after the U.S. or have earned a GED.

I already reported my coursework through the Common or Coalition application. Why do I have to do the SSAR?
The coursework and grades listed within the Coalition or Common application does not provide FSU with the same data functionality as the SSAR. The data made available by the SSAR is an important aspect of our holistic review of your application.

I already self-reported my test scores through the Common App but I don’t see them reflected on my Application Status Check page. Do I need to self-report my scores?
Yes, you need to log in to the Application Status Check page at https://admissions.fsu.edu/statuscheck/ and self-report all your test scores using the Self-Reported ACT and/or SAT Score Form.

Do I have to self-report every test score I've taken?
We super score both the ACT and SAT, so it is in your best interest to self-report all test scores. There is no penalty for having multiple test attempts.

What if I'm taking the ACT/SAT after November 1?
We need at least one set of test scores on file by the November 1 application deadline. We will accept additional test scores through December 31. Once new test scores are available, you will need to log in to the Application Status Check page at https://admissions.fsu.edu/statuscheck/ using the ACT or SAT score report and self-report your new test results.

If I submit my essay/resume twice, will it be looked at negatively?
No. We will only review the most recently submitted version.

Will I be able to upload corrections to my essay/resume?
Yes, you have up to 3 attempts and we will only read the most recently submitted version.

What should I include in the resume?
Your interests, accomplishments, honors and awards, jobs held etc. Everything you would want us to know about you outside the classroom.

Is it ok if my essay is longer than 650 words?
Yes, but not much longer. Due to the large volume of applications that we receive, we are limited in how much time we can spend reading an application.

Can I change my major and/or term?
Yes, you are able to change your major and term. Go to https://admissions.fsu.edu and click Change Form under Quick Links (lower left hand side of the website). Use the email and password that was created to log-in to your Application Status Check page. All changes must be received by December 1 to receive a decision on January 30.
I submitted my Common or Coalition application on November 1. Can I still be considered for CARE?
Yes. We will send you an email with instructions on how to access the Application Status Check page and that is where you will link your SSAR, submit all your self-reported ACT and/or SAT scores, and upload the essay and resume. You will also need to respond to the separate CARE Application found on the Application Status Check page.

As a CARE applicant, how do I know that you have received my FAFSA?
It takes 5 to 7 business days for FSU to receive your FAFSA. Once it arrives, your FAFSA will show as being “checked off/received” on the Application Status Check page.

I have extenuating circumstances (homeless/no guardian/etc.) that makes completing the FAFSA more challenging. Can I still be considered for CARE?
Yes. Our financial aid office will be glad to provide you with assistance. You can contact the Office of Financial Aid via email at ofacs@fsu.edu or via phone at 850.644.0539.

Where can I submit my application fee waiver?
The application you completed had 5 questions that if you answered affirmative to any one of the 5 questions, your application fee would have been automatically waived. If you somehow overlooked this while completing the application, you can email a copy of the application fee waiver to admissions@fsu.edu with Application Fee Waiver in the subject line.

How do I submit my letters of recommendation?
We do not use letters of recommendation in our holistic review.

Is the Residency Declaration required to receive an admissions decision?
No, it is not but it is strongly recommended. Students that plan on enrolling at FSU must submit the residency declaration form before May 1.

Am I less likely to be admitted if I wait to submit all required information until after the November 1 deadline? What are the consequences of waiting until after the first-year application deadline closes on March 1?
Priority consideration for admission, scholarship, and housing is given to students that apply by the November 1 deadline. All applications completed after November 1 will receive a decision on a rolling basis after January 30, 2020.

Can my son/daughter participate in First Year Abroad if he/she was not offered that option through the Seminole Pathways Program?
Yes, once a student has been admitted to FSU, they can participate in a First Year Abroad or First Semester Abroad Program. Please contact International Programs at 1.800.374.8581 or via email at ip-info@fsu.edu. Information about our study abroad sites can be found at https://international.fsu.edu/.