

THRIVE WEBSITE | gilbertschools.com/thrive

Publications and Electronic Media | **Website**

Webmaster | **Terri Bradford**
College & Career Liasion | **Christopher Hoerber**



College & Career Success Guide

Purpose, Planning & Outcomes | Student Success Planning & Post-Secondary Outcomes

PROJECT PLANNING & HIGHLIGHTS

Terri Bradford and Chris Hoerber diligently planned and executed the THRIVE College and Career Success Guide website focusing on creating a solution for student success at Gilbert Public Schools in late 2019. Both greatly valued the investment that this project has added as an actionable guide and resource for all GPS students and families, with an overarching unifying effect which will continue to amplify the Gilbert Public Schools District Strategic Operating Plan under the student success focus.

Spanning over an 8 month timeline in 2019, they worked together identifying inconsistencies and redundancies specifically targeting the previous overlap of content and resources within the district, and THRIVE was born out of the necessity of a district-wide solution with a college and career success online platform. Most importantly, with this new resource they created an alignment of a concise objective with an overall holistic approach to focus on the success of all our students in their high school years along with their post-graduation goals.

Chris and Terri collaborated and served on several district-lead committees in 2019 during the THRIVE planning phase including the District Website Committee and the Post-Secondary Outcomes Committee, in efforts to reach all GPS students and open communications with our school counselors, staff, and college and career liaisons, to promote buy-in and direction.

Terri, as the district webmaster, was responsible for the overall project scope and management, planning and content hierarchy, web navigation, branding and identity design, execution of assets, user experience, and promotion.

As the experienced career and college liaison at Gilbert High, Chris was responsible for spearheading the content for the student timelines for each quarter created with a targeted student voice. Chris outlined the clear actionable items needed to highlight for students to follow and their importance, and guidance on what information a student would need in a particular quarter and future planning tips and resources with the unification for the district.

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PROJECT PLANNING & HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

Terri created and implemented Google calendars for every high school which syncs with the THRIVE website in realtime, allowing all schools to have agency over their own content - these are located in one area under THRIVE. The benefit to this solution is that unifying these allows students and families to visit any campus that has events that may interest them, and the district manages users to the calendars which maintains flexibility in staff changes. Using an existing shared scholarships calendar that Gilbert and Highland High originated, they determined using this for the district as a centralized scholarship hub to minimize redundancy. Other resources were pulled and added as a scholarship hub where local scholarships are highlighted as well with GEF and the Gilbert Chamber and have grown since official launch.

Working directly with the Assessments & Accountability Department on a new centralized testing dates and information calendar with a FAFSA hub solution added to THRIVE which provides and promotes consistent district-lead content with specialized objectives like Arizona College Access Network's Project Benjamin and our GPS FAFSA nights and announcements.

Terri planned and designed the website with clear navigation and information architecture in mind, highlighting the usability for students to follow on a quarter-by-quarter basis, while incorporating individual school counseling departments, communicating college and career events, unifying crucial district testing and FAFSA initiatives, and organizing outside resources.

Terri was responsible for conceptualization of the new THRIVE branding and identity design complimenting the GPS district branding, alongside creating unique graphic assets for visual hierarchy on individual website pages, and incorporating school logos to the new design for unity. She strategically planned and created shared web apps to house district-lead content during the district website redesign earlier in the year to consistently and efficiently create and maintain unified district messaging and visual branding.

THRIVE platform plans, branding, and wireframes were presented to the GPS cabinet in October 2019, and presented the final website launch and platform to the GPS Governing Board and public in December of 2019. At that time several schools had already started to use the platform with overwhelmingly positive feedback from staff and families.


For essential continued success and collective efforts to maintain this platform to allow and accept feedback using a form submission on the bottom of specific pages of THRIVE to encourage user feedback for ongoing refinement.

THRIVE was officially launched at gilbertschools.net/thrive with high school implementation in January 2020. School websites were updated to seamlessly compliment and lead users to the district platform as planned optimized user experience. Public promotion started with social media and print campaigns, signage, and FAFSA completion events at high schools.



Purpose, Planning & Outcomes | Student Success Planning & Post-Secondary Outcomes

[DISTRICT HOME](#) [GPS SCHOOL DIRECTORY](#) [User Options](#) [Translate](#) [Find it Fast](#)


[Home](#) [Our Schools](#) [District](#) [Academics](#) [Programs](#) [Services](#) [Thrive](#) [Contact Us](#) [Tours](#) [Enroll](#)
[Families](#) [Calendar](#)

THRIVE

Thrive

- + Freshman Year (9th) - Start Here!
- + Sophomore Year (10th) - Start Here!
- + Junior Year (11th) - Start Here!
- + Senior Year (12th) - Start Here!
- > GPS High School Course Descriptions & Catalog
- > GPS Career & Technical Education (CTE)
- > Earning College Credit in High School
- > Student Resources for Success
- + College & Career Events / Counseling Office Contacts
- > Testing Information
- > Requesting Official Transcripts
- > Applying to Colleges
- > College-Bound Student-Athletes
- > Military
- > World of Work
- ✓ Paying for School
 - > FAFSA (Federal Application For Student Aid)
 - > Scholarships & School Financial Aid Tools
 - > Arizona Family College Savings Program (AZ529)

Home » Thrive » THRIVE » Thrive



COVID-19 Updates for Students Applying to College

*Many universities have adjusted their deadlines. **Please check with the institutions you are applying to** and see what accommodations or virtual resources they have put in place.*

[View Testing Updates for ACT, SAT, and AP](#)

College & Financial Aid Support Resources for AZ Students ([English pdf](#)) ([Spanish pdf](#))

Freshman YEAR
GET STARTED!

Sophomore YEAR
GET STARTED!

Junior YEAR
GET STARTED!

Senior YEAR
GET STARTED!

PROJECT PLANNING & HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

With the unforeseen onset of COVID-19 and school closures at the end of the 2019-2020 school year, THRIVE's impact has been an invaluable communication asset for our district to effectively and efficiently communicate immediate notifications and changes for students impacted with AP testing, changing college admission deadlines, and was an essential tool for overall communications within the district for our secondary families.

THRIVE's platform continues to grow at a steady pace which is clearly reflected on the website analytics, as the usage continues to increase with much success each month. The platform proves an infinitely flexible solution as it's molded to fit the unique circumstances and updated content aimed to serve our student's needs for planning their futures and post-secondary pursuits.

gilbertschools.net/thrive

Usage | Website highlights

Home » Thrive » THRIVE » Paying for School » Scholarships & School Financial Aid Tools



Start early and search often for scholarships! Unlike student loans, scholarships are money that does not have to be repaid.

Scholarships are an opportunity for you to pursue educational goals without having to pay out of your own pocket. There are various types of scholarships available from individuals, colleges, private organizations, and charities. We've compiled a large list of scholarship deadlines and local resources to help you with your search for scholarship opportunities!

AZ In-State University Scholarships & Estimators



Financial Aid and Scholarship Services

- › ASU Scholarship Portal
- › Scholarship Estimator
- › Obama Scholarship
- › College Attainment Grant



Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid

**Curated Scholarship Resources,
College Financial Aid with
Scholarship Deadlines,
and Testing Dates with Resources**

Scholarship Resources

- › Article: How to write a winning scholarship essay your academic goals - GoingMerry.com
- › College Board Scholarships
- › PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT – Scholarships and Recognition
- › Finding and Applying for Scholarships – studenta
- › Scholarships for Military Families
- › Chamber of Commerce – College Scholarships Guide Information

THRIVE Scholarship Master List



Upcoming Testing Information

› View Calendar

Tweets by @Assessment_GPS

remember –going over the correct answers ISN'T a response! #MakeItHappen #atpic



Embed View on Twitter

School Site Testing Codes

Each High School has an assigned school code that you will use when taking any college placement exam (ACT/PSAT/SAT).

CVHS – 030696
DRHS – 030424
GCA – 030132
GHS – 030140

PSAT/NMSQT Testing Information

The PSAT/NMSQT® is great practice for taking the SAT®. It can qualify you for scholarship programs and can provide you insight into which AP® courses you may be ready to take.

- › The PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10 – Inside the Test
- › PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT – Scholarships and Recognition
- › PSAT/NMSQT Dates

Using Your PSAT Results

The best way to study for the SAT is by using your PSAT results from October to focus specifically on the particular areas you need to improve. Your PSAT results can provide you a personalized study plan if you link them with **Khan Academy** – the official test prep site for College Board. In addition, you can read about and take the **practice SAT tests** on the **College Board website**.

Sign up for the ACT and/or SAT

How do I sign up?

Please Note: ALL 11th grade GPS students will have the opportunity to take one ACT test on March 24, 2020 at their high school without outside registration or fees.

If you'd like to take an additional ACT test outside of the Junior Year GPS date register below directly with ACT.

Additional ACT Registration

SAT Registration

What if I can't afford the fee? Don't worry, there are **waivers** available to those with **financial need**. See your **Student Advisor** for further information about your situation and what you qualify for.

Gilbert Public Schools Scholarships & Deadlines | Resources & Information Calendar

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Customize Calendar View

📅 Mar 2020 →

Month Day List

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Nina Mason Pull... American Legio... Beus Family Sch... Desert Financial... Central Arizona ...	2 Desert Club Sch... Regents High H... GCU Scholarships	3	4	5	6 Gilbert Educatio... JUNIOR & SENI...	7
8 College Success ...	9	10	11	12 Scholastic Art a... The Phoenix Ch...	13	14 GFWC-Desert Ja...
15	16 Armstrong Fami...	17	18	19 Charles and Chr...	20 Homa and Irene...	21
22	23 ASU Pioneer He...	24	25	26 Flinn Grants	27	28 Paloma Blanca ... Rookie Dreams ...
29 Scooter Inside S... Chinese Americ... Phoenix AKARA... Army ROTC	30 Beauty + Wellne... Modern Castle ... Kait's Way Sch... Gilbert Chambe... Foster Care to S... + 2 More	31	1	2	3	4



FAFSA and Financial Aid Initiatives & Resources

FAFSA® Application Information & Resources

Scholarships & Financial Aid Tools & Information

What is FAFSA and Who Should Apply?

THE FAFSA® PROCESS

DID YOU KNOW?

Some schools won't consider you for merit scholarships (scholarships based on academic achievement or other talents or skills) until you've submitted a FAFSA, so complete one even if you think you won't qualify for federal aid.

RELAX!

The FAFSA is designed to be simple to fill out. Tips throughout the application help you understand the questions. Most people finish filling out the FAFSA in less than half an hour!

According to FAFSA® (Federal Application for Student Aid) provides more than \$120 billion in grants, loans, and work-study funds each year to help pay for college or career school. *State governments and many colleges and career schools may also use your FAFSA information to award you their aid.*

The FAFSA application starts on October 1st for the following year. To apply for this aid, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form.

Complete the FAFSA online today!

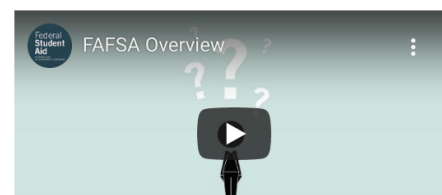
Do you have questions about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) process?



FAFSA® Resources

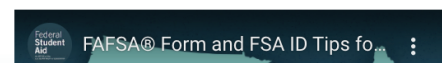
- › FAFSA® Online Application
- › Download the FAFSA® myStudentAid Mobile App | Andriod
- › Download the FAFSA® myStudentAid Mobile App | Apple

FAFSA® Overview Video



★ **WWW.FAFSA.GOV**

FAFSA® Form and FSA ID Tips for Parents Video



ing your FAFSA as your senior year! FAFSA events at your family want to c questions.

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Scholarships Guide

Want to stay in Arizona to attend college? Arizona is home to many great colleges and universities and being an AZ resident you'll qualify for in-state tuition and special scholarships only available for in-state students.

Financial Aid Tools

Arizona Family College Savings Program (AZ529)

Usage | Website highlights

College, Career & Military Information



Entry Level High School Jobs - Listings from Zippia

Start/Update Your Résumé

Start and keep your résumé updated! One of the early steps in preparing for a job and/or scholarship search is the development of a high-quality résumé that represents your skills, experience, and educational attainments. Your résumé is the document that will either attract an employer/scholarship provider to call you in for an interview or will block you from having that opportunity.

AZCIS Resources - Making a Résumé (pdf) | Résumé Guidelines (pdf) | Résumé Help (pdf)

Begin to compile information for your resume including any Activities, GPA, class rank, special programs, internships, and school awards from your time in high school. You can save all of this information in AZCIS's Résumé a la Carte.

Additional Resource Companion | Résumé



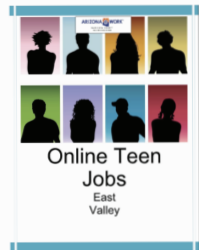
Armed Forces Information

Are You Considering Enlisting in the Military? - USA.gov Enlisted & Officer Pathway Information

- Join the Military as an Enlisted Member
- Become a Military Officer
- Today's Military - Explore Military Pathways



Home » Thrive » THRIVE » World of Work



Arizona @ Work - Valley Volunteer Opportunities

Job Shadowing and Mentorship



High school and college students may wish to be matched with a

ASVAB (Armed Aptitude Battery)

- What is the ASVAB? Battery)
- ASVAB - Career Exp

Upcoming Virtual

Senator Krysta

Service Academy

Page Title	Pageviews	Unique Pageviews
	7,405 % of Total: 0.47% (1,362,697)	6,341 % of Total: 0.49% (1,288,179)
1. Thrive / Thrive	3,087 (41.89%)	2,664 (42.01%)
2. Thrive / Testing Information	605 (8.17%)	555 (8.75%)
3. Thrive / Scholarships & School Financial Aid Tools	533 (7.20%)	379 (5.98%)
4. Thrive / Freshman Year (9th) - Start Here!	425 (5.74%)	364 (5.74%)
5. THRIVE / Thrive	419 (5.66%)	363 (5.72%)
6. Thrive / Senior Year (12th) - Start Here!	286 (3.86%)	251 (3.96%)
7. THRIVE / Testing Information	242 (3.27%)	220 (3.47%)
8. Thrive / Junior Year (11th) - Start Here!	218 (2.94%)	187 (2.95%)
9. Thrive / Sophomore Year (10th) - Start Here!	174 (2.35%)	156 (2.46%)
10. Thrive / College & Career Events / Counseling Office Contacts	80 (1.08%)	58 (0.91%)



Research College Entrance and Applications

Now is the time to really dig into your college research (if you haven't already started).

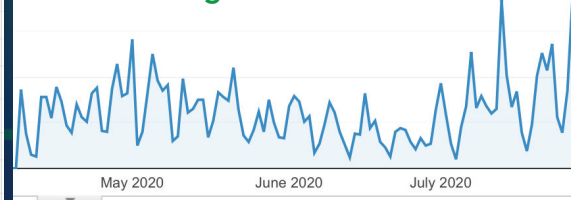
It is important that you understand the entry requirements for all of the universities or colleges that you are interested in applying to as they can vary from state to state. You also should begin looking at the applications to ensure you are aware of what you need to accomplish early senior year. Each college within a university may have its own additional GPA or test score requirements. **Meet with your counselor or career center team to discuss what you plan to major in so they can help you be on track.**

Your College Search: Begin with Your Major/Career in Mind

Hopefully, you have had a chance to hear from at least a few college/career representatives either through sitting in on formal presentations or visiting a table display during lunch. When trying to figure out where your studies will take you after high school, start with your end goal in mind. College is not the end goal, it is a path to a career. There are a number of college search engines you can use to help you decipher the best course of study to get you to the career you desire.

College Board - Big Future Search

Visitors during COVID-19 Closure

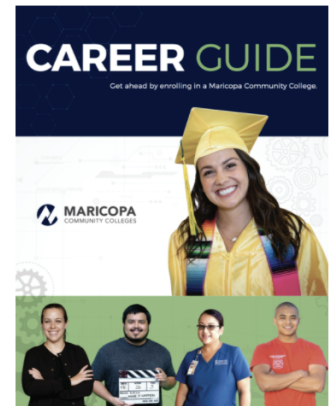


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Home » Thrive » THRIVE » Applying to Colleges

Your College Search

- College Confidential - School Search
- College Board Guide - How to Find Your College Fit
- Four Steps to College - knowhowtogo.org



Scholarship & College Information Search Portals

