

# ***DRAFT***

## ***Promising Practice Brief***

### **Florida Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students (FACTS.org)**

---

#### **Program Background**

- Lunched in 2000, Florida Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students (FACTS.org) is advertised as Florida's official, one-stop statewide student advising system.
- The system was designed by the Florida Department of Education to provide maximum access and seamless articulation services in order to help high school and college students make informed choices about their education.
- FACTS.org It makes connections between multiple institutions and databases to give students access to resources and information to actively plan for their future education..

#### **Career Development Activity Highlights**

- *Career Planning* – Help students assess their interests and skills and find a career that fits, with national and state-specific occupational information for salaries, industry trends, and employment data.
- *High School Planning* – Evaluate a student's actual transcript information and compare it to graduation, Bright Futures scholarships, and state university admissions requirements.
- *College/Vo-Tech Planning* – Finds all the schools that offer a certain degree or certificate among over 200 Florida institutions, and provides audits to see exactly what courses are required to compete the program. This includes public and private universities, community colleges, career-technical centers, and specialty schools.
- *Financial Aid* – Provides information on planning for costs, types of financial aid available, and state and federal online applications. Additional information on how to keep financial aid and what to do after graduation is also available.
- *Admissions* – Provides information on higher education admissions requirements and applications for new and transferring students, including links to electronic applications that allow a student to apply online to multiple Florida institutions by completing just one application.

## ***DRAFT***

- *Transfer Services* – Provides information on transfer requirements, applications, and processes for appealing transfer decisions. The capability to run a special "2+2" audit to compare personal transcripts with transfer requirements is coming soon. (Note: Due to Florida's "2+2" system established by articulation agreements, over 50% of the students attending Florida's universities are community college transfers.)
- *College Advising Tools* – Offers five types of advising audits that compare actual college transcript to degree requirements. College students can run audits at any public institution in Florida with any major, not just declared majors at current institutions.
- *College Transcripts & Grades* – Provides free access to unofficial college transcripts and grades directly from Florida's public institutions.
- *e-Personal Education Planner (ePEP)* – Provides high school students with the capability to create a personal account that helps them map out coursework throughout each year of high school. Students can add courses, delete courses, select a graduation plan, and monitor their progress toward that plan.

### **Evidence of Success**

- *Uncertain – have not found “evidence” to date.*

### **More Information**

Additional information regarding the FACTS.org can be found online at <http://www.FACTS.org/>

---

### **Reference**

[www.FACTS.org](http://www.FACTS.org) website – particularly the Tour and About Us sections