

UNIVERSITY PARENT
GUIDE



2010

**Florida Institute
of Technology**

CAMPUS RESOURCES – LOCAL INSIGHT – HELPFUL INFORMATION

Welcome!

University Parent Media works closely with institutions around the country to bring together the most relevant, timely information into one all-inclusive resource.

We have published this guide with the mission of helping you easily navigate the university and its surrounding community. Ultimately we hope these resources help nurture your connection and involvement in your student's college years!

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

4 | Florida Tech Guide

Comprehensive advice, information for campus success

- 4 | Welcome to Florida Institute of Technology
- 5 | Fact Sheet
- 8 | Frequently Asked Questions - By Parents
- 11 | Quick References

12 | Melbourne Community

Make the most of your visit by getting to know the area

- 12 | Welcome to Florida's Space Coast!
- 15 | Featured Sponsors

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HBO

Welcome to Florida Institute of Technology!

We're delighted you are visiting our beautiful campus and we appreciate the time and effort you're investing getting to know us.

We know that the campus visit is one of the most essential components to the college search process and often a key factor in making a final college decision – it is one of the only ways to get a real feel for the campus environment!

Whether you're just starting the college search process or measuring the dimensions of the residence hall to prepare for move-in, we are excited to have you here! We'll do everything we can to make your visit informative and enjoyable, by providing you with the information you need, the experience you want, and the opportunities you deserve. We are confident that Florida Tech will shine, and we relish the opportunity to create the chance for you to experience all we have to offer.

While on campus, be sure to venture off the beaten path and explore the campus beyond just the campus tour; be sure to seek the valuable insight from those in the know by asking questions of students, faculty, and staff; be sure to really dive into the university culture and daily life. Enjoy one of our many dining facilities, explore the recreational areas of campus, investigate research opportunities and laboratories, make the most of your time on campus and let us guide you as you learn more about Florida Tech.



We hope, by the time you leave campus, you'll have truly immersed yourself in Florida Tech. We hope you'll use this guide (and other resources) to get to know Florida Tech better! And please remember that all of us in the Office of Undergraduate Admission, the students who conduct our campus tours, and the professors in each department are here to help you and your son/daughter throughout the college decision journey. Call on us for advice, information or guidance.

Thank you and WELCOME!

Rebecca Menard

Rebecca Menard
Special Event Coordinator ■



Fact Sheet

The University

Florida Tech is a fully accredited, coeducational, independent, private university offering more than 145 degree programs in science, engineering, aviation, business, humanities, psychology, education, and communication. Undergraduates can also choose from 20 unique minors to supplement their bachelor's degree study. Doctoral degrees are offered in 20 disciplines, while master's degrees are offered in more than 65 areas of study.

Florida Tech was founded in 1958 to offer continuing education to scientists, engineers and technicians at what is now NASA's Kennedy Space Center. Florida Tech is located in Florida's High Tech Corridor, which is home to more than 5,000 technology-based companies and the nation's 5th largest high-tech workforce.

Florida Tech has more than 2,650 undergraduate students from 50 states and 104 countries. The current value of contracts and grants exceeds \$35 million, of which undergraduate students take an active role, often leading to publication or conference presentations.

The Faculty

The student to faculty ratio is 9:1, and of the 208 full-time faculty members, 89% have a Ph.D. or terminal degree in his/her field. The average class size of 30 presents students with the opportunity to work one-on-one with some of the brightest minds in education. Professors are involved in both teaching and research, are closely involved with student life, and serve as advisors and counselors.

The Students

The Florida Tech's enrollment is made ▶



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up of 6,400 total students – 2,654 undergraduate, 2,291 graduate, and 1,455 online. Of the undergraduate on-campus students; 69% are male, 31% are female; 81% come from the US, representing all 50 states, 35% from Florida, 65% out of state; 19% come from 104 countries around the world.

Florida Tech student athletes compete in 15 varsity sports (men's – baseball, basketball, crew, cross-country, golf, soccer, tennis; women's – basketball, crew, cross-country, golf, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball) and is a member of NCAA Division II and the Sunshine State Conference. We also offer competitive, travelling club teams in surfing, ice hockey, and football. Nearly 60% of students participate in one or more of the 20+ intramural sports that are offered, taking advantage of the subtropical climate to participate in water-sports and other outdoor activities year-round.

There are more than 100 student-run organizations on campus including professional and honor societies; Greek life; fine arts – music, theater, dance; philanthropic organizations; cultural and religious groups; and many others.

The Academic Support Center is available to all students who need help with anything from tutoring to learning disability intervention and all services are available on a case-by-case basis. Evaluations and testing for special need services are offered and accommodations can be made with the appropriate departments on the student's behalf. The Academic Support Center is also a resource for tutoring, paper and project review, or group study sessions, each offered at no cost to the student.

Admission Guidelines

Applicants to Florida Tech must demonstrate readiness to succeed in a challenging academic curriculum. While no minimum grade point average, class rank, or standardized test score is specified, these measures must indicate a readiness for college studies in a chosen academic program. An applicant who is a US citizen must have earned a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma by the date of first enrollment.

Applicants for Science and Engineering Majors must complete four years of math – the minimum including

trigonometry, math analysis and/or pre-calculus – and four years of science to include physics and chemistry. The committee recommends that students take the most rigorous math and science curriculum offered by their high school.

Applicants for All Non-Science and Non-Engineering Majors must complete at least three years of math and at least three years of science (a fourth year of math and science is highly recommended). Academic Profile – The average freshman student for the incoming class of 2010 has a 3.54 GPA from high school and 1200 SAT (combined Critical Reading & Math)/26 ACT (Composite).

Financial Aid

Tuition & Fees (2010-2011) – Science & Engineering \$32,294; Aeronautics,

Business, Psychology & Liberal Arts \$29,470; Room & Board \$9,350-\$11,210.

Scholarships & Financial Aid –

Students must complete an application for admission by February 1 of his/her senior year of high school to be considered for scholarship eligibility at the time of admission. Academic scholarships are awarded based on weighted high school GPA and SAT/ACT composite scores. Additional sources of financial aid are also available, with priority aid given to students who complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on or before March 1 of his/her senior year. For more information about cost, scholarships and ways to apply for aid, please contact the Office of Financial Aid at (321) 674-8070 or finaid@fit.edu. ■

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Frequently Asked Questions – By Parents

Will my son/daughter be safe?

While we cannot guarantee anything in life, including safety and security, Florida Tech does make every effort to protect our campus and our students. The Office of Security and Safety operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, even if the university is technically closed for business and no students are on campus. The officers are often former law enforcement and current or former military. Crime occurs everywhere and to anyone, so students are encouraged to be safe, contentions, and mindful of their situations at all times. If the area experiences a tropical storm/hurricane, the university will communicate information with students and parents through the Florida Tech web site, the Dean of Student's Office, campus email system, and our emergency notification system. The Florida Tech website (www.fit.edu) will be continuously updated with current conditions pertaining to the emergency.

How will my student receive help if needed?

Receiving help is as simple as asking!

Admission Counselors are able to help guide you to all the different

departments on campus that can assist your child in utilizing the university's services and support (such as academic support and counseling, medical attention, counseling services, career placement, etc). Once enrolled, your student's main point of contact for such things will likely be his/her Resident Assistant (RA) who is an upperclassman and familiar with these services.

Do I have access to my student's account for grades, tuition, and information relating to his/her education?

Legally, the university must protect all student information by ordinance of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as Amended (FERPA). The student must consent to the release of personal information; however FERPA allows release of certain directory information to the public without student consent, such as a student's name, major field(s) of study, dates of attendance, part-time or full-time status, and degrees and awards/honors received.

Student consent is required for the release of personally identifiable information such as semester grades, academic record, current academic standing, class schedules



and Social Security/student number. Students may consent to release or restrict personally identifiable information to others by completing the appropriate form available online and from the Office of the Registrar. Information about the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as Amended and the full text of the law may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar.

What exactly is financial aid and how will it work?

The process by which college expenses are funded falls under the very broad category of Financial Aid. Financial aid is more than just loans or government money; it encompasses scholarships (academic-based free money), grants (more free money with other qualifications), loans, and self-help aid (money earned by the student, such as work study). Each of these types of money is awarded to students on a case-by-case basis and is often contingent upon applications for the funds.

While we cannot say with certainty or with an exact dollar amount how much your student's Florida Tech education will cost out of pocket, the process by which students qualify to receive financial support to study here is broad. The first way in which Florida Tech awards Financial Aid is with the application for admission. Each student is considered for merit-based academic scholarships at the time of admission. These scholarships are based

on GPA and SAT I/ACT exam scores and are available regardless of ability to pay.

Scholarships can be renewed each year with satisfactory academic progress while attending Florida Tech. The next way in which Florida Tech awards Financial Aid is by filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). (Please note that this applies to US Citizens and Permanent Residents – International Students should contact Stephanie Enstice for more information about need-based aid.) Regardless of whether or not you think you'll qualify, the FAFSA is an important step in the complete financial aid process. If you do not file the FAFSA, there are federal, state, and even institutional funds that cannot be awarded – if you don't ask for them, the answer is always no!

Do you accept credits from AP, IB or community college?

Overall, Florida Tech does accept most transfer credits, although the way in which they are applied to the degree program can vary. Credits earned through AP or IB testing while still in high school will be awarded to the corresponding coursework based on the grade earned on the exam. Dual Enrollment or college coursework will be applied based on the matriculation agreement by the original institution and Florida Tech. Policies and specifics of the credit transfer policy are available in the university catalog and through the Office of the Registrar. ▶



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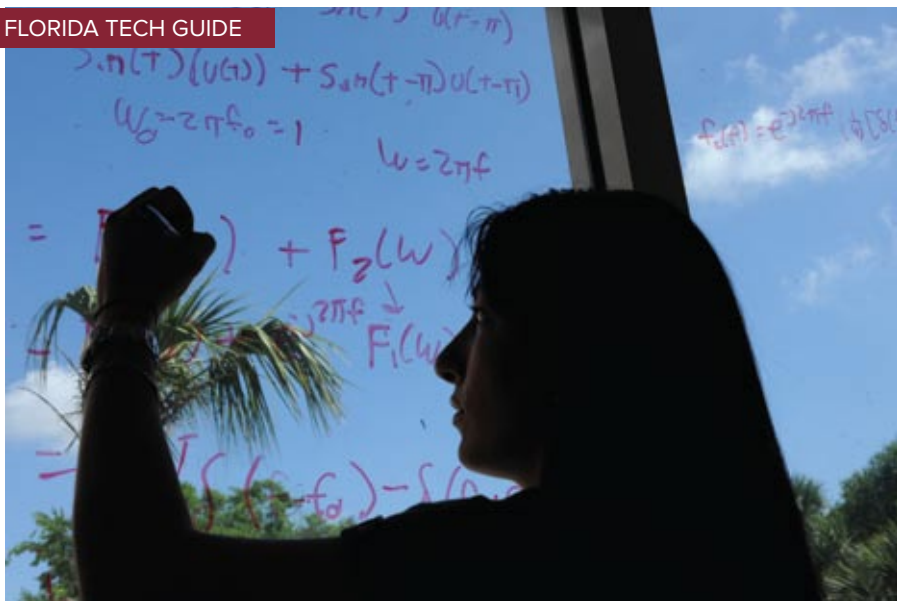
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What are TRACKS, Panther Pass, and PAWS?

TRACKS is the single log-in system for the university web-based services. TRACKS accounts are issued to admitted students within four hours of their acceptance to the university and is one of the most important tools a student can use to navigate the Florida Tech process.

PAWS is the Panther Access Web System, the online student account. In order to access PAWS, a student will log-in with his/her TRACKS account information and will have access to his/her academic, financial aid, and employment information (if employed on-campus). The PAWS system is a one-stop shop for all currently enrolled student-related account information and will be referenced throughout a student's time at Florida Tech.

Panther Pass is the online pre-orientation system for incoming students. Once issued a TRACKS account, a student is granted access to the Panther Pass system. Panther Pass is the system through which a student will pay deposits, complete housing and meal plan contracts, take placement exams, and finalize his/her entrance to Florida Tech. You'll hear about Panther Pass quite a bit throughout

the admission process, and it will be your one-stop location for everything needed to enroll at the university.

Deadlines/Timeline

February 1 – Priority Deadline for application for admission and academic scholarship consideration. Students should have their application for admission completed and all related academic documents (transcripts, test scores, letters of recommendation) received by this date. Any upgrades to scholarship amounts will not be provided after this time.

March 1 – Free Application for Federal Student Aid priority deadline. Students should have the FAFSA completed and submitted to fafsa.ed.gov by this date in order to be qualified for priority financial aid consideration

May 1 – National Decision Day. We ask that all admitted students provide us with information about their college attendance, either at Florida Tech or elsewhere, by this date. If you'd like to inquire about an extension to this deadline, please contact your admission counselor. A complete list of university important dates and school closures can be found online at www.fit.edu/registrar/calendar ■

Quick References

Office of Undergraduate Admission

admission@fit.edu, (800) 888-4348
Information regarding the application and admission process to the university

Office of Financial Aid

finaid@fit.edu, (800) 666-4348
Information pertaining to the process by which one applies for and receives financial aid

Office of Housing

fthousing@fit.edu, (321) 674-8076
Information about on-campus housing, meal plans, and residential life

Academic Support Center

asc@fit.edu, (321) 674-7110
For more information on special needs, testing, tutoring, or placement exams

Health Center

dmarino@fit.edu, (321) 674-8078
Information regarding health services and medical history

Office of Career Management Services

career@fit.edu, (321) 674-8102
Provides guidance throughout the employment process – from work study to retirement

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

caps@fit.edu, (321) 674-8050
Works with students for all counseling needs (aside from academic), homesickness, etc

Office of Security & Safety

safety@fit.edu, (321) 674-8111
Campus security as well as emergency contact

Office of the Registrar

registrar@fit.edu, (321) 674-8118
For more information about transfer credits, Florida Tech transcripts, and FERPA ■

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Welcome to Florida's Space Coast!

We're so glad you've decided to visit the Florida Tech campus, but we know you'll want to experience more than just the college campus while in the area.

Visitors who drive the ocean side road that stretches along the 72 miles (110 km) of Florida's Space Coast's untamed beaches quickly realize that this destination is different from any other Florida destination. Located just 35 miles east (56 km) of Orlando – making it Orlando's closest beach – the Space Coast is a nature-lover's paradise; home to NASA's Kennedy Space Center; the East Coast surfing capital of the United States; a burgeoning center for the arts and much more!

As the only place in the country where visitors can witness a space shuttle launch, the Space Coast offers once-in-a-lifetime experiences for its guests. Nature enthusiasts can kayak close to wildlife; beach lovers can enjoy endless options throughout the destination; surfers can live the dream of the ideal wave. A vacation along

Florida's Space Coast is adventure filled with active days and relaxing nights. It is a special place that can suit any vacation preference.

Kennedy Space Center (KSC) is the center of America's space program. More than 1.5 million visitors come to the KSC Visitor Complex each year to see everything from the Rocket Garden, which displays NASA's early space crafts, to the Apollo/Saturn V Center, which houses the rockets and equipment from the Apollo missions to the moon. At the KSC Visitor Center, there are two IMAX theaters; a life-size replica of a space shuttle that guests can tour and the Shuttle Launch Experience, an attraction designed by astronauts which gives guests the feeling they are actually taking off in a shuttle. Additionally, each day, guests get the rare opportunity to meet veteran astronauts from NASA's Astronaut Corps.

Canaveral National Seashore is the northernmost beach. As one of the last undeveloped beaches on the East Coast, visitors can experience a unique undisturbed ocean side park.

Cocoa Village, an 1860s landmark, is a quaint district where shoppers can find everything from antique



stores to eclectic clothing. Those who want a culinary treat can sample great restaurants, ranging from upscale to casual.

Art lovers can't miss the Eau Gallie Arts District. A cozy downtown area anchored by the Brevard Art Museum. The district is the place to find great art, art supplies and adorable antiques.

Trendy boutiques and a cool nightlife define Historic Downtown Melbourne. Since the 1900s, it has been where the young as well as young-at-heart come to have a great time. Pubs and night spots line the downtown, and restaurants are aplenty!

Downtown Titusville, established in 1850, has a range of restaurants and interesting historic markers. One of the oldest communities on the Indian River, this nostalgic area features arts and crafts shops, clothing boutiques and nearby riverside parks. Within one mile of downtown is the Titusville Municipal

Marina, featuring a ships store and a large seawall for viewing manatees and other marine life.

For nature enthusiasts, the Space Coast is one of the largest intact eco-systems in Florida, with more than 250 square miles of wildlife refuge as well as bird and sea turtle nesting areas and manatee and dolphin habitats.

And don't forget the weather! Visitors love the year-round Florida sunshine, which makes the destination an ideal respite from not-too-ideal temperatures at home. No matter where you turn, there's something for everyone along Florida's Space Coast!

For more information, contact the Space Coast Office of Tourism at (877) 572-3224 or visit www.space-coast.com. ■





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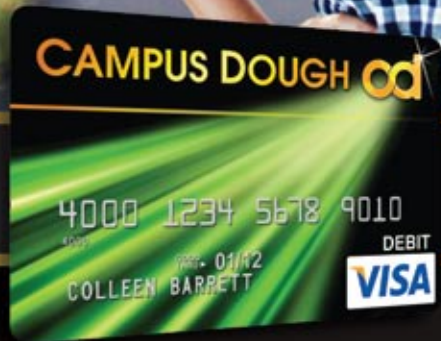
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