

Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degree Frequently Asked Questions



Affordability

Q: How do I help my student avoid student loan debt?

A: The cost savings for tuition and room and board are significant for a student who pursues an A.A. degree at FSCJ:

Tuition

Average cost of fall/spring tuition at a university within the State University System (SUS) for two years fbog.edu/universities/parents-students/tuition-fees/	\$11,952
Average cost of fall/spring tuition at FSCJ for two years	\$5,036
Average Two-Year Cost Savings	\$6,916

Room and Board

Average annual cost of fall/spring room and board at an SUS institution fbog.edu/universities/parents-students/tuition-fees/	\$10,708
Average annual cost of fall/spring room and board at FSCJ fscj.edu/student-services/student-life/20-west-housing	\$7,900
Average Yearly Cost Savings	\$2,808

Q: What scholarships are available that incoming students may apply to receive?

A: FSCJ offers more than 150 scholarship opportunities. Learn more at fscj.edu/scholarships.

Available scholarships include:

- Talent scholarships for full and partial tuition in art, music, dance, digital media, athletics and student government
- FSCJ Honors Scholarship
- FSCJ Promise
- Herb and Miyuki Scheidel Endowed Scholarship

FSCJ

Florida State College
at Jacksonville



Quality

Q: Why should we choose FSCJ over another institution?

A: FSCJ is a great entry point to higher education for many reasons:

- Community college students often succeed at higher levels. Studies have shown that 75% of students who transfer to a university from community college graduate with their degree, compared to 73% who enter from high school and 61% who transfer from another four-year institution.*
*Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Persistence Report
- 49% of all college students begin at a community college.*
*Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Persistence Report
- Students who earn an Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree at FSCJ receive the same general education core course options as state university students.
- The Florida Statewide Articulation Agreement guarantees the transfer of 60 credits earned as part of the A.A. degree to an institution within the State University System of Florida.

Q: Are FSCJ's academics as rigorous as they are in the university setting?

A: FSCJ provides academically-rigorous programs that meet high standards for learning, achievement and success. Courses are led by experienced instructors who are focused on preparing students for the next step.

Q: Does FSCJ have an honors program?

A: Academically talented and gifted students have the opportunity to be part of FSCJ's Honors Program. While working toward the A.A. degree, honors students engage within an intellectually vibrant academic community where they develop leadership skills and participate in a variety of service learning projects

to heighten their learning. Upon acceptance, participants receive an academic scholarship that covers tuition and fees up to 60 credit hours. Those who successfully complete the program receive special recognition on transcripts and during the Commencement Ceremony and go on to succeed at prestigious universities.

Q: Will my student be just another number at FSCJ?

A: No. There are many benefits for students who attend FSCJ, including:

- A low student-to-teacher ratio of 20:1.*
*Based on an FSCJ Liberal Arts and Sciences Enrollment Analysis, 2018-20
- Small class sizes that are capped between 25 and 35 students.
- One-on-one interaction with professors during classes and office hours to support learning.
- Experienced academic advisors who develop Academic Degree Plans that establish degree pathways and prerequisites for major classes.
- Opportunities to participate in a variety of academic and extracurricular activities.

Q: Will it be more difficult for my student to get a job by earning an A.A. degree from a community college?

A: According to data from floridajobs.org, job applicants with an A.A. degree are hired at higher rates than applicants with other types of degrees.

Degree Type	Employment Rate
Bachelor's Degree	60%
Advanced Technical Certificate	67%
Career Certificate	67%
Associate in Arts Degree	68%