



THE LINK

fsc parent newsletter

What is Passport?

As parents, you may hear your student talk about attending events and earning points toward prizes through the Passport Program. The Passport Program is an incentive-based involvement curriculum that encourages students to extend learning beyond classroom walls. Advisors and organization leaders who host co-curricular programs that fall under the guidelines of these categories can apply for their program to offer Passport points: *Fine Arts, School Pride, Health and Wellness, Service and Diversity, Learning Beyond the Classroom, and Pathways to Profession*. When students check-in at Passport Program events, they automatically earn points over the academic year for prizes.



Research shows that student involvement strongly coincides with success in higher education. Please encourage your student to check Mocs Weekly (emailed each Sunday) and Engage for upcoming events. Using the “Events” tab in Engage, students can filter for Passport Program events, different categories of interest, and “perks” such as events with free food.

For more information, please contact the Center for Student Involvement: kthomas@flsouthern.edu.

Student Spotlight: Recent Research

Earlier this year, Andy Vargas (class of 2025), Daniel Ramirez ('26), and Sofiia Kuklina ('26) worked with Dr. Susan Banks in collaboration with Dr. Kaitlin Gallagher and Dr. Jason Macrander in the Biology Department to explore how toxins produced by sea anemones and parasitic organisms impact neuronal activity. Andy, Daniel, and Sofiia isolated DNA, used a bacterial cloning system to express the protein, and tested the purified protein on neuronal function. The students found the neurotoxin was highly effective at inhibiting neuronal function and the impact on neurons was concentration-dependent. As new species are discovered, the number of novel neurotoxins that need to be described continues to grow. The students will continue to explore these novel neurotoxins, and use this successful pathway for further research and analysis of the novel neurotoxins.



Is Your Student Looking for an Internship?

The Office of Career Services is celebrating a 98% placement rate for graduates. Each semester, Career

Services hosts “Moc”tail Networking Nights, highlighting multiple local and national companies, two days of in-person and virtual “Moc” Interview Days, and workshops to help get students career-ready. In addition to other workshops and events, students are able to get one free outfit per year from the Career Clothes Closet and take profile pictures for LinkedIn and resumes in the Professional Headshot Room.

The Office of Career Services is located in the Student Life building (Carlisle Rogers). Please encourage your Moc to stop in or check out upcoming career readiness events on [Engage](#).

December Graduation Information

Commencement will be held at the Branscomb Memorial Auditorium, 1100 Johnson Ave, Lakeland, FL 33803 at 10:30 AM on December 14, 2024.

Information regarding tickets is sent directly to students who have been cleared for graduation.

Cap and gown orders are open and must be placed by **Friday, October 25, 2024** directly through Herff Jones at <http://herff.ly/fsc>. Announcements, rings and diploma frames can also be ordered through the website. Orders will be available for pick up beginning **Monday, December 9, 2024**, at the FSC Bookstore. Payments must be made when placing orders. If you have any questions, please be sure to call (863) 680-4186, or visit the FSC Bookstore.



Resident Advisor Applications Now Open

2025-26 [Resident Advisor](#) Applications are now available to students on Engage and will be accepted through December 18.



Housing During Thanksgiving Break

Students may remain on campus for Thanksgiving Break (November 27 through 29); however, meal plans are not active during this time. The campus will have limited dining facilities open during Thanksgiving break. Please encourage your student to stop by any dining locations to learn more about hours of operation, if they plan to stay over Thanksgiving.

Winter Break Closing

Students are not able to remain on campus for the Winter Break (December 12 through January 4). If a student has a concern about leaving campus for the Winter Break, please have them reach out to their Community Director.

Airport Shuttles

Parents and students often ask for information regarding The Office of Campus Safety’s Airport Shuttle. Transportation to and from Orlando International Airport (MCO) and Tampa International Airport (TPA) is available to students who register in advance. Please visit [the shuttle page on the FSC site](#) and view this [instructional video](#) for additional information.



REMINDERS

Important Upcoming Dates

- November 4: Spring course registration for students with 93 or more earned hours opens at 7:00 AM.
- November 7: Spring course registration for students with 60 or more earned hours opens at 7:00 AM.
- November 11: Spring course registration for students with 30 or more earned hours opens at 7:00 AM.
- November 13: Spring course registration for students with 0-29 earned hours opens at 7:00 AM.
- November 27-29: Thanksgiving Break
- December 6: Final Day of Classes
- December 9-11: Final Exams
- December 12: Winter Break Begins ([Residence Hall Break Housing Schedule](#))
- December 14: Mid-year Commencement
- January 5-6: Students Return to Residence Halls
- January 7: Spring Semester Begins
- [Full Academic Calendar Link](#)

RESOURCES



For upcoming important dates, please access the academic calendar.

CALENDAR



DINING ON CAMPUS

Twelve venues offer everything from home-style meals to healthful on-the-go options, keeping our Mocs happy and healthy.

MENUS



EMERGENCIES

If weather causes cancellations, closings, or other school-related emergencies, we will alert the community via the text message system.

OPT IN
HERE

Send Your Moc a Care Package

[Parent & Family Page](#)

Florida Southern has a page for parents and family members.

[Counseling Services](#)

Florida Southern offers free, confidential, individual counseling and support groups.

[Student Health Center](#)

In partnership with Lakeland Regional Health, FSC provides quality, accessible health care. Walk-ins are welcome.

[Student Accounts](#)

[Community Living](#)

[Bookstore](#)

[Academic Center for Excellence](#)

[Athletics](#)

To see updates & reminders throughout the week, follow our [Parent Facebook page](#).



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