



## Six Steps Before Changing Your Major

Julia C. De Llanos, MBA  
State Program Director

Are you considering a change of major? When changing an academic plan there are necessary steps a student must take to ensure they are making a wise decision. After all, the academic plan you choose impacts your future career and earning potential.

Students must engage in self-reflection and extensive research before declaring a new major. See the information below to ensure you have taken all the necessary steps prior to changing your major.

- Self-reflect and contemplate why you want to change your major. For example, students struggling in a rigorous subject area often change majors if the class is required to earn their credentials. Refrain from changing your major solely because certain concepts seem too difficult to grasp the first time around. Example: If your passion is to become a physician or a nurse and you are not performing well in an anatomy and physiology course, schedule a tutoring session on campus. Many successful healthcare professionals failed core courses on their first try. Do not give up. Instead, take action so that you may move forward in the program and give yourself the opportunity to complete classes you will enjoy.
- Identify your desired occupation and the degree, certification, or license required to secure employment in that given field. Research specific occupations by title (computer programmer, hotel general manager, accountant, speech and language pathologist, etc.) to obtain detailed information about your future profession. You may find information about various occupations here: <https://www.onetonline.org/>.
- Research the career outlook and future earning potential for your chosen profession. Understand the career you choose should bring you fulfillment, but must also be able fund a comfortable standard of living. Decide whether your chosen occupation is compatible with your desired lifestyle. If you deem them incompatible, consider some interests are best suited as hobbies or volunteer projects. It is important to remember that your future career will likely serve as your primary source of income; therefore, you will want to choose your major wisely.
- Understand the academic implications of changing an educational plan. Review the new program's entry requirements, curriculum, and satisfactory academic progress guidelines. Students can also run a degree audit or conduct a what-if analysis to identify additional courses required to obtain their credentials.
- Access campus resources before the transition to a new a major. Schedule an appointment with your academic advisor to discuss your new academic plan. Students may also consider visiting the career services office to gather workforce

statistics and career data sheets by major.

- Identify the immediate financial aid implications of changing your major. If credits previously completed will not apply to the new program, students must pay for the additional courses required to obtain credentials. Schedule a meeting with the financial aid department to discuss your aggregate limit and whether or not additional funding is needed for the remainder of your post-secondary education.

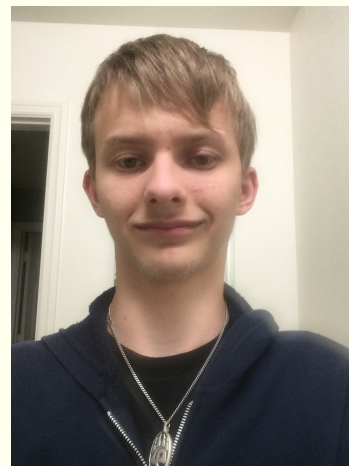
It is important to note that changing your major may seem like a daunting process, but it may benefit your future if you've taken the necessary steps to make an informed decision.

For more student success tips and individualized assistance, send an email to [julia@earntolearnfl.org](mailto:julia@earntolearnfl.org).

---

## Student Testimonial

Hello! I am Nicholas Stockwell, a participant in the Earn to Learn FL scholarship program and a student attending Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU). I wanted to thank Earn to Learn FL for having us complete the training at: <https://florida.earntolearn.org>. It was highly informative. I learned how to recognize, report, and correct identity fraud. Furthermore, I learned how to interpret and understand my FICO score. Once again, thank you to Earn to Learn FL for providing the training and the opportunity to learn what an economics class won't teach you!



## Important Scholarship Deadlines

- **December 5th** : The Earn to Learn continuing education requirement is due. Complete the requirement here: <https://florida.earntolearn.org> .
- **December 15th**: Scholarship request supporting documentation is due. Please submit a PDF copy of your spring 2020 class schedule, financial aid statement, and tuition and fees bill to [julia@earntolearnfl.org](mailto:julia@earntolearnfl.org) .
- **December 17th**: The SignEasy Scholarship Withdrawal Form is due for the spring 2020 semester.

In order to receive financial assistance for the spring 2020 semester, students must complete the aforementioned requirements.

*May your table be filled with family and gratitude this season.  
Happy Thanksgiving from Earn to Learn FL!*

---

**Looking for a job? Check out some opportunities from our partners across the state!**



# SYNOVUS®

[Synovus Careers](#)



[Norman Love Confections](#)

**21st Century Oncology**

[21st Century Oncology](#)



[Bonita Bay Group](#)



[Lee Health](#)



[Comerica Bank](#)



[Arthrex](#)



[Chico's FAS](#)



[FineMark National Bank & Trust](#)



[Quarles & Brady LLP](#)



[Lipman Family Farms](#)



[Baldwin Krystyn Sherman Partners](#)



[BNY Mellon](#)

If you are a corporate sponsor interested in advertising your job opportunities with us, please send an email to [julia@earn-to-learn-fl.org](mailto:julia@earn-to-learn-fl.org)

