

**Bright Futures (BF)
Scholarship Program
Initial Eligibility Criteria
2018-19**

OSFA

Florida Department of Education
Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)

BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Website Updated July 1

Welcome to **Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs** 1-888-827-2004
Florida Department of Education
Office of Student Financial Assistance

State Programs Home	Applications and Updates	Financial Aid Resources	Postsecondary Institutions	High Schools	State Program Links
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What's New

[Florida Legislative Updates and History of Financial Aid Changes](#)

Applicant Quick Links

[Student Application](#)
[View Student Financial Aid History](#)
[Update My Demographics](#)
[Check My Status](#)

Administrator Quick Links

[Program Compliance Audits](#)
[Postsecondary Institutions Login](#)
[High School Personnel Login](#)
[Florida Department of Veterans Affairs Certification](#)

Want Bright Futures?


Seniors submit a Florida Financial Aid Application by high school graduation.

Contact Us

1-888-827-2004
osfa@fldoe.org

STATE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT PROGRAMS

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA), administers a variety of state-funded grants and scholarships to assist Florida residents with the cost of their postsecondary education. Below is a list of grant and scholarship programs administered by OSFA.

-  [Access to Better Learning and Education \(ABLE\) Grant](#)
-  [Bright Futures Scholarship](#)
-  [First Generation Matching Grant](#)
-  [Florida Incentive Scholarship](#)
-  [Florida Fund for Minority Teachers](#)
-  [Florida Resident Access Grant \(FRAG\)](#)
-  [Florida Student Assistance Grant \(FSAG\)](#)
Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant
-  [Florida Work Experience Program](#)
-  [José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant](#)
- [Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship](#)
- [Rosewood Family Scholarship](#)
- [Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans](#)
Award Amounts

[State Scholarship and Grant Calendar](#)
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<p>Applicant Quick Links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Student ApplicationView Student Financial Aid HistoryUpdate My DemographicsCheck My Status <p>Administrator Quick Links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Login to the Online Transcript Entry and Evaluation SystemComprehensive Course Table (CCT) <p>Contact Us</p> <p>1-888-827-2004 osfa@fldoe.org</p> 	 <p>The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program establishes three lottery-funded scholarships to reward Florida high school graduates for high academic achievement.</p> <p>Bright Futures Student Handbook:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chapter 1: Initial Eligibility Requirements<ul style="list-style-type: none">Requirements for the Three Scholarship Types (<i>FAS, FMS, GSV</i>)Non-Traditional Students (<i>home-educated, GED, out-of-state, mid-year</i>)Chapter 2: Information to Know Now That You Are Eligible<ul style="list-style-type: none">Length of the Scholarship AwardAward AmountsSummer FundingTransferring the Scholarship between InstitutionsChapter 3: Renewing Your Award<ul style="list-style-type: none">Renewal RequirementsReinstatement RequirementsRestoration RequirementsInstitutional Appeal Process <p>Other Bright Futures Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bright Futures BrochureChart of Eligibility and Award CriteriaBright Futures Award AmountsThe Home-Educated Student GuideBright Futures Statistical Reports				

HOW TO APPLY

- Students must complete the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) by **August 31** after high school (HS) graduation
- www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org (Select **State Grants, Scholarships & Applications/Applications and Updates/Florida Financial Aid Application**)
- FFAA opens December 1 and closes August 31
- Submit ONE application and update as needed

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Florida resident and U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen as determined by the postsecondary institution
- Earn standard Florida high school diploma or equivalent from a Florida public high school or FDOE registered private high school

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Not found guilty of, or pled nolo contendere to, a felony charge
- Accepted by, and enrolled in, a degree or certificate program at eligible Florida postsecondary institution within two years of HS graduation
- Enrolled in at least 6 non-remedial semester hours (or equivalent in quarter or clock hours) per term

BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AWARDS

Students may receive funding for ONE of the three awards:

- Florida Academic Scholars Award (FAS)
- Florida Medallion Scholars Award (FMS)
- Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award (GSV)

FLORIDA ACADEMIC SCHOLARS AWARD

GPA

- 3.5 weighted GPA (not rounded) in required 16 HS Credits

Required Credits*

- 4 English (3 must include substantial writing)
- 4 Math (at or above Algebra I level)
- 3 Natural Science (2 must have substantial laboratory)
- 3 Social Science
- 2 World Language (sequential, in same language)

Service Hours

- 100 hours approved by district or FDOE-registered private high school

FLORIDA ACADEMIC SCHOLARS AWARD

Test Scores

- 1290 SAT Reasoning Test or 29 ACT
- ACT scores rounded up for scores with .5 and higher
- Writing sections not used in composite*
- SAT Subject Tests not used
- Deadlines (tests taken by):
 - January 31 for Early 7th semester eligibility
 - June 30 for Final 8th semester eligibility

FLORIDA ACADEMIC SCHOLARS AWARD

Other ways to qualify must include 100 service hours:

- National Merit or Achievement Scholars and Finalists
- National Hispanic Scholars
- IB Diploma (based on exams taken prior to high school graduation)*
- IB Curriculum with 1290 SAT or 29 ACT
- AICE Diploma (based on exams administration series ending mid-June)
- AICE Curriculum with 1290 SAT or 29 ACT

FLORIDA ACADEMIC SCHOLARS AWARD

Other ways to qualify must include 100 service hours:

- Home Education, registered with district in grades 11 & 12 and have a best composite score of 1290 SAT or 29 ACT
- GED with best composite score of 1290 SAT or 29 ACT and a 3.5 weighted GPA in the 16 credits of college preparatory courses

FLORIDA MEDALLION SCHOLARS AWARD

GPA

- 3.0 weighted GPA (not rounded) in required 16 HS credits

Required Credits*

- 4 English (3 must include substantial writing)
- 4 Math (at or above the Algebra I level)
- 3 Natural Science (2 must have substantial laboratory)
- 3 Social Science
- 2 World Language (sequential, in same language)

Service Hours

- 75 hours approved by district or FDOE-registered private high school

FLORIDA MEDALLION SCHOLARS AWARD

Test Scores

- 1170 SAT Reasoning Test or 26 ACT
- ACT scores rounded up for scores with .5 and higher
- SAT Subject Tests not used
- Writing sections not used in composite*
- Deadlines (tests taken by):
 - January 31 for Early 7th semester eligibility
 - June 30 for Final 8th semester eligibility

FLORIDA MEDALLION SCHOLARS AWARD

Other ways to qualify must include 75 service hours:

- National Merit or Achievement Scholars and Finalists
- National Hispanic Scholars
- IB Curriculum with 1170 SAT or 26 ACT*
- AICE Diploma (based on exams administration series ending mid-June)
- AICE Curriculum with 1170 SAT or 26 ACT
- Students must meet the service hour requirement

FLORIDA MEDALLION SCHOLARS AWARD

Other ways to qualify must include 75 service hours:

- Home Education, registered with district in grades 11 & 12 and 1220 SAT or 27 ACT OR best combined score of 1170 SAT or 26 ACT with 3.0 weighted GPA in the required 16 credits of college preparatory academic courses documented through:
 - Florida public schools
 - FDOE-registered private schools
 - Florida Virtual School [FLVS] or
 - Dual enrollment coursework documented by transcripts from a Florida state (community) college or university

FLORIDA MEDALLION SCHOLARS AWARD

Other ways to qualify must include 75 service hours:

- GED with best composite score of 1170 SAT or 26 ACT and a 3.0 weighted GPA in the required 16 credits of college preparatory academic courses

FLORIDA GOLD SEAL VOCATIONAL SCHOLARS AWARD

GPA

- 3.0 GPA in the non-elective high school courses
- 3.5 unweighted GPA in the career education courses

Required Credits*

- 16 core credits required to graduate from high school within four years OR
- 14 core credits required to graduate from high school within three years (*excluding Fine/Practical Arts and Physical Education*)
- AND at least 3 full credits in a single Career and Technical Education program

FLORIDA GOLD SEAL VOCATIONAL SCHOLARS AWARD

Service Hours

- 30 hours – approved by district or FDOE-registered private high school

Test Scores

- **SAT Reasoning Test**
 - 440 Critical Reading
 - 440 Math
- **ACT National Test**
 - 17 English
 - 19 Reading
 - 19 Math
- **Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT)**
 - 103 Writing
 - 106 Reading
 - 114 Math

FLORIDA GOLD SEAL VOCATIONAL SCHOLARS AWARD

GSV Scholars awards may only be used at postsecondary institutions that offer:

- Applied Technology Diploma
- Technical Degree Education Program (associate in applied science or associate in science)
- Career Education Certificate Program

ACADEMIC TOP SCHOLARS AWARD

- One FAS award recipient per county
- Ranked on Bright Futures GPA and SAT/ACT score
- Award established annually by the Florida Legislature in the General Appropriations Act
- Determined end of fall term following high school graduation and after term one disbursements are finalized
- Students and high schools are notified in November

ELIGIBILITY EVALUATIONS

Completed twice a year:

- Early 7th semester (fall term) based on:
 - Required coursework completed and GPA through the first half of the senior year
 - Coursework in progress for 8th semester
 - Service hours completed by end of 7th semester
 - Test scores for tests taken through January 31
- Final 8th semester (graduation) based on:
 - Final transcript submitted – required coursework completed and BF GPA
 - Service hours completed by high school graduation
 - Test scores for all tests taken through June 30

ELIGIBILITY NOTIFICATIONS

- Early 7th semester evaluations may begin posting in March
- Final 8th semester evaluations may begin posting in July
- Students **must graduate** to be awarded
- Students must check their Financial Aid Recipient History online – Not all notifications are sent via hardcopy or email
- Students must monitor award status online

MID-YEAR GRADUATES

2018-19 students graduating mid-year, intending to receive funding during 2019 spring must:


- Complete the Florida Financial Aid Application for funding year (for example, 2018-19 application, which closes August 31, 2019)
 - 7th semester evaluation after spring term of junior year includes GPA, required coursework completed, courses in progress, service hours completed by the end of 7th semester, and test scores for test dates through June 30
 - 8th semester evaluation after fall graduation and all grades posted includes GPA in all required coursework, service hours completed by high school graduation, and test scores for test dates through January 31

APPLICATIONS AND UPDATES

State Programs Home **Applications and Updates** Financial Aid Resources Postsecondary Institutions High Schools St

APPLICATIONS AND UPDATES


STUDENTS

[Florida Financial Aid Application \(FFAA\)](#) (for new applicants) 

[Get My User ID and PIN](#)

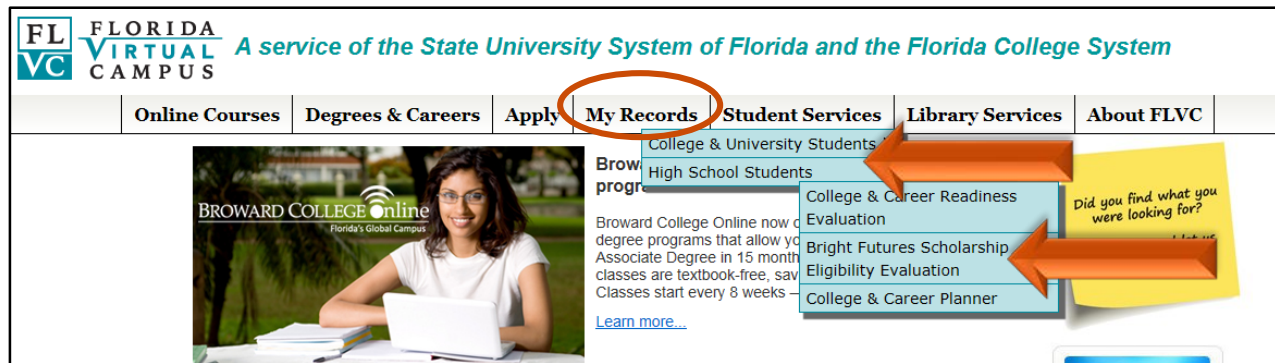
**RETURNING STUDENTS,
LOGIN HERE TO:**

- Update an existing Florida Financial Aid Application
- Submit/Update Reinstatement/Restoration Application
- Check the status of your application, online notifications, and your award history
- Update demographics including the institution you currently attend/plan to attend



PROGRESS TRACKING

- Public high school students – Visit Florida Virtual Campus at www.flvc.org



- Private high school students – Counselor provides Bright Futures Student Evaluation Report and Key

STUDENT REPORT CARDS

Section 1009.531 (4), Florida Statutes

Public high school student report cards must contain a disclosure that the grade point average calculated for purposes of the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program may differ from the grade point average on the report card.

AWARD AMOUNTS

Public and Private Postsecondary Institutions

- Students will receive the specified award amounts established annually by the Florida Legislature in the General Appropriations Act
- Funding begins the fall following high school graduation
- For current year award amounts, visit <http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/bfmain.htm>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the website

<http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/>

Call

Customer Service 888-827-2004

Email

OSFA@fldoe.org