

Bright Futures Initial Eligibility Criteria 2012-13

Objectives

- Overview of Bright Futures changes
- Overview of Bright Futures Initial Eligibility criteria for each award

Updated each July 1

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship

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

Home Programs Offered Apply Here Application Status & Award History Postsecondary Institutions High Schools Other Agency Certifiers State Program Links Educational Links **Frequently Asked Questions**

What's New

Florida Legislative Session 2012 Updates and Legislative History

Applicant Quick Links

- Student Application
- View Student Financial Aid History
- Update My Demographics
- Check My Status

Administrator Quick Links

- Program Compliance Audits
- SSFAD Guide for Postsecondary Institutions
- SSFAD Guide for High School Personnel

Want Bright Futures?

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

my3

Who We Are

The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) State Programs, within the Florida Department of Education, administers a variety of postsecondary educational state-funded grants and scholarships, and provides information to students, parents, and high school and postsecondary professionals.

Easy access to program information, application and award status.

Know it, Use it, Be Responsible for your state financial aid!
Students - link here to Activate Your User ID and PIN

Students should regularly check online:

1. to update contact information,
2. to view all communications from OSFA, and
3. to view the status of their application and awards.

Contact Us

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

Great Resources

- FACTS.org
- FAFSA
- ED.gov
- PREPAID COLLEGE
- NSLDS National Student Loan Data System
- ACT
- SAT CollegeBoard
- FASFAA
- FASFAA Be Cool. Go To School!
- COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

Florida Department of Education

OSFA Office of Student Financial Assistance

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship

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- Chart of Eligibility and Award Criteria

ADMINISTRATOR QUICK LINKS

- High School Guidance Counselors
- Comprehensive Course Table
 - Course Code Directory
 - Descriptions
- Vocational Course Descriptions
- Bright Futures Reports

REMEMBER!

You MUST apply for Bright Futures before your High School graduation date. **NO application = NO award, EVER!**

Florida Department of Education





FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS

- Florida Financial Aid Application [APPLY HERE](#)
- Levels of Bright Futures Awards
 - Florida Academic Scholars (FAS)
 - Academic Top Scholars (ATS)
 - Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)
 - Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV)
- If You Are
 - Home-Educated
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 - International Baccalaureate (IB)
 - Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE)
 - Out-of-State (Florida Resident Graduating from a High School Outside Florida)
- Frequently-Asked Questions
- Printable Brochures

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- How and When to Apply
- General Requirements for Awards
- Academic Requirements for Initial Eligibility
 - Weighting for Bright Futures High School GPA

CONGRATULATIONS!
You've earned a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship! Now What?

- Initially Awarded Students
 - Notification of Eligibility
 - Information Page
- Award Amounts (2012-13)
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 - Award Status
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STUDENT Financial Aid Recipient History

RENEWAL STUDENTS

- How to Receive Funds After First Year
 - Renewed
 - 2012 High School Graduates
 - 2011 High School Graduates
 - 2011 H.S. Grads Renewal Info

Same Good Info...
Easy to Find!

Legislative Update

2012 Legislative Changes to Bright Futures

- Students who graduate from high school mid-year may submit a *Florida Financial Aid Application* no later than August 31 prior to the student's graduation, be evaluated for Bright Futures, and, if eligible, receive funding in the current academic year following the student's high school graduation

2012 Legislative Changes to Bright Futures

- Initial and renewal students required to file the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) to be awarded funds
 - No federal verification required for state programs
- University of Florida's Innovation Academy students receive funding in spring and summer terms (limited to two terms of funding per year – summer may be one of the two)

2012 Legislative Changes to Bright Futures

- Students graduating high school in 2012-13 are eligible to accept an initial Bright Futures award within two years (rather than the current 3 years for reinstatement) following high school graduation
- Remember: 2012-13 grads may accept a renewal award for five years following high school graduation (not new)

2012 Legislative Changes to Bright Futures

- Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars **graduating in 2011-12 and thereafter** may receive an award for 100% of the number of hours required to **complete only one of the following programs** at a Florida public or eligible Florida private postsecondary institution:
 - Applied Technology Diploma (ATD), up to 60 credit hours or equivalent clock hours
 - Technical Degree Education Program (AS, AAS, CCC), not to exceed 72 credit hours or equivalent clock hours
 - Career Certificate Program (PSAV), not to exceed 72 credit hours or equivalent clock hours

Bright Futures Initial Eligibility Requirements

Bright Futures Scholarship 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 in required college preparatory credits (not rounded)

- **Required Credits**

- 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
- 4 Math (Algebra I level and above)
- 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
- 3 Social Science
- 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language – one being a completer course)

Florida Academic Scholars Award

- **Community Service**

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

- **Test Scores**

- **1280 (up from 1270)** SAT Reasoning Test or 28 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 summer (8th semester) eligibility

Florida Academic Scholars Award

- **Other ways to qualify must include 100 community service hours:**
 - National Merit or Achievement Scholars and Finalists
 - National Hispanic Scholars
 - IB Diploma (based on exams taken before high school graduation or completion of IB requirements)
 - IB Curriculum with **1280 (up from 1270)** SAT or 28 ACT
 - AICE Diploma (based on exams taken before high school graduation or completion of AICE requirements)
 - AICE Curriculum with **1280 (up from 1270)** SAT or 28 ACT
 - Home Education, registered with district Grades 11 & 12 and have a best composite score of **1280 (up from 1270)** SAT or 28 ACT

Florida Academic Scholars Award

- **Other ways to qualify must include 100 community service hours:**
 - GED with best composite score of **1280 (up from 1270)** SAT or 28 ACT and a 3.5 weighted GPA in the 16 required credits
 - 3-year standard college preparatory program with best composite score of **1280 (up from 1270)** SAT or 28 ACT and a 3.5 weighted GPA in the 16 required credits

Florida Medallion Scholars Award

- **GPA**
 - 3.0 weighted GPA in required college preparatory credits
- **Required Credits**
 - 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
 - 4 Math (Algebra I level and above)
 - 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
 - 3 Social Science
 - 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language – one being a completer course)

Florida Medallion Scholars Award

- **Community Service**
 - 75 hours – approved by district or private high school registered with the FDOE
- **Test Scores**
 - 1020 (up from 980) SAT Reasoning Test or 22 (up from 21) 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 summer (8th semester) eligibility

Florida Medallion Scholars Award

- **Other ways to qualify must include 75 community service hours:**
 - National Merit or Achievement Scholars and Finalists
 - National Hispanic Scholars
 - IB Diploma (based on exams taken prior to high school graduation or completion of IB requirements)
 - IB Curriculum with **1020 (up from 980) SAT** or **22 (up from 21) ACT**
 - AICE Diploma (based on exams taken prior to high school graduation or completion of AICE requirements)
 - AICE Curriculum with **1020 (up from 980) SAT** or **22 (up from 21) ACT**
 - Home Education, registered with District Grades 11 & 12 and **1070 SAT** or **23 ACT** OR best combined score of **1020 (up from 980) SAT** or **22 (up from 21) ACT** with 3.0 weighted GPA in the 16 required credits (documented through Florida public, FDOE-registered private, Florida Virtual School [FLVS] or dual enrollment transcripts)

Florida Medallion Scholars Award

- Other ways to qualify must include 75 community service hours:
 - GED with best composite score of **1020 (up from 980)** SAT or **22 (up from 21)** ACT and a 3.0 weighted GPA in the 16 required credits
 - 3-year standard college preparatory program with best composite score of **1020 (up from 980)** SAT or **22 (up from 21)** ACT and a 3.0 weighted GPA in the 16 required credits

Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award

- **GPA**s

- 3.0 weighted GPA in the core credits required for graduation
- 3.5 unweighted GPA in 3 Career and Technical Education credits in one vocational program

Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award

- **Required Credits (4-year diploma)**

- 4 English
- 4 Math (including Algebra I)
- 3 Natural Science (2 with lab component)
- 3 Social Science (U.S. History, World History, U.S. Government, and Economics)
- 1 Fine or Identified Practical Art OR .5 in each
- 1 Physical Education (to include the integration of health)

Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award

Community Service

- 30 hours – approved by district or private high school

Test Scores

- **SAT Reasoning Test**
 - 440 Critical Reading
 - 440 Math
- **ACT National Test**
 - 17 English
 - 18 Reading
 - 19 Math
- **Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT)**
 - 99 Writing
 - 104 Reading
 - 113 Math

Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award

- **Other ways to qualify must include 30 community service hours:**
 - 3-year Career Preparatory Diploma with 3.0 weighted GPA in 14 core credits required
 - 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
 - 4 Math (including Algebra I)
 - 3 Natural Science (2 with lab component)
 - 3 Social Science (U.S. History, World History, U.S. Government, and Economics)
 - 3.5 unweighted GPA in a minimum of 3 Career and Technical Education credits in one vocational program

Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award

- **Other ways to qualify must include 30 community service hours:**
 - 3-year College Preparatory Diploma with 3.0 weighted GPA using 16 core credits required
 - 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
 - 4 Math (Algebra I level and above)
 - 3 Natural Science (2 with lab component)
 - 3 Social Science (U.S. History, World History, U.S. Government, and Economics)
 - 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language – one being a completer course)
 - 3.5 unweighted GPA in a minimum of 3 Career and Technical Education in one vocational program

Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award

- **Other ways to qualify must include 30 community service hours:**
 - GED with 3.0 weighted GPA in core credits for selected HS graduation option (standard, career, or college), and
 - 3.5 unweighted GPA in 3 Career and Technical Education credits in one vocational program

Award Amounts

- Public and Private 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 www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/awardamt.htm

Academic Top Scholars Award

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

General Eligibility Requirements

- Graduate from a Florida public high school or FDOE-registered private high school (for GED, Out-of-State & Home Education exceptions see www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/ssfad/bf)
- Not guilty of, or plead no contest to, a felony charge
- Florida resident and U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen as determined by the postsecondary institution
- Seeking undergraduate degree or certificate at an eligible Florida postsecondary institution

General Eligibility Requirements

- Enrolled for at least 6 non-remedial semester credit hours
- Begin using the scholarship funds **within two years (down from three years)** of high school graduation (exception: military service)
- Annually submit an error-free *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) before the first disbursement

How to Apply

- Students must complete the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) **before high school graduation** or forfeit BF eligibility
- www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org (Select **State Grants, Scholarships & Applications**)
- FFAA closes August 31
- Submit ONE application – update as needed

Eligibility Evaluations

Completed twice a year:

- After 7th semester (fall term) based on:
 - Coursework completed
 - Coursework in progress for spring semester
 - Test scores for tests taken through January 31
 - Community service completed by end of fall term
- After 8th semester (graduation) based on:
 - Coursework completed
 - Test scores for all tests taken through June 30
 - Community service completed by high school graduation

Eligibility Notifications

- Mid-year (7th semester) begin March
- Final (8th semester) begin:
 - June - for tests taken through April for FAS awardees only
 - August - for tests taken through June for all other awardees
- Students must graduate to be awarded
- Posted to student's Financial Aid Recipient History online – NO hardcopies or e-mails
- Students monitor award status online

Application Status & Award History

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Progress Tracking

- Public high school students – Visit [Florida Virtual Campus](#)

The screenshot shows the Florida Virtual Campus website interface. At the top left is the logo for Florida Virtual Campus (FL VC). To the right are buttons for 'Student Login' and 'Create Account'. Below the logo is a navigation bar with the following tabs: 'Online Courses', 'Degrees & Careers', 'Apply', 'My Records', 'Student Services', and 'Library Services'. The 'My Records' tab is highlighted with a red circle. A dropdown menu is open under 'My Records', with two columns: 'College & University Students' and 'High School Students'. The 'High School Students' column contains three items, with the first one, 'College & Career Readiness Evaluation', circled in red. Below the navigation bar, the main content area features a 'Welcome to Florida Virtual Campus' message, a description of the site's purpose, and a photo of graduates. At the bottom, there is a row of six icons representing various educational services.

- Private high school students – Guidance 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.

For More Information

Visit the website

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

Call

Customer Service 1-888-827-2004

E-mail

OSFA@fldoe.org