



# Florida Bright Futures Program

Awarded to every  
student in the state  
of Florida who meets the eligibility  
requirements.

**APPLICATION OPENS ON OCT. 1st**

[www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org)

# General Requirements

1. Be a Florida resident and a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, as determined by the student's postsecondary institution.
2. Complete the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) no later than August 31 after high school graduation.
3. Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its equivalent from a Florida public high school or a registered Florida Department of Education private high school.
4. Not have been found guilty of, or pled nolo contendere to, a felony charge, unless the student has been granted clemency by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Executive Office of Clemency.
5. Be accepted by, enroll in a degree or certificate program, and be funded at an eligible Florida public or independent postsecondary institution within 2 years from the student's year of high school graduation.
6. Be enrolled for a least 6 non-remedial semester credit hours (or the equivalent in quarter or clock hours) per term.

# Florida Academic and Medallion Scholars Award- **Coursework**

- ▶ Must meet the following criteria to be eligible for these awards (continued):
  - ▶ Complete the required high school coursework:
    - ▶ 16 High School Course Credits
    - ▶ 4- English
    - ▶ 4- Mathematics (*at or above the Algebra I level*)
    - ▶ 3- Natural Sciences (*two must have substantial lab*)
    - ▶ 3- Social Science
    - ▶ 2- World Language (*sequential, in same language*)

Note: These requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

# Florida Academic and Medallion Scholars Award- **Coursework**

- ▶ High School Courses
  - ▶ Align with required coursework for SUS admission requirements.
  - ▶ World Language can be met by demonstrating proficiencies based on scores on Credit-by-Exam Equivalencies

Note: These requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

# Florida Academic and Medallion Scholars Award- **Grade Point Average**

- ▶ Must meet the following criteria to be eligible for these awards (continued):
  - ▶ Achieve the required minimum high school grade point average (GPA).
    - ▶ **High School Weighted GPA**
      - ▶ 3.50- Florida Academic Scholars
      - ▶ 3.00- Florida Medallion Scholars
  - ▶ Unrounded weighted GPA in the 16 college-prep courses
  - ▶ AP, Pre-IB, IB, Honors, Pre-AICE, AICE and academic Dual Enrollment are weighted .25 per semester

# Florida Academic and Medallion Scholars Award- **College Entrance Exams**

- ▶ Must meet the following criteria to be eligible for these awards (continued):
- ▶ Achieve the required minimum score on either the ACT or SAT college entrance exam
  - ▶ College Entrance Exams (ACT/SAT)
    - ▶ ACT: 29 or SAT: 1290- Florida Academic Scholars
    - ▶ ACT: 26 or SAT :1170- Florida Medallion Scholars
- ▶ OFSA does NOT use the writing section score from either test.

# Florida Academic and Medallion Scholars Award- College Entrance Exams

- ▶ ACT-composite is the average of the 4 subject areas: English, Math, Reading & Science. Composite scored will be rounded up to next whole number.
- ▶ SAT composite score is the sum of Critical Reading & Math sections.
- ▶ Exams may be taken through June 30 of the student's graduation year (or January 31 for mid-year graduates).

Note: These requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

# Florida Academic and Medallion Scholars Award- **Community Service Hours**

- ▶ Must meet the following criteria to be eligible for these awards:
  - ▶ Community Service Hours
    - ▶ 100 hours- Florida Academic Scholars
    - ▶ 75 hours- Florida Medallion Scholars



Note: These requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.



# Other ways to qualify for the Academic & Medallion

- ▶ National Merit/National Achievement Finalists & Scholars, National Hispanic Scholars, and AICE (Advanced International Certificate of Education) Diploma, IB (International Baccalaureate) Diploma
  - ▶ 100 hrs. community service- FAS
  - ▶ 75 hrs. community service - FMS
- ▶ AICE or IB Curriculum
  - ▶ 29 ACT or 1290 SAT & 100 hrs. community service- FAS
  - ▶ 26 ACT or 1170 SAT & 75 hrs. community service- FMS

Note: These requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

# Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award

- ▶ Must meet the following criteria to be eligible for GSV
  - ▶ Graduate from high school with a Standard Diploma.
  - ▶ Achieve the required weighted minimum 3.0 GPA in the non-elective high school courses.
  - ▶ Take at least 3 full credits in a single Career & Technical program.
  - ▶ Achieve the required minimum 3.5 unweighted GPA in the career education courses.

Note: These requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

# Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award

- ▶ Achieve the required minimum score on the ACT, SAT or Florida Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (P.E.R.T.)
  - ▶ ACT: English- 17, Reading- 19 Math- 19  
OR
  - ▶ SAT:\* Reading test-24, Writing & Language test- 25, Math test- 24  
OR
  - ▶ PERT: Reading- 106, Writing- 103, Math- 114
  
- ▶ Complete 30 service hours. (Must be completed by graduation and approved by the school district).

\* 3/1/2016 & thereafter

Note: These requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

# Gold Seal CAPE Scholars

- ▶ CAPE- Career and Professional Education
- ▶ New for the 2016-17 school year
- ▶ Meet the General Requirements for Bright Futures;
- ▶ Earn a minimum of 5 postsecondary credit hours through CAPE industry certifications which articulate for college credit
- ▶ Complete 30 service hours.

Note: These requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

# Community Service Process in Pinellas County

- ▶ Students determine where they want to complete their community service and complete a Bright Futures Community Service Proposal form.
- ▶ Once completed, they will turn in to the high school community service designee for review and to determine if it is acceptable.
- ▶ If acceptable, students will be given a Bright Futures Log & Reflection form to track their hours. This is turned in at the high school upon completion.
- ▶ Students must complete and have approved a proposal for each agency they wish to volunteer and maintain separate log forms
- ▶ Each community service project must have a social issue that is being addressed.

# Additional Information



- ▶ Two years from graduation to begin using the award unless an active military
- ▶ FAS, FMS, and FGSV are all renewable scholarships
- ▶ Renewal is based upon GPA and earned hours requirements:
  - ▶ FAS- 3.0
  - ▶ FMS- 2.75
  - ▶ GSV- 2.75

Note: These requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

# How To Find Out Your Award Level Status

- ▶ High school guidance counselors provide 12<sup>th</sup> graders with a printed copy of their evaluation in the fall.
- ▶ All students can check their evaluation on Florida Shines ([www.floridashines.org](http://www.floridashines.org))
  - ▶ SEE HANDOUT

# Award Amounts for the 2018-2019 School Year

## Award Amounts

**Florida Academic Scholars (FAS)** will receive an award to cover 100% of tuition and applicable fees and \$300 for both fall and spring semesters for additional educational expenses. Students attending a public institution will have tuition and applicable fees covered. Students attending a nonpublic institution will receive a comparable amount as noted in the [Private Award Chart](#). FAS students can receive an award during the summer sessions to cover tuition and applicable fees, beginning with the 2018 summer term.

**Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)** will receive an award to cover 75% of tuition and applicable fees. Students attending a public institution will have tuition and applicable fees covered. Students attending a nonpublic institution will receive a comparable amount as noted in the [Private Award Chart](#). FMS students can receive an award during the summer sessions to cover tuition and applicable fees, beginning with the 2019 summer term.

The applicable fees for both FAS and FMS include activity and service fee, health fee, athletic fee, financial aid fee, capital improvement fee, campus access/transportation fee, technology fee and tuition differential fee.

Other award recipients will receive a fixed cost per credit hour based on award level, institution type, and credit type as outlined in the table below.

2018-19 Bright Futures Scholarship Per Hour Award Amounts			
	Credit Hour Award		Clock Hour Award
	Semester	Quarter	
<b>Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) &amp; Gold Seal CAPE Scholars (GSC)</b>			
Career Certificate Program (PSAV)	\$39	\$26	\$1.30
Applied Technology Diploma Program (ATD)	\$39	\$26	\$1.30
Technical Degree Education Program (AS, AAS, CCC)	\$48	\$32	\$1.60
Bachelors of Science (BS)*	\$48	\$32	
Bachelors of Applied Science (BAS)*	\$48	\$32	

\* GSC recipients who earn a qualifying A.S. or A.A.S. degree may receive an award toward a qualifying B.S. or B.A.S. degree.



# Florida Legislative Changes

- ▶ Legislative changes happen during the summer so be sure to check to see if there have been any changes to Bright Futures! This includes the award amounts for the following school year.

