View information about the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program at the following link, www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN. The Bright Futures Student Handbook is divided into chapters to explain information about Bright Futures.

Chapter 1: Initial Eligibility Requirements, includes:
- Requirements for Scholarship Types (FAS, FMS, GSC, and GSV); and
- Non-Traditional Students (Home-Educated, GED, Out-of-State, and Mid-Year).

Chapter 2: Scholarship Information, includes:
- Length of the Scholarship Award;
- Award Amounts; and
- Transferring the Scholarship between Institutions.

Chapter 3: Renewal Eligibility, includes:
- Renewal Requirements; and
- Reinstatement/Restoration Requirements.

Important Dates

Applications open October 1, 2019:
- **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** Begin now by creating your FSA ID and Password at the following link, https://fsaid.ed.gov/nas/index.htm.
- **Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)** Meet with your high school counselor to discuss your progress towards meeting Bright Futures initial eligibility requirements. Read the fact sheets (found at the following link, www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN) for program deadlines.
- **Private Scholarships** Apply, apply, apply!

National College Fairs: www.nacacfairs.org
- October 5, 2019 Orlando - Orlando FL
- October 6, 2019 South Florida - Fort Lauderdale FL
- October 12, 2019 Jacksonville - Jacksonville FL
- October 27, 2019 Performing and Visual Arts Fort Lauderdale, FL

Private Scholarships:

Many Scholarship committees are looking for students who have the ability to communicate effectively in writing. Essays are an excellent way for scholarship judges to choose the most qualified candidates.

Tips for writing the essay include:
- Giving yourself time - it takes time to construct a quality essay
- Following directions - word count and font size may be eligibility requirements
- Focusing on the topic - answer the question that is being asked
- Proofreading and editing your work be clear, concise, and correct any errors
- Getting feedback - ask family members or others to read your essay and provide feedback