

# Florida Bright Futures Information

**Initial eligibility requirements must be met prior to graduation from a Florida high school. Students apply when they submit a FAFSA (Florida Financial Aid Application) in January of the senior year of high school.**

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program establishes three lottery-funded scholarships for Florida high school graduates who demonstrate high academic achievement and enroll in eligible Florida public or private postsecondary institutions. There are three award levels for which high school seniors may qualify. The scholarship may be used for either full-time or part-time enrollment and is renewable. All initial applicants must meet the general requirements for participation in this program and specific requirements for the individual award.

Remember, high school students can check their progress toward each of these scholarships with the High School Academic Evaluations on **FACTS.org!**

## **General Requirements for All Award Types**

To be eligible for an initial award from any of the three types of scholarships, a student must:

- Apply online and complete the Florida Financial Aid Application at [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org) during the last year in high school. **Students must apply by high school graduation or all future eligibility for a Bright Futures Scholarship is forfeited.**
- Be a Florida resident and a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen. The postsecondary institution the student attends is responsible for verifying Florida residency and U.S. citizenship status.
- Earn a Florida standard high school diploma or its equivalent. For information on Early Admission, GED, Home Education, or dependents of military or public service personnel outside of Florida, students should visit the Bright Futures web site at [www.MyFloridaEducation.com/brfuture/](http://www.MyFloridaEducation.com/brfuture/).
- Be accepted by and enrolled in an eligible Florida public or independent postsecondary education institution. All public community colleges, state universities, and public vocational technical schools are eligible, as are many private postsecondary institutions. For a list of eligible private institutions, students should visit the Bright Futures web site.
- Be enrolled for at least six semester credit hours or the equivalent.
- Not have been found guilty of, nor pled no contest to, a felony charge.
- Begin using the award within three years of high school graduation. If enlisting directly into the military after graduation, the three-year period begins upon date of separation from active duty. Call the Bright Futures Office for application deadlines.

What you need to know that is "between the lines."

- You must take either the SAT or ACT and earn the required score in order to qualify for Bright Futures. It is best to take the SAT or ACT the end of your junior year and beginning of senior year.
- The overall GPA on the transcript is NOT what Bright Futures uses to award scholarships. Bright Futures **reconfigures** the transcript grades to decide the overall GPA. Elective courses are NOT included in this process. Only the grades from the following courses are used: English, Math, Science, Social Studies, P.E., Foreign Language and community service.
- Transcript evaluations occur several times during the senior year. The final evaluation is in June when all grades from second semester are available.
- Registering for Bright Futures cannot occur until January during the senior year. At Crooms AoIT ALL seniors will be registered online in January during their Govt. / Economics classes. Copies are printed and filed in every student's cumulative record.

**Specific Requirements:**

The following charts outline the eligibility requirements for each of the three types of Bright Futures awards for 2005 high school graduates. A student may receive funding for only one award. The highest award earned by the student will be selected.

<b>BRIGHT FUTURES: Florida Academic Scholars Award</b> Initial Eligibility Requirements for 2005 High School Applicants (Initial Eligibility Requirements must be met prior to graduation from a Florida high school.)	
<p><b>Award Amount</b></p> <p>*Amounts will differ at quarter or clock hour institutions</p>	<p>Public Institution - 100% of tuition and fees (including lab fees up to \$300 per semester*) plus \$300 per semester* for college-related expenses (excluding summer term) prorated by term and hours.</p> <p>Private Institution - Fixed award amount based on 100% of the average tuition and fees covered at a comparable Florida public institution including the \$300 per semester* provided for college-related expenses prorated by term and hours.</p>
<p><b>Grade Point Average (GPA)</b></p> <p>Note: GPAs are not rounded.</p>	<p>3.5 weighted GPA using the credits listed below, combined with the test scores and community service hours listed below.</p> <p>Weighting for more challenging higher level courses is prescribed by law as .25 per course per semester or .50 per course per year.</p>
<p><b>Required Credits</b></p> <p>See the Comprehensive Course Table on the Bright Futures website to identify courses that count toward each award level.</p>	<p>Courses must include 15 credits of college preparatory academic courses.</p> <p>4 English (3 with substantial writing)                      3 Mathematics (Algebra I and above)                      3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)                      3 Social Science  <u>2 Foreign Language (in the same language)</u>                      15 Credits</p> <p>May use up to 3 additional credits from courses in the academic areas listed above and/or AP, IB, or AICE fine arts courses to raise the GPA.</p>
<p><b>Community Service</b></p>	<p>75 hours, as approved by the district or private school</p>
<p><b>Test Scores</b></p> <p>For spring eligibility evaluations, test dates through the end of January will be admissible.</p> <p>For summer eligibility evaluations, test dates through the end of June will be admissible.</p>	<p>Best composite score of 1270 SAT I (based on the combined verbal &amp; math parts only) or 28 ACT (excluding the written subtest)                      Subsections of the SAT or ACT from different test dates may be used to meet the test criteria.</p> <p>NOTE: The new written subtests for both the SAT and ACT will not be used in the composite.                      SAT II exams are not used for Bright Futures eligibility.                      ACT scores are rounded up for scores with .5 and higher; SAT scores do not require rounding.</p>
<p><b>Other Ways to Qualify</b></p> <p>Initial eligibility criteria used in "Other Ways to Qualify" must be met by high school graduation.</p>	<p>The other ways to qualify listed below must also meet the community service hours requirement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Merit or Achievement Scholars and Finalists</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Hispanic Scholars</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IB Diploma Recipients</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Students who have completed the IB Curriculum with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT</li> </ul>

Contact the Bright Futures office for further details.	<input type="checkbox"/> Students who have attended a home education program according to s. 1002.41, F.S., registered with the district during grades 11 and 12, with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT <input type="checkbox"/> Students who have attended a home education program according to s. 1002.41, F.S., registered with the district during grades 11 and 12, with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT <input type="checkbox"/> GED with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT and a 3.5 weighted GPA in the above 15 required credits <input type="checkbox"/> Early Admissions with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT and a 3.5 weighted GPA in curriculum courses completed <input type="checkbox"/> 3-year standard college preparatory program with a best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT and a 3.5 weighted GPA in the above 15 required credits.
	<p>Note: For diploma options established by the 2004 Legislature, visit <a href="http://www.MyFloridaEducation.com/brfuture/acadrequire.htm">www.MyFloridaEducation.com/brfuture/acadrequire.htm</a></p>

**BRIGHT FUTURES: Florida Medallion Scholars Award**  
Initial Eligibility Requirements for 2005 High School Applicants  
(Initial Eligibility Requirements must be met prior to graduation from a Florida high school.)

<b>Award Amount</b>  *Amounts will differ at quarter or clock hour institutions	Public Institution-75% of tuition and fees (including lab fees up to \$300 per semester*).  Private Institution-Fixed award amount based on 75% of the average tuition and fees covered at a comparable Florida public institution prorated by term and hours.
<b>Grade Point Average (GPA)</b>  Note: GPAs are not rounded.	3.0 weighted GPA using the credits and test scores listed below, combined with the test score listed below.  Weighting for more challenging higher level courses is prescribed by law as .25 per course per semester or .50 per course per year.
<b>Required Credits</b>  See the Comprehensive Course Table on the Bright Futures website to identify courses that count toward each award level.	Courses must include 15 credits of college preparatory academic courses.  4 English (3 with substantial writing) 3 Mathematics (Algebra I and above) 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab) 3 Social Science <u>2 Foreign Language (in the same language)</u> 15 Credits  May use up to 3 additional credits from courses in the academic areas listed above and/or AP or IB fine arts courses to raise the GPA.
<b>Community Service</b>	No requirement.
<b>Test Scores</b>  For spring eligibility evaluations, test dates through the end of January will be admissible. For summer eligibility	Best composite score of 970 SAT I (based on the combined verbal & math parts only) or 20 ACT (excluding the written subtest).  Subsections of the SAT or ACT from different test dates may be used to meet the test criteria. NOTE: The new written subtests for both the SAT and ACT will not be used in the composite.SAT II exams are not used for Bright Futures eligibility.

<p>evaluations, test dates through the end of June will be admissible.</p>	<p>ACT scores are rounded up for scores with .5 and higher; SAT scores do not require rounding.</p>
<p><b>Other Ways to Qualify</b></p> <p>Initial eligibility criteria used in "Other Ways to Qualify" must be met by high school graduation.</p> <p>Contact the Bright Futures office for further details.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> National Merit or Achievement Scholars and Finalists and National Hispanic Scholars who have not completed 75 hours of community service</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students who have completed the IB Curriculum with best composite score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Students who have attended a home education program according to s. 1002.41, F.S., registered with the district during grades 11 and 12, and have a best composite score of 1070 SAT or 23 ACT</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> GED with best composite score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT and a 3.0 weighted GPA in the above 15 required credits</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Early Admissions with best composite score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT and a 3.0 weighted GPA in curriculum courses completed</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-year standard college preparatory program with a best composite score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT and a 3.0 weighted GPA in the above 15 required credits.</li> </ul> <p>Note: For diploma options established by the 2004 Legislature, visit <a href="http://www.MyFloridaEducation.com/brfuture/acadrequire.htm">www.MyFloridaEducation.com/brfuture/acadrequire.htm</a></p>

<p><b>BRIGHT FUTURES: Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award (GSV)</b></p> <p>Initial Eligibility Requirements for 2005 High School Applicants (Initial Eligibility Requirements must be met prior to graduation from a Florida high school.)</p>	
<p><b>Award Amount</b> *Amounts will differ at quarter or clock hour institutions</p>	<p>Public Institution-75% of tuition and fees (including lab fees up to \$300 per semester*).</p> <p>Private Institution-Fixed award amount based on 75% of the average tuition and fees covered at a comparable Florida public institution prorated by term and hours.</p>
<p><b>Grade Point Average (GPA)</b></p> <p>Note: GPAs are not rounded.</p>	<p>3.0 weighted GPA using the 15 credits listed below, and a 3.5 unweighted GPA in a minimum of 3 vocational credits in one vocational program, and test scores listed below (See "Other Ways to Qualify" for 3-year graduation options). (Note: GPAs are not rounded.)</p> <p>Weighting for more challenging higher level courses is prescribed by law as .25 per course per semester or .50 per course per year.</p>
<p><b>Required Credits</b></p> <p>See the Comprehensive Course Table on the Bright Futures website to identify courses that count toward each award level.</p>	<p><b>4-year diploma</b></p> <p>Credits must be the 15.5 core credits required for high school graduation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 English</li> <li>3 Mathematics (including Algebra I)</li> <li>3 Natural Science (Am. Hist., World Hist., Am. Govt. and Economics)</li> <li>1 Practical Arts OR 1 Performing Arts OR 1/2 credit in each</li> <li>1/2 Life Management Skills</li> <li>1/2 Personal Fitness</li> <li><u>1/2 Physical Education</u></li> <li>15-= Credits</li> </ul> <p>Plus a minimum of 3 Vocational Job-Preparatory or Technology Education Program credits in one vocational program.</p>

<p><b>Community Service</b></p>	<p>No requirement.</p>		
<p><b>Test Scores</b></p> <p>For spring eligibility evaluations, test dates through the end of January will be admissible. For summer eligibility evaluations, test dates through the end of June will be admissible.</p>	<p>Students must earn the minimum score on each subsection of the CPT, SAT, or ACT. Subsections of different test types may not be combined. Subsections of the SAT, ACT or CPT from different test dates may be used to meet the test criteria.</p> <p>CPT: Reading 83; Sentence Skills 83; Algebra 72 OR  SAT: Verbal 440; Math 440 OR  ACT: English 17; Reading 18; Math 19</p>		
<p><b>Other Ways to Qualify</b></p> <p>Initial eligibility criteria used in "Other Ways to Qualify" must be met by high school graduation. Contact the Bright Futures office for further details.</p>	<p>The other ways to qualify listed below must also include a 3.5 unweighted GPA in a minimum of 3 vocational credits in one vocational program and minimum test scores listed above</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>3-year Career Preparatory diploma</b> with 3.0 weighted GPA using the 15 core credits required for graduation listed below</p> <p>4 English ( 3 with substantial writing)  3 Mathematics (including Algebra I)  3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)  3 Social Science  <u>2 Foreign Language (in same language)</u>  15 Credits</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>3-year College Preparatory diploma</b> with 3.0 weighted GPA using the 15 core credits required for graduation listed below</p> <p>4 English ( 3 with substantial writing)  3 Mathematics (Algebra I and above)  3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)  3 Social Science  <u>2 Foreign Language (in same language)</u>  15 Credits</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p>GED with 3.0 weighted GPA using the core credits required for your selected high school graduation option (standard, career, or college)</p> <p><b>Note: For diploma options established by the 2004 Legislature, visit: <a href="http://www.MyFloridaEducation.com/brfuture/acadrequire.htm">www.MyFloridaEducation.com/brfuture/acadrequire.htm</a></b></p>	<p><b>3-year Career Preparatory diploma</b> with 3.0 weighted GPA using the 15 core credits required for graduation listed below</p> <p>4 English ( 3 with substantial writing)  3 Mathematics (including Algebra I)  3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)  3 Social Science  <u>2 Foreign Language (in same language)</u>  15 Credits</p>	<p><b>3-year College Preparatory diploma</b> with 3.0 weighted GPA using the 15 core credits required for graduation listed below</p> <p>4 English ( 3 with substantial writing)  3 Mathematics (Algebra I and above)  3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)  3 Social Science  <u>2 Foreign Language (in same language)</u>  15 Credits</p>
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