

# NAVIGATING YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

## FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

View information about the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program at the following link, [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN).

The Bright Futures Student Handbook is divided into chapters.

### 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.

Bright Futures Florida Medallion Scholarship students enrolled in an associate degree program at a Florida College System institution receive 100 percent of tuition and specific fees. Upon completing an associate degree, a student may use his or her award to pursue a baccalaureate degree and receive 75 percent of tuition and specific fees.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

### APPLICATIONS OPENING DATES:

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) - **TBD** Begin now by creating your FSA ID and Password at the following link: <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>
- Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) - We encourage all high school seniors to submit an application, even if you do not plan to attend a college, university, or technical center immediately after graduation. Read the fact sheets found at the link: [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN) for program deadlines.
- Private Scholarships Apply! Apply! Apply!
- National College Fairs: <https://www.nacacnet.org/nacac-college-fairs/>

## 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 or counselors to read your essay and provide feedback.