Specific Requirements for the Scholarships

Florida Academic Scholars (FAS)

Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)

Florida high school students who wish to qualify for the Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) award or the Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) award must meet the following initial eligibility requirements:

- Graduate high school from a Florida public high school with a standard Florida high school diploma (high school graduation requirements), graduate from a registered Florida Department of Education private high school, earn a GED, complete a home education program, or graduate from a non-Florida high school (OOS);

- Complete the required high school coursework;

- Achieve the required minimum high school grade point average (GPA);

- Achieve the required minimum score on either the ACT® or SAT® college entrance exam; and

- Complete the required number of service hours.

Type	16 High School Course Credits [1]	High School Weighted GPA	College Entrance Exams (ACT®/SAT®) [2]	Service Hours
FAS	4 - English *(three must include substantial writing)* 4 - Mathematics *(at or above the Algebra I level)* 3 - Natural Science *(two must have substantial laboratory)*	3.50	29/1290	100 hours
FMS	3 - Social Science 2 - World Language *(sequential, in same language)*	3.00	26/1170	75 hours

[1] The required coursework aligns with the State University System admission requirements found in regulation 6.002.

[2] SAT® score requirement is applicable to both the former SAT® and the redesigned SAT® introduced in 2016.

High School Course Credits

For both scholarships, the required coursework aligns with the State University System admission requirements. The world language requirement can be met by demonstrating proficiencies based on scores on Credit-By-Exam Equivalencies or other university approved means. Otherwise, the high school transcript must include a world language "completer" course to show that the world language requirement has been met. Please refer to the Bright Futures Course Table for specific information on which courses count toward FAS/FMS requirements.

Community Service Hours

Community service hours are <u>NOT</u> required for graduation.

Community service hours **are required** for all Bright Futures Scholarship Awards:
Florida Academic Scholars (100 hrs)
Florida Medallion Scholars (75 hrs), and
Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (30 hrs)

Please note that many other scholarship organizations consider community service when selecting award recipients. Students may begin logging hours the summer before their freshman year.

Below are some examples and some non-examples of eligible community service:

Community Service	NOT Community Service
- Service to a government agency - Service to a not – for – profit local, national or international organization - Service to a school or school organization – in which a grade is not awarded - Service to a religious organization - Participation in not – for – profit Fine Arts performances or exhibitions - VPS hours provided a grade is not awarded - Non – paid internships at a not – for – profit organization with prior school official approval - Career Academy non-paid internships	- Self-reported or parent reported hours will not be recognized - Family related activities - Hours in which students are compensated either monetarily or materially - School related activities that have required attendance and/or are a part of the course requirement to earn credit - Attendance at meetings which are required as part of membership in a club or organization - Activities that cannot be documented on business letterhead - Volunteer services for a for-profit business - Fostering animals does not count for Bright Futures hours

How to submit Community Service Hours

1. The hours must be documented in writing on the letterhead of the non-profit organization.

2. Three signatures are required: the student, the student's parent or guardian, and the representative of the organization.

3. Letters must be turned in to Mrs. Richards in the main Guidance office.

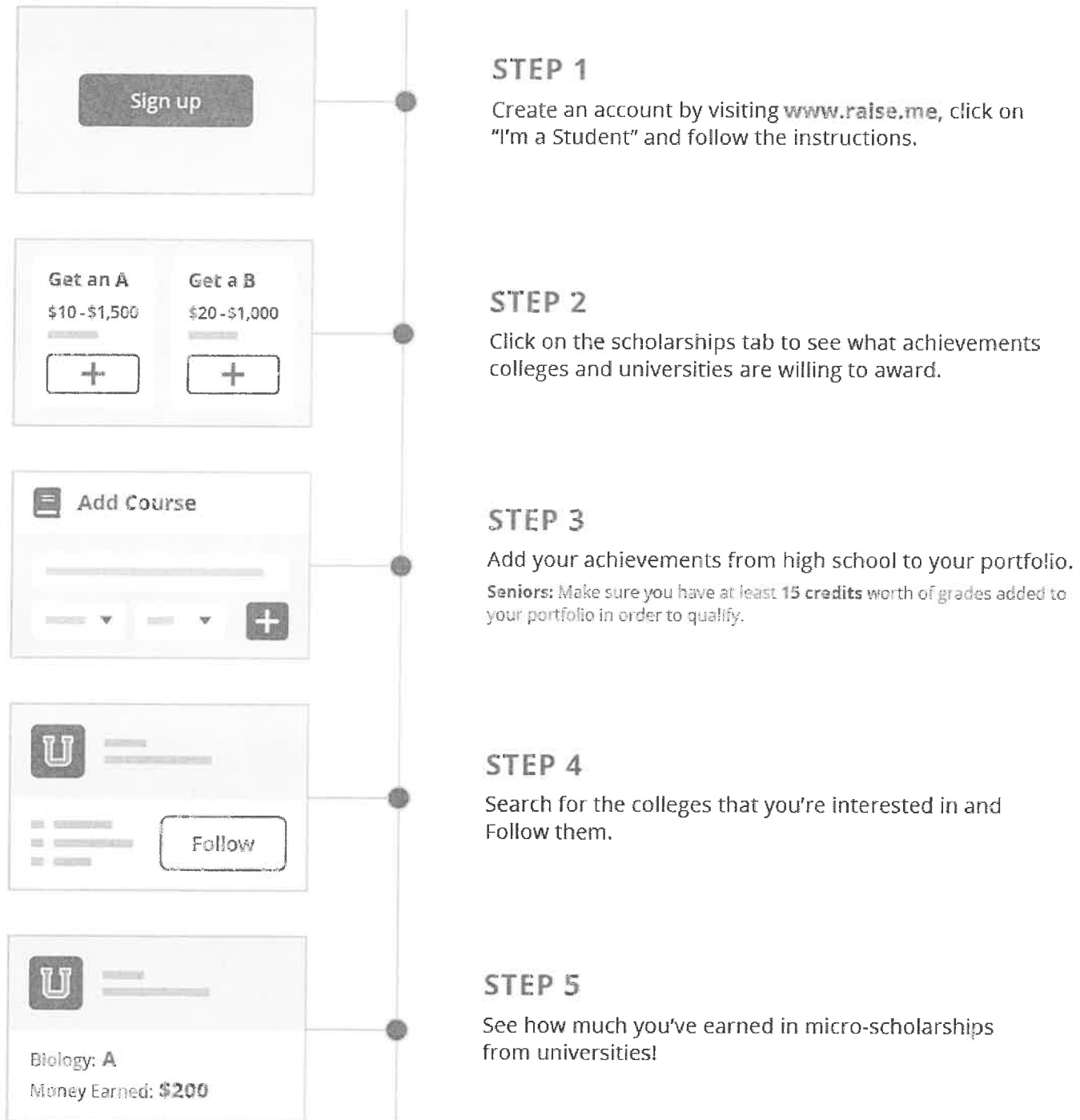4. It is recommended that students keep a copy of community service letters for their records.

Need ideas for how to earn Community Service Hours?

Here are some ideas to help you find organizations for volunteer opportunities.

St Johns County Volunteers	http://stjohnsvolunteers.org/volunteers/student-volunteers/	Search for volunteer opportunities throughout St. Johns County
Volunteer Match	https://www.volunteermatch.org/	Search for volunteer opportunities throughout North FL
St. Augustine Humane Society	http://www.staughumane.org/getinvolved/volunteer.html	Volunteers should be dependable, flexible, and hardworking.
Habitat for Humanity	https://habitatstjohns.org/volunteer/	Volunteers help by constructing homes, helping with events, or working at the office.
Goodwill	http://goodwilljax.org/volunteer-work	Volunteers may assist in any store locations (excluding Pound Stores & donation centers).
Episcopal Children's Service	https://www.ecs4kids.org/about/volunteer/	Volunteers work with children between the ages of 2 and 5 years old.
Mayo Clinic	https://www.mayoclinic.org/about-mayo-clinic/volunteers/florida/becoming-volunteer	Summer program for teens from age 15 through the time you graduate from high school.
UF Health	https://ufhealth.org/volunteen	Offers ages 14-17 who have completed the 9th grade, an opportunity to volunteer in a variety of areas throughout the hospital.
Betty Griffin Center	http://bettygriffincenter.org/volunteer-career-opportunities/	Volunteer at either of the two thrift shops.
YMCA – KidZone	http://firstcoastymca.org/give/volunteer/	Volunteers, 16 and older, to help in YMCA KidZone.
Homeless Coalition of St Johns County	http://homelesscoalitionstjohns.com/become-a-volunteer/	Volunteers needed: Literacy and Children's Reading Tutors, Painters, Office Help, Fund Raiser, Gardeners
St Augustine Wild Reserve	http://www.staugustinewildreserve.org/Volunteer.htm	Volunteers participate in many activities including cage cleaning and maintenance. Volunteers must be over the age of 18, or be accompanied by a parent when they volunteer.
Castillo de San Marcos	amelia_vela@nps.gov	Historic Preservation

RaiseMe

Five Easy Steps to Sign Up for RaiseMe

On RaiseMe, scholarships are made simple! Just follow these five steps:

STEP 1

Create an account by visiting www.raise.me, click on "I'm a Student" and follow the instructions.

STEP 2

Click on the scholarships tab to see what achievements colleges and universities are willing to award.

STEP 3

Add your achievements from high school to your portfolio.

Seniors: Make sure you have at least **15 credits** worth of grades added to your portfolio in order to qualify.

STEP 4

Search for the colleges that you're interested in and Follow them.

STEP 5

See how much you've earned in micro-scholarships from universities!

Learn more about RaiseMe at www.raise.me

Scholarship Tips!

- ➢ Start searching for scholarships early and continue searching throughout college.
- ➢ Make a list of deadlines and don't miss them.
- ➢ Apply to EVERY scholarship for which you are eligible.
- ➢ Essays can be reused and tailored for each new application.
- ➢ Review your social media accounts and remove inappropriate material.
- ➢ Make sure you have an appropriate e-mail address.
- ➢ Get Organized

Keep a folder/file/binder with everything that is needed to apply for multiple scholarships.

1. ACT/SAT/PERT scores
2. High school transcript (request one from Parchment)
3. Letters of recommendation (because you may be able to use one for multiple scholarships)
4. Resume of activities, community service, and leadership roles
5. Essays (because you may be able to use one essay for multiple scholarships)

Where do I find scholarships?

1. http://www.fastweb.com/
2. http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/
3. www.raise.me
4. https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search
5. https://www.unionplus.org/college-education-financing/union-plus-scholarship
6. Parents' Employers
7. Church and Civic Organizations
8. University/College Website
9. Check the scholarship web page at the colleges you would like to attend.
10. Check the webpage of the department of your intended major.

Beware of Scams

- ➢ NEVER pay for scholarships or searches.
- ➢ Scholarships are never guaranteed.
- ➢ Feel too good to be true? Do more research and ask around.
- ➢ Trust your instinct.
- ➢ Scholarships are gifts; they never have to be repaid.
- ➢ Don't give out bank account, credit card, or social security information.