



*Presented by Tanya Moseley, M.A.
BTHS School Counselor*

There are various ways students can seek Financial Aid to help pay for College.

Federal Aid - Apply for the FAFSA beginning December 1st

State of Florida Aid - Bright Futures & Special Interest Scholarships

Institutional Aid - Visit the college and university websites.

Private Aid - Search for Scholarships via
national, state and local organizations

**Counselors will be providing a Financial Aid Workshop for
Seniors the first two weeks of October through English classes.**

Scholarships

- ◆ **Provide financial support for students to help pay for college**
- ◆ **Enable students to obtain education they may not have access to otherwise**
- ◆ **Help reduce debt**

Students can earn multiple scholarships, there is no limit!



Before students begin the process of applying for Scholarships, they need to **GET ORGANIZED** !

- **ACT/SAT/CLT test scores**
- **Unofficial high school transcript – students should order a transcript to be sent to their email through Parchment (link is on the BTHS website).**
- **Letters of recommendation from Teacher(s)**
- **Create a resume of activities, community service, leadership roles and skills**
- **Essays (you may be able to use one essay for multiple scholarships)**

NEXT STEPS

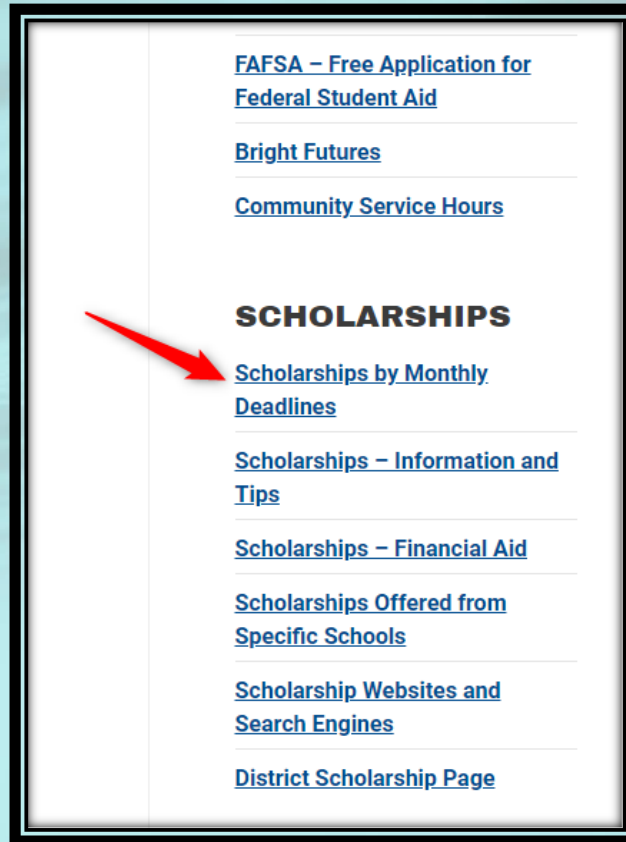
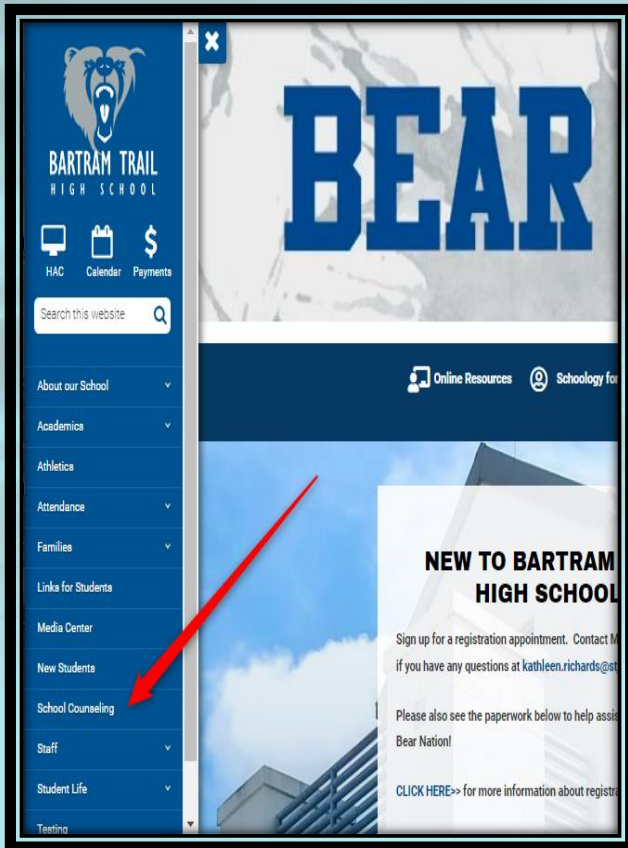
- **Create a dedicated scholarship email account with an appropriate email address. (FirstName.LastName@gmail.com)**
- **Review social media accounts and remove inappropriate material.**
- **Make a list of deadlines and don't miss them.**
- **When writing essays, make sure they follow all directions exactly, stick to the prompt, use the accurate word count, and try approaching the topic in a creative way.**
- **Essays can often be reused and tailored for each new scholarship.**
- **Apply to EVERY scholarship for which the student is eligible.**



**Where can students
find Scholarships?**

Scholarships on the BTHS website!

Go to the School Counseling Webpage



Scholarship Information:

- Scholarships by Monthly Deadlines
- Scholarships - Information & Tips
- Scholarships – Financial Aid
- Scholarships offered from specific schools
- Scholarship Websites & Search Engines
- District Scholarship Page

Other places Seniors can search for Scholarships:

- **Student's Employers**
- **Parent's Employers**
- **Church and Civic Organizations**
- **Unions**
- **Corporations**
- **National, State and Local Organizations**
- **Special Interest Groups**

**For the past several years the Bartram Trail PTO
and the Athletic Boosters Club have
offered scholarships solely to
Bartram Trail Seniors !**

This information is usually on the April Scholarship page.

**Seniors should be checking the monthly scholarship pages on the
School Counseling website!**

**Students may not think that their hobbies and interests could help pay for college...but they should!
There are thousands of Scholarships for things other than academics or athletics.
There are college scholarships out there for everyone!**

**Left-handed students
Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship
Make Me Laugh Scholarship
High school students who donate blood
Reading
Surfing
Gaming
Animal lovers**

**Book worms
Music/Theatre/Dance
Religious Scholarships
Cancer Survivors
First in Family
Disability
Green
Vocational**



**Google
Search**

Please beware of scams!

- **Never pay for scholarships or searches.**
- **Scholarships are gifts; they never have to be repaid!**
- **Do not give your bank account, credit card or social security information!**





The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program establishes lottery-funded scholarships to reward Florida high school graduates for high academic achievement.



Welcome to the

Florida Bright Futures

Workshop for Bartram Trail High School Families

*Presented by Tonya Porter, M.A.
School Counselor*

Financial
Assistance
for
Education
If you don't
apply, you
won't
qualify!

Federal Aid

Grants and Scholarships -- Work Study -- Guaranteed Student Loans

- U.S. Armed Forces (see StudentAid.gov/military)
- Apply via www.fafsa.gov beginning December 1st of senior year

Institutional Aid

Start researching institutional scholarships by visiting the college and university websites. Some schools require a separate application. Some schools automatically consider students who apply for admissions by the priority deadline.

State of Florida Aid

Only Florida students are eligible.

- Need Based Grants
- Merit Based Scholarship
- \$\$\$ Florida Bright Futures \$\$\$
- Special Interest (Scholarships for Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans)

Apply via www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org beginning October 1st of senior year

Become more knowledgeable about Bright Futures by...

...READING the Bright Futures Student Handbook.

www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org



Florida Student Scholarship Grant Programs

Office of Student Financial Assistance
HOME Login ▾



The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program establishes lottery-funded scholarships to reward Florida high school graduates for high academic achievement.



Bright Futures Student Handbook



Chapter 1: Initial Eligibility

- Requirements for Scholarship Types (FAS, FMS, GSC, GSV)
- Non-Traditional Students (home-educated, GED, mid-year, out-of-state)



Chapter 2: Scholarship Information

- Length of Scholarship Award
- Award Amounts ([BFFAS/BFFMS Private](#))
- Transferring the Scholarship between Institutions



Chapter 3: Renewal Eligibility

- Renewal Requirements
- Reinstatement/Restoration Requirements



Bright Futures Flyers

- [Florida Academic Scholarship \(FAS\)](#)
[Florida Medallion Scholarship \(FMS\)](#)
- [Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholarship \(GSC\)](#)
- [Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship \(GSV\)](#)



Additional Resources

- [Bright Futures Brochure](#)
- [Bright Futures Course Table \(BFCT\)](#)
- [Bright Futures Credit Hour Renewal Requirement Interactive Tool](#)

APPLICATIONS	REPORTS	RESOURCES	STATUTES AND RULES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) Reinstatement/Restoration Application Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Document Upload 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Report to the Commissioner - (Archives) End-of-Year Reports - (Archives) Bright Futures Statistical Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Student Aid Financial Aid Terms and Definitions Money for College Brochure Navigating Your Financial Future State Scholarship and Grant Calendar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida Statutes State Board of Education Rules Legislative Changes Postsecondary Compliance Audits Postsecondary Eligibility Requirements

Florida Department of Education | Office of Student Financial Assistance | 325 W. Gaines St, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400 | (888) 827 - 2004 | osfa@fldoe.org

Florida Academic Scholar (FAS) and Florida Medallion Scholar (FMS)

Type	16 High School Course Credits ¹	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT [®] /CLT [®] /SAT [®])	Volunteer Service Only	Paid Work Hours Only	Combination of Volunteer/Paid Hours
FAS	4 - English <i>(three must include substantial writing)</i> 4 - Mathematics <i>(at or above the Algebra I level)</i> 3 - Natural Science <i>(two must have substantial laboratory)</i>	3.50	2023-24 Graduates: 29/96/1340 2024-25 Graduates: 29/96/1340	100 hours	100 hours	100 hours
FMS	3 - Social Science 2 - World Language <i>(sequential, in same language)</i>	3.00	2023-24 Graduates: 25/84/1210 2024-25 Graduates: 25/84/1210	75 hours	100 hours	100 hours

Gold Seal Vocational Scholar (GVS) can only be used to fund: an Applied Technology Diploma, Technical Degree Ed Program (Associate in Applied Science or Associate in Science), or a Career Education Certificate Program.

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) 2023-24

Initial Eligibility Requirements: (As determined by the Florida Department of Education.)

1. Submit the [Florida Financial Aid Application \(FFAA\)](#) no later than August 31 after high school graduation.
2. Graduate with a standard Florida high school diploma or its equivalent.
3. Achieve the required weighted 3.0 GPA in the non-elective high school courses.
4. Complete at least 3 full credits in a single Career and Technical Education program.
5. Achieve the required minimum 3.5 unweighted GPA in the single Career and Technical Education program.
6. Complete at least 30 volunteer service hours, 100 paid work hours, or a combination that equals a minimum of 100 total hours.
7. Achieve the required minimum scores on one of the college entrance exams per the chart below no later than August 31 of the year the student graduates from high school.

Exam Type	Sub-test	Required Score
ACT[®]	Reading	19
	English	17
	Mathematics	19
SAT[®]	Reading Test	24
	Writing and Language Test	25
	Math Test	24
Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT)	Reading	106
	Writing	103
	Mathematics	114

Required test scores follow those established by Rule [6A-10.0315](#), Florida Administrative Code.



- Bright Futures GPA is **NOT** the same as your cumulative weighted or unweighted GPA.
- Bright Futures bases your GPA on 16 academic credits (4 English, 4 Math, 3 Sciences, 3 Social Studies, and 2 Foreign Languages)
- Bright Futures **weighs** honors, AP, and dual enrollment classes **equally** with 0.5 per credit earned – NOT 1.0 weight for AP or DE.
- Bright Futures will also accept two additional academic electives toward the GPA calculation if it **benefits** the student.



- You are permitted to use qualifying scores through August 31, 2024 for ACT, SAT or CLT to qualify for the Bright Futures test criteria if you did not qualify prior to graduation.
- You must **APPLY** for the scholarship by submitting the Florida Financial Aid Application during senior year. The application opens each year on October 1.
- Bright Futures Scholarships will renew automatically each year if the student **maintains** the required GPA and credit hours.



- “Bright Futures” receives student transcript information (courses, grades, and community service/work hours) twice a year (end of 1st semester and end of 2nd semester/end of school year) when the district uploads transcripts.
- “Bright Futures” receives ACT, SAT and CLT test scores ONLY when students report scores to Florida state colleges and universities. Bright Futures will superscore score reports sent to Florida state colleges and universities.
- Bright Futures GPA CANNOT be viewed in HAC.
- Juniors and Seniors will receive their Bright Future reports

Community Service/Work Hours



- Not needed for graduation
- Needed for Bright Futures
- The goal should be to complete 100 hours of community service/work hours by the end of 11th grade
- Students may combine community service and work hours but the hours must equate to 100
- How to find community service opportunities -
 - <https://www-bths.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/community-service-hours/>
- **REMINDER** - Make sure the organization is a not for profit by searching by the name here - <https://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/ByName>
 - *Remember to keep a copy of verification letters for your records*




Submitting Community Service/Work Hours

Community Service verification letters or work paystubs can be turned into Ms. Richards in the school counseling area of the main building or emailed to Kathleen.Richards@stjohns.k12.fl.us

SERVICE HOURS LETTER or Paystub

STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PLAN



Westminster Woods on Julington Creek
25 State Road 13, Jacksonville, FL 32256 Phone: 904-287-7300 | Fax: 904-287-7300 | WestminsterRetirement.com

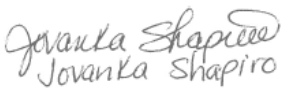
To whom it may concern:


Westminster Woods on Julington Creek is a not-for-profit community service organization dedicated to providing services for older adults. Our facility offers numerous volunteer opportunities. We are pleased to verify service hours required by school and religious organizations. It is, however, the standard of this organization that we will not allow persons to serve court ordered community service in any of our communities.

Dick Shapiro graciously contributed his/her time. The staff and residents of Westminster Woods on Julington Creek wish to extend our appreciation for the work, which this volunteer has performed.

Date/s 7/3/14 - 8/8/14
Hours Worked 39

Sincerely,

Pamela Benfer
Director of Volunteers
Westminster Woods on Julington Creek
(904) 287-7181


Jovanka Shapiro

 Bradenton / Cocoa / Daytona Beach / Ft. Lauderdale / Ft. Walton Beach / Jacksonville / Orlando / Pensacola / St. Petersburg / Tallahassee / Winter Park

123
16117

St. Johns County Student Volunteer Service Plan

All lines on this form must be completed before the service plan is submitted for hours.

Student Name: _____ Student Number: _____

Date(s) of Service Activity: _____

Social/Civic Issue/Professional Area Addressing with Service Activity:

Service Organization: _____

Description of Volunteer Activity:

Reflection on Service Activity

Attach the organization's letter on letterhead to this page. Complete the reflection below and submit to your school counselor/designee by your graduation date. *Note: Ideally, students submit hours at least after each year in high school rather than saving them all until the end of high school.*

What impact did your service have on the social/civic issue/professional area that you identified?

Identify one way the service activity could have been improved.

What was your favorite part of volunteering?

Would you recommend this activity to other students? Circle One: Yes No

I affirm that I have performed the service activity under the supervision of a non-relative, meeting all requirements outlined in St. Johns County Community Service Guidelines. I understand that if I am found to have given false testimony about these hours that the hours will be revoked and endanger my eligibility for the Bright Futures Scholarship.

Student Signature: _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

What should
students do
now to
qualify for a
Bright
Futures
Scholarship?

9TH GRADE

- Keep up with course work and establish a good high school GPA.
- Get involved in your school and community.
- Submit service/work hours to Ms. Richards in the Main Guidance office or at Kathleen.Richards@stjohns.k12.fl.us

What should
students do
now to
qualify for a
Bright
Futures
Scholarship?

10TH GRADE

- Keep up with course work and maintain a good GPA.
- Seek out community service opportunities.
- Submit service/work hours to Ms. Richards in the Main Guidance office or at Kathleen.Richards@stjohns.k12.fl.us
- Begin researching colleges.
- Begin planning for next year's courses with college and Bright Futures in mind.

What should
students do
now to
qualify for a
Bright
Futures
Scholarship?

11TH GRADE

- Keep up with course work and maintain a good GPA.
- Check service/work hours in HAC. You should have at least 100 hours by now.
- Submit service/work hours to Ms. Richards in the Main Guidance office or at Kathleen.Richards@stjohns.k12.fl.us
- Schedule meetings with college representatives and ask questions about financial aid and Bright Futures.
- Begin planning for next year's courses with college and Bright Futures in mind.
- Take SAT, ACT, CLT and send scores to a Florida school.

What should
students do
now to
qualify for a
Bright
Futures
Scholarship?

12TH GRADE

- Review your Bright Futures Report.
- See your school counselor if there are any errors on your transcript.
- Take note of what is “Missing” to qualify for each award.
- Take steps to improve your Bright Futures GPA if it is borderline.
- Submit any remaining service/work hours by winter break.
- Take or re-take SAT, ACT or CLT and report your scores to a Florida school.

What should
students do
now to
qualify for a
Bright
Futures
Scholarship?

12TH GRADE

- APPLY!
- APPLY NOW!
- DO NOT WAIT TO APPLY!

- Students do not have to be eligible for Bright Futures to apply. You can apply now and become eligible by graduation.

- **You will NOT be eligible if you do not APPLY!**

For More Information

- Visit www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org
- Contact Customer Service 888-827-2004
- Email OSFA@fldoe.org
- www.FloridaStudentFinanccailAid.org/FASTER/
- FSTR@fldoe.org