

Financial Assistance for Education

If you don't apply, you won't qualify!

1. **Federal Aid** – Students across the United States are eligible.

- Grants and Scholarships
- Work Study
- Federal Guaranteed Student Loans
- U.S. Armed Forces (see StudentAid.gov/military)

Apply via www.fafsa.gov beginning October 1, 2018

2. **State of Florida Aid** – Only Florida students are eligible.

- Need Based Grants
- Merit Based Scholarship (Florida Bright Futures) – By Graduation
- Tuition Assistance
- Special Interest (Scholarships for Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans)

Apply via www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org beginning October 1, 2018

Financial Assistance for Education

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3. **Institutional Aid** – Assistance from the college you will attend

- Grants and Scholarships
- Private Scholarships
- PERKINS Student Loans

Apply via the college you will attend. The financial aid office at your school *might* review students for eligibility at the time of application. However, check your school's website for requirements so you do not miss an opportunity.

4. **Private Aid** – Assistance from organizations interested in helping students

- Scholarships via your place of employment or a parent's employer
- Scholarships via corporations, local businesses, special interest groups
- Scholarships via national, state, local organizations

www-bths.stjohns.k12.fl.us/academics/collegescholarships/

www.fastweb.com

www.finaid.org

<https://www.raise.me/>

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>

What does FAFSA stand for?

Free
Application
for
Federal
Student
Aid

October 1st

Need money for college?

Complete the FAFSA® (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*) form to apply for financial aid for college, career school, or graduate school.

NEW TO FAFSA.GOV?

Submitting the FAFSA form is quick, and most importantly, it's FREE. Get started today.

START HERE ➤

RETURNING USER?

- Make a correction
- Add a school
- View your *Student Aid Report (SAR)*

LOG IN ➤

[By School](#) [School Detail](#)

Bartram Trail High School students have earned an estimated **\$97,466** in Pell Grants!

City: Saint Johns, District: St. Johns

School Type: K-12 General Education, Charter Status: Not a Charter School

Grad Rate (2016-17): 96.5% Low-income rate (2017-18): Available early 2018



2017-18 School Year
(10/1/17 - 6/30/18)

12th Graders:

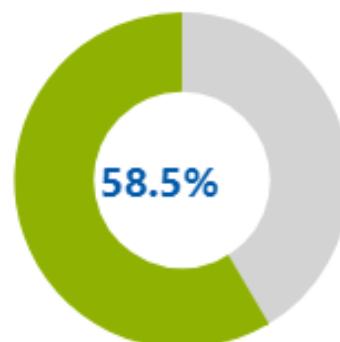
564

FAFSA^s Submitted:

346

FAFSA^s Completed:

330



2016-17 School Year
(10/1/16 - 6/30/17)

12th Graders:

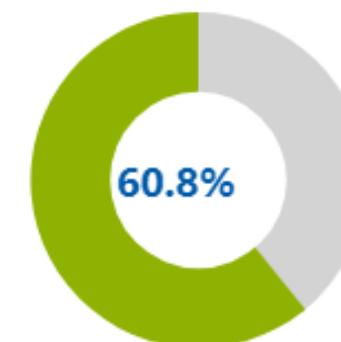
503

FAFSA^s Submitted:

322

FAFSA^s Completed:

306



Change

FAFSA Completion Rate:
-2.3%

FAFSA^s Submitted:
24

FAFSA^s Completed:
24

Financial Aid Night

October 2nd @6:30 pm

(BT Auditorium)

Florida Financial Aid Application

Welcome to the

Office of Student Financial Assistance

Florida Department of Education

Student Loans - Information for Students, Parents, Schools & Lenders

State Grants, Scholarships & Applications 

Florida Automated System for Transferring Educational Records

Florida Department of Education

Welcome to  



[Mission Statement](#)

[Commissioner](#)



 **Office of Student Financial Assistance**

Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs

[Login](#)

State Scholarship and Grant Programs

- [Access to Better Learning and Education Grant](#)
- [Benacquisto Scholarship Program \(FAQ\)](#)
- [Bright Futures Scholarship*](#)
- [Effective Access to Student Education](#)
- [First Generation Matching Grant](#)
- [Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship](#)
- [Florida Student Assistance Grant - Career Education](#)
- [Florida Work Experience Program](#)
- [José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant*](#)
- [Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship](#)
- [Minority Teacher Education Scholarship](#)
- [Rosewood Family Scholarship*](#)
- [Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or](#)

First-Time Applicants

Students must submit a completed Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) to OSFA for programs denoted by an asterisk (*). In order to apply for State Scholarship & Grant Programs, a student must first [Create a Student Account](#). After logging into your account, you may proceed to complete the FFAA.





Eligible Institutions

High Schools: Verify if your high school is a participating Florida public or private high school.

Postsecondary Institutions: Verify if the postsecondary institution you are planning to attend is eligible to disburse state aid.



Office of Student Financial Assistance

Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs

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



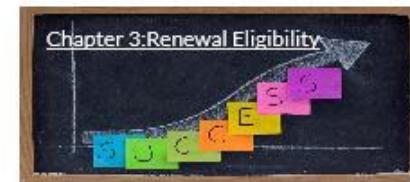
Chapter 1: Initial Eligibility

- 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

Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)
Reinstatement/Restoration Application

REPORTS

Annual Report to the Commissioner - (Archives)
End-of-Year Reports - (Archives)

RESOURCES

Federal Student Aid
Financial Aid Terms and Definitions

STATUTES AND RULES

Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rules



Type	16 High School Course Credits	Bright Futures GPA	ACT/SAT Scores	Service Hours
FAS Award Florida Academic Scholars	4 - English <i>(Three must include substantial writing)</i> 4 – Mathematics <i>(at or above Algebra I)</i> 3 – Natural Science <i>(two must have laboratory)</i> 3 – Social Science 2 – World Language <i>(sequential, in same language)</i>	3.5	29/1290	100 hours
FMS Award Florida Medallion Scholars		3.0	26/1170	75 hours

- Bright Futures GPA is NOT the same as report card GPA.
- 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 GPA = 16 credits- Semester grades in approved English (4 credits), Social Studies (3 credits), Science (3 credits), Math (4 credits), and World Language (2 credits) courses only.
- ASL counts as a world language for FL public schools.
- Bright Futures will also accept two additional academic electives toward the GPA calculation if it benefits the student.
- Remember, you have until graduation day to increase your GPA, credits, and community service hours.

Gold Seal CAPE Scholars (GSC) Award Requirements

Florida high school students who wish to qualify for the Florida Gold Seal CAPE (GSC) award must meet the following initial eligibility requirements:

- Earn a minimum of 5 postsecondary credit hours through CAPE industry certifications which articulate for college credit
- Complete 30 service hours

Gold Seal CAPE Scholars (GSC)

GSC may be funded if enrolled in a career education or certificate program.

Upon completion of an associate in science degree program that articulates to a bachelor of science degree, a GSC Scholar may also receive an award for a maximum of 60 credit hours toward a bachelor of science degree program.

Upon completion of an associate in applied science program, a GSC Scholar may also receive an award for a maximum of 60 credit hours toward a bachelor of applied science degree program.

Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) Award Requirements

- Achieve the required weighted minimum 3.0 GPA in the non-elective high school courses
- Take at least 3 full credits in a single Career and Technical Education program
- Achieve the required minimum 3.5 unweighted GPA in the career education courses
- Achieve the required minimum score on the ACT®, SAT® or Florida Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (P.E.R.T.) exams
- Complete 30 service hours

Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV)

GSV Scholars awards may only be used at postsecondary institutions that offer:

- Applied Technology Diploma
- Technical Degree Education Program (associate in applied science or associate in science)
- Career Education Certificate Program

Bright Futures Award Amounts

2018-2019



Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) will receive an award to cover 100% of tuition and applicable fees and \$300 for both fall and spring semesters for additional educational expenses.

Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) will receive an award to cover 75% of tuition and applicable fees. Students attending a public institution will have tuition and applicable fees covered.



Award Amounts (Continued)

- For the GSC and GSV awards, students will receive the specified award amounts established annually by the Florida Legislature in the General Appropriations Act.
- For current year award amounts, visit
<http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/bfmain.htm>

Community Service Hours

- Students must complete service hours during high school and by high school graduation.
- Service hours may include work for a nonprofit community service organization.
- The hours must be documented in writing, and signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and representative of the organization.

Scholarships

Your Florida Financial Aid Application
(which opens Oct. 1st) will evaluate you for any
State Scholarships and Grant Programs.



This includes:

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship

ABLE

First Generation

FL Incentive Scholarship Program and FL Incentive FAQ's

Minority Teacher Education Scholarship

FL Resident Access Grant (FRAG)

Florida Student Assistance Grant

Florida Work Experience Program

Jose Marti Scholarship Challenge Grant

Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship

Rosewood Family Scholarship

Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans

J-Tech Scholarship – High School Senior

J-Tech Scholarship – Driving Forward

Scholarship Search Engines

Create a College email account (janedoe@gmail.com)
and use these search engines to help find scholarships for you!

Florida Shines	Fastweb.com
WeirdScholarships.net	Finaid.org
Studentscholarships.org	Bigfuture.collegeboard.org
Nacacnet.org	Petersons.com
Scholarships.org	Scholarships.com
Collegenet.com	Scholarships.com
Salliemae.com	College-scholarships.com

How to Write a Scholarship Essay

When you are drafting your scholarship essay, here are some helpful tips to keep in mind.

1. Start the essay writing process early.

Leave yourself plenty of time to produce a well thought-out entry. Take the time to brainstorm your ideas, create an outline, and edit your entry as you would for any essay writing assignment for your English class.

2. Understand the scholarship provider's overall mission and purpose.

Each scholarship provider is looking for students who meet certain criteria. Consider writing about an experience or interest that highlights your strong ties to the organization's mission. Genuine passion and enthusiasm for your topic will show through in your essay writing.

3. Follow the scholarship essay instructions.

Make sure to follow all of the necessary steps and review them before submitting your scholarship essay. Trust us, some of the brightest students have missed out on the chance to earn scholarships dollars all because they neglected to follow instructions. You don't want to fall into that category!

4. Steer clear from essay topics that focus on negativity or pessimism.

Scholarship committees would rather see how you overcame hardships and succeeded despite the obstacles in your path (or what you learned from the times you failed).

5. Don't be afraid to get personal.

Share something about who you are. This is your chance to elaborate on elsewhere on your application you wouldn't have had the opportunity to do so. Telling your story makes an essay genuine and ultimately more memorable to the scholarship committee.

6. Seek out writing advice and feedback.

Asking teachers, counselors, family members, or trustworthy friends for feedback on your essay will result in a better final product.

7. Yes, spelling and grammar matter.

Scholarship committees do notice grammar mistakes. Even tiny errors can distract a reader from your overall message. Before you submit your application make sure you take the time to proofread your essay from beginning to end.

HELPFUL TIPS

Scholarship Tips

- Start searching for scholarships early and continue searching throughout college.
- 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.

Get Organized!

- Make a list of deadlines and don't miss them.
- Keep a folder/file/binder with everything that is needed to apply for multiple scholarships.
 - ✓ ACT/SAT/PERT scores
 - ✓ High school transcript (request one from Parchment)
 - ✓ Letters of recommendation (because you may be able to use one for multiple scholarships)
 - ✓ Resume of activities, community service, and leadership roles
 - ✓ Essays (because you may be able to use one essay for multiple scholarships)
- Create a new email account solely for college information and make sure you have an appropriate email address.
 - JohnSmith01@gmail.com (YES)
 - BigDaddy01@gmail.com (NO)



Where do I find scholarships?



- Check out the Scholarship link on the main page of the school's website!
- Google Search (but NEVER pay for scholarships)
 - <http://www.fastweb.com/>
 - <http://mycollegedollars.hyfnrsx1.com/>
 - <http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/>
- College Board
 - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
- Parents' Employers
- Church and Civic Organizations
- Unions
 - <https://www.unionplus.org/college-education-financing/union-plus-scholarship>

Beware of Scams!



- NEVER pay for scholarships or searches.
- Scholarships are never “guaranteed”.
- Feel too good to be true? It probably is! Do more research and ask around.
- Trust your instincts.
- Scholarships are gifts; they never have to be repaid.
- Never give out bank account, credit card, or social security information.



Financial Aid

Financial aid is any resource that can assist in offsetting the cost of college. It covers such expenses as books and supplies, tuition and fees, room and board, and transportation. Typically, students/families will apply for financial aid at four levels: Federal, State, Institutional and Private Aid.

Note: No one should assume they would not qualify for financial aid! Scholarships and university programs consider a wide range of factors when awarding money for education.



Federal Student Aid

Federal student aid is money that students can use to help pay for college. There are three main types of aid: grants, work-study and loans.

Who gets it?

Everyone should apply for federal student aid regardless of income.

How to apply?

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.gov

When to apply?

FAFSA becomes available on October 1. Students should apply as soon as possible senior year.



State Financial Aid

State student aid is money that students can use to help pay for college. There are many grants and scholarships available but **Bright Futures** and **First Generation Grant** are the most common.

Who gets it?

Everyone should apply for Florida financial aid regardless of income, GPA, or test scores.

How to apply?

Complete the Florida Financial Aid Application at <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/>

When to apply?

The Florida financial aid application becomes available October 1. Students should apply as soon as possible senior year.



Institutional Financial Aid

Institutional (college/university) student aid is money that students can use to help pay for college. Often times the college or university will require a separate application for aid.

Who gets it?

Students should talk to the college's financial aid office to determine what the qualifications are for their financial aid.

How to apply?

Colleges usually have a separate application process for financial aid. Check the schools website to determine how you should apply for financial aid.

When to apply?

Financial aid deadlines vary from school to school but keep checking the schools website, and apply as soon as possible.



Private Aid

Private Aid are scholarships that can come from a variety of sources.

Who gets it?

There are a wide range of scholarships that are available to many different students.

How to apply?

Follow directions for each specific scholarship.
* Check out High School webpages
* Google, "Scholarships for..."

When to apply?

Start thinking about and applying for scholarships in ninth grade! If you qualify, apply!

Jacksonville National College Fair

Location:
**Prime F. Osborn III
Convention Center**

Hall A
1000 Water Street
Jacksonville, FL 32204
904/630-4000

Fair Hours: Saturday,
October 13, 2018
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.



*Free and open to the public, NACAC fairs connect you to
hundreds of colleges and universities in one location.
Join us at a 2018 [National College Fair](#) in your area:*

JACKSONVILLE

Oct. 13
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center
nacacfairs.org/jacksonville

REGISTER FREE AT GOTOMYNCF.COM
*to receive fair details, avoid lines onsite, and share your
contact information with your choice schools.*



#nacacfairs

NACAC National College Fairs are a program of the
National Association for College Admission Counseling.