

Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs General Update

Florida Association of Student Financial Aid
Administrators (FASFAA) Annual Conference

May 22, 2024

Presented by the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)

State Scholarship and Grant Programs

- Agenda:
 - State Scholarship and Grant Programs
 - Essential Information:
 - Institutional Responsibilities
 - Website
 - Contacts
 - Memorandums/Calendar
 - 2023 Legislative Updates
 - 2024 Legislative Updates

Florida's Postsecondary State Scholarship and Grant Programs

Florida offers a variety of state-funded programs to:

- Increase access to postsecondary education;
- Reward Florida high school graduates for high academic achievement;
- Provide funds to students who may not otherwise be able to afford postsecondary education; and
- Offer students opportunities to pursue careers in both technical and academic fields.

State Scholarship and Grant Programs

Program	Program Name
Benacquisto	Benacquisto Scholarship Program
BF	Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
CDDV	Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans
EASE	Effective Access to Student Education
FSAG	Florida Student Assistance Grant

State Scholarship and Grant Programs 2022-23

Program	Students Disbursed	Disbursements (\$ Millions)
Benacquisto	1,948	\$34.52
BF	117,586	\$598.47
CDDV	3,544	\$14.73
EASE	41,189	\$70.73
FSAG	165,596	\$269.40

Data as of September 1, 2023

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Award Levels

Award Acronym	Award Name
FAS	Florida Academic Scholarship
FMS	Florida Medallion Scholarship
GSC	Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholarship
GSV	Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

Historical Student Counts and Total Costs

- Since 1997, over 983,000 students have received scholarship funding in the first year following high school graduation.
- As of September 2023, \$8.69 billion dollars has been disbursed to eligible scholars.
- Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, Statistical Report A, provides a summary of eligible student counts and total disbursement costs since the program's inception in 1997.

www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/PDF/PSI/BFReportsA.pdf

Duties Relating to State Financial Aid and Tuition Assistance Programs

Section 1009.46(1), Florida Statutes, states that:

Each postsecondary educational institution that receives state funds for state financial aid and tuition assistance programs shall:

(a) Complete and return the **annual application** for state aid funds in the format and by the date established by the Department of Education.

(b) **Maintain complete, accurate, and auditable student records** documenting the institution's administration of state financial aid and tuition assistance funds.

(c) **Verify eligibility of enrolled students** with the department each academic term.

(d) **Report each student's program of study** to the department using the most recent classification of instructional programs taxonomy for the certificate or degree level as developed by the United States Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics.

Duties Relating to State Financial Aid and Tuition Assistance Programs

(e) **Disburse state financial aid** and tuition assistance to eligible students.

(f) **Notify students** annually regarding the renewal requirements for each state-funded award for which they are eligible.

(g) **Complete and return to the department all reports** for the administration of state funds in the format and by the date established by the department.

(h) **Complete and return to the department all legislatively required reports** in the format and by the date established by the department.

Duties Relating to State Financial Aid and Tuition Assistance Programs

- (i) **Retain required records** for the later of 5 years or until such records are audited and any audit exceptions are resolved.

- (j) **Refund to the department** any undisbursed advances:
 - 1. Within 60 days after the end of the regular registration period each fall and spring term,
 - 2. Within 30 days after the end of the summer term, or
 - 3. Within 60 days after the date a student's ineligibility is determined.

Duties Relating to State Financial Aid and Tuition Assistance Programs

An institution that **fails to perform its duties** in administering state financial aid or tuition assistance programs could be placed on probation by the department.

- (a) The department may provide allocations on a **reimbursement basis** to a participating institution that fails to timely remit undisbursed funds for the previous academic year.
- (b) The department **may suspend or revoke an institution's eligibility** to participate in state-funded programs if the institution fails to provide the required audits, fails to resolve audit findings, or fails to timely provide statutorily required reports by established deadlines.

Florida State Scholarship and Grant Programs

Website

www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org

State Program's Home Page



Office of Student Financial Assistance

**Florida Student Scholarship
& Grant Programs**

Login ▾



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.

NOTE: We recommend downloading the newest version of your preferred browser for the best experience. (Chrome, Firefox, Microsoft Edge, Safari)

State Scholarship and Grant Programs

- Application for the Florida Law Enforcement Reimbursement Program
- Benacquisto Scholarship Program (FAQ)
- Bright Futures Scholarship*
- Effective Access to Student Education
- First Generation Matching Grant
- Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship*
- Florida Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program
- Florida Student Assistance Grant - Career Education
- Florida Work Experience Program
- Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program
- José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant*
- Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship
- Minority Teacher Education Scholarship
- Randolph Bracy Ocoee Scholarship Program*
- Rosewood Family Scholarship*
- Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans* (Award Amounts)

<https://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org>

www.FLDOE.org

Website Footer

APPLICATIONS

Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)
Reinstatement/Restoration Application
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
Document Upload

REPORTS

Student Financial Assistance Annual Report -
(Archives)
End-of-Year Reports - (Archives)
Bright Futures Statistical Reports

RESOURCES

Federal Student Aid
Financial Aid Terms and Definitions
Money for College Brochure
Navigating Your Financial Future
State Scholarship and Grant Calendar

STATUTES AND RULES

Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rules
Legislative Changes
Postsecondary Compliance Audits
Postsecondary Eligibility Requirements

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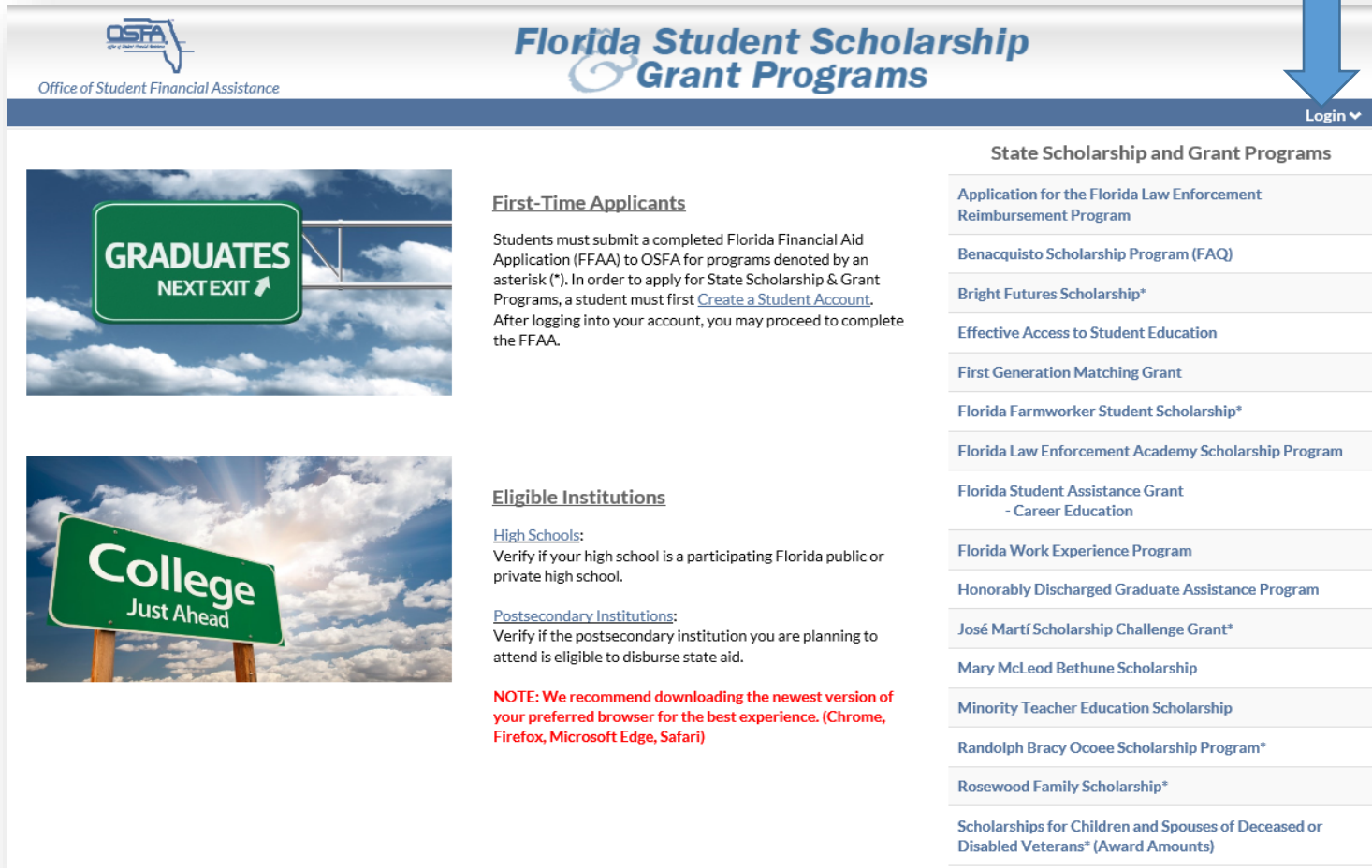
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Student Financial Assistance Annual Report -
(Archives)
End-of-Year Reports - (Archives)
Bright Futures Statistical Reports

STATUTES AND RULES

Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rules
Legislative Changes
Postsecondary Compliance Audits
Postsecondary Eligibility Requirements

Website Access - Login



OSFA
Office of Student Financial Assistance

Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs

Login ▼



GRADUATES
NEXT EXIT ↗



College
Just Ahead

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- Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans* (Award Amounts)

Acknowledgement

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION INFORMATION ACCESS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This policy applies to all users of Florida Department of Education information technology resources, whether affiliated with the Department or not. Users are responsible for any activity originating from their accounts. Users shall not share their accounts and passwords. Use of an identity or password other than the user's own is prohibited. Users must conduct themselves in a responsible, safe, ethical, and legal manner while using Department information technology resources. Disruptive use of Department resources is not permitted. The Department may monitor the activity and accounts of any users. Users who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary and/or legal action, including suspension, expulsion, dismissal, revocation of user access, or criminal prosecution by the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Access to these records or copies of these records may not be given by you to any unauthorized person or entity. It is under this justification and these restraints that these records are made available to you. Acceptance and subsequent use of the records will constitute recognition of and adherence to the above limitations regarding use of these records.

I understand and acknowledge my role in protecting application access and information based on the security policies listed above, and failure to comply with aforementioned security policies may result in access removal.

ACCEPT

DECLINE

Postsecondary Institutions Menu


Office of Student Financial Assistance

Florida Student Scholarship
& Grant Programs

HOME POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS ▾

POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

Collapse all ▾ | Expand all +

Financial Aid Recipient History ▾

Eligibility Determination Reports ▾

PSI Reporting ▾

Allocation/Reallocation Requests ▾

Other Reports ▾

Institutional Information ▾

Resources ▾

Student Account Lookup and Eligibility Determination Reports



Office of Student Financial Assistance

**Florida Student Scholarship
& Grant Programs**

HOME POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

Collapse all | Expand all

Financial Aid Recipient History

Financial Aid Recipient History

Eligibility Determination Reports

Master Eligibility List (for Centralized Programs)

Eligibility Determination (for Decentralized Programs)

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Bright Futures Drop/Withdrawn Disbursement Status

Postsecondary Institution Reporting

PSI Reporting

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Reimbursement Request Report (RRR)

-SFTP Batch Log

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Reconciliation Report

Initial/Renewal Reporting

Grade & Hours Report (GRHR)

FSAG Summer Disbursement Request

FWEP Reconciliation - Annual Financial Summary

EASE Accountability Report

Allocation/Reallocation Requests

Allocation/Reallocation Request

Other Reports

Federal Loan Disbursement Report

State of Florida Legislative Reporting Requirement

Institutional Information and Resources

Institutional Information

Institution Renewal Application

Institutional Details

Maintain Security User Accounts

Resources

Memorandum Directives

- Archives

Program Contacts - OSFA Program Contacts

Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) Form and Directions

State Programs Annual Calendar

Postsecondary Institution Resources

State Programs Policy Manual

Postsecondary Institution Resources:

SSFAD User Guide

SSFAD User Guide

[Introduction and Calendar](#)

[How to Complete the Loan Volume Report](#)

[How to Understand the Reconciliation and Payment Summary](#)

[How to Complete the Student Certification Process for G&H](#)

[How to Complete the Allocation-Reallocation Process](#)

[How to Use the Master Eligibility List](#)

[How to Complete the Institution Application](#)

[How to Access DER/Eligibility Determination Lists](#)

www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPPDFREDIR/SAPPDFREDIR

www.FLDOE.org

2023 Legislative Session

Open Door Grant Program

- The 2023 Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 240 that modified the Open Door Grant Program (ODGP) and section (s.) 1009.895, Florida Statutes (F.S.). The bill was signed into law by Governor DeSantis to become effective July 1, 2023.
- Beginning with the 2023-24 academic year, the ODGP is a financial aid program for students at a Florida College System institution, a school district postsecondary technical career center, or a charter technical career center.
- Designed to provide needed assistance to incentivize current and future workers to enroll in career and technical education programs that lead to a credential, certificate, or degree.

Open Door Grant Program – Student Eligibility Requirements

The eligibility status of each student must be determined by the institution at the end of the regular registration period, inclusive of the drop/add registration period each term. A student must:

- Be a Florida resident, and be enrolled in:
 - An integrated education and training program, that results in the award of credentials under s. 445.004(4), F.S., **or**
 - A workforce education program, as defined under s. 1011.80(1)(b)-(f), F.S., that is included on the Master Credentials List under s. 445.004(4), F.S.
- Note: These programs are not limited to credit-based programs, but many also include non-credit programs. Additionally, students are not required to complete a *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* to receive an award since ODGP does not measure need as a component of eligibility.

Open Door Grant Program – Award Amount

- 100% of tuition and fees, exam or assessment costs, books, and related materials for eligible programs after all other federal and state financial aid is applied.
- In addition, a student may receive a stipend of up to \$1,500 per academic year to cover other expenses related to the institutional cost of attendance as defined by the Department of Education to be an estimate of that student's educational expenses for the period of enrollment.
 - Other expenses may include transportation, personal costs, housing and food living expenses that are tied to a student's institutional cost of attendance.

Open Door Grant Program – Annual End-of-Year Reporting

All institutions participating in the ODGP are required to submit, **no later than September 1, 2024**, a report with data from the 2023-24 fiscal year on program completion and credential attainment by students participating in the grant program.

Data included within the report must include:

- A list of the programs offered at the institution.
- The number of students who enrolled in the programs.
- The number of students who completed the programs.
- The number of students who attained workforce credentials, categorized by credential name and relevant occupation, after completing the training programs.

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

- House Bill 1537: Education, Chapter 2023-39, Laws of Florida, modified the Florida initial eligibility requirements that affect high school graduating students seeking to qualify for an award used to offset the cost of a postsecondary education.
- Effective July 1, 2023, the bill:
 - Allowed students graduating in the 2022-23 academic year and thereafter to satisfy the service hour requirement for a specific BF program by completing the statutory required number of volunteer service hours, 100 paid work hours, or a combination of both.
 - Authorized 2023-24 high school graduating students to earn a concordant score on the Classic Learning Test (CLT) to meet the minimum test score requirement.

Effective Access to Student Education (EASE)

- Senate Bill 1272 created a postsecondary educational grant under the EASE grant program within section 1009.521, Florida Statutes, to issue a grant to any full-time degree-seeking undergraduate student registered at an independent nonprofit university who was formerly eligible for the Access to Better Learning and Education (ABLE) Grant Program.
- New postsecondary institutions will be required to annually submit EASE Accountability Report data by September 1.

Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans (CSDDV)

- Chapter 2023-279, Laws of Florida, modified the qualification requirements.
- Removed the requirement of a 1-year residency of veterans and substitutes other factors, which include Florida being listed as the servicemember's official home of record in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) database immediately preceding the death or disability of the servicemember, or that the child or spouse qualifies as a resident for tuition purposes.

Florida Work Experience Program

Senate Bill 240 expanded the FWEP program to allow charter technical career centers to participate in the scholarship program.

Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program

House Bill 1 authorized eligible postsecondary institutions to be reimbursed for tuition and related instructional materials costs for dual enrollment courses taken during the fall, spring, or summer terms by eligible students, which now includes secondary students enrolled within a personalized education program.

Dual Enrollment Educator Scholarship Program

- House Bill 1035: K-12 Teachers, Chapter 2023-38, Laws of Florida, created this new program.
- Assists teachers of grades 9-12 in public schools in obtaining the graduate degree and credentials necessary to provide dual enrollment coursework directly to students on the campuses of such schools.
- The program will provide award recipients the full cost of tuition and fees required to complete the graduate program, including a book stipend each semester.

2023-24 Academic Year

Basic Categories of Florida's Postsecondary State Scholarship and Grant Programs

Merit-Based	Need-Based	Tuition Assistance
Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program	Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG)	Effective Access to Student Education Grant Program (EASE)
Benacquist Scholarship Program	Florida Work Experience Program (FWEP)	

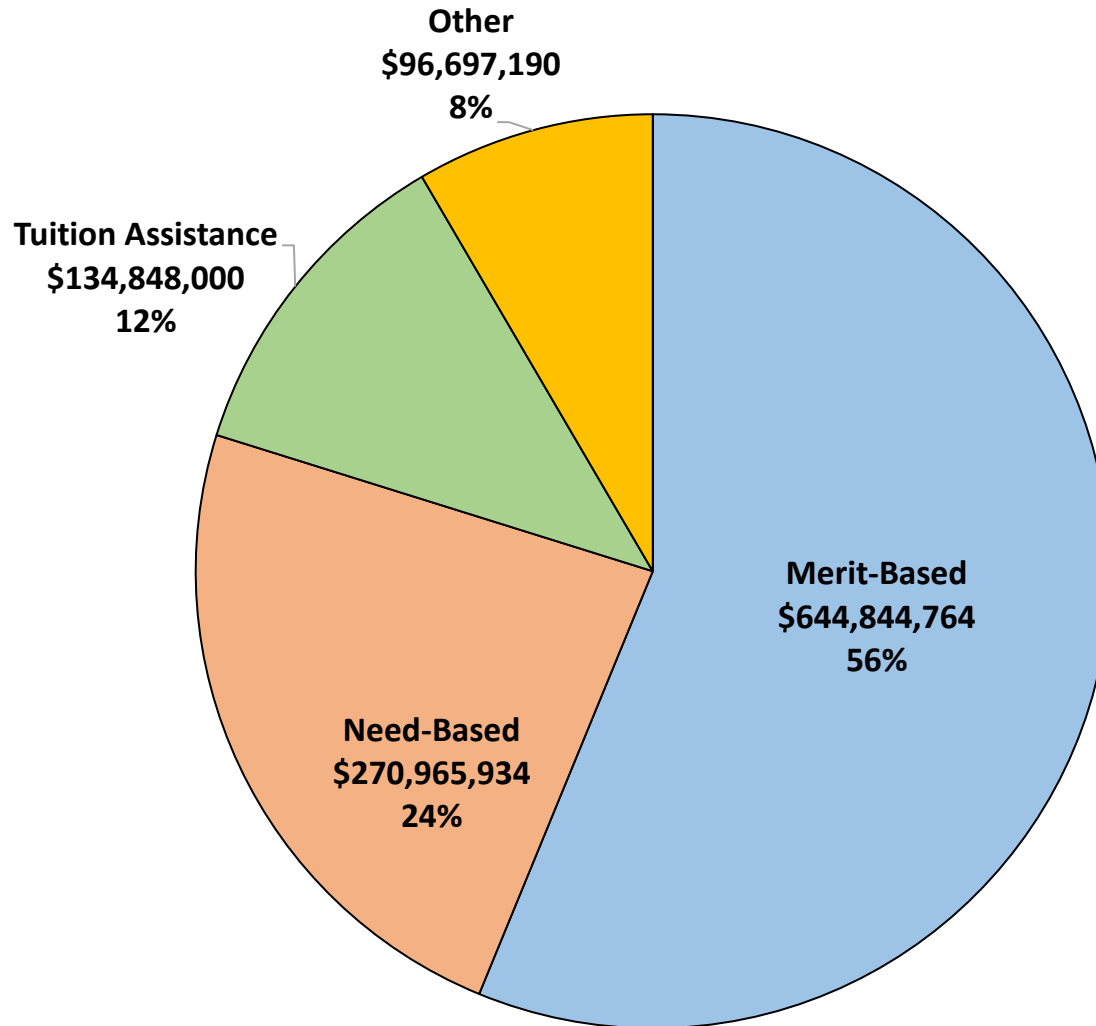
Four Year Appropriation Comparison

Program	2020-21 Appropriation	2021-22 Appropriation	2022-23 Appropriation	2023-24 Appropriation
Benacquisto	\$26.58	\$34.26	\$36.41	\$37.65
BF	\$651.78	\$623.26	\$620.88	\$607.19
CDDV	\$8.43	\$11.01	\$13.49	\$18.33
EASE	\$116.66	\$114.86	\$75.41	\$134.85
FSAG	\$269.40	\$269.40	\$269.40	\$269.40

Source: General Appropriations Act (Chapter 2023-239, Laws of Florida)

Note: Appropriation amounts are in millions.

2023-24 Appropriations by Category



**Total Appropriation:
\$1,126,268,252**

2023-24 Award Amounts

Bright Futures Florida Academic Scholars (FAS)

- Amount to cover 100% tuition and applicable fees
(at a public institution or comparable amount at a nonpublic institution)
- Summer - 100% tuition and applicable fees
- Academic Top Scholars – additional stipend of \$44 per credit hour
(Fall and Spring)
- Book stipend has not been funded.
- Authority: Section 1009.534(2), Florida Statutes, and State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.028, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)

2023-24 Award Amounts

Bright Futures Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)

- Amount to cover 75% tuition and applicable fees
(at a public institution or comparable amount at a nonpublic institution)
- Summer - 75% tuition and applicable fees
- 100% tuition and applicable fees at FCS institutions toward an associate degree program. 75% tuition and applicable fees after completing an associate degree.
- Authority: Section 1009.535(2), Florida Statutes, and State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.028, F.A.C.

2023-24 Award Amounts

Gold Seal CAPE (GSC), Gold Seal Vocational (GSV)

Program Type	Semester Per Credit Hour Award
PSAV	\$39
ATD	\$39
AS, AAS, CCC	\$48

After a GSC recipient earns an AS or AAS degree, he/she may receive up to 60 additional hours toward a BS or BAS that articulated from the AS or AAS.

Program Type	Semester Per Credit Hour Award
BS	\$48
BAS	\$48

Authority: Section 1009.536, Florida Statutes, and State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.028, F.A.C.

Benacquisto Scholarship

- Eligible students will receive an award equal to the per-term institutional in-state cost of attendance (COA), minus the sum of the Bright Futures (BF) award and an award associated with the National Merit® (NM) process.

$$\textit{Benacquisto Scholarship Award} = \textit{COA} - (\textit{BF} + \textit{NM})$$

- 2021-22 was the final year for initial non-resident awards.
- Non-resident renewal recipients will continue to receive their award until completion of baccalaureate degree. The final year of funding will be the 2025-26 award year.
- Authority: Section 1009.893(5), Florida Statutes, and State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.0281, F.A.C.

2023-24 Award Amounts

Florida Student Assistance Grants (FSAG)

Program Type	Minimum Award	Maximum Award	EFC Maximum
Public	\$200	\$3,260	9984
Private	\$200	\$3,260	9984
Postsecondary	\$200	\$3,260	9984
Career Education	\$200	\$3,260	N/A

Authority: Sections 1009.50, 1009.505, 1009.51, and 1009.52, Florida Statutes, and State Board of Education Rules 6A-20.0071, 6A-20.031, 6A-20.032, and 6A-20.033, F.A.C.

2023-24 Award Amount

Effective Access to Student Education (EASE)

Program	Maximum Award
EASE	\$3,500

Authority: Section 1009.89(5)(a), Florida Statutes, and State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.007, F.A.C.

EASE Student Eligibility

- Eligibility requires full-time enrollment in a program leading to a baccalaureate degree.
- Not be enrolled in a program of study leading to a degree in theology or divinity.
- Eligibility capped at 110% of the enrolled program length.

EASE Institutional Reporting and Eligibility

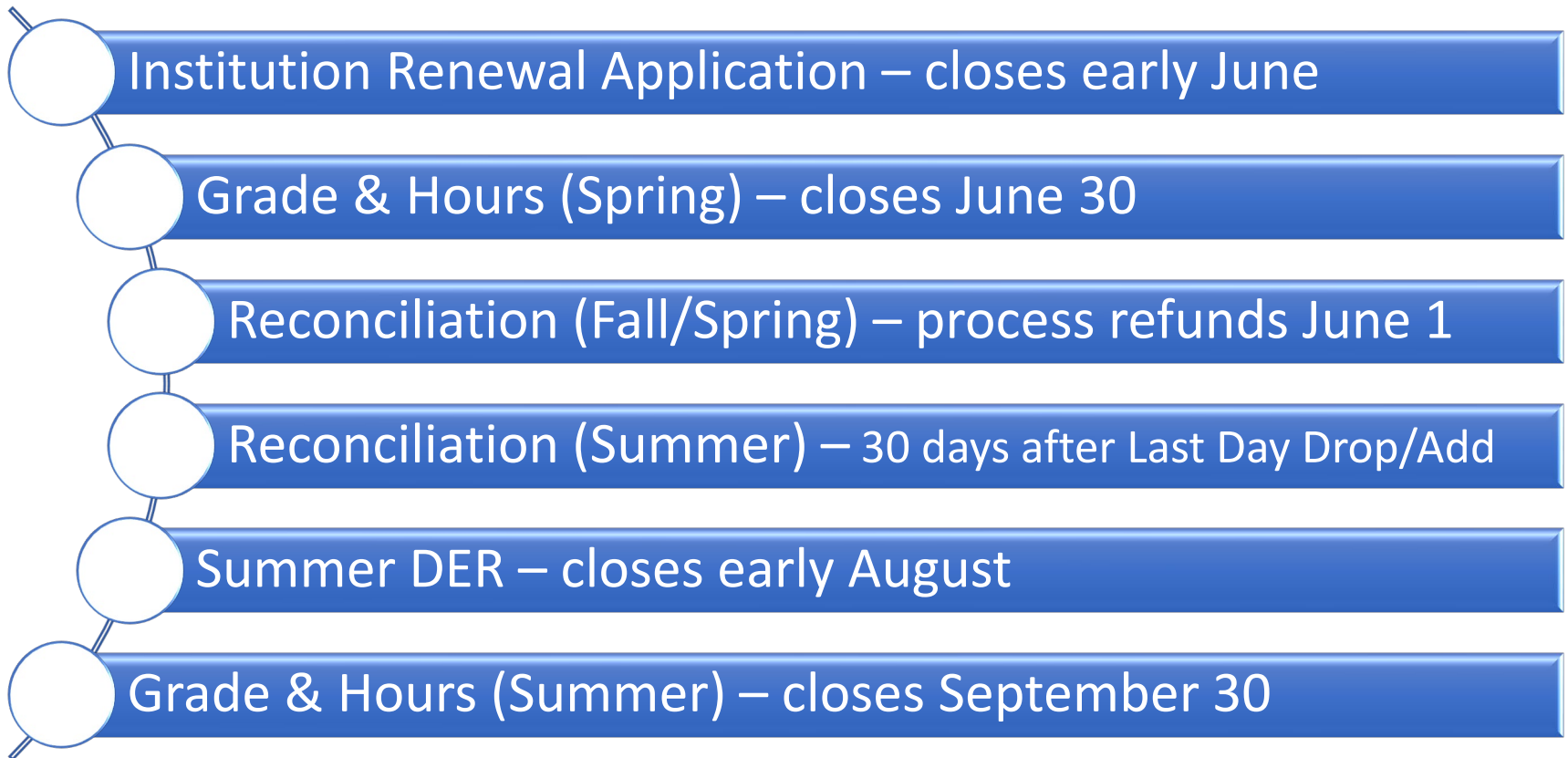
- Institutions required to report the following to OSFA by September 1:
 - Access rate based on Pell percentage
 - Affordability rate based on loans and all aid
 - Graduation rate
 - Retention rate
 - Postgraduation employment rate

Institutional Reporting

- Loan Volume Report
 - Aggregate reported loan data
- Student Financial Aid Report (SFAR)
 - Student-level reported data
- Annual Deadline Date: December 1

State Programs What You Need to Know

State Calendar



Disbursement Eligibility Report (DER) File Layout

Reminders

- All DER transactions require a degree type and CIP code be reported.
- FIS = Benacquisto Scholarship Program
- FRAG = Effective Access to Student Education

Disbursement Eligibility Report (DER)

- OSFA encourages institutions to put students on the DER prior to actually funding the student at the institution to ensure students are authorized to receive funding.
- Other verifications made on the DER include:
 - Student does not owe payment for prior year dropped/withdrawn hours
 - Student has met program renewal requirements
 - Student has remaining hours or terms of eligibility available
 - Student disbursement amount calculation is allowable
 - Student was not previously awarded baccalaureate degree

Deadlines

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

- Report Students on DER – Begin student report within 30 days after the end of regular registration each semester
- Undisbursed funds – return funds within 60 days after the end of the regular registration
- Drop/Withdrawn Hours – return funds within 30 days after the end of the semester

Deadlines

Effective Access to Student Education (EASE) Grant

- Report Students on DER
 - Term 1: October 30
 - Term 2: February 28
 - Term 3: April 15
- Performance Metrics Report: September 1
- Undisbursed funds – return funds 60 days after the end of the regular registration

Deadlines

Schools failing to meet the statutory deadlines for returning funds shall be provided program funds on a reimbursement basis the following academic year.

Payment Summary Screen

- Review voucher amounts by program and term
- Review if your institution owes OSFA, or if OSFA owes your institution for current and prior years
- Check the “I agree” box to request additional funds
- Attach the completed Refund Transmittal Form with your refund check

Payment Summary Screen

☒ I agree with OSFA's Payment Summary
☒ I agree that Dropped/Withdrawn (D04) Reporting is Complete.

Last Date Reconciled **05/09/2019**
 Last D04 Date Reconciled **01/29/2019**

SECTION I: Summary Report ▼

Total Disbursed to Students		\$5,699,379.28
Total Number of Student Awards Funded		5,851
Total Admin Cost Spent		\$0.00
Total Refunds from Institution		\$23,385.25
Total Current Year Funding from OSFA		\$5,658,675.02
	Amount OSFA Owes Institution	\$0.00
	Amount Institution Owes OSFA	\$29,841.99

SECTION II: Detailed Report ▼

Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Program Code	Check Number	Warrant Amount	Refund Received	Amount Disbursed to Students	Number of Student Awards Funded
08/13/2018	* BF	76931	\$735,363.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
08/16/2018	* CDDV	85474	\$60,946.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
08/20/2018	FSAGCE	91273	\$6,013.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
08/21/2018	FSAGPU	93828	\$4,580,031.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0

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Total unduplicated student count for the selected academic year is: **6,869**

*Based on the academic calendar reported by your Institution your refund is due by: **11/03/2018**

[Refund Transmittal Form](#)
[Student Refund Report](#)
[Reconciliation/Population Report](#)

FSAG Process for 2023-24

- Base amount = 90% of 2022-23 disbursements.
- Remaining appropriation distributed based on a three-year average of all eligible students reported by all institutions.
- Each semester term allocation will represent 50% of the total annual allocation.
- Report all eligible students, including all 'otherwise eligible' (C99) students, to OSFA within thirty (30) days of the end of the institution's regular registration period for each term.
- FSAG reconciliation and refunds are not due until 60 days after the last day of drop/add registration for the spring term unless opting to use remaining funds for the subsequent summer term awards.
- Students awarded for the subsequent summer term must have been disbursed in the previous fall or spring term.

Bright Futures Summer Funding

All eligible Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) and Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) may be funded summer 2024.

Students who are FAS/FMS Eligible for 2023-24 (Term 6)

- Native Students
- Transfer Students

Students who are FAS/FMS Eligible for 2024-25 (Term 0)

- Initial Students – 2024 high school graduates

Official Memorandum [OSFA-STATE: #23-24:26](#) was released on April 12, 2024, with a Q&A and example letters to eligible students.

Bright Futures Summer Funding

Summer Deadlines:

- The deadline for requesting additional funds for Term 6 is August 9, 2024.
- Summer sessions with late June or July drop/add dates – Reconcile by early August 2024.
- Summer Term 6 DER closes August 16, 2024.
- An institution that receives funds from the program for the summer term shall remit to the department any undisbursed advances within 30 days after the end of the summer term.

2024 Legislative Session

2024 Legislative Session: Bills to Watch

Bill Number	Bill Title	Description
Senate Bill 522 Approved 4/3/2024	Tallahassee Community College	Renames the college as “Tallahassee State College”
Senate Bill 7032 Approved 5/9/2024	Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE) Scholarship Program	Creates the Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE) Scholarship Program to reimburse participating institutions for the tuition and fees and instructional materials for students.

2024 Legislative Session: Bills to Watch

Bill Number	Topic	Description
Senate Bill 62	Resident Status for Tuition Purposes	Adds a new subsection stating an individual's incarceration in a state or federal correctional facility in Florida does not result in the loss of resident status for tuition purposes.
House Bill 5101	Florida First Responder Scholarship Program	Renames the Florida Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program as the Florida First Responder Scholarship Program and expands s. 1009.896 to include students seeking to become a law enforcement officer, emergency medical technician, firefighter, or a paramedic.
House Bill 5001 <i>*General Appropriations Act</i>	Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program	Expands the program to include an independent college or university , which is not for profit, is accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, and confers degrees as defined in section 1005.02, Florida Statutes.
House Bill 5001 <i>*General Appropriations Act</i>	Randolph Bracy Ocoee Scholarship Program	Expands program access to students participating in the Randolph Bracy Ocoee Scholarship Program who attend Historically Black Colleges or Universities in Florida.

2024 Legislative Session: Bills to Watch

Bill Number	Topic	Description
House Bill 5001 <i>*General Appropriations Act</i>	Effective Access to Student Education	<p>The EASE Plus program is created to provide an additional award to support students enrolled in upper-level courses in quality, high-demand programs at institutions eligible to participate in the Effective Access to Student Education program under sections 1009.89 and 1009.521, Florida Statutes. Eligible programs include: Teaching, Nursing, Allied Health, Agriculture/Vet Science, Cyber Security and Digital Arts/Computer Graphics.</p> <p>The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall prorate the EASE Plus award based on number of students eligible. The Department of Education must submit a report detailing eligibility metrics, number of awards, average award amount, and program enrollment by institution by February 1, 2025, to the chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations and the chair of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee.</p>

Partnership

Outreach Services Unit

- Financial Aid/Literacy print materials shipped to both secondary and postsecondary institutions
- Financial Aid events coordinated statewide via OSFA Speakers Bureau
- Financial Aid trainings provided
- Resource: www.NavigatingYourFinancialFuture.org

Pedro Hernandez

Director, OSFA Outreach Services

850-245-1821

Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org

Contact Information

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