

2011-12 High School Graduates
IMPORTANT NOTICE
READ this notice carefully to be informed of the
Bright Futures requirements that affect YOUR scholarship

The 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 Florida Legislatures passed legislation which **affects Bright Futures scholarship criteria**. See information below and read more on the Bright Futures website at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- All Bright Futures eligible students must annually file this application. It is available from January 1, 2012 until June 30, 2013 and must be completed prior to the student receiving their first annual disbursement.

Award Amounts

- Students receive a flat cost per credit hour award, not a percentage of tuition and fees. Visit <http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/awardamt.htm> for the **2012-13 Bright Futures award amounts**.

Dropped/Withdrawn Courses

- Students are required to **refund** their institution the cost of any **dropped or withdrawn** Bright Futures funded hours. Visit www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/ssfad/bf/renewpg.htm for additional **funding** information.

University of Florida (UF) Innovation Academy Pilot Program

- The 2011 Legislative Session created a pilot program at UF to provide Bright Futures funding to a cohort of initial students whose program will be limited to enrollment in the spring and summer sessions at UF.
- The 2012 Session amendments provided for no more than two semesters of Bright Futures funding in any fiscal year for students enrolled in this program.

Renewal Requirements

- **Renewal Opportunity:** 2011-12 high school graduates who receive funds during the 2012-13 academic year (fall – spring) will be required to earn their program's requisite GPA (FAS 3.0 and FMS/GSV 2.75) and the hours for which they were funded **by the end of the spring term** in order to become a **Renewed student** for the following year (2013-14).
 - Students who do **NOT** earn the hours for which they were funded by renewal evaluation (the end of 2013 spring term), will be **TERMINATED** from the scholarship program.
- **Restoration Opportunity:** 2011-12 high school graduates who receive funds during the 2012-13 academic year (fall – spring) and **do NOT earn the requisite GPA ONLY**, will be permitted a **one-time restoration opportunity in summer** restoration evaluations or **subsequent spring** evaluations to become a **Restored student** for a subsequent year.
 - Students who fail to meet the minimum GPA requirement **AFTER** their first year of funding will **NOT renew** and will **NOT be permitted a restoration opportunity** (summer or subsequent spring evaluations), but will be **TERMINATED** from the scholarship program.
- **Reinstatement Opportunity:** 2011-12 high school graduates who receive funds during the 2012-13 academic year (fall – spring) and meet the GPA and hours requirements at the end of

spring term but choose NOT to attend in the 2013-14 year, may file a Reinstatement Application in subsequent years to continue funding as a **Reinstated student**.

- Students who choose not to receive funds in the 2012-13 and 2013-14 years **must, before the end of the 2014-15 year, file** a Reinstatement Application **and receive** funding in the **2014-15** year (fall – spring) or be TERMINATED from the scholarship program.
- Visit <http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/renewstu.htm> for additional **renewal requirements** information.

Program Length - Hours of Funding Available

- Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) and Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) **who graduate from high school in the 2011-12 year** are eligible to receive funding for up to 100% of their program of study.
- Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) may be funded for up to 100% of their program of study **in Career Education Programs** which include:
 - Technical Degrees and Certificates: Associate of Science degrees (AS), Associate of Applied Science degrees (AAS), and College Credit Certificates (CCC).
 - Career Certificates or Diplomas: (also referred to as Postsecondary Adult Vocational/PSAV) include Career Certificates and Applied Technology Diplomas (ATD).
 - Students may be funded for up to 72 semester hours (or 2,160 clock hours) except in the Applied Technology Diploma (ATD) where they are limited to 60 semester hours (or 1,800 clock hours).
 - Students may be funded in additional certificates, diplomas, and/or degrees as listed above up to the maximum hours of funding allowed. For example: If students finish an ATD and then transfer into another eligible program, they are eligible to be funded up to 72 semester hours (or 2,160 clock hours).
 - Students may receive funding in these **Career Education Programs** up to their Bright Futures **maximum hours of funding**.
- Visit <http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/renewchart.htm> for additional **hours** information.

Graduate Study

- Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) and Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) who **complete their baccalaureate degree** in seven semesters or fewer (or the equivalent in credit hours) may receive funding for one term of graduate study, up to but not to exceed 15 semester hours, paid at the undergraduate rate.
- Visit <http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/renewchart.htm> for additional **graduate study** information.