OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Annual Report to the Commissioner

2008 - 09

Florida Department of Education
www.fldoe.org

Florida Department of Education

2008-09
ANNUAL REPORT
to the
COMMISSIONER

Prepared by
the
OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

1-888-827-2004
State Scholarship & Grant Programs

1-800-366-3475
Federal Family Education Loan Program

www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org

October 2009

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) presents the *2008-09 Annual Report to the Commissioner*, which provides information about scholarship and grant programs funded by the Florida Legislature.

OSFA administers state and federally funded programs that increase access to postsecondary education for Florida's students, and initiates outreach activities to promote program awareness. State scholarship and grant programs provide funds to students who may not otherwise be able to afford a college education, thus providing students with the opportunity to pursue careers in technical and academic fields of their choice.

The 2008-09 Legislative Appropriations for state scholarship and grant programs increased over the previous fiscal year by 7.1 percent.

During the 2008-09 academic year, OSFA

- Administered 24 scholarship and grant programs.
- Processed 118,000 new applications.
- Funded over 347,000 new and returning students with state, federal, and private matching funds of approximately $715 million to defray the cost of postsecondary education.
- Guaranteed a total of 158,981 loans, for a total volume of $687,203,635.

Should you have any questions or need additional program information, please call our toll-free customer assistance line at 1-888-827-2004, visit our Web site at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org, or write:

Theresa Antworth, Director
State Scholarship and Grant Programs
Florida Department of Education
Office of Student Financial Assistance
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

CONTENTS

`

Florida Department of Education
Office of Student Financial Assistance
State Scholarship and Grant Programs

Executive Summary iii

2008-09 State Programs Funding Details 1
2009-10 State Programs Appropriations and Award Amounts 2

The Federal Family Education Loan Program 3
OSFA Outreach 7

State Need-Based Programs

Florida Student Assistance Grant Programs 11
(Public, Private, Postsecondary, and Public Career Education)
Florida Work Experience Program 13
Rosewood Family Scholarship Program 15
José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund 17
Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program 19
Florida Education Fund 21
Florida Prepaid College Foundation 23
First Generation Matching Grant Program 25

State Merit-Based Programs

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Programs 29
(Florida Academic Scholar, Academic Top Scholar,
Florida Medallion Scholar, Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholar)

State Special Interest Programs

William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant 35
Access to Better Learning and Education Grant 37
Scholarships for Children & Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans & Servicemembers 39
Ethics in Business Scholarship Program 41
Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program 43
Florida Fund for Minority Teachers 45
Road-to-Independence Program 47

State Professional Programs

Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program 51
Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program 53

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
2008-09 STATE PROGRAMS FUNDING DETAILS

PROGRAM TITLE	Students Receiving Awards	Funds Disbursed	Average Award Amounts	% Funds Disbursed at Institutions		
				Public	Private	Other*
Need-Based Programs						
Florida Student Assistance Grant Programs (FSAG) Total**	112,406	$131,912,507				
• Public Student Assistance Grant	83,572	$102,000,743	$1,221	100%	0%	0%
• Public Career Education	3,718	$2,212,723	$595	100%	0%	0%
• Private Student Assistance Grant	12,106	$16,388,558	$1,354	0%	100%	0%
• Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant	13,010	$11,310,483	$869	0%	100%	0%
Florida Work Experience Program (FWEP)	767	$1,417,714	$1,848	88%	12%	0%
Rosewood Family Scholarship Program (RFS)	22	$52,949	$2,407	100%	0%	0%
José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund (JM)***	50	$94,000	$1,880	76%	24%	0%
Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program (MMB)***	241	$663,000	$2,751	20%	80%	0%
Florida Education Fund	NA	$1,987,181	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%
Florida Prepaid College Foundation***	NA	$5,617,240	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%
First Generation Matching Grant Program (FGMG)***	10,987	$15,947,788	$1,452	100%	0%	0%
Merit-Based Programs						
Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Programs Total	169,366	$429,012,109	$2,533	89%	11%	0%
• Florida Academic Scholars Award (FAS)	35,729	$131,005,248	$3,667	89%	11%	0%
• Academic Top Scholars Award (ATS)	248	$358,495	$1,446	88%	12%	0%
• Florida Medallion Scholars Award (FMS)	132,001	$294,988,826	$2,235	90%	10%	0%
• Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award (GSV)	1,636	$2,659,540	$1,626	85%	15%	0%
Special Interest Programs						
William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG)	37,363	$92,206,345	$2,468	0%	100%	0%
Access to Better Learning and Education Grant (ABLE)	5,120	$4,339,255	$848	0%	100%	0%
Scholarships for Children & Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans & Servicemembers (CSDDV)	695	$1,762,248	$2,536	84%	16%	0%
Ethics in Business Scholarship Program (EIB)***	378	$383,354	$1,014	68%	32%	0%
Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program (Federal)	1,576	$2,301,688	$1,460	53%	12%	35%
Florida Fund for Minority Teachers (FFMT)	757	$2,466,000	$3,258	64%	36%	0%
Road-to-Independence Program (RTI)	2,899	$22,833,982	$7,877	23%	2%	75%
Professional Programs						
Critical Teacher Shortage Programs Total (CTS)	4,978	$2,483,600	N/A			
• CTS Student Loan Forgiveness (CTSLF)	4,277	$2,410,366	$564	N/A	N/A	100%
• CTS Tuition Reimbursement (CTSTR)	701	$73,234	$104	N/A	N/A	100%
Totals:	**347,605**	**$715,480,960**				

*Includes funds disbursed by statutory authorization to secondary and postsecondary students in Florida or out of state for Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program.

**FSAG expenditures include federal Special/Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Programs (S/LEAP) funds and federal College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) funds.

***Requires matching funds; see program pages for specifics.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
2009-10 STATE PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS AND AWARD AMOUNTS

PROGRAM TITLE	2009-10 Annual Appropriations	2009-10 Annual Award Amounts
Need-Based Programs		
Florida Student Assistance Grant Programs Total (FSAG)	$127,641,073	
• Public Student Assistance Grant (Full-time/Part-time)	$ 98,546,590	$2,069 max - $200 min
• Public Career Education (Full-time/Part-time)	$2,152,840	$2,069 max - $200 min
• Private Student Assistance Grant (Full-time only)	$15,875,417	$2,069 max - $200 min
• Postsecondary Assistance Grant (Full-time only)	$11,066,226	$2,069 max - $200 min
College Access Challenge Grant (Federal)*	$2,450,000	
Special/Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Programs (S/LEAP) (Federal)*	$2,563,089	
Florida Work Experience Program (FWEP)	$1,569,922	Determined by Financial Need
Rosewood Family Scholarship Program (RFS)	$ 60,000	Tuition & Fees**, $4,000 max
José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund (JM)	$160,098	$2,000
Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program (MMB)	$598,751	$3,000
Florida Education Fund	$1,987,181	Determined by Fund
Florida Prepaid College Foundation	$4,188,111	Determined by Foundation
First Generation Matching Grant Program (FGMG)	$6,848,120	Determined by Financial Need
State Universities	$5,148,120	
Community Colleges	$1,700,000	
Merit-Based Programs		
Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Programs Total	$418,878,452	Per Semester Credit Hour (or the equivalent in quarter or clock hours)
• Florida Academic Scholars Award (FAS)		4-year - $126 2-year - $78 Community College Baccalaureate - $87 Career/Technical Center - $64
• Academic Top Scholars Award (ATS)		$54 per credit hour
• Florida Medallion Scholars Award (FMS)		4-year - $95 2-year - $59 Community College Associate - $78 Community College Baccalaureate - $65 Career/Technical Center - $48
• Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award (GSV)		4-year - $95 2-year - $59 Community College Baccalaureate - $65 Career/Technical Center - $48
Special Interest Programs		
William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG)	$ 84,171,709	$2,529
Access to Better Learning and Education Grant (ABLE)	$3,947,037	$986
Scholarships for Children & Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans & Servicemembers (CSDDV)	$1,997,365	See FAS awards for equivalent costs (Per Credit Hour)
Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program (Federal)	$2,391,530	$1,500
Florida Fund for Minority Teachers (FFMT)	$1,607,942	$4,000 max
Road-to-Independence Program (RTI)***	N/A	N/A
Professional Programs		
Critical Teacher Shortage Programs Total (CTS)	$2,500,000	
• CTS Student Loan Forgiveness (CTSLF)		$2,500 undergrad/$5,000 grad max
• CTS Tuition Reimbursement (CTSTR)		$78 per credit hour max

*Included in the FSAG awards.
**Registration fees.
***Funds appropriated from the Florida Department of Children and Families with expenditures reported to the Florida Department of Education.

THE FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAM

- The Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) was created through the Higher Education Act of 1965 and is reauthorized by Congress approximately every five years. Guaranty agencies throughout the nation are designated to administer this low interest educational loan program. The Office of Student Financial Assistance is the designated guaranty agency for Florida.

- A large component of the federal loan program is an insurance program. It promises lenders that, if they will make loans to postsecondary students who have no credit histories and no collateral, and subsequently meet all regulatory collection requirements, the guaranty agency will reimburse them for loans borrowers fail to repay.

- OSFA guarantees five types of loans: the Federal Stafford Subsidized Loan, the Federal Stafford Unsubsidized Loan, the Federal PLUS Loan, the Federal PLUS/Graduate or Professional Loan, and the Federal Consolidation Loan.

  The Federal Stafford Subsidized Loan is awarded on the basis of financial need. The federal government pays interest on the loan until the student begins repayment and during authorized periods of deferment.

  The Federal Stafford Unsubsidized Loan is not awarded on the basis of need. Students who qualify for an unsubsidized loan are charged interest from the date of the first disbursement until the loan is paid in full. The student can choose to pay the interest while in school or allow it to accumulate. If the interest is allowed to accumulate, it will be added to the principal amount of the student's loan and will increase the amount owed.

  The Federal PLUS Loan enables eligible parents with good credit histories to borrow money for their dependent undergraduate children who are enrolled at least half time at a participating postsecondary school.

  The Federal PLUS/Graduate or Professional Loan is a result of the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (HERA) that allows graduate or professional students to borrow under the PLUS Loan Program up to the cost of attendance minus any other estimated financial aid in the Federal Family Education Loan Program and Direct Loan Program. The same terms and conditions that apply to the PLUS loans, apply to the Graduate/Professional PLUS loans.

  The Federal Consolidation Loan is designed to help student and parent borrowers consolidate several types of federal student loans with various repayment schedules into one loan. FFELP Consolidation loans are available from participating lenders such as banks and credit unions. Most federal student loans or PLUS loans can be consolidated.

Award Level

Award levels vary for the Federal Stafford Subsidized and Federal Stafford Unsubsidized Loans, depending upon the student's status. The Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act of 2008 raised annual loan limits for Unsubsidized Stafford Loans in both the FFEL and Direct Loan programs. *These loan limit changes are effective for loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2008, for loan periods that include July 1, 2008, or begin on or after July 1, 2008.*

Dependent Students (Excluding Students Whose Parents Cannot Borrow PLUS)	Base Amount Sub/Unsub	Additional Unsubsidized Loan Amount	
		Loans Disbursed Prior to July 1, 2008	Loans Disbursed On or After July 1, 2008
First-year undergraduate	$3,500	0	$2,000
Second-year undergraduate	$4,500	0	$2,000
Third-year and beyond undergraduate	$5,500	0	$2,000

Independent Undergraduate Students *and* Dependent Students Whose Parents Cannot Borrow a PLUS Loan	Base Amount Sub/Unsub	Additional Unsubsidized Loan Amount	
		Loans Disbursed Prior to July 1, 2008	Loans Disbursed On or After July 1, 2008
First-year undergraduate	$3,500	$4,000	$6,000
Second-year undergraduate	$4,500	$4,000	$6,000
Third-year and beyond undergraduate	$5,500	$5,000	$7,000

Graduate and Professional Students	Base Amount Sub/Unsub	Additional Unsubsidized Loan Amount
	$8,500	Unchanged at $12,000

Annual Loan Limits for Preparatory Coursework and Teacher Certification

Dependent Students (Excluding Students Whose Parents Cannot Borrow PLUS)	Base Amount Sub/Unsub	Additional Unsubsidized Loan Amount	
		Loans Disbursed Prior to July 1, 2008	Loans Disbursed On or After July 1, 2008
Preparatory coursework (for enrollment in an undergraduate program)	$2,625	0	0
Preparatory coursework (for enrollment in a graduate or professional program)	$5,500	0	0
Teacher certification coursework	$5,500	0	0

Independent Students (*and* Dependent Students Whose Parents Cannot Borrow PLUS)	Base Amount Sub/Unsub	Additional Unsubsidized Loan Amount	
		Loans Disbursed Prior to July 1, 2008	Loans Disbursed On or After July 1, 2008
Preparatory coursework (for enrollment in an undergraduate program)	$2,625	$4,000	$6,000
Preparatory coursework (for enrollment in a graduate or professional program)	$5,500	$7,000	$7,000
Teacher certification coursework	$5,500	$7,000	$7,000

Maximum Aggregate Loan Limits (Effective July 1, 2008)

- Dependent Students excluding students whose parents cannot borrow PLUS: $31,000 (no more than $23,000 of which can be subsidized)
- Independent Students and Dependent Students whose parents cannot borrow PLUS: $57,500 (no more than $23,000 of which can be subsidized)
- Graduate and Professional Students: $138,500 (no more than $65,500 of which can be subsidized)

The yearly limit on a PLUS loan is equal to the student's cost of attendance minus any other financial aid received.

Borrower Eligibility

Each student borrower seeking a Stafford loan, each parent borrower seeking a PLUS loan, and each student for whom a PLUS loan is being sought must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Have a valid Social Security Number.
- Sign a statement on the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) certifying that federal student aid will be used only for educational purposes.
- Sign a statement on the FAFSA certifying that the student is not in default on a federal student loan and does not owe money on a federal student grant.
- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a regular student working toward a degree or certificate in an eligible program. Students may not receive aid for correspondence or telecommunications courses unless they are part of an associate, bachelor's, or graduate degree program.
- Meet financial requirements if loan program is need-based.
- Have a high school diploma or a General Education Development Certificate, pass a test approved by the United States Department of Education, or meet other standards established by the state and approved by the United States Department of Education, or complete a high school education in a home school setting that is treated as a home school or private school under state law.
- Make satisfactory academic progress.
- Register with the Selective Service System, if required.

FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAM
FLORIDA GUARANTY AGENCY VOLUMES

Loan Type	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Subsidized Count	91,862	81,639	62,696	84,771	80,510
Subsidized Volume	$284,783,659	$260,599,912	$257,159,407	$302,983,814	$302,579,467
Unsubsidized Count	66,104	60,286	44,215	60,537	72,129
Unsubsidized Volume	$233,135,773	$227,158,183	$215,531,285	$245,525,616	$316,867,609
PLUS Count	4,800	4,680	4,478	4,750	3,958
PLUS Volume	$34,419,073	$36,404,597	$49,090,018	$40,719,762	$37,468,939
Grad PLUS Count	NA	NA	482	1,607	2,384
Grad PLUS Volume	NA	NA	$6,436,362	$15,478,077	$30,287,620
Consolidated Count	39,251	26,266	4,014	2,489	0
Consolidated Volume	$757,831,587	$551,516,290	$92,247,936	$27,858,383	$0
Total Count	**202,017**	**172,871**	**115,885**	**154,154**	**158,981**
Total Volume	**$1,310,170,091**	**$1,075,678,982**	**$620,465,008**	**$632,565,652**	**$687,203,635**

Note: No Grad Plus Count and Grad Plus Volume prior to 2006-07.

OSFA OUTREACH

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE), Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) Outreach Team assists assigned postsecondary educational institutions (and other program participants), located within a defined geographical area of Florida, with communications and operations related to student financial aid. The Outreach Team represents the Federal Family Education Loan Program and Florida state scholarship and grant programs.

During the 2008-09 fiscal year, the Outreach Team made nearly 70,000 contacts to assigned Florida postsecondary educational institutions, which contributed to a 14 percent increase in OSFA's loan guarantee volume.

Each of the eight Outreach Representatives serves as a point of contact among individual institutions (and other program participants) in their area. The Outreach Team is responsible for:

- Conducting on-site visits and evaluations of postsecondary institution's financial aid programs.
- Providing technical assistance and services to support financial aid volume.
- Providing training and educational assistance regarding:
  - Florida's scholarship and grant programs.
  - National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM) program.
  - Default prevention and default aversion.
  - Financial literacy.

The OSFA Outreach Team features **"Navigating Your Financial Future" (NyFF)**, a comprehensive default prevention program. Utilized as an educational tool, NyFF offers comprehensive services and educational resources for students so they can learn to manage student loan debt successfully. View NyFF online at http://www.navigatingyourfinancialfuture.org/.

OSFA outreach activities also include the **NT4CM**, a free annual training program launched in the fall of 2007, designed to provide counselors and mentors throughout the United States with information and materials that will help them more effectively advise students and their families about how to prepare financially for college. NT4CM was developed by Federal Student Aid, National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, and National Council of Higher Education Loan Programs. The program expanded its partnership to include the National Association for College Admission Counseling and American School Counselor Association.

NT4CM recognizes that counselors and mentors are essential to delivering critical financial aid information to students—information that can often make the difference in a student's ability to attend college. The one-day training sessions provide attendees with comprehensive up-to-date information, materials, and resources regarding federal and state student aid programs.

Program participants have valuable opportunities to network and share knowledge and experiences with other counselors and mentors. Attendees completing the program receive a National Training for Counselors and Mentors Certificate of Completion at the program's conclusion.

The FDOE, OSFA initially provided NT4CM seminars during the 2007-08 academic year. In 2008-09, its second year, OSFA provided training to counselors and mentors at 15 locations throughout Florida.

STATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS
Need-Based Programs

Florida Student Assistance Grant Programs (Public, Private, Postsecondary, and Public Career Education)

Florida Work Experience Program

Rosewood Family Scholarship Program

José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund

Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program

Florida Education Fund

Florida Prepaid College Foundation

First Generation Matching Grant Program

FLORIDA STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAMS

Sections 1009.50, .505, .51, .52, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rules 6A-20.031, .032, .033, Florida Administrative Code

The Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG) Program, created in 1972, is Florida's largest need-based grant program. The FSAG Program consists of four separately funded student financial aid programs (FSAG Public; FSAG Private; FSAG Postsecondary; and FSAG Public Career Education, established by the 2007 Florida Legislature) available to degree- and certificate-seeking, undergraduate Florida residents who demonstrate substantial financial need and are enrolled in participating postsecondary institutions. All FSAG sectors include additional funding from the federal Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Program (LEAP), the Special Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Program (SLEAP), and/or the College Access Challenge Grant (CACG).

The FSAG public, private, and postsecondary grants are available to students who attend Florida public state universities, public community colleges, and eligible private postsecondary institutions. The Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant (FSAG-CE), new in 2007-08, is available to students who attend participating community colleges or career centers operated by district school boards.

The FSAG is administered as a decentralized program, which means that each participating institution determines application deadlines, student eligibility, and award amounts. Eligibility criteria and award amounts are regulated by Florida Statutes and the General Appropriations Act.

Award Level

- The FSAG annual award, set in the General Appropriations Act, ranges from a minimum of $200 to a maximum of $1,916, as determined by the institutions based upon their funding allocation and a student's need.
- The FSAG, in combination with other financial aid, may not exceed the student's demonstrated financial need. Financial need is determined by the institutional cost of attendance, less the Expected Family Contribution as determined by the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA), and less aid from other sources such as federal grants, state grants, and institutional aid (not including loans).

Cost of Attendance
- Expected Family Contribution
- Other aid (excluding loans)
= Unmet financial need

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen while meeting Florida's residency requirement for receipt of state student financial aid. A student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Not have previously received a bachelor's degree.
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid.
- Enroll for a minimum of:
  - 6 credit hours per term, or the equivalent, in an associate or baccalaureate degree program at Florida public state universities or public community colleges to participate in the FSAG Public program.
  - 180 clock hours per term (or equivalent of 6 semester credits) at an eligible community college or eligible career center to participate in FSAG-CE.
  - 12 credit hours per term, or the equivalent, in an associate or baccalaureate degree program, at an eligible institution to participate in the FSAG Private or FSAG Postsecondary programs.
- Demonstrate financial need by completing the FAFSA by the deadline specified by the institution. For the FSAG-CE, a Pell Grant entitlement shall be considered when conducting an assessment of the financial resources available to each student; however, a Pell Grant entitlement shall not be required as a condition of receiving a grant under this section.

FLORIDA STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAMS

NUMBER OF STUDENTS BY SECTOR

Year	Public	Career Education	Private	Postsecondary	Total
2004-05	72,169		11,896	10,745	94,810
2005-06	78,237		11,974	10,037	100,248
2006-07	91,679		12,589	11,580	115,848
2007-08	84,792	3,495	12,939	12,386	113,612
2008-09	83,572	3,718	12,106	13,010	112,406

EXPENDITURES BY SECTOR

Year	Public	Career Education	Private	Post-Secondary	Total*	Average Award**	Max Award
2004-05	$ 73,080,034		$11,822,267	$ 8,052,155	$ 92,954,456	$ 918	$1,592
2005-06	$ 80,063,693		$12,671,313	$ 8,292,527	$101,027,533	$1,008	$1,672
2006-07	$ 95,706,787		$15,553,826	$10,156,722	$121,417,335	$1,048	$1,722
2007-08	$102,292,086	$2,144,863	$16,448,032	$11,307,987	$132,192,968	$1,164	$1,808
2008-09	$102,000,743	$2,212,723	$16,388,558	$11,310,483	$131,912,507	$1,010	$1,916

*Total expenditures include federal LEAP, SLEAP and CACG dollars.
**This number represents the full-time equivalent average award.

APPROPRIATIONS BY SECTOR

Year	Public	Career Education	Private	Postsecondary	Total
2004-05	$ 71,029,783		$11,612,529	$ 7,963,317	$ 90,605,629
2005-06	$ 79,303,560		$12,618,522	$ 6,935,900	$ 98,857,982
2006-07	$ 94,721,079		$15,304,805	$10,484,394	$120,510,278
2007-08	$100,705,360	$2,200,000	$16,223,185	$11,308,644	$130,437,189
2008-09	$ 98,546,590	$2,152,840	$15,875,417	$11,066,226	$127,641,073

FLORIDA WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Section 1009.77, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.038, Florida Administrative Code

The Florida Work Experience Program (FWEP), created in 1993, is a self-help, need-based student financial assistance program intended to facilitate student employment in occupations complementary to students' educational endeavors and career goals. The 2007 Florida Legislature expanded FWEP to serve students at postsecondary institutions by providing more on-campus employment opportunities, helping to keep students in school and reduce their school loans.

FWEP is offered at participating Florida colleges, universities, community colleges, career centers operated by a district school boards, and educator preparation institutes. FWEP is administered as a decentralized program, and each participating institution determines application deadlines, student eligibility, and award amounts. Student and institutional eligibility criteria and appropriations are regulated by Florida Statutes and the General Appropriations Act.

Award Level

- Each student's maximum award is based on his/her level of need, not to exceed the cost of attendance, and is determined by the institution.
- Institutions may use up to 100 percent of their program allocation for student on-campus employment. Public school employers are funded 100 percent of the students' wages, and private employers are funded up to 70 percent of the students' wages.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen while meeting Florida's residency requirement for receipt of state student financial aid. A student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Not have previously received a baccalaureate degree (unless enrolled in an eligible educator preparation institute).
- Enroll for a minimum of six credit hours per term in an associate or baccalaureate degree program at an eligible college or university currently participating in FWEP; enroll no less than half-time in a career certificate program consisting of no less than 450 clock hours of instruction at an eligible career center; or enroll as no less than a half-time student in good standing at an eligible educator preparation institute.
- Maintain the equivalent of a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Demonstrate financial need by completing the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* by the deadline specified by the institution.

FLORIDA WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds*	Appropriations
2004-05	464	$2,245	$1,041,851	$1,069,922
2005-06	339	$2,388	$ 809,560	$1,069,922
2006-07	298	$2,498	$ 744,516	$1,069,922
2007-08	763	$1,971	$1,504,214	$1,569,922
2008-09	767	$1,848	$1,417,714	$1,569,922

*Expenditures do not include administrative fees (up to 10% of allocation amount) as allowed in Florida Statutes.

ROSEWOOD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Section 1009.55, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.027, Florida Administrative Code

The Rosewood Family Scholarship Program was created in 1994 to fund direct descendants of Rosewood families affected by the incidents of January 1923. This need-based program provides student financial assistance for eligible degree- or certificate-seeking students who attend public state universities, public community colleges, or public postsecondary career centers.

Award Level

- Annual awards are set by Florida Statutes and are based on the cost of matriculation and registration fees at a Florida public postsecondary institution not to exceed $4,000.
- Florida Statute limits the annual number of scholarships to 25. Students awarded are funded for 100 percent tuition and fees at their individual public postsecondary institutions.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen. A student's citizenship status is determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Not have previously received a bachelor's degree.
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid.
- Enroll full-time at an eligible postsecondary institution in a program of study leading to an undergraduate degree, a certificate, or a diploma.
- Complete and submit the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* online in time to be processed error-free by the United States Department of Education on or before May 15.
- Submit a completed *Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application* online by April 1.
- If applying as a direct descendant, provide copies of documents of ancestry to the Office of Student Financial Assistance by April 1.
- Be a minority belonging to one of the following race or ethnic categories: Black (not of Hispanic origin), Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander, American Indian, or Alaskan native.

ROSEWOOD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Year	Students Funded*	Descendants Funded	Average Award	Maximum Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2004-05	27	11	$2,543	$4,000	$76,296	$100,000
2005-06	19	10	$2,965	$4,000	$56,338	$100,000
2006-07	21	16	$2,852	$4,000	$59,899	$100,000
2007-08	21	12	$2,534	$4,000	$53,207	$ 90,000**
2008-09	22	22	$2,407	$4,000	$52,949	$ 60,000**

*Unduplicated student head count – not all students accept full-year awards.
** Reflects final appropriations after budget reductions.

JOSÉ MARTÍ SCHOLARSHIP CHALLENGE GRANT FUND

Section 1009.72, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.023, Florida Administrative Code

The José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund, created in 1986, assists Florida's Hispanic-American high school graduates with financial need and rewards them for their academic achievement. Applicants are ranked first according to their financial need and then by grade point average. Applicants for undergraduate study must apply during their senior year of high school. Graduate-level students may apply, but priority for the scholarships is given to graduating high school seniors.

José Martí is offered at Florida public state universities, public community colleges, and eligible accredited private postsecondary institutions. The number of new awards made each year is subject to contributions from private sources and funds appropriated by the Florida Legislature.

Award Level

- The annual award, set by Florida Statutes, is $2,000.
- Scholarships are funded by private and state contributions. For every $2,500 raised in private funds, the state provides $5,000.
- The balance of each year's appropriation is held in reserve in the State Student Financial Aid Trust Fund to provide the subsequent year's funds for each renewing scholarship recipient.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen while meeting Florida's residency requirement for receipt of state student financial aid. A student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid.
- Enroll as a degree-seeking student at an eligible postsecondary institution and enroll each academic term for a minimum of 12 credit hours for undergraduate study or 9 credit hours for graduate study.
- Demonstrate sufficient financial need to receive a full $2,000 scholarship by completing and submitting the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* in time to be processed error-free by the United States Department of Education on or before May 15.
- Submit a completed *Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application* during the last year in high school or, for graduate study, by April 1 prior to the year of graduate study.
- Be of Spanish culture, born in or having a natural parent who was born in Mexico, a Hispanic country of the Caribbean, or Central or South America, regardless of race.
- For initial eligibility, have earned, by the end of the seventh semester, a minimum, unweighted cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in high school for an undergraduate scholarship, or a 3.0 institutional cumulative GPA for undergraduate college work if applying for a graduate-level scholarship.

JOSE MARTI SCHOLARSHIP CHALLENGE GRANT FUND

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Maximum Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2004-05	58	$1,914	$2,000	$111,000	$296,000
2005-06	62	$1,806	$2,000	$112,000	$296,000
2006-07	55	$1,909	$2,000	$105,000	$296,000
2007-08	56	$1,964	$2,000	$110,000	$276,267*
2008-09	50	$1,880	$2,000	$ 94,000	$170,939*

* Reflects final appropriations after budget reductions.

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Section 1009.73, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.029, Florida Administrative Code

The Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program, created in 1989, provides financial assistance to undergraduate students who meet specific scholastic requirements and demonstrate financial need.

Students must attend one of the four Florida historically black colleges and universities: Bethune-Cookman University, Edward Waters College, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, or Florida Memorial University. The program is administered as a decentralized program, which means that each participating institution determines application deadlines, student eligibility, and award amounts. Available funds are contingent upon matching contributions from private sources on behalf of eligible institutions. The number of new awards made each year is subject to institutional contributions from private sources and funds appropriated by the Florida Legislature.

Award Level

- Annual awards of $3,000 as set by Florida Statutes are comprised of $1,000 in private funds and $2,000 in matching state funds.
- Participating institutions may choose to prorate awards in order to accommodate all eligible students.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen while meeting Florida's residency requirement for receipt of state student financial aid. A student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Not have previously received a bachelor's degree.
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid.
- Enroll at Bethune-Cookman University, Edward Waters College, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, or Florida Memorial University as a degree-seeking, undergraduate student for a minimum of 12 credit hours per term.
- Demonstrate financial need by completing the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* by the deadline specified by the institution.
- Apply through financial aid offices at one of the four participating institutions where the student plans to attend.
- Have earned a minimum, unweighted cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent, for high school subjects credited toward a diploma.

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Maximum Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2004-05	262	$2,576	$3,000	$675,000	$679,328
2005-06	268	$2,530	$3,000	$678,000	$679,328
2006-07	246	$2,756	$3,000	$678,000	$679,328
2007-08	242	$2,777	$3,000	$672,000	$678,000*
2008-09	241	$2,751	$3,000	$663,000	$664,453

* Reflects final appropriations after budget reductions.

FLORIDA EDUCATION FUND

Section 1009.70, Florida Statutes
www.fefonline.org/

- The Florida Education Fund (FEF), established in 1984, is appropriated $1,987,181 for 2009-10, through the Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance.

- The Fund is a not-for-profit statutory corporation whose mission is to strengthen the larger community by creating and implementing programs and services that lead to institutional enhancements and greater advancement for historically under-represented groups. The impact of these programs has been demonstrated across various educational levels through three highly acclaimed programs:

  - **McKnight Doctoral Fellowship** - Established in 1984, the McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Program has increased the number of African Americans and Hispanics awarded the Ph.D., particularly in the Arts and Sciences, Mathematics, Business, and Engineering - disciplines in which minorities have historically been underrepresented. Since 1984, 693 Fellowships have been awarded to African Americans and Hispanics pursuing the Ph.D. degree and the program enjoys an impressive 85 percent retention rate. Of this number, over 275 Fellows have graduated with the Ph.D. degree, with an average completion rate of five years and six months. The program continues to fund up to 50 Fellowships each year for students pursuing a doctoral degree at one of the nine participating institutions in Florida, which are Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Institute of Technology, Florida International University, Florida State University, University of Central Florida, University of Florida, University of Miami, and University of South Florida. Each Fellowship consists of $17,000 per year in tuition, fees, and stipend. All application materials must be submitted online and/or postmarked by January 15 of each year.

  - **Centers of Excellence** - Established in 1985, the Centers of Excellence (Centers) are community-based initiatives that identify and motivate disadvantaged minority elementary and secondary students. The Centers' mission includes: a) assuming a more proactive stance in the education of youth; b) employing the development of a group achievement model for disadvantaged elementary and secondary students; and c) increasing the pool of students who are prepared, motivated, and qualified to enter higher education. Ten Centers operate throughout the State of Florida and each subscribes to individual and group motivation, academic skill development, cultural enrichment, career awareness, and increased exposure to higher education. The following represent association programs established by the FEF:

    - **Academic Enrichment Centers** - Developed in communities to supplement student learning experiences through tutoring and standardized test preparation.

    - **National Achievers Society** - Designed to identify and acknowledge high achieving disadvantaged students.

    - **The Brain Bowl** - Designed to improve academic skills outside traditional classrooms through local and statewide competitions in mathematics, history and culture, word definition, and writing. More than 13,250 students have participated as team members in the Annual Brain Bowl Competition.

    - **African American Churches** - Intended to encourage and promote the church as an integral and primary resource in a significant portion of Center activities.

FLORIDA PREPAID COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Section 1009.984, Florida Statutes
www.floridaprepaidcollegefoundation.com/

- The Florida Prepaid College Foundation was created in 1989 as the direct support organization of the Florida Prepaid College Board. It has presented more than 27,509 scholarships, of which more than 21,110 are Project STARS Scholarships. In addition, 6,399 scholarships have been purchased for other programs, including the Fallen Soldier Scholarship program, the annual Black History Month Scholarship program, the annual Hispanic Heritage Scholarship program, the annual Lawton Chiles Scholarship award, the annual Governor's Recognition Scholarship program, the Work and Gain Economic Self-Sufficiency Scholarship initiative, and the Department of Education 67 School Districts Scholarship Program.

  The Foundation provides businesses, community groups, and individuals the opportunity to fund tax-deductible college scholarships for Florida children. The donor may select the student and establish the scholarship criteria, subject to Foundation approval.

- The 2008 Florida Legislature appropriated $5,617,240 to the Florida Prepaid Foundation received via the Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance budget for administration by the Foundation. Pledges received from donors were $10.1 million.

- To fund these scholarships, the Foundation receives an annual appropriation from the Florida Legislature and funding from community partners including other foundations, school districts, businesses, organizations, and individuals. The Foundation may provide matching funds or the partner may underwrite the entire scholarship. Contributions to the Foundation may be tax-deductible.

- The Stanley Tate Project STARS Scholarship Program – Scholarship Tuition for At-Risk Students, the Foundation's most notable project, is a program for children from low-income families who are at risk of dropping out of school. Many of these children are the first in their families to have the opportunity to attend college. Students must maintain satisfactory academic progress and remain drug- and crime-free to receive a prepaid scholarship upon high school graduation. Over 84 percent of all participating students meet the Stanley Tate Project STARS Scholarship Program requirements and plan to go to college. Fifty-three percent of the beneficiaries are from single-parent homes. Fifty-five percent are minority students (33 percent are African American, 16 percent are Hispanic, 3 percent are Asian/Pacific, and 3 percent are other nationalities). During the 2008-09 academic year, 37.5 percent of the students who received funding were male and 62.5 percent were female.

FIRST GENERATION MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

Section 1009.701, Florida Statutes

The First Generation Matching Grant Program (FGMG), created in 2006, provides need-based grants to degree-seeking, undergraduate Florida residents whose parents have not earned baccalaureate degrees. Available state funds are contingent upon matching contributions from private sources on a dollar-for-dollar basis at Florida's 11 state universities and 28 community colleges. FGMG is administered as a decentralized program, which means that each participating institution determines application deadlines, student eligibility, and award amounts. Eligibility criteria and award amounts are regulated by Florida Statutes and the General Appropriations Act.

Award Level

- Each student's maximum award is based on his/her need assessment, not to exceed the cost of attendance, and is determined by the institution.
- The average annual award is $1,452.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen while meeting Florida's residency requirement for receipt of state student financial aid. A student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Not have previously received a bachelor's degree.
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid.
- Be a first generation college student. A student is considered "first generation" if neither of the student's parents earned a college degree at the baccalaureate level or higher. A student would also be eligible if he/she regularly resided with and received support from only one parent who did not earn a baccalaureate degree.
- Be accepted at a Florida public state university or community college.
- Enroll for a minimum of six credit hours per term as a degree-seeking student.
- Meet additional eligibility requirements as established by the institution.
- Demonstrate financial need by completing the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* by the deadline specified by the institution.

FIRST GENERATION MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2006-07	7,508	$1,607	$12,068,779	$6,500,000
2007-08	11,754	$1,403	$16,489,908	$8,245,000*
2008-09	10,987	$1,452	$15,947,787	$7,997,650

* Reflects final appropriations after budget reductions.

STATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS
Merit-Based Programs

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

FLORIDA BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Sections 1009.53 - .538, Florida Statutes

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, created in 1997 and funded by the Florida Lottery, is a merit-based program that rewards Florida high school students for their high academic achievement and encourages them to continue their postsecondary education at an eligible Florida institution. Eligible participating institutions include Florida public state universities, public community colleges, public career centers, and eligible private postsecondary institutions.

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program was amended during the 2008 Florida Legislative Session. These changes became effective July 1, 2008:

- Appropriated funding provides for tuition and approved fees (excluding the tuition differential at eligible state universities) for each award level at a public postsecondary institution.
- The Florida Legislature annually determines the amount of the Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) award college-related expense allotment ($375 to be divided equally between terms).
- Technology fee is prohibited from being included in any award under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program at Florida Community Colleges (beginning the 2009-10 academic year).

Award Level

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program consists of three award categories: FAS award, Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) award, and Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) award.

- FAS award recipients receive 100 percent of the cost of tuition and allowable fees plus the specified amount established by the Florida Legislature in the General Appropriations Act provided for college-related expenses (excluding summer term) prorated by term and hours. The highest ranked FAS initial recipient from each district receives an additional $1,500 per year (prorated by term) as the Academic Top Scholar.
- FMS award recipients attending Florida public community colleges receive 100 percent of the cost of tuition and allowable fees for college level courses leading to an associate degree (excluding summer term). FMS recipients attending other Florida public postsecondary institutions receive 75 percent of the cost of tuition and allowable fees (excluding summer term).
- GSV award recipients receive 75 percent of the cost of tuition and allowable fees at Florida public postsecondary institutions (excluding summer term).

Bright Futures award recipients attending private institutions receive fixed award amounts based on the average tuition and allowable fees at comparable Florida public institutions (excluding summer term). These amounts are based on 100 percent of this average for FAS scholars and 75 percent of this average for FMS and GSV scholars, prorated by terms and hours.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen while meeting Florida's residency requirement for receipt of state student financial aid. A student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Not have previously received a bachelor's degree.
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid.
- Enroll in at least 6 semester credit hours, or the equivalent, in an undergraduate degree or certificate program at an eligible Florida public or private postsecondary educational institution.
- Submit a completed *Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application* during the student's last year of high school (after December 1 and prior to graduation).
- Not have been found guilty of, or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a felony charge, unless the student has been granted clemency by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Executive Office of Clemency.
- Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its equivalent. See the Bright Futures Web site at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/ for information regarding students completing a Home Education Program, students earning a diploma via the GED exam, or students who are dependents of persons on military or public service assignment outside of Florida.
- Receive the first disbursement within three years of high school graduation, or apply for reinstatement within three years of graduation and receive funding the subsequent year. Students in the military may view the Web site at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/reinstatepg.htm for information regarding reinstatement procedures.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR 2009 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Florida Academic Scholars Award (FAS)	Florida Medallion Scholars Award (FMS)	Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award (GSV)
Standard Florida high school diploma with:	Standard Florida high school diploma with:	Standard Florida high school diploma with:
3.5 weighted GPA using the credits listed below combined with the test scores and community service hours listed below (Note: GPAs are not rounded.)	3.0 weighted GPA using the credits listed below combined with the test scores listed below (Note: GPAs are not rounded.)	3.0 weighted GPA using the 15.5 credits listed below for a 4-year diploma, and a 3.5 unweighted GPA in a minimum of 3 vocational credits in one vocational program, and test scores listed below (See "*Other Ways to Qualify"* for 3-year graduation options) (Note: GPAs are not rounded.)
Courses must include 15 credits of college preparatory academic courses. 4 English (3 with substantial writing) 3 Mathematics (Algebra I and above) 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab) 3 Social Science 2 Foreign Language (in the same language) 15 Credits May use up to 3 additional credits from courses in the academic areas listed above as well as AP, IB, or AICE fine arts courses to raise the GPA	Courses must include 15 credits of college preparatory academic courses. 4 English (3 with substantial writing) 3 Mathematics (Algebra I and above) 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab) 3 Social Science 2 Foreign Language (in the same language) 15 Credits May use up to 3 additional credits from courses in the academic areas listed above as well as AP, IB, or AICE fine arts courses to raise the GPA	4-year diploma: Credits must include 15.5 core credits required for high school graduation. 4 English 3 Mathematics (including Algebra I) 3 Natural Science 3 Social Science (Amer. Hist., World Hist., Amer. Govt. and Economics) 1 Practical Arts OR 1 Performing Arts OR .5 credit in each .5 Life Management Skills .5 Personal Fitness .5 Physical Education 15 .5 Credits Plus a minimum of 3 Vocational Job-Preparatory or Technology Education Program credits in one vocational program (See "Other Ways to Qualify" for 3 year graduation options)
75 hours of community service	No community service requirement	No community service requirement
Best composite score of 1270 SAT Reasoning Test (based on the combined Critical Reading and Math sections only) or 28 ACT (excluding the writing section) NOTE: The new writing sections for both the SAT and ACT will not be used in the composite. SAT Subject Tests are not used for Bright Futures eligibility. (ACT scores are rounded up for scores with 0.5 and higher; SAT scores do not require rounding.)	Best composite score of 970 SAT Reasoning Test (based on the combined Critical Reading and Math sections only) or 20 ACT (excluding the writing section) NOTE: The new writing sections for both the SAT and ACT will not be used in the composite SAT Subject Tests are not used for Bright Futures eligibility (ACT scores are rounded up for scores with 0.5 and higher; SAT scores do not require rounding.)	Students must earn the minimum score on each subsection of the CPT or SAT or ACT. Subsections of different test types may not be combined. CPT: Reading 83 Sentence Skills 83 Algebra 72 or SAT Reasoning Test: Critical Reading 440 Math 440 or ACT: English 17 Reading 18 Math 19

OTHER WAYS TO QUALIFY FOR A BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP
2009 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Florida Academic Scholars Award (FAS)	Florida Medallion Scholars Award (FMS)	Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award (GSV)

To qualify under the methods listed below, students must also meet the community service hours requirement.
• National Merit or Achievement Scholars and Finalists
• National Hispanic Scholars
• IB Diploma Recipients (based on exams taken prior to high school graduation)
• Students who have completed the IB Curriculum with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT
• AICE Diploma Recipients (based on exams taken prior to high school graduation)
• Students who have completed the AICE Curriculum with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT
• Students who have attended a home education program according to s. 1002.41, F.S., registered with the district during grades 11 and 12, with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT
• GED with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT and a 3.5 weighted GPA in the 15 required college preparatory credits
• 3-year standard college preparatory program with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT and a 3.5 weighted GPA in the 15 required college credits
	• National Merit or Achievement Scholars and Finalists and National Hispanic Scholars who have not completed 75 hours of community service
	• Students who have completed the IB Curriculum with best composite score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT
	• AICE Diploma Recipients who have not completed 75 hours of community service
	• Students who have completed the AICE Curriculum with best composite score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT
	• Students who have attended a home education program according to s. 1002.41, F.S., registered with the district during grades 11 and 12, with best composite score of 1070 SAT or 23 ACT
	  • Have a best combined score of 1070 SAT or 23 ACT
	OR
	  • Have a combined score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT with a weighted 3.0 GPA in the above 15 required credits (documented through Florida public, FDOE-registered private, FLVS or dual enrollment transcripts)
	• GED with best composite score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT and a 3.0 weighted GPA in the 15 required college preparatory credits
	• 3-year standard college preparatory program with best composite score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT and a 3.0 weighted GPA in the 15 required college credits
		The other ways to qualify listed below must also include a 3.5 unweighted GPA in a minimum of 3 vocational credits in one vocational program and minimum test scores listed on the previous page.
		• **3-year Career Preparatory diploma** with 3.0 weighted GPA using the 13 core credits required for graduation listed below
		4 English (3 with substantial writing)
		3 Mathematics (including Algebra I)
		3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
		3 Social Science (Am. Hist., World Hist., Am. Govt., and Economics)
		13 Credits
		• **3-year College Preparatory diploma** with 3.0 weighted GPA using the 15 core credits required for graduation listed below
		4 English (3 with substantial writing)
		3 Mathematics (Algebra I and above)
		3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
		3 Social Science (Am. Hist., World Hist., Am. Govt., and Economics)
		2 Foreign Language (in same language)
		15 Credits
		• **GED** with 3.0 weighted GPA using the core credits required for your selected high school graduation option (standard, career, or college)

Note: For other diploma options established by legislative sessions, visit www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/acadrequire.htm		

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Programs	Disbursed Academic Top Scholars (ATS)	Disbursed FL Academic Scholars (FAS)	Disbursed FL Medallion Scholars (FMS)	Disbursed FL Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV)	Total Funded*	Total Eligible
Initial Recipients						
1997-98	39	7,011	9,861	6,838	23,710	30,701
1998-99	64	7,453	15,576	2,314	25,343	32,048
1999-00	66	7,926	18,201	2,402	28,529	35,614
2000-01	63	6,031	24,184	2,040	32,255	39,729
2001-02	66	6,345	25,495	1,210	33,050	40,580
2002-03	65	7,064	28,447	1,323	36,834	43,040
2003-04	65	7,705	30,812	1,404	39,921	45,067
2004-05	65	8,560	32,967	1,467	42,994	50,965
2005-06	63	9,010	34,511	1,439	44,960	53,703
2006-07	66	9,302	36,451	1,463	47,216	55,993
2007-08	65	9,885	39,097	1,517	50,499	59,706
2008-09	**64**	**10,579**	**40,361**	**1,557**	**52,497**	**62,360**
Renewal Recipients						
1997-98**	161	11,608	3,174	3,827	18,609	24,090
1998-99	152	14,132	9,569	7,021	30,722	34,834
1999-00	170	16,348	22,221	3,907	42,476	45,188
2000-01	179	18,443	34,296	2,062	54,801	57,405
2001-02	195	18,390	45,078	1,776	65,244	76,411
2002-03	185	18,055	53,676	1,303	73,034	84,177
2003-04	188	18,091	61,430	1,195	80,716	96,434
2004-05	177	18,912	67,543	1,148	87,603	103,210
2005-06	185	20,690	73,039	1,360	95,089	115,711
2006-07	184	22,262	79,114	39	101,415	122,087
2007-08	187	23,730	84,852	89	108,671	130,581
2008-09	**184**	**25,150**	**91,640**	**79**	**116,869**	**140,109**
Total Recipients						
1997-98	200	18,619	13,035	10,665	42,319	54,791
1998-99	216	21,585	25,145	9,335	56,065	66,882
1999-00	236	24,274	40,422	6,309	71,005	80,802
2000-01	242	24,474	58,480	4,102	87,056	97,134
2001-02	261	24,735	70,573	2,986	98,294	116,991
2002-03	250	25,119	82,123	2,626	109,868	127,217
2003-04	253	25,796	92,242	2,599	120,637	141,501
2004-05	242	27,472	100,510	2,615	130,597	154,175
2005-06	248	29,700	107,550	2,799	140,049	169,414
2006-07	250	31,564	115,565	1,502	148,631	178,080
2007-08	252	33,615	123,949	1,606	159,170	190,287
2008-09	**248**	**35,729**	**132,001**	**1,636**	**169,366**	**202,469**
Total Disbursements						
1997-98	$289,874	$43,603,062	$15,242,245	$10,431,788	$69,566,969	
1998-99	$302,434	$51,827,637	$31,153,146	$10,049,353	$93,332,570	
1999-00	$356,993	$65,248,347	$58,656,888	$7,588,704	$131,850,932	
2000-01	$343,304	$68,799,621	$90,574,018	$5,052,404	$164,769,347	
2001-02	$366,737	$67,261,535	$103,792,891	$3,493,754	$174,914,917	
2002-03	$353,992	$71,230,105	$127,378,680	$3,242,029	$202,204,806	
2003-04	$355,678	$78,143,382	$153,278,582	$3,411,112	$235,188,754	
2004-05	$346,868	$88,671,209	$176,316,888	$3,609,404	$268,944,369	
2005-06	$351,556	$101,088,535	$200,827,204	$4,067,923	$306,335,218	
2006-07	$359,056	$111,272,240	$233,161,762	$2,221,381	$347,014,439	
2007-08	$363,183	$119,986,072	$257,098,737	$2,426,919	$379,874,911	
2008-09	**$358,495**	**$131,005,248**	**$294,988,826**	**$2,659,540**	**$429,012,109**	
Total number of awards since inception						**1,333,057**
Total funds expended for Bright Futures since inception						**$2,803,009,341**

* Disbursed ATS student counts are not included in the Total Disbursed column, as they are a subset of the disbursed FAS counts.

** 1997-98 Renewal recipients represent former Challenger Astronauts Memorial Award recipients, Florida Undergraduate Scholars Fund recipients, and Vocational Gold Seal Endorsement Scholarship recipients who were grandfathered into the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Programs, ATS, FAS, and GSV, respectively.

STATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS
Special Interest Programs

William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant

Access to Better Learning and Education Grant Program

Scholarships for Children & Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans & Servicemembers

Ethics in Business Scholarship Program

Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program

Florida Fund for Minority Teachers

Road-to-Independence Program

WILLIAM L. BOYD, IV, FLORIDA RESIDENT ACCESS GRANT

Section 1009.89, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.007, Florida Administrative Code

The William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG), created in 1979, provides tuition assistance to undergraduate students enrolled in degree programs at eligible independent, nonprofit colleges or universities in Florida. FRAG is not related to a student's financial need or other criteria upon which financial aid programs are based. The Florida Legislature considers higher education at independent institutions an integral part of Florida's higher education system, reducing the tax burden on the citizens of Florida; therefore, it is the intent of this program to award tuition assistance to offset private postsecondary tuition for citizens of Florida.

Eligible institutions include 28 independent, nonprofit Florida colleges and universities located in and chartered by the state, which have a secular purpose, grant baccalaureate degrees, and are accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

FRAG is administered as a decentralized program, which means that each participating institution determines application deadline, student eligibility, and award amounts. Eligibility criteria and award maximums are regulated by Florida Statutes and the General Appropriations Act.

Award Level

The maximum annual award amount is $2,837, established in the General Appropriations Act.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen while meeting Florida's residency requirement for receipt of state student financial aid. A student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Not have previously received a bachelor's degree.
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid.
- Enroll for a minimum of 12 credit hours or the equivalent per term at an eligible Florida college or university in a baccalaureate degree program.
- Meet the application procedures established by the participating institution. Application information may be obtained at the financial aid offices of eligible Florida colleges and universities.
- Not be enrolled in a program of study leading to a degree in theology or divinity.

WILLIAM L. BOYD, IV, FLORIDA RESIDENT ACCESS GRANT

Year	Students Funded	Average Award*	Maximum Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2004-05	35,502	$2,049	$2,369	$72,726,239	$ 79,841,350
2005-06	36,212	$2,462	$2,850	$89,142,191	$ 93,990,150
2006-07	36,295	$2,602	$3,000	$94,445,831	$102,603,148
2007-08	37,383	$2,600	$3,000	$97,180,262	$ 99,193,000**
2008-09	37,363	$2,468	$2,837	$92,206,345	$ 92,542,395**

*Average awards may be less than the maximum award due to student need or may be prorated to accommodate all eligible applicants.
**Reflects final appropriations after budget reductions.

ACCESS TO BETTER LEARNING AND EDUCATION GRANT

Section 1009.891, Florida Statutes

The Access to Better Learning and Education Grant Program (ABLE), created in 2004, provides tuition assistance to undergraduate students enrolled in degree programs at eligible independent Florida postsecondary institutions. ABLE is not related to a student's financial need or other criteria upon which financial aid programs are based. The Florida Legislature considers higher education at independent institutions an integral part of Florida's higher education system, reducing the tax burden on the citizens of Florida; therefore, it is the intent of this program to award tuition assistance to offset private postsecondary tuition for citizens of Florida. ABLE is administered as a decentralized program, which means that each participating institution determines application deadlines, student eligibility, and award amounts. Eligibility criteria and award maximums are regulated by Florida Statutes and the General Appropriations Act.

Beginning with third year funding and thereafter, postsecondary institutions meeting first or second year requirements may qualify as eligible institutions. During this fifth year of program funding, 13 postsecondary institutions qualify as ABLE eligible.

- The first year of eligibility (2004-05) requires institutions to meet the following criteria: be for-profit postsecondary institutions chartered by the state, offer baccalaureate degrees, have a secular purpose, not be a public state university or public community college, and be accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
- The second year of funding (2005-06) requires institutions to meet the following criteria: be not-for-profit, be located in Florida for 10 years or more, and be accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, or the New England Association of Colleges and Schools.

Award Level

The maximum annual award amount is $1,182, established in the General Appropriations Act.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen while meeting Florida's residency requirement for receipt of state student financial aid. A student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program and/or not be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Not have previously received a bachelor's degree.
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid.
- Enroll for a minimum of 12 credit hours or the equivalent per term at an eligible Florida college or university in a baccalaureate degree program.
- Meet the application procedures established by the participating institution. Application information may be obtained at the financial aid offices of eligible Florida colleges and universities.
- Not be enrolled in a program of study leading to a degree in theology or divinity.

ACCESS TO BETTER LEARNING AND EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

Year	Students Funded	Average Award*	Maximum Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2004-05	949	$1,100	$1,500	$1,043,750	$1,800,000
2005-06	2,686	$ 876	$1,156	$2,353,445	$3,600,000
2006-07	3,692	$ 926	$1,250	$3,417,366	$5,238,750
2007-08	4,445	$ 910	$1,250	$4,046,528	$4,151,250**
2008-09	5,120	$ 848	$1,182	$4,339,255	$4,339,592**

*Average awards may be less than the maximum award due to student need or may be prorated to accommodate all eligible applicants.

** Reflects final appropriations after budget reductions.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHILDREN & SPOUSES OF DECEASED OR DISABLED VETERANS & SERVICEMEMBERS

Section 295.01, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.019, Florida Administrative Code

The Scholarships for Children & Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans & Servicemembers (CSDDV) has been in effect since 1941. CSDDV provides scholarships for dependent children and unremarried spouses of Florida veterans or servicemembers who died as a result of service-connected injuries, diseases, or disabilities sustained while on active duty, or have been certified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs as having a service-connected 100 percent permanent and total disability, or have been classified as Prisoner of War/Missing in Action.

Eligible institutions include Florida public state universities, public community colleges, public career centers, and eligible private postsecondary institutions.

Award Level

The 2008-09 award amounts are equal to 100 percent of the cost of tuition and allowable fees at Florida public postsecondary institutions or equivalent flat award amounts for recipients attending private institutions.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

All eligible students (children or spouses) are required to: be United States citizens or eligible non-citizens while meeting Florida's residency requirements for receipt of state student financial aid (a student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution); not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made; not have previously received a bachelor's degree; meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid; enroll in at least six semester credit hours (or the equivalent) in an undergraduate degree or certificate program at an eligible Florida public or private postsecondary educational institution; and submit a completed *Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application* by April 1 for priority funding. Late awards may be made based upon the availability of funds.

In addition, children must be dependent children of qualified veterans or servicemembers whose official military and residency status is verified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (veteran parent must have been a Florida resident for one year immediately preceding time of death, determination of 100 percent disability, or prisoner of war/missing in action classification), and be between the ages of 16 and 22 when initially awarded.

Spouses of deceased servicemembers must be unremarried, have been, with the servicemember, a Florida resident for one year immediately preceding the servicemember's death, and have applied for the scholarship within five years after the servicemember's death.

Spouses of disabled servicemembers must have been married to the disabled servicemember for one or more years, have been, with the servicemember, a Florida resident for one year immediately preceding the occurrence of the servicemember's disability, and accept scholarship funding only for the duration of the marriage and up to the point of termination of the marriage by dissolution or annulment.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHILDREN & SPOUSES OF DECEASED OR DISABLED VETERANS & SERVICEMEMBERS

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2004-05	149	$2,105	$ 313,691	$ 333,250
2005-06	174	$2,319	$ 403,463*	$ 383,250
2006-07	307	$2,367	$ 726,785*	$ 557,723
2007-08	475	$2,392	$1,136,148*	$1,101,410
2008-09	695	$2,536	$1,762,248	$1,997,365

* Total expended funds include adjusted funds per Section 216.292, Florida Statutes.

ETHICS IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Section 1009.765, Florida Statutes

The Ethics in Business Scholarship Program was created by the 1997 Florida Legislature from funds received from a settlement as specified in the Consent Order of the Treasurer and Insurance Commissioner, Case Number 18900-96-c. A trust fund in the amount of $4,867,420 was created for the purpose of a scholarship. This program is decentralized and administered by the Florida Independent College Fund and the Foundation for Florida Community Colleges. The Office of Student Financial Assistance is responsible for funding and reporting.

This program provides assistance to undergraduate students who enroll in the 28 eligible private Florida postsecondary institutions that are eligible to participate in the William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant Program and the 28 Florida public community colleges.

Award Level

- This program is administered by the Florida Independent College Fund and the Foundation for Florida Community Colleges. One-third of the available funds is allocated to the Florida Independent College Fund and two-thirds is allocated to the Foundation for Florida Community Colleges. The foundations work with participating institutions to collect matching funds. The institutional foundations then distribute individual awards to students.
- The state appropriation is not fully expended. Funds allocated are based on the annual interest accrued from the principal the previous year and then distributed to the foundations, which is matched by institutions for student expenditures.
- Each sector sets its award level.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be enrolled at an eligible private Florida college or university or a Florida public community college.
- Contact the foundation office at the participating institution for complete program information.

ETHICS IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Year	Florida Independent College Fund				Foundation for Florida Community Colleges			
	Students	Average Award	Expenditures*	State Allocation	Students	Average Award	Expenditures*	State Allocation
2004-05	43	$2,149	$ 92,400	$48,774	125	$1,093	$136,602	$ 99,026
2005-06	40	$2,723	$108,920	$57,114	184	$ 878	$161,475	$115,959
2006-07	42	$2,600	$109,200	$57,533	137	$1,050	$143,909	$116,810
2007-08	51	$2,541	$129,600	$70,545	237	$ 948	$224,591	$143,227
2008-09	50	$2,484	$124,200	$65,026	328	$ 790	$259,154	$130,051

* Expenditures are a match of one dollar from the state for every one dollar of private matching funds, which may include unused prior year matching institutional foundation funds.

Year	Total Students	Total Expenditures	Appropriations
2004-05	168	$229,002	$500,000
2005-06	224	$270,395	$500,000
2006-07	179	$253,109	$500,000
2007-08	288	$354,191	$500,000
2008-09	378	$383,354	$500,000

ROBERT C. BYRD HONORS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A Federal Program Administered by the Florida Department of Education
Federal Regulation 34 CFR 654

The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program was first funded in 1987 by the United States Congress to provide scholarships to outstanding high school graduates, including public and private high school graduating seniors, state-certified home-schooled students, and General Educational Development (GED) recipients who show promise of continued academic achievement.

This highly competitive scholarship may be used at eligible public or private postsecondary institutions located in the United States, excluding United States military academies.

Award Level

The maximum annual award for Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholar is $1,500 as set in the United States Department of Education Grant Award Notification.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen while meeting Florida's residency requirement for receipt of state student financial aid. A student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution. Proof of Florida residency is required for students graduating outside of Florida.
- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant, or scholarship program, or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Submit a completed *Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application* by April 15.
- Be nominated by the Florida high school principal or designee, Florida adult education director, School District Superintendent or designee, or principal/headmaster of a school outside of Florida by May 15 of a student's graduation year from high school.
- Graduate from a Florida public or private secondary school, home school, or GED program.
- Be accepted at an eligible Florida or non-Florida public, or private postsecondary institution to pursue a course of study of at least one year in length.
- Be enrolled full-time.
- Not have been declared by a judge, as a condition of sentencing under Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, ineligible to receive federal assistance for the period of the scholarship.
- File a *Statement of Selective Service Registration Status* with the postsecondary institution the student plans to attend, if required by the school in accordance with the Student Assistance General Provisions regulations (34 CFR Part 668).

ROBERT C. BYRD HONORS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds	Federal Award Notice	Appropriations
2004-05	1,359	$1,455	$1,977,282	$2,130,000	$2,043,000
2005-06	1,411	$1,449	$2,044,064	$2,145,000	$2,145,000
2006-07	1,543	$1,445	$2,229,352*	$2,145,000	$2,145,000
2007-08	1,521	$1,445	$2,198,581**	$2,143,500	$2,391,530
2008-09	1,576	$1,460	$2,301,688**	$2,143,500	$2,391,530

*Total expended funds include adjusted funds per section 216.292, Florida Statutes.
**Total expended funds include approved federal carry forward program funds unexpended in the prior year.

FLORIDA FUND FOR MINORITY TEACHERS

Section 1009.60 Florida Statutes
www.ffmt.org

The Florida Fund for Minority Teachers, created in 1996, awards the Minority Teacher Education Scholarship to capable and promising minority college students (juniors and seniors) pursuing teaching careers in Florida's public school system. Recipients must be enrolled full-time in a state approved teacher education program, and upon graduation are required to teach one year in a Florida public school for each year they received the scholarship.

This program is decentralized and administered by a non-profit agency housed at the University of Florida's College of Education and governed by a Board of Directors comprised of higher education leaders throughout the state. The Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance receives the legislative appropriation for this program. The Web site at www.ffmt.org provides detailed information regarding this program.

Participating institutions include 11 public state universities, Florida's 3 public community colleges offering baccalaureate degrees in education, and 19 eligible private Florida postsecondary institutions.

Award Level

- The annual award amount set in Florida Statutes is $4,000.
- Students may be eligible to receive the scholarship for up to two consecutive years.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Meet Florida's residency requirement for receipt of state student financial aid. A student's citizenship status and residency status are determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Have earned 60 credit hours or an Associate of Arts degree.
- Have not earned a baccalaureate degree in education.
- Be classified as a junior and have not exceeded 18 hours of upper division education courses at the time of application.
- Have and maintain a minimum 2.5 grade point average.
- Be a member of one of the following racial groups: African American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, Asian American/Pacific Islander, or American Indian/Alaskan native.
- Be newly admitted into a teacher education program at any of the program's participating universities.

FLORIDA FUND FOR MINORITY TEACHERS

Year	Students Funded	Average Award Amount	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2004-05	596	$3,365	$2,005,464	$2,109,600
2005-06	581	$3,227	$1,874,700	$2,109,600
2006-07	589	$3,233	$1,903,941	$2,809,600
2007-08	689	$3,179	$2,190,000	$3,095,864*
2008-09	757	$3,258	$2,466,000	$3,002,988

* Reflects final appropriations after budget reductions.

ROAD-TO-INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM

Section 409.1451, Florida Statutes

The Road-to-Independence Program, created in October 2002, provides the use of state and federal funds to establish a continuum of independent living transition services for young adults formerly in the State of Florida's foster care system. The intent of this program is to provide funds to eligible students who are former foster children in Florida, to assist in educational and vocational training needed for them to achieve independence.

This program is funded by a budget appropriation from the Florida Department of Children and Families (FDCF). The FDCF is required to report awardees and expenditures to the Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance each year since inception in 2003-04.

Eligible institutions include Florida public state universities, public community colleges and career centers, and eligible Florida private colleges, universities, technical schools, high schools, and GED programs.

Award Level

The amount of the award is based on the living and educational needs of the young adult and may be up to, but cannot exceed the amount of, the earnings that the student would have been eligible to earn working 40 hours per week at a federal minimum wage job.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Apply through the Florida Department of Children and Families (FDCF) or its contracted service provider.
- Be 18 years of age, but not yet 21 years of age.
- Be a Florida resident per Section 1009.40, Florida Statutes. A student's residency status is determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Be a dependent child under Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- Be living in licensed foster care or in subsidized independent living at the time of his or her 18th birthday; or be currently living in licensed foster care or subsidized independent living; or, after reaching the age of 16, be adopted from foster care or placed with a court-approved dependency guardian and have spent a minimum of 6 months in foster care immediately preceding such placement or adoption..
- Be enrolled full-time in an eligible educational institution.
- Have spent at least 6 months living in foster care preceding his/her 18th birthday.

ROAD-TO-INDEPENDENCE SCHOLARSHIP

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds
2004-05	1,826	$6,722	$12,274,731
2005-06	2,145	$6,246	$13,397,987
2006-07	2,246	$6,225	$13,981,114
2007-08	2,560	$6,727	$17,220,990
2008-09	2,899	$7,877	$22,833,982

STATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS
Professional Programs

Critical Teacher Shortage Programs

Student Loan Forgiveness

Tuition Reimbursement

CRITICAL TEACHER SHORTAGE STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

Section 1009.59, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.013, Florida Administrative Code

The Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program, (created in 1983, provides financial assistance to eligible Florida teachers who hold a valid *Florida Teacher's Certificate* or *Florida Department of Health License* by helping them repay undergraduate and graduate educational loans that lead to certification in a statewide critical teacher shortage subject area. The Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness and Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Programs share the annual program appropriation of $2.5 million.

Certified teachers must provide transcripts showing the degree received and be certified in a statewide critical teacher shortage subject area.

Award Level

- Eligible teachers employed in Florida publicly-funded schools (K-12) may receive a maximum annual award of up to $2,500 to repay undergraduate educational loans or $5,000 to repay graduate educational loans, with a program maximum of $10,000 toward repayment of their educational loans.
- Individual teacher awards may be prorated based upon the number of eligible applicants and annual funding. Full-time teachers who taught at least 180 days during the 2007-08 academic year, had educational loans, and hold undergraduate degrees receive a prorated maximum of $443, 18 percent of the maximum award. Full-time teachers who taught at least 180 days during the 2007-08 academic year, had educational loans, and hold graduate degrees receive a prorated maximum of $886, 18 percent of the maximum award.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible teacher is required to meet the following criteria:

- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Be teaching full-time at a publicly-funded school while holding a valid *Florida Teacher's Certificate* (Temporary or Professional) or *Florida Department of Health License* (Temporary or Permanent) in a Critical Teacher Shortage (CTS) area issued by July 15 of the first year employed in the same critical teacher subject area.
- Not have received a scholarship loan under the Florida Teacher Scholarship & Forgivable Loan Program, the "Chappie" James Most Promising Teacher Scholarship Loan Program, the Critical Teacher Scholarship Loan Program, the Masters' Fellowship Loan Program for Teachers, or the Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship Program.
- Submit a completed *Initial Teacher Florida Financial Aid Application* (and all required documentation) to the Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance by July 15 of the first academic year certified in and teaching in the same CTS area.

CRITICAL TEACHER SHORTAGE STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

Year	Applicants Funded	Undergraduate Award		Graduate Award		Expended Funds
		Average	Prorated Max.	Average	Prorated Max.	
04-05	2,414	$532	$555	$1,029	$1,110	$1,681,220
05-06	3,027	$419	$440	$ 864	$ 880	$1,679,452
06-07	3,656	$482	$506	$1,002	$1,012	$2,349,136
07-08	4,020	$455	$475	$ 944	$ 950	$2,407,857
08-09	4,277	$420	$443	$ 850	$ 886	$2,410,366

CRITICAL TEACHER SHORTAGE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Section 1009.58, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.012, Florida Administrative Code

The Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program, created in 1983, provides financial support to publicly-funded school employees who hold a valid *Florida Teacher's Certificate* or *Florida Department of Health License* by assisting them in the partial reimbursement of tuition for undergraduate and graduate education courses that will lead to endorsement, certification, or an advanced degree in a statewide critical teacher shortage subject area. The Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement and Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Programs share the annual program appropriation of $2.5 million.

Award Level

- There exists a disparity between the average State University System cost per credit hour for undergraduate courses, the average for graduate courses, and the maximum allowable reimbursement rate of $78 per credit hour provided in Florida Statutes.
- Tuition reimbursement is available for up to 9 semester hours, or the equivalent per academic year, for a program maximum of 36 cumulative semester hours or the equivalent.
- Individual teacher awards may be prorated based upon the number of eligible applicants and annual funding. The prorated award is a maximum of $14 per semester hour, 18 percent of the maximum $78 per credit hour award.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible employee is required to meet the following criteria:

- Not owe a repayment under any state or federal grant or scholarship program or be in default on any federal Title IV or state student loan program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Be a full-time, publicly-funded school employee while holding a valid *Florida Teacher's Certificate* (Temporary or Professional) or *Florida Department of Health License* (Temporary or Permanent) issued by July 15 of the application year for relevant course work during the previous academic year (fall, winter/spring, summer).
- Be enrolled in a course(s) in a critical teacher shortage area that is:
  - State-approved undergraduate or graduate level course(s) taken for college credit leading to a master's, specialist, or doctoral degree at a grade level and in a subject area designated as a critical teacher shortage subject area; or
  - State-approved undergraduate or graduate level course(s) taken for college credit leading to certification or endorsement at a grade level and in a subject area designated as a critical teacher shortage subject area.
- Have passed an approved course(s) with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Not have received sufficient funds from other sources (such as the school district) to fully cover the cost of tuition for any course applied for through the program.
- Submit a completed *Initial Teacher Florida Financial Aid Application* (and all required documentation) to the Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance by September 15 for relevant course work during the previous academic year (fall, winter/spring, summer).

CRITICAL TEACHER SHORTAGE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Year	Applicants Funded	Average Award Amount	Prorated Award Per Credit Hour	Expended Funds
2004-05	569	$121	$17	$ 68,629
2005-06	709	$100	$14	$ 71,036
2006-07	937	$117	$16	$109,968
2007-08	850	$110	$15	$ 93,275
2008-09	701	$104	$14	$ 73,234

Florida Department of Education
Office of Student Financial Assistance
www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org
1-888-827-2004