



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONER 2019-20



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONER 2019-20

PREPARED BY THE
OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

**Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)
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State Scholarship and Grant Programs**

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2020

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA), presents the *2019-20 Annual Report to the Commissioner*, which provides information about state scholarship and grant programs funded by the Florida Legislature.

OSFA administers state-funded programs that increase access to postsecondary education for Florida's students. 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.

Highlights:

- Florida Bright Futures Academic Scholars (FAS) students received an award equal to 100 percent of tuition and applicable fees at a public institution, or a comparable amount at a nonpublic institution, and an additional \$300 per semester (fall and spring) for textbooks or other college-related expenses.
- Florida Bright Futures Medallion Scholars (FMS) students received an award equal to 75 percent of tuition and applicable fees at a public institution, or a comparable amount at a nonpublic institution.
- Benacquisto Scholarship recipients included 202 qualified out-of-state students.
- State scholarship and grants programs distributed more than a billion dollars (\$1,054,164,576) to 296,541 student scholars, averaging \$3,555 per recipient for the 2019-20 academic year.

2020 Legislative Session Changes:

- The 2020 Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 72, Higher Education, Chapter 2020-117, Laws of Florida. The bill revises a number of policies related to the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, the Florida Student Assistance Grant Program (FSAG) and the Benacquisto Scholarship Program. Specifically, the bill modifies the scholarship programs below as follows:
 - Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program:
 - Beginning in the fall 2021 semester, FMS students enrolled in an associate degree program at a Florida College System (FCS) institution will receive 100 percent of tuition and applicable fees. Upon completion of an associate degree, students may use the award to pursue a baccalaureate degree and receive 75 percent of tuition and applicable fees.
 - Relocates language from Florida Statutes to the General Appropriations Act with respect to the additional stipend for textbooks and college-related expenses for FAS students.
 - Florida Student Assistance Grant Program:
 - Relocates language from Florida Statutes to the General Appropriations Act with respect to the Maximum Annual Award Amount. For the 2020-21 academic year, the maximum annual award amount has increased to \$3,260.
 - Expands the eligible student population to students with one and one-half times the maximum Pell Grant-eligible family contribution to 8566 for the 2020-21 academic year.
 - Requires institutions to report all students eligible for a disbursement.
 - Allows priority funding for FSAG recipients who are within one semester from completing a degree or certificate.
 - Establishes reconciliation requirements for fall and spring term funding.

- Allows for summer funding.
 - Establishes specific audit requirements for each of the four FSAG programs.
- Benacquisto Scholarship Program:
 - Removes reference to obsolete “National Achievement Scholar” term.
 - Clarifies eligibility requirements for students seeking initial eligibility.
 - Specifies students must be enrolled full time to receive scholarship funding.
 - Allows eligible students to receive a final term disbursement if they have fewer than 12 credit hours remaining to complete their first baccalaureate degree.
 - Clarifies that a student’s renewal status will not be affected by subsequent changes in the student’s or the family’s residency status.
 - Provides additional scholarship length clarification by specifying students may receive the award for up to five years following high school graduation and may not receive the award for more than 10 semesters.
 - Adds language related to institutional appeals for students failing to meet the renewal requirements due to a verifiable illness or other documented emergency pursuant to section 1009.40(1)(b)4, Florida Statutes.

Should you have any questions or need additional program information, please call OSFA Customer Service at 888-827-2004, email OSFA@fldoe.org, visit our website at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsq.org, or write to our office:

Florida Department of Education
Office of Student Financial Assistance
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1314
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

2019-20 STATE PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS AND AWARD AMOUNTS

Program Title	2019-20 Annual Appropriations	2019-20 Annual Award Amounts
Need-Based Programs		
Florida Student Assistance Grant Program Total	\$269,396,012	\$2,610 maximum - \$200 minimum
Florida Work Experience Program	\$1,569,922	Determined by Financial Need
Merit-Based Programs		
Benacquisto Scholarship Program	\$21,372,911	Cost of Attendance (COA) minus the sum of Bright Futures and National Merit® award
Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Total	\$595,143,167	
Florida Academic Scholars Award		100% of tuition and applicable fees \$300 each fall and spring semester for textbooks and college-related expenses 2020 summer at 100% tuition and applicable fees
Academic Top Scholars Award		\$44 per credit hour
Florida Medallion Scholars Award		75% of tuition and applicable fees 2020 summer at 75% tuition and applicable fees
Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars Award		Career Certificate - \$39 Applied Technology Diploma - \$39 Technical Degree Education - \$48 Bachelor of Science Program - \$48 Bachelor Applied Science Program - \$48
Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award		Career Certificate - \$39 Applied Technology Diploma - \$39 Technical Degree Education - \$48
Tuition Assistance Grant Programs		
Access to Better Learning and Education Grant	\$4,946,181	Maximum amount of \$2,841
Effective Access to Student Education Grant Program	\$113,912,736	Maximum amount of \$2,841
Financial Assistance Programs		
First Generation Matching Grant Program	\$10,617,326	Determined by Financial Need up to COA
State Universities	\$7,962,994	
Florida Colleges	\$2,654,332	
Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program	\$500,000	Tuition and Fees at a Florida Public Institution
Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program	\$1,000,000	Determined by Financial Need
John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program	\$73,507	Up to \$10,000 per calendar year
José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Program	\$124,000	\$2,000
Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program	\$321,000	\$3,000
Minority Teacher Education Scholars Program	\$917,798	Up to \$4,000
Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program	\$1,233,006	Up to \$4,000
Rosewood Family Scholarship Program	\$256,747	Tuition and Fees up to \$6,100
Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans	\$7,675,534	Tuition and Fees

2020-21 STATE PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS AND AWARD AMOUNTS

Program Title	2020-21 Annual Appropriations	2020-21 Annual Award Amounts
Need-Based Programs		
Florida Student Assistance Grant Program Total	\$269,396,012	\$3,260 maximum - \$200 minimum
Florida Work Experience Program	\$1,569,922	Determined by Financial Need
Merit-Based Programs		
Benacquisto Scholarship Program	\$26,577,665	Cost of Attendance (COA) minus the sum of Bright Futures and National Merit® award
Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Total	\$651,776,770	
Florida Academic Scholars Award		100% of tuition and applicable fees \$300 each fall and spring semester for textbooks and college-related expenses 2021 summer at 100% tuition and applicable fees
Academic Top Scholars Award		\$44 per credit hour
Florida Medallion Scholars Award		75% of tuition and applicable fees 2021 summer at 75% tuition and applicable fees
Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars Award		Career Certificate - \$39 Applied Technology Diploma - \$39 Technical Degree Education - \$48 Bachelor of Science Program - \$48 Bachelor Applied Science Program - \$48
Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award		Career Certificate - \$39 Applied Technology Diploma - \$39 Technical Degree Education - \$48
Tuition Assistance Grant Programs		
Access to Better Learning and Education Grant	\$5,025,729	\$2,841
Effective Access to Student Education Grant Program	\$116,659,983	\$2,841
Financial Assistance Programs		
First Generation Matching Grant Program	\$10,617,326	Determined by Financial Need up to COA
State Universities	\$7,962,994	
Florida Colleges	\$2,654,332	
Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program	\$266,630	Tuition and Fees at a Florida Public Institution
Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program	\$1,000,000	Determined by Financial Need
John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program	\$75,155	Up to \$10,000 per calendar year
José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Program	\$124,000	\$2,000
Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program	\$321,000	\$3,000
Minority Teacher Education Scholars Program	\$917,798	Up to \$4,000
Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program	\$1,233,006	Up to \$4,000
Rosewood Family Scholarship Program	\$256,747	Tuition and Fees up to \$6,100
Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans	\$8,432,576	Tuition and Fees

2019-20



STATE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT PROGRAMS

Need-Based Programs

Florida Student Assistance Grant Program
Florida Work Experience Program

Merit-Based Programs

Benacquisto Scholarship Program
Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

Tuition Assistance Programs

Access to Better Learning and Education Grant
William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education Grant Program

2019-20



NEED-BASED PROGRAMS

Florida Student Assistance Grant Program
Public, Public Postsecondary Career Education,
Private and Postsecondary

Florida Work Experience Program

FLORIDA STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

Sections 1009.50 – 1009.52, 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 student financial aid programs:

- FSAG Public;
- FSAG Public Postsecondary Career Education;
- FSAG Private; and
- FSAG Postsecondary.

The FSAG Program is available to degree and certificate-seeking undergraduate Florida residents who demonstrate substantial financial need and are enrolled in participating postsecondary institutions.

Participating institutions evaluate 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 \$200 to \$2,610, as determined by the institutions based upon their funding allocations and a student's need.
- 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), less aid from other sources such as federal grants, state grants and institutional aid (not including loans).

<p>Cost of Attendance - Expected Family Contribution - <u>Other Aid (excluding loans)</u> = Unmet Financial Need</p>
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Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a Florida resident and a United States citizen, or eligible non-citizen, as determined by the student's 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;
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid;
- Enroll for a minimum of:
 - Six semester hours per term, or the equivalent, in an associate or baccalaureate degree program at a Florida public state university or Florida college to participate in the FSAG Public Program,
 - 180 clock hours per term (or equivalent of six semester credits) at an eligible, participating Florida college or career center to participate in FSAG Public Postsecondary Career Education, or

- 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; and
- Apply for a Pell Grant; 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*
2015-16	105,155	3,594	15,474	9,171	133,394
2016-17	95,143	3,485	16,100	7,780	122,508
2017-18	166,935	4,099	17,096	7,013	195,143
2018-19	156,301	4,305	16,338	6,281	183,225
2019-20	148,673	4,491	16,129	5,594	174,887

*Total may include duplicates across the four sectors.

Expenditures by Sector

Year	Public	Career Education	Private	Postsecondary	Total*	Average Award	Max Award
2015-16	\$115,390,176	\$2,460,346	\$18,507,040	\$10,573,989	\$146,931,551	\$1,101	\$2,610
2016-17	\$117,857,678	\$2,478,572	\$18,817,963	\$8,684,273	\$147,838,486	\$1,207	\$2,610
2017-18	\$234,005,505	\$2,921,493	\$24,794,485	\$7,731,860	\$269,453,343	\$1,381	\$2,610
2018-19	\$234,334,619	\$3,144,476	\$24,500,519	\$6,799,009	\$268,778,623	\$1,467	\$2,610
2019-20	\$235,323,784	\$3,150,251	\$24,999,556	\$6,134,695	\$269,608,286	\$1,542	\$2,610

*Total expended funds may include adjusted funds per s. 216.292, F.S.

Appropriations by Sector

Year	Public	Career Education	Private	Postsecondary	Total
2015-16	\$114,614,631	\$2,579,678	\$18,444,354	\$13,105,413	\$148,744,076
2016-17	\$114,614,631	\$2,501,237	\$18,444,354	\$12,883,854	\$148,444,076
2017-18	\$208,002,403	\$4,539,240	\$33,472,777	\$23,381,592	\$269,396,012
2018-19	\$231,411,174	\$2,963,356	\$25,323,226	\$9,698,256	\$269,396,012
2019-20	\$233,835,738	\$3,232,752	\$24,245,642	\$8,081,880	\$269,396,012

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 reducing student loans.

FWEP is offered at participating colleges, universities, Florida colleges, career centers operated by district school boards, and educator preparation institutes. Participating institutions evaluate 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 a student's wages, and private employers are funded up to 70 percent of a student's wages.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a Florida resident and a United States citizen, or eligible non-citizen, as determined by the student's 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 (or 180 clock hours) 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 at least the equivalent of a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale; and
- Demonstrate financial need by completing the FAFSA.

Florida Work Experience Program

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds*	Appropriations
2015-16	690	\$1,761	\$1,214,742	\$1,569,922
2016-17	673	\$2,082	\$1,401,325	\$1,569,922
2017-18	740	\$1,900	\$1,406,305	\$1,569,922
2018-19	790	\$1,768	\$1,396,331	\$1,569,922
2019-20	728	\$1,879	\$1,367,857	\$1,569,922

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

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MERIT-BASED PROGRAMS

Benacquisto Scholarship Program

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

Florida Academic Scholars
(Academic Top Scholars)

Florida Medallion Scholars

Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars

Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars

BENACQUISTO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Section 1009.893, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.0281, Florida Administrative Code

The Benacquisto Scholarship Program was created in 2014 as a merit scholarship for high school graduates who achieved the National Merit® or National Achievement® Scholar designation. A student who was awarded a National Merit® \$2,500 Scholarship, National Achievement® \$2,500 Scholarship or a Corporate-sponsored Scholarship can attend any of the eligible, regionally accredited, Florida public or independent postsecondary institutions. Students awarded a College-sponsored Scholarship must attend the institution that financed the scholarship or award.

Award Level

Eligible scholars will receive an award equal to the per-term institutional cost of attendance minus the sum of the student's Florida Bright Futures Scholarship and the National Merit® Scholarship or National Achievement® Scholarship.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen, as determined by the student's postsecondary institution;
- Be a student who is a Florida resident seeking initial funding and must:
 - Earn a standard Florida high school diploma, or its equivalency, unless the student completes a home education program or earns a high school diploma from a non-Florida high school while living with a parent who is on military or public service assignment away from Florida.
- Be a student who is a non-Florida resident seeking initial funding and must:
 - Earn a high school diploma comparable to a standard Florida high school diploma or its equivalency (or complete a home education program); and
 - Physically reside in Florida on or near the campus of the institution where enrolled.
- Enroll at an eligible, regionally accredited, Florida public or independent postsecondary institution;
- Enroll full-time (minimum 12 credit hours per term or quarter equivalency) in a baccalaureate degree program;
- Enroll initially during the fall academic term following high school graduation; and
- Achieve the National Merit® Scholar designation by accepting a National Merit® award the academic year following high school graduation.

Benacquisto Scholarship Program

Year	Initial Students Funded	Renewal Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2015-16	266	185	\$17,274	\$7,790,653	\$8,379,932
2016-17	249	416	\$17,889	\$11,895,941	\$12,926,139
2017-18	308	620	\$14,164	\$13,144,188	\$14,282,138
2018-19	394	759	\$14,733	\$16,987,284	\$17,044,724
2019-20	473	904	\$15,650	\$21,550,104	\$21,372,911

FLORIDA BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Sections 1009.53 - .538, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.028, Florida Administrative Code

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 eligible Florida institutions. Eligible participating institutions include Florida public state universities, Florida public colleges, public career/technical centers and eligible private postsecondary institutions. For the 2019-20 academic year, the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program consisted of the following awards: the Florida Academic Scholars (FAS), the Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS), Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars (GSC), and the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV). A select number of FAS students who ranked highest in their districts receive an additional Academic Top Scholars (ATS) award each year they maintain their FAS eligibility.

Award Level

FAS students received an award equal to 100 percent of tuition and applicable fees at a public institution, or a comparable amount at a non-public institution, and an additional \$300 per semester (fall and spring) for textbooks or other college-related expenses.

FMS students received an award equal to 75 percent of tuition and applicable fees at a public institution, or a comparable amount at a non-public institution.

All GSC and GSV students received the specified award amounts established by the Florida Legislature in the 2019 General Appropriations Act.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a Florida resident and a United States citizen, or eligible non-citizen, as determined by the student's postsecondary institution;
- Not have been found guilty of, or pled 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;
- 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;
- Complete the *Florida Financial Aid Application* (FFAA) by high school graduation, no later than the August 31 following high school graduation;
- Earn a standard Florida high school diploma, or its equivalent, from a Florida public high school, a private high school registered with the Florida Department of Education, or complete a home education program;
- Not have previously received a baccalaureate degree;
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid;
- Meet Bright Futures academic requirements for initial eligibility; and
- Be enrolled for at least six non-remedial semester credit hours (or the equivalent in quarter or clock hours) per term.

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

Bright Futures					
	FAS*	ATS	FMS**	GSC	GSV
4-Year					
Cost per Semester Hour	100% of tuition and applicable fees	\$44.00	75% of tuition and applicable fees	\$48.00	
Cost per Quarter Hour	*Same as above	\$29.00	**Same as above	\$32.00	
2-Year					
Cost per Semester Hour	*Same as above	\$44.00	**Same as above	\$39.00	\$39.00
Cost per Quarter Hour	*Same as above	\$29.00	**Same as above	\$26.00	\$26.00
Cost per Clock Hour	*Same as above	\$1.47	**Same as above	\$1.30	\$1.30
Florida College Baccalaureate Programs					
Cost per Semester Hour	*Same as above	\$44.00	**Same as above	\$48.00	
Career/Technical Centers					
Cost per Semester Hour	*Same as above	\$44.00	**Same as above	\$39.00 - \$48.00	\$39.00 - \$48.00
Cost per Quarter Hour	*Same as above	\$29.00	**Same as above	\$26.00 - \$32.00	\$26.00 - \$32.00
Cost per Clock Hour	*Same as above	\$1.47	**Same as above	\$1.30 - \$1.60	\$1.30 - \$1.60

*FAS – Florida Academic Scholars: 100 percent of tuition and applicable fees or a comparable amount at a non-public institution, plus \$300 for fall and spring semester for textbooks and college-related expenses.

ATS – Academic Top Scholars

**FMS – Florida Medallion Scholars: 75 percent of tuition and applicable fees or a comparable amount at a non-public institution.

GSC – Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars

GSV – Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars

Number of Students Disbursed Funds

Florida Bright Futures	FAS	ATS	FMS	GSC	GSV	Total Funded*	Total Eligible
Initial Recipients							
2015-16	11,847	62	12,225		605	24,677	36,242
2016-17	12,480	63	12,382		502	25,364	36,695
2017-18	15,461	66	14,914	76	497	30,948	42,936
2018-19	19,362	66	15,580	122	378	35,442	46,739
2019-20	20,224	65	16,509	143	334	37,210	48,802
Renewal Recipients							
2015-16	28,764	176	56,625		736	86,125	110,275
2016-17	28,667	171	42,146		629	71,442	90,785
2017-18	29,834	174	32,826	0	529	63,189	80,331
2018-19	33,698	178	31,888	37	514	66,137	79,479
2019-20	40,221	184	34,059	70	413	74,763	89,358
Total Recipients							
2015-16	40,611	238	68,850		1,341	110,802	146,517
2016-17	41,147	234	54,528		1,131	96,806	127,480
2017-18	45,295	240	47,740	76	1,026	94,137	123,267
2018-19	53,060	244	47,468	159	892	101,579	126,218
2019-20	60,445	249	50,568	213	747	111,973	138,160
Total Disbursements							
2015-16	\$104,827,136	\$277,332	\$119,961,179		\$1,221,625	\$226,287,272	
2016-17	\$106,292,137	\$267,036	\$96,554,290		\$994,012	\$204,107,475	
2017-18	\$295,637,523	\$283,756	\$85,866,209	\$71,301	\$891,064	\$382,749,853	
2018-19	\$351,454,703	\$285,956	\$191,743,281	\$144,380	\$778,938	\$544,407,258	
2019-20	\$405,927,564	\$287,672	\$211,561,982	\$193,828	\$636,119	\$618,607,165	

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

2019-20



TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Access to Better Learning and Education Grant

William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education Grant

ACCESS TO BETTER LEARNING AND EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

Section 1009.891, Florida Statutes

The Access to Better Learning and Education (ABLE) Grant Program, 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 usually 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 residents 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.

Institutions must meet one of the following sets of criteria:

- Be a for-profit postsecondary institution that is located in, and chartered by, the state, offer baccalaureate degrees, have a secular purpose, not be a public state university or public college and be accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; or
- Be a nonprofit institution, located in Florida for 10 years or more, and accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, the New England Association of Colleges and Schools or the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Award Level

The maximum annual award amount is 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 baccalaureate degree;
- Meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid;
- Enroll for a minimum of 12 credit hours at an eligible Florida institution in a baccalaureate program;
- Meet the application procedures established by the participating institution (application information may be obtained at the financial aid offices of eligible Florida postsecondary institutions); and
- 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
2015-16	4,416	\$1,102	\$1,500	\$4,864,375	\$5,673,000
2016-17	3,936	\$1,072	\$1,500	\$4,217,625	\$5,056,500
2017-18	3,761	\$1,781	\$2,500	\$6,697,092	\$6,832,500
2018-19	2,298	\$2,621	\$3,500	\$6,023,009	\$6,338,500
2019-20	2,290	\$2,052	\$2,841	\$4,699,975	\$4,946,181

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

WILLIAM L. BOYD, IV, EFFECTIVE ACCESS TO STUDENT EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

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

The William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education Grant Program (EASE), created in 1979, provides tuition assistance to undergraduate students enrolled in degree programs at eligible independent, nonprofit colleges or universities in Florida. The EASE Grant is not related to a student's financial need or other criteria upon which financial aid programs are usually 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 residents of Florida.

Eligible institutions include 34 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.

Participating institutions determine application deadlines, 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 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 baccalaureate 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; and
- Not be enrolled in a program of study leading to a degree in theology or divinity.

William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education Grant Program

Year	Students Funded	Average Award*	Maximum Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2015-16	43,728	\$2,560	\$3,000	\$111,923,621	\$115,269,000
2016-17	43,675	\$2,555	\$3,000	\$111,586,136	\$115,260,000
2017-18	44,130	\$2,833	\$3,300	\$125,005,670	\$125,449,500
2018-19	45,803	\$2,993	\$3,500	\$137,073,812	\$137,952,500
2019-20	46,026	\$2,431	\$2,841	\$111,899,614	\$113,912,736

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

2019-20



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

**First Generation Matching Grant Program
Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program
Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program
John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program
José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Program
Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program
Minority Teacher Education Scholars Program
Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program
Rosewood Family Scholarship Program
Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or
Disabled Veterans**

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 ratio of \$2 of state funds to \$1 of private contributions at Florida's 12 state universities and 28 Florida colleges. Participating institutions determine application deadlines, student eligibility, and award amounts. Eligibility criteria and award amounts are regulated by Florida Statutes and the General Appropriations Act.

Students are required to meet eligibility criteria for demonstrated need with the same expected family contribution maximum cut-off as the Florida Public Student Assistance Grant Program.

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.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to meet the following:

- Be a Florida resident and a United States citizen, or eligible non-citizen, as determined by the student's postsecondary institution;
- Not have previously received a baccalaureate degree;
- Meet additional eligibility requirements, as established by the institution;
- 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 who regularly resided with and received support from only one parent who did not earn a baccalaureate degree would also be eligible;
- Be accepted at a Florida state university or Florida college;
- Enroll for a minimum of six credit hours per term as a degree-seeking undergraduate student; and
- Meet additional eligibility requirements in s. 1009.50, F.S., for demonstrating financial need for the Florida Public Student Assistance Grant Program, by submitting the FAFSA.

First Generation Matching Grant Program

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds*	Appropriations
2015-16	8,234	\$1,289	\$10,617,326	\$5,308,663
2016-17	8,361	\$1,270	\$10,617,026	\$5,308,663
2017-18	15,743	\$1,346	\$21,197,297	\$10,617,326
2018-19	11,911	\$1,337	\$15,925,485	\$10,617,326
2019-20	10,912	\$1,459	\$15,916,522	\$10,617,326

* Expended Funds include a two-to-one match of private donations to state appropriations.

FLORIDA FARMWORKER STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Section 1009.894, Florida Statutes

The Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program (FFSS), created in 2018, provides a need-based merit scholarship to degree-seeking or career certificate-seeking undergraduate Florida residents who are farmworkers, or children of farmworkers, as defined in s. 420.503, F.S.

Award Level

Section 1009.894, F.S., limits the number of scholarships that can be awarded annually to 50. Students who attend a public postsecondary institution will receive an award equal to the amount required to pay tuition and specified fees.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to meet the following:

- Be a Florida resident and a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen, as determined by the student's postsecondary institution;
- Be a farmworker or the child of a farmworker;
- Earn a minimum weighted cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 for all high school courses creditable toward a diploma;
- Complete a minimum of 30 service hours;
- Achieve a 90 percent attendance rate and not have had any disciplinary action brought against him or her, as documented on the student's high school transcript;
- Not have previously received a baccalaureate degree;
- Be accepted at an eligible participating postsecondary institution;
- Enroll for a minimum of 12 credit hours per term as a degree-seeking or career certificate-seeking undergraduate student;
- Submit a completed *Florida Financial Aid Application* (FFAA) by April 1; and
- Complete and submit the FAFSA.

Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2018-19	3	\$5,067	\$15,200	\$500,000
2019-20	27	\$3,748	\$101,207	\$500,000

HONORABLY DISCHARGED GRADUATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program (HDGAP) was created by the 2015 Florida Legislature as a supplemental, need-based veteran educational benefit. Funds are used to assist in the payment of living expenses during holiday and semester breaks for active duty and honorably discharged members of the Armed Forces who served on or after September 11, 2001.

Award Level

The 2019 Florida Legislature appropriated \$1 million for supplemental, need-based veteran educational benefits. To ensure students enrolled in both Florida public and private institutions had an opportunity to receive funding, allocations to institutions were prorated based on the number of total eligible students at eligible institutions.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

The student is required to:

- Be a Florida resident and a United States citizen, or eligible non-citizen, as determined by the student's postsecondary institution;
- Be enrolled in a program of study;
- Be an active duty or honorably discharged member of the Armed Forces who served on or after September 11, 2001; and
- Demonstrate financial need by completing the FAFSA by the deadline specified by the institution.

Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2015-16	1,698	\$587	\$997,400	\$1,000,000
2016-17	1,649	\$606	\$999,998	\$1,000,000
2017-18	1,493	\$669	\$998,752	\$1,000,000
2018-19	1,703	\$584	\$993,750	\$1,000,000
2019-20	1,480	\$675	\$999,550	\$1,000,000

JOHN R. JUSTICE STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

Federal Regulation 42 U.S.C. §3797cc-21

The John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment (JRJ) Program is a federal program administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. JRJ provides loan repayment assistance for local, state and federal public defenders and local and state prosecutors who commit to continued employment as public defenders and prosecutors for at least three years. Applicants apply directly to their agency of employment which decides, based on the programmatic criteria set forth by the U.S. Department of Justice, which applicants should receive funding. The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance assists the Office of Justice Programs with the loan repayment program.

Award Level

The maximum award amount for any individual participating in the JRJ Program is \$10,000 per calendar year or an aggregate total of \$60,000.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

A qualified applicant must be an attorney continually licensed to practice law and shall:

- Be a full-time employee of the state of Florida or unit of local government (including tribal government) who prosecutes criminal or juvenile delinquency cases at the state or unit of local government level, including supervision, education and training of other persons prosecuting such cases (prosecutors who are employees of the federal government are not eligible); or;
- Be a full-time employee of the state of Florida or unit of local government (including tribal government) who provides legal representation to indigent persons in criminal or juvenile delinquency cases, including supervision, education and training of other persons providing such representation; or
- Be employed in the state of Florida as a full-time federal defender attorney in a defender organization pursuant to subsection (g) of section 3006A of Title 18, United States Code, who provides legal representation to indigent persons in criminal or juvenile delinquency cases.

In addition, a qualified applicant shall:

- Have been employed at least 12 consecutive months with a qualifying entity;
- Have an outstanding balance on an eligible education loan;
- Not be in default on repayment of any federal student loans; and
- Make a commitment to a three-year service agreement or a one-year commitment if the initial three-year service obligation has been fulfilled and the beneficiary is selected again to receive additional JRJ benefits.

Loan Eligibility

Loans eligible for repayment are defined as, and limited to, the following:

- A loan made, insured or guaranteed under part B of subchapter IV of chapter 28 of Title 20 (Federal Family Education Loan Program);
- A loan made under part C or D of subchapter IV of chapter 28 of Title 20 (William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan and Federal Perkins Loans);
- A loan made under section 1078-3 or 1087e(g) of Title 20 (federal consolidation loans and federal direct consolidation loans, respectively).

Disqualifying Conditions

- An attorney must not be in default on repayment of any federal student loans.
- An attorney must not have an adjusted gross income of more than \$125,000.

John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program

Year	Applications Received	Number of Awardees	Average Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2015-16	41	39	\$1,206	\$47,042	\$47,042
2016-17	57	50	\$1,312	\$65,611	\$65,611
2017-18	35	29	\$2,528	\$73,298	\$73,298
2018-19	39	35	\$2,141	\$74,948	\$74,948
2019-20	49	48	\$1,531	\$73,507	\$73,507

JOSÉ MARTÍ SCHOLARSHIP CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM

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

The José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Program, 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.

The José Martí program is offered at Florida public state universities, Florida 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 as every \$5,000 of private funds are matched with \$5,000 of state funds.

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 submitting the FAFSA;
- Submit a completed *Florida Financial Aid Application* (FFAA) by April 1 during the last year of high school or, for graduate study, prior to the year of graduate study;
- Be a Hispanic-American, or a person of Spanish culture with origins in Mexico, South America, Central America, or the Caribbean, regardless of race. Students of the following countries are not considered for an evaluation of this scholarship: Brazil, Spain and Haiti; and
- 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.

José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Program

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Maximum Award	Expended Funds	Appropriations
2015-16	63	\$1,905	\$2,000	\$120,000	\$121,541
2016-17	63	\$1,905	\$2,000	\$120,000	\$121,541
2017-18	63	\$1,968	\$2,000	\$124,000	\$124,000
2018-19	65	\$1,908	\$2,000	\$124,000	\$124,000
2019-20	65	\$1,908	\$2,000	\$124,000	\$124,000

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 Florida's four historically black colleges and universities:

- Bethune-Cookman University;
- Edward Waters College;
- Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University; or
- Florida Memorial University.

Participating institutions determine 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

- The annual award, set by Florida Statutes, is \$3,000.
- Scholarships are funded by private and state contributions as every \$2,000 of private funds are matched with \$2,000 of state funds.
- Priority in the awarding of scholarships will be given to students having the most financial need, as determined by the institution.
- 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 Florida resident and a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen, as determined by the student's 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;
- 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 FAFSA;
- Apply through financial aid offices at one of the four participating institutions where the student plans to attend; and
- 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
2015-16	137	\$2,343	\$3,000	\$321,000	\$321,000
2016-17	137	\$2,343	\$3,000	\$321,000	\$321,000
2017-18	138	\$2,326	\$3,000	\$321,000	\$321,000
2018-19	136	\$2,360	\$3,000	\$321,000	\$321,000
2019-20	147	\$2,184	\$3,000	\$321,000	\$321,000

MINORITY TEACHER EDUCATION SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Section 1009.60, Florida Statutes

www.ffmt.org

The Florida Fund for Minority Teachers, Inc. created in 1996, per legislative appropriation, awards the Minority Teacher Education Scholarship to 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.

Participating institutions include nine public state universities, 10 Florida colleges offering baccalaureate degrees in education, and 12 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;
- Not have earned a baccalaureate degree in education;
- Be classified as a junior and not have 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 ethnic groups: African-American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, Asian-American/Pacific Islander, or American Indian/Alaska Native; and
- Be newly admitted into a teacher education program at any of the program's participating institutions.

Minority Teacher Education Scholars Program

Year	Students Funded	Average Award Amount	Expended Funds*	Appropriations
2015-16	309	\$3,126	\$966,000	\$917,798
2016-17	283	\$2,806	\$794,000	\$917,798
2017-18	269	\$3,338	\$898,000	\$917,798
2018-19	270	\$3,067	\$828,000	\$917,798
2019-20	266	\$3,180	\$846,000	\$917,798

*Does not include the annual allowable 5 percent admin fees of \$45,890.

NURSING STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

Section 1009.66 and 1009.67, Florida Statutes
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.050, 20.060, Florida Administrative Code

The Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program (NSLFP), was established to encourage qualified personnel to seek employment in areas of the state of Florida in which critical nursing shortages exist. The primary function of the program is to increase employment and retention of registered nurses and licensed practical nurses in eligible health care facilities.

All loan repayments are contingent upon continued proof of employment in designated facilities in Florida and are made directly to the holder of the loan.

This program was transferred to the Florida Department of Education from the Florida Department of Health in 2013-14 via budget amendment EOG #B0045 approved by the Legislative Budget Commission.

Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program

Year	Maximum Award	Number of Awardees	Expended Funds*	Appropriations
2015-16	\$4,000	358	\$1,040,726	\$1,134,006
2016-17	\$4,000	388	\$1,134,006	\$1,134,006
2017-18	\$4,000	425	\$1,081,664	\$1,233,006
2018-19	\$4,000	416	\$1,217,468	\$1,233,006
2019-20	\$4,000	434	\$1,220,586	\$1,233,006

*Does not include allowable admin fee.

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

Award Level

Section 1009.55, F.S., limits the number of scholarships that can be awarded annually to 50. Eligible students who attend a public postsecondary institution will receive an award equal to the amount required to pay tuition and registration fees, not to exceed \$6,100 annually.

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 baccalaureate 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 FAFSA online in time to be processed error-free by the United States Department of Education on or before May 15;
- Submit a completed *Florida Financial Aid Application* (FFAA) online by April 1; and
- Provide copies of documents of ancestry verifying eligibility as a Rosewood direct descendant to the Office of Student Financial Assistance by April 1.

Rosewood Family Scholarship Program

Year	Students Funded*	Average Award	Maximum Award	Expended Funds**	Appropriations
2015-16	27	\$3,587	\$6,100	\$96,855	\$256,747
2016-17	24	\$3,938	\$6,100	\$94,506	\$256,747
2017-18	27	\$3,788	\$6,100	\$102,287	\$256,747
2018-19	28	\$3,890	\$6,100	\$108,922	\$256,747
2019-20	29	\$4,130	\$6,100	\$119,781	\$256,747

*Unduplicated student head count – not all students accept full-year awards.

**Total expended funds may include adjusted funds per s. 216.292, F.S.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHILDREN AND SPOUSES OF DECEASED OR DISABLED VETERANS

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

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

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

Award Level

Eligible students are funded in the amount of tuition and registration fees at an eligible public postsecondary institution or the equivalent of the public institution average amount of tuition and registration fees at an eligible private postsecondary institution in Florida.

Initial Eligibility Requirements

An eligible student is required to:

- Be a Florida resident and a United States citizen, or eligible non-citizen, as determined by the student's 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 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
- Complete the *Florida Financial Aid Application* (FFAA) by April 1 to be considered a timely applicant.

Additional Requirements

- Children must be dependent children of qualified veterans whose official military and residency status is verified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs and be between the ages of 16 and 22 when completing the FFAA.
- Children may receive this scholarship until such time as the parent classified as a prisoner of war or missing in action is returned alive or until classified otherwise.
- Spouses of deceased veterans must be unremarried, have been, along with the qualified veteran, a Florida resident for one year immediately preceding the veteran's death, and, have applied for the scholarship within five years of the veteran's death.
- Spouses of disabled veterans must have been married to the qualified disabled veteran for one or more years, have been, along with the veteran, a Florida resident, for one year immediately preceding the occurrence of the veteran'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 and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans

Year	Students Funded	Average Award	Expended Funds*	Appropriations
2015-16	1,033	\$3,868	\$3,995,746	\$3,469,087
2016-17	1,210	\$3,885	\$4,700,590	\$4,861,219
2017-18	1,426	\$4,029	\$5,745,179	\$5,755,150
2018-19	1,684	\$4,059	\$6,835,716	\$6,278,390
2019-20	1,966	\$4,071	\$8,003,516	\$7,675,534

*Total expended funds may include adjusted funds per s. 216.292, F.S.

2019-20



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

**Information and Training
Customer Support
Information Dissemination Outreach Team**

INFORMATION AND TRAINING

The Information and Training Unit serves as a support unit for OSFA. This unit has oversight of all correspondence to and from OSFA. The unit is charged with dissemination of information via OSFA general email and the website.

Institutional Review

Rule 6A-20.002(1)(j), Florida Administrative Code, requires the Renewal Eligibility Application for Institution Participation in State Programs to be completed each year for an institution to continue participation in state scholarship and grant programs.

This information is processed and used to determine program eligibility for the entire subsequent academic year (July 1 through June 30) by certifying that participating institutions meet statutory eligibility requirements. Participating institutions are notified after July 1 of their eligibility status for participation in state scholarship and grant programs for the new academic year.

There were 240 institutions participating in state scholarship and grant programs for the 2019-20 academic year. The institution breakdown was:

INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING IN STATE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT PROGRAMS	
4-Year Public Florida Universities	12
Public Florida Colleges	28
Public Vocational Technical Schools	48
4-Year Private Institutions	78
Private Post Graduate Colleges	2
2-Year Private Institutions	27
Private Vocational Technical Schools	45
Total	240

Training

Training is provided to postsecondary institution financial aid offices, high school counselors, college students and internal audiences. The Training Section employs a variety of training strategies, including:

- Instructor-led onsite training;
- Virtual training;
- Training manuals;
- Presentations for self-study and one-on-one coaching; and
- Speakers Bureau.

The Speakers Bureau partners with postsecondary institutions, Florida high schools and community organizations/groups to provide and/or receive coverage of financial aid presentations and labs on the *Florida Financial Aid Application* (FFAA) and FAFSA.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

OSFA works directly with students, parents, high school counselors and postsecondary institutions to provide assistance with state scholarship and grant administration. The Call Center and Correspondence Section provides this customer support. The Correspondence Section responds to communication received by OSFA, the Commissioner's Office, the Governor's Office and congressional offices and is also responsible for editing form letters, manuals and other documents for OSFA.

OSFA 2019-20 Statistical Communication Report

Incoming Calls	
Calls from Students and Parents	61,333
Calls from High School Counselors and Financial Aid Officers	3,119
Customer Communications	
Memos to Postsecondary Institutions and High Schools	30
OSFA Email Box	
General-State	10,760
CorrFlow	
State	294
Training	
Events Coordinated	145
Postsecondary, High School and Private Organization Trainings	141
Publications Released	16
Total Correspondences	75,838

OSFA also provides automatic communications to students and postsecondary institutions whenever an alert is posted or if a change is made or due on an account. Examples include receipt of an application, eligibility determination and legislative changes. The correspondence generated may be email, web-based or postal service.

Automatic System Generated Communications	
State Student Financial Aid Correspondence	259,337

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION OUTREACH TEAM

OSFA Outreach Services Unit was created to strengthen financial skills of young adults through financial aid awareness and financial literacy education. The unit seeks to accomplish this by developing and implementing a variety of strategies, including those described below.

- **Educating parents, students and community-based organizations** on Florida's State Scholarship and Grant Programs, as well as federal, institutional and local financial aid options.

In the 2019-20 academic year, the Outreach Unit coordinated financial literacy events:

- High School (public, charter, private and home school) Financial Aid Nights and FAFSA Labs for parents and students;
- Community-based organization events;
- Individual counseling, as requested;
- College fair resource tables; and
- Guest speakers.

- **Training professional staff of postsecondary institutions and secondary schools** by providing technical and regulatory guidance on financial aid issues, default prevention and financial literacy initiatives.

In the 2019-20 academic year, the Outreach Unit provided the following:

- Training on Florida Data Sharing Agreement to subscribed Florida School Districts and schools to monitor their students Florida Financial Aid Applications (FFAA) and FAFSA.
- Information regarding access to Form Your Future (formerly College Goal Sunday) and partnerships with FAFSA Challenge, an initiative hosted by the Florida College Access Network.
- Publications bi-monthly through June 2020:
 - OSFA News to Know E-Newsletter;
 - OSFA News to Know for Counselors E-Newsletter;
 - OSFA News to Know for Postsecondary Students E-Newsletter; and
 - OSFA News to Know for Secondary Students E-Newsletter.

- **Promoting financial literacy products and services** in person as well as through OSFA's comprehensive program, Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF), which is located at www.NavigatingYourFinancialFuture.org.

In the 2019-20 academic year:

- Schools (secondary and post-secondary) utilized the online financial literacy module platform;
- Bi-monthly E-newsletters for students (secondary and post-secondary) were disseminated via 4,855 counselors; and
- Bi-monthly E-newsletters for all State Grant and Scholarship postsecondary recipient institutions received information to utilize via all their available media as to designate portions to school's website, newsletters, and trainings.

- **Supplying free default prevention/financial literacy resources** in print and web-based formats.

In the 2019-20 academic year, the Outreach Unit shipped or delivered in person 344,797 printed materials requested by schools and community-based organizations.

- **Representing OSFA in various state and national groups**, such as:
 - National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
 - National Council for Higher Education Resources
 - Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
 - Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges
 - Florida School Counselor Association
 - National College Access Network
 - Florida College Access Network
 - Florida Prosperity Partnership
 - Mapping Your Future
 - National Association for College Admission Counseling
 - Gear Up
 - Trio
 - Take Stock in Children
 - Form Your Future
 - YMCA
 - Florida School Charter Association
 - Panhandle Area Education Consortium
 - The North East Florida Educational Consortium
 - Florida Parent Educators Association
 - Florida Sunshine State Scholars
 - Fincert.org (Center for Financial Certifications/Institute for Financial Literacy)
- **Serving as state fiscal coordinator for Form Your Future and Early Awareness Committee member for Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (FASFAA):**
 - 10 Form Your Future Scholarships were awarded for the 2019-20 academic year.

OSFA's outreach representative regularly participates in staff development to stay abreast of important issues pertaining to debt management and financial well-being for young adults.

Florida Department of Education Mission Statement

The mission of Florida's K-20 education system is to increase the proficiency of all students within one seamless, efficient system, by allowing them the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills through learning opportunities and research valued by students, parents and communities.



www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org