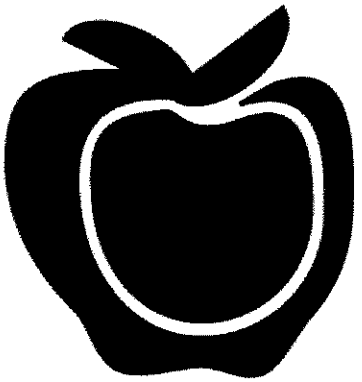

Florida Department of Education

www.firn.edu/doe

Annual Report to the Commissioner 1999-2000

Prepared by

Bureau of Student Financial Assistance
State Programs
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NOVEMBER, 2000

FOREWORD

The Bureau of Student Financial Assistance (BSFA) within the Florida Department of Education, Division of Support Services, is pleased to present the 1999-2000 Annual Report to the Commissioner. The Bureau administers both state and federally funded student financial assistance programs. While the Federal Family Education Loan Program is referenced, this report provides specific information on the state programs section of the Bureau, which administers services to facilitate delivery of over 30 student financial assistance programs including need-based, merit-based, special interest, and professional programs.

We are excited about the improvements being implemented to better serve Florida residents.

State Student Financial Aid Database Project

In accordance with Section 240.40401, Florida Statutes, and mandated by the 1997 Florida Legislature, the Bureau has begun the development of a State Student Financial Aid Database project. Since the issuance of the last annual report, the Bureau has:

- ✓ published the "Request for Proposal" on April 23, 1999.
- ✓ successfully procured a vendor through the bidding and contract negotiation process.
- ✓ finalized a contractual agreement with KPMG Consulting on November 1, 1999.

This project will vastly improve services to Florida residents in addition to serving as a repository of information for all state funded financial assistance programs. Multiple paper applications will be replaced by a universal, web-enabled Florida Financial Aid Application, allowing students to apply on-line, to receive instant feedback, and to monitor their own award processes. This database provides a high level of flexibility, comprehensive statistical and performance reporting for all stakeholders, as well as improved processes for certifying applicant eligibility and award processing. This project is slated for full implementation on July 1, 2001. The Bureau looks forward to providing enhanced services to all customers with the increased capabilities of the new computer system.

Florida Student Assistance Grant Program

The 1999-2000 academic year began decentralized administration of the Florida Student Assistance Grant Program (FSAG). An updated website and easy electronic reporting procedures facilitated a smooth transition for participating postsecondary institutions.

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

With increased funding, the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship program was able to initiate summer funding for previously funded recipients. This funding enabled

students to meet State University System summer attendance requirements. Over $11 million dollars was disbursed to more than 23,000 students the first summer. For the first time, the Bright Futures Scholarship Program provided high schools with a method for seventh semester evaluation. This early notification procedure was implemented to permit students and their parents to better plan for college funding. Approximately 85% of all students expected to earn the scholarship were notified prior to their high school graduation.

Florida, Federal Family Education Loan Program

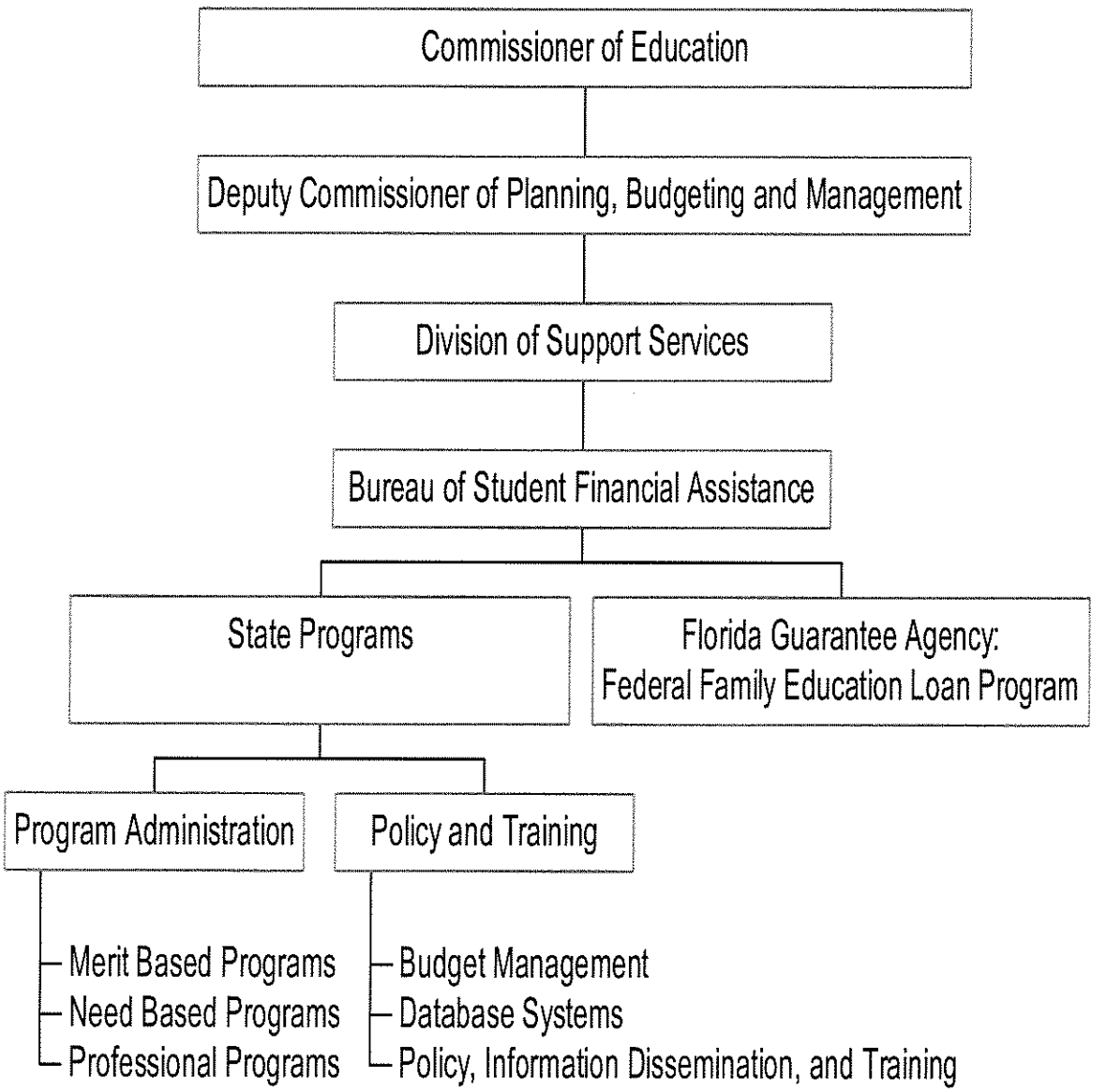
During the 2000 fiscal year, the Bureau successfully converted the Federal Family Education Loan Program data system from a third party servicer to a Bureau administered data system. This change to Department data management, including a document imaging system, has improved the delivery of loan services to Florida families who are in need of low cost education loans. Customer service has also been enhanced by increasing customer service staff, expanding customer service hours, and installing a new telephone system. In addition, for the 2000-2001 academic year, the Bureau has taken a competitive stance by providing a 1% discount on its guarantee fee. This decision also saves students money by decreasing their outstanding loan debt. Questions regarding our loan programs can be directed to our customer service staff, toll-free at 1-800-366-3475.

The Bureau of Student Financial Assistance

We welcome you to share the accomplishments for the students of Florida outlined in this report with legislators, parents, and students. Please feel free to call our toll-free customer assistance line at 1-888-827-2004 or write The Bureau of Student Financial Assistance, 325 West Gaines Street, 124 Collins Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400.

Florida Department of Education

Bureau of Student Financial Assistance



1999-2000 Bureau of Student Financial Assistance
State Programs Expenditures

Need Based Programs	Students Receiving Awards	Funds Disbursed	Percentage of Funds Disbursed in Fl. Public Postsecondary Institutions
African Afro-Caribbean Scholarship Program	5	$38,027	100%
Florida Student Assistance Grant Programs			
Public Student Assistance Grant	36,549	$30,956,659	100%
Private Student Assistance Grant	9,188	$8,367,975	0%
Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant	6,674	$4,742,219	0%
Florida Work Experience Program	272	$577,438	15%
Jose Marti Scholarship Challenge Grant Program	70	$126,000	69%
Latin American Caribbean Basin Scholarship Program	4	$34,628	100%
Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program	188	$532,500	31%
Rosewood Family Scholarship Program	25	$48,290	100%
Seminole and Miccosukee Indian Scholarships	23	$45,884	59%
Merit Based Programs			
Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program			
Florida Academic Scholars Award	24,274	$65,248,346	87%
Top Scholars Award	170	$356,993	87%
Florida Merit Scholars Award	40,422	$58,656,888	88%
Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award	6,309	$7,588,704	92%
Robert C. Byrd Scholarship Program*	1,140	$1,644,278	47%
Professional Programs			
Critical Occupational or Physical Therapist Shortage Programs			
Scholarship Loan Program	10	$38,000	74%
Student Loan Forgiveness	25	$75,000	NA
Tuition Reimbursement Program	1	$702	NA
Critical Teacher Shortage Programs			
Student Loan Forgiveness	1,451	$4,140,529	NA
Tuition Reimbursement	654**	$145,346	NA
Exceptional Student Education Training Grant	470**	$109,212	NA
Florida Teacher Scholarship - Chappie James	423	$602,250	83%
Florida Teacher Scholarship - Forgivable Loan	110	$493,838	91%
Nursing Scholarship Program	0	0	NA
Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program	80	$215,797	NA
Special Interest Programs			
Ethics in Business Scholarships	511	$394,562	66%
Limited Access Competitive Grant Program	148	$328,930	0%
Nicaraguan and Haitian Scholarship Program	2	$8,680	100%
Scholarships for Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans	142	$214,861	87%
Student Member Scholarship - Board of Regents	2	$4,589	100%
Student Member Scholarship -Postsecondary Education Planning Commission	1	$4,589	100%
Student Member Scholarship - Community Colleges	0	$0	0%
William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grants	23,787	$47,645,674	0%
Totals:	**152,006**	**$233,388,321**	

* Federally funded program, 43% spent out-of-state.
**Denotes courses reimbursed.

BUREAU OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
THE FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAM

The Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Student Financial Assistance administers The Federal Family Education Loan Program (hereafter referred to as the federal loan program). The Bureau's federal loan program guaranteed $701,290,042 in student loans to 219,834 borrowers in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000.

The federal loan program was created through the Higher Education Act of 1965 and is reauthorized by Congress every five years. Guaranty agencies throughout the nation are designated to administer the program at regional levels. The Bureau of Student Financial Assistance is the designated guaranty agency for the state of Florida.

™WHO WE ARE

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. The guaranty agency then receives partial reimbursement from the US Department of Education. In addition, the guaranty agency receives federal funding to cover all administrative costs. This federal funding is based on the dollar volume of loans the agency guarantees.

™FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Program functions and responsibilities are performed by a combination of five Bureau sections: Federal Family Education Loan Program Operations, Financial Operations, Program Policy and Institutional Review, Training and Outreach, and the Student Financial Assistance Data Center.

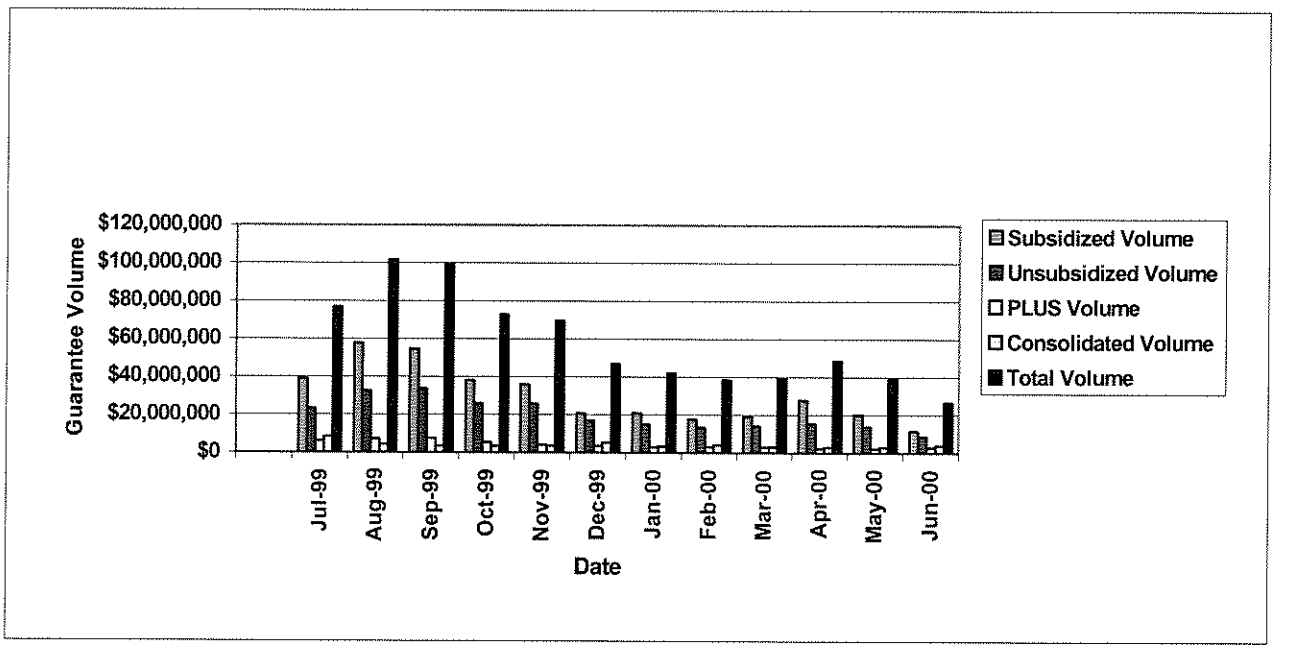
™PRIMARY FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FEDERAL LOAN PROGRAM SECTIONS INCLUDE:

- ✓ Develop Florida school/customer base to increase student loan borrowing through the Department of Education, Bureau of Student Financial Assistance.
- ✓ In conjunction with student loan lenders and servicers, perform all activities necessary for:
  - student loan application processing,
  - borrower record maintenance, and
  - lender claim review and payment.
- ✓ Monitor the performance of six (6) collection agency contractors responsible for all activities relating to collection of defaulted student loans. The Bureau currently has approximately $525,000,000 in defaulted loans placed with collection agencies.
- ✓ Provide internal collections services to defaulted student loan borrowers for the first 150 days after default.

- ✓ Administer special collection activities as follows;
  - income tax refund garnishment,
  - Florida lottery winnings garnishment,
  - administrative wage garnishment,
  - Florida public employees wage garnishment, and
  - administrative hearings for defaulted student loan borrowers disputing inclusion in garnishment programs.
- ✓ Process specialized lender claims due to death, disability or bankruptcy.
- ✓ Investigate and process loan obligation discharge requests due to school closure, false certification, and reports of fraud or abuse.
- ✓ Process transfer of defaulted student loans to the US Department of Education.
- ✓ Process applications from postsecondary institutions and lending institutions for participation in the federal loan program.
- ✓ Monitor compliance of participating schools and lenders with laws, regulations and/or rules governing the federal loan program.
- ✓ Conduct on-site program reviews of participating schools and lenders.
- ✓ Process appeals by participating schools determined ineligible to participate in the federal loan program due to high student default rates.
- ✓ Monitor all additions, deletions and changes to laws, regulations and/or rules governing the federal loan program and disseminate information regarding them to program participants.
- ✓ Develop and disseminate policy, procedure and program information manuals to internal staff and program participants.
- ✓ Develop and implement training programs related to program activities.
- ✓ Provide comprehensive technical assistance and customer service to borrowers, schools, lenders and other program participants.
- ✓ Perform financial support functions as follows;
  - budgeting,
  - purchasing and contracting,
  - preparing financial statements and financial forecasts,
  - paying lender claims,
  - recording and reconciling collections of defaulted student loan payments, and
  - preparing monthly, quarterly, and annual federal reports.
- ✓ Provide electronic customer services to schools, lenders and servicers.
- ✓ Provide permanent electronic storage of all loan records.
- ✓ Facilitate student loan default aversion through an automated dialing program.

Detailed breakdown of loan activity for the federal loan program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, follows.

FLORIDA STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM – GROSS VOLUME FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000



FLORIDA FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAM
LOAN COUNTS AND VOLUME FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000

Month/Year	Subsidized Count	Subsidized Volume	Unsubsidized Count	Unsubsidized Volume	PLUS Count	PLUS Volume	Consolidated Count	Consolidated Volume	Total Count	Total Volume
Jul-99	11,148	$38,964,898	6,957	$23,252,376	888	$6,236,635	535	$8,412,598	19,528	$76,866,507
Aug-99	17,861	$57,705,132	10,247	$32,589,467	974	$7,221,010	294	$4,226,750	29,376	$101,742,359
Sep-99	17,471	$54,691,910	10,525	$33,731,112	1,029	$7,570,365	218	$3,362,871	29,243	$99,356,258
Oct-99	12,504	$38,059,252	8,250	$25,980,214	790	$5,264,167	189	$3,443,955	21,733	$72,747,588
Nov-99	14,349	$35,993,701	9,945	$25,884,550	624	$4,123,809	222	$3,697,601	25,140	$69,699,661
Dec-99	7,599	$20,733,241	6,047	$17,031,945	481	$3,477,154	316	$5,397,400	14,443	$46,639,740
Jan-00	7,822	$20,777,155	5,354	$15,053,815	421	$2,853,608	223	$3,298,270	13,820	$41,982,848
Feb-00	6,791	$17,793,739	4,726	$13,475,910	424	$3,095,301	264	$4,099,428	12,205	$38,464,378
Mar-00	7,452	$19,284,357	5,305	$14,216,079	409	$3,004,404	193	$3,057,252	13,359	$39,562,092
Apr-00	11,444	$27,924,364	6,437	$15,344,611	370	$2,343,765	172	$2,847,963	18,423	$48,460,703
May-00	8,287	$20,151,602	5,228	$13,733,518	378	$2,218,944	188	$2,954,258	14,081	$39,058,322
Jun-00	4,638	$11,405,631	3,235	$8,743,628	396	$2,837,878	213	$3,722,449	8,482	$26,709,586
Total	**127,366**	**$363,484,982**	**82,256**	**$239,037,225**	**7,184**	**$50,247,040**	**3,027**	**$48,520,795**	**219,833**	**$701,290,042**
AVG. Loan		**$2,854**		**$2,906**		**$6,994**		**$16,029**		**$3,190**

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Need-Based Programs

African and Afro-Caribbean Scholarship Program

Florida Statute 240.4145

The purpose of the program was to provide scholarships for eligible postsecondary students from sub-Saharan African and Afro-Caribbean countries to pursue vocational programs in Florida that will enable them to address the infrastructure needs of developing third world countries. It is the intent of the legislature to phase out this program. No new awards have been made since 1997. It is anticipated that the program will conclude at the end of the 2001-2002 academic year.

Award Level

The maximum annual award amount of the scholarship is $10,000. Students on this program received out-of-state tuition rate waivers and scholarship assistance for tuition and fees, travel expenses, insurance, and cost of visas. The average annual award for 1999-2000 was $9,507.

Eligibility

Recipients of this program must be citizens of a sub-Saharan African or Afro-Caribbean country, demonstrate financial need, enroll full-time as undergraduate or vocational students at an eligible institution, maintain passing grades, and declare their intention to return to their country of origin and remain there for the number of years awarded.

Key Statistics

The 1997-98 General Appropriations Act did not allow for new awards for the African and Afro-Caribbean Scholarship Program.

The African and Afro-Caribbean Scholarship Program provided funds totaling $38,027 for five students attending postsecondary institutions during the 1999-2000 academic year. Requests for travel and visa expenses were not submitted by participating students. The average award amount was $9,507.

Tuition and Fees:	$36,607
Travel:	-0-
Visas:	-0-
Insurance:	$1,360
Total Expenditures:	$38,027

The 1999-2000 appropriation was $93,600. The balance of $55,573 remains in the trust fund and is available for purposes of the program.

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Florida Student Assistance Grant Programs

Florida Statute 240.409, .4095, .4097 State Board of Education 6A-20.031, .032, .033

The Florida Student Assistance Grant Programs (FSAG) provide financial assistance to students with the greatest need in pursuing postsecondary education. There are three FSAG programs: Public, Private, and Postsecondary. Collectively they comprise Florida's primary need-based student financial aid program.

Award Level

The FSAG award can range from $200 to $1,500 per academic year in the public sector, or, for the private and postsecondary sectors, the cost at a public institution plus $1,000. This is always dependent upon the number of eligible students, funding, and the General Appropriations Act. The FSAG, in combination with other financial aid, may not exceed the student's demonstrated financial need. Financial need is determined using the federal need analysis formula which calculates the family financial resources available to meet the student's cost of education.

A combination of state general revenue and the Federal Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) Grant funds make up each award. (The LEAP Program is formerly known as the State Student Incentive Grant [SSIG] Program.) Each FSAG program has a separate appropriation. In the event the appropriation for a program is insufficient to provide each eligible student a full award, awards may be reduced proportionally for participants in that program at the discretion of individual participating postsecondary institutions.

Award eligibility is determined at the postsecondary institution of attendance.

Eligibility

A recipient must be a full-time, degree seeking, undergraduate student who meets state residency requirements, is a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen and demonstrates significant financial need. Students apply for FSAG using the federal "Free Application for Federal Student Aid."

The public FSAG is available to students attending state universities and public community colleges. The private FSAG serves students attending eligible private, nonprofit, four-year colleges and universities. The postsecondary FSAG serves students attending all other eligible private Florida colleges and universities which offer degrees.

To meet renewal requirements, students must meet general eligibility requirements, earn a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) and twelve credit hours for each term an award was received. The Americans with Disabilities Act provides for part-time awards.

Key Statistics

Administration

From 1972 through 1989 only one FSAG program existed. It funded students attending public and private Florida colleges and universities. The 1989 Florida Legislature restructured the FSAG program into three separate programs: the Florida Public Student Assistance Grant, the Florida Private Student Assistance Grant, and the Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant to accommodate cost of education differences at each type of institution.

As a result of 1998 legislative changes, effective July 1, 1999, administrative responsibilities of the application process; determination of initial, renewal, and reinstatement student eligibility; determination of award amounts; and notification of students of their award status were decentralized from the Department of Education to each participating institution.

Public FSAG

During the first five years of the FSAG program (1972-73 through 1977-78), the award amount was $1,200 per student. In the public sector, the $1,200 award not only covered the cost of tuition and fees but also provided funds for books and other college expenses. From 1978-79 through 1990-91, the award covered 100% of the cost of tuition and fees at public institutions. Since 1991-92, the amount of the average award has been insufficient to cover even the cost of tuition at public institutions. In 1999-00, the average cost of tuition and fees at a state university was $2,160. The average 1999-00 Public FSAG award was $842.25.

Private FSAG

Non-profit domestic institutions, which offer four-year degrees and are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities, may be eligible to participate in the Private FSAG program. The average 1999-00 Private FSAG award was $911. Since 1994, tuition and fees at eligible private institutions have increased an average of 18% and participation in this program has increased 16%. Students attending private educational institutions incur higher costs than those at public institutions.

Postsecondary FSAG

All other eligible degree-granting private postsecondary institutions participate in the Postsecondary FSAG program. The 1999-00 average Postsecondary FSAG award was $611. Since 1994, tuition and fees at eligible postsecondary institutions have increased 20%, participation in this program has increased 16% and the appropriation has increased 34%. Students attending private postsecondary institutions incur higher costs than those at public institutions.

The appropriation for the 1999-00 FSAG program was $45,937,384. The average award amount of $841 funded 52,511 eligible students.

Florida Student Assistance Grant

Number of Students/ Expenditures by Sector

Year	Public		Private		Postsecondary		Total	
	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures
1995-96	32,878	$26,316,238	7,068	$6,857,357	1,893	$1,183,026	41,839	$34,356,621
1996-97	28,802	$26,576,931	6,601	$7,228,867	1,156	$1,205,382	36,559	$35,011,180
1997-98	30,141	$28,378,970	7,515	$6,696,381	2,877	$1,752,612	40,533	$36,827,963
1998-99	29,652	$27,308,172	7,857	$6,788,723	2,956	$1,827,765	40,465	$35,924,650
1999-00	36,549	$30,956,659	9,188	$8,367,975	6,674	$4,742,219	52,411	$44,068,853

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Florida Work Experience Program

Florida Statute 240.606 State Board of Education Rule 6A.20-038

The Florida Work Experience Program (FWEP) 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. FWEP provides employment opportunities for students at a reduced cost for the employer. Public school employers are funded 100% of the students' wages and private employers are funded 70% of the students' wages.

Award Level

Each student's award is based on his/her level of need as well as the institution's allocation of funds.

Eligibility

FWEP is a decentralized program. Student eligibility is determined at each eligible participating institution. To qualify, applicants must enroll at least half-time, demonstrate financial need based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and maintain a 2.0 GPA. Renewal applicants must have earned during the previous summer and two semesters or three quarters 12 credit hours per term based on full-time enrollment (nine credit hours per term for three-quarter enrollment, or six credit hours per term for half time enrollment).

Key Statistics

The 1999-2000 appropriation for FWEP was $800,000. An increased appropriation is needed to fully fund participating institutions and other eligible institutions. Only 14 of the 93 FWEP eligible schools participate, or 15%. This year, 272 awards were made, with an average award of $2,123. Specific Appropriation 97 allocated $200,000 to Florida Community College at Jacksonville to develop a pilot project to expand access for eligible vocational students.

Florida Work Experience Program

Year	Participating Schools	Students Awarded	Requested Funds	Appropriations
1995-96	16	275	$967,000	$599,243
1996-97	13	226	$1,172,400	$599,243
1997-98	15	248	$1,118,500	$599,243
1998-99	21	294	$1,133,686	$799,243
1999-00	14	272	$577,438	$800,000

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José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund

Florida Statute 240.412 State Board of Education Rule 6A.20-023

The purpose of the José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant fund is to reward Florida's Hispanic-American high school graduates and graduate students for their academic achievement. Applicants of this very competitive program are ranked first according to their financial need and then by grade point average.

Award Level

The annual award is $2,000. Scholarships are funded by private and state contributions. Each year new awards are dependent on private funds, which are matched by the state. Each $2,500 provided in private funds is matched by $5,000 in state funds, up to the appropriations total.

Eligibility

The José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund recipients must be Florida residents of Spanish culture who were born in, or whose natural parents were born in, either Mexico, Spain or a Hispanic country of the Caribbean, Central or South America. All applicants must complete the "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" (FAFSA) and demonstrate financial need. Undergraduate applicants must have earned by the seventh semester a minimum unweighted cumulative GPA of 3.0 in high school. Graduate applicants must have earned a minimum unweighted cumulative GPA of 3.0 in undergraduate college-level courses.

Key Statistics

This need-based program also ranks eligibility with merit criteria. Over 1100 applications were received for the 1999-2000 academic year. Forty-seven students received renewal awards and only 23 of 960 eligible initial applicants were awarded due to limited funds. Because priority is given to high school applicants and funding is limited, no graduate student has ever been awarded.

José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund

Expenditures by Sector 1995/1996-1999/2000

	Private Sector		Public Sector		Total	
Year	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures
1995-96	27	$52,000	48	$93,000	75	$145,000
1996-97	29	$58,000	49	$92,000	78	$150,000
1997-98	32	$62,000	52	$98,000	84	$160,000
1998-99	30	$57,000	49	$93,000	79	$150,000
1999-00	22	$39,000	50	$87,000	70	$126,000

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Latin American and Caribbean Basin Scholarship Program

Florida Statute 240.414

The purpose of the program was to provide support for students from Latin American and Caribbean Basin countries to pursue postsecondary training in Florida that will enable them to address the social and economic development needs of their countries. It is the intent of the legislature to phase out this program. No new awards have been provided since 1997.

Award Level

The maximum annual award level is $13,620. Students in this program receive out-of-state tuition rate waivers and scholarship assistance for tuition and fees, insurance, and the cost of visas. The average 1999-2000 award level was $8,657.

Eligibility

A recipient of this scholarship must be a citizen of a Caribbean, Central American, or South American country, demonstrate financial need, enroll full-time as an undergraduate student at an eligible college or university, maintain a 2.0 GPA and must declare his/her intention to return to his/her home country and remain there for the number of years awarded.

Key Statistics

The 1997-98 General Appropriations Act did not allow for new awards for the Latin American and Caribbean Basin Scholarship Program.

The Latin American and Caribbean Basin Scholarship Program provided funds for four students attending public postsecondary institutions during the 1999-2000 academic year. Requests for travel and visa expenses were not submitted by participating students. The average award amount was $9,507. Total funds awarded were $34,628, with an average award of $8,657. The total appropriation for 1999-2000 was $156,000. A balance of $121,372 remains in the trust fund for future use.

Tuition and Fees:	$34,628
Travel:	-0-
Visas:	-0-
Insurance:	$1,360
Total Expenditures:	$34,628

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Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program

Florida Statute 240.4125 State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.029

The Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program is intended to provide matching grants for private sources that raise money for scholarships to be awarded to students who attend Bethune-Cookman College, Edward Waters College, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, or Florida Memorial College.

Award Level

Annual awards in the amount of $3,000 are comprised of $1,000 of private funds and $2,000 of state matching funds. Participating institutions may choose to prorate awards to accommodate eligible students.

Eligibility

Scholarship recipients must enroll full-time at one of the historically African-American Florida postsecondary institutions. They must demonstrate financial need, have earned a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in high school, and meet application requirements specified by the institution. Selection of applicants is made by each institution with priority given to eligible renewal students who demonstrate the greatest financial need. To be eligible for renewal, students must have earned a 3.0 cumulative GPA and have earned twelve credit hours for each term an award was received.

Key Statistics

In 1999-2000, funds were sufficient to award 188 students; 58% attended Bethune-Cookman College, 12% attended Florida Memorial College, and 29% attended FAMU. Edward Waters did not contribute matching funds to participate during 1999-2000. The average award amount was $2,832.

Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship

Expenditures by Sector 1995/1996-1999/2000

	Private Sector*		Public Sector**		Total	
Year	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures
1995-96	61	$180,000	18	$51,000	79	$231,000
1996-97	171	$492,000	0	$0	171	$492,000
1997-98	132	$375,000	0	$0	132	$375,000
1998-99	125	$354,000	0	$0	125	$354,000
1999-00	133	$367,500	55	$165,000	188	$532,500

*Bethune-Cookman College, Edward Waters College, Florida Memorial College

**Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University

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Rosewood Family Scholarship Fund

Florida Statute 240.4126 State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.027

The Rosewood Family Scholarship is intended to provide financial assistance to eligible minority students who attend a public postsecondary institution. Priority is given to direct descendants of Rosewood families affected by the events of January 1923.

Award Level

Annual award amounts are based on the cost of matriculation and fees for 15 semester hours or 450 clock hours per term of undergraduate study, not to exceed $4,000. This program is limited to 25 scholarship awards annually.

Eligibility

Direct descendants of the Rosewood families receive priority for Rosewood Family Scholarship awards. If awards remain, non-descendant scholarship recipients must be minority students of African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan Native ethnicity and must demonstrate financial need based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). All scholarship recipients must enroll full-time at an eligible public postsecondary institution.

Key Statistics

Awards were first made in 1994. The annual appropriation for this scholarship is $100,000. However, due to the fact that scholarship awards are limited to the cost of matriculation and fees at public institutions and the number of awards is restricted to 25 per year, expenditures have been less than one-half the appropriation. The balance of the appropriation remains in the trust fund and is available for purposes of the program.

Rosewood Family Scholarship Program

Expenditures by Sector 1995/1996-1999/2000

	VoTech Sector		Public Sector		Total		
Year	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures	Descendants
1995-96	1	$450	21	$31,742	22	$32,192	11
1996-97	1	$124	24	$39,210	25	$43,334	15
1997-98	0	$0	25	$42,183	25	$42,183	14
1998-99	0	$0	25	$45,314	25	$45,314	11
1999-00	0	$0	25	$48,290	25	$48,290	14

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Seminole and Miccosukee Indian Scholarships

Florida Statute 240.413 State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.020

The purpose of the program is to encourage students from the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida to pursue postsecondary education.

Award Level

The award level is set by the tribe based on its allocation, the number of eligible students, and their cost of education.

Eligibility

The educational directors of each tribe select scholarship recipients based on financial need and academic requirements. Student eligibility and selection is a decentralized process. Applications are submitted to the respective tribal office, and the tribe recommends an annual award amount to the Department.

Key Statistics

The Department of Education allocates funding based on the proportionate percentage of each tribe's membership each year. The average award is $1995. For the past five years, the appropriation for this program has been $61,040. Any unused balance remains in the trust fund for future program use.

Seminole and Miccosukee Indian Scholarship

Expenditures by Sector 1995/1996-1999/2000

	Private Sector		Public Sector		Total	
Year	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures
1995-96	8	$13,500	27	$39,884	35	$57,551
1996-97	5	$23,233	14	$25,818	19	$49,051
1997-98	0	$0	15	$30,024	15	$30,024
1998-99	3	$18,517	15	$35,663	18	$54,180
1999-00	8	$19,000	15	$26,884	23	$45,884

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Merit-Based Programs

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

Florida Statute 240.40201- .40209

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program (FBFSP) is a lottery-funded scholarship intended to motivate Florida high school students toward higher academic achievement and to reward those achievements. In addition, this program encourages students to continue their postsecondary education in a Florida institution of higher education.

Award Level

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, Florida's merit-based scholarship program, consists of four award categories: the Florida Academic Scholars Award, the Academic Top Scholars Award, the Florida Merit Scholars Award, and the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award. Recipients of the Florida Academic Scholars Award receive the equivalent of 100% of their cost of tuition and fees at a public postsecondary institution, plus $600 per year for college-related expenses. Top Scholar recipients receive $1,500 per year. Recipients of the Florida Merit Scholars and the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Awards receive the equivalent of 75% of their cost of tuition and fees at a public postsecondary institution.

Eligibility

Academic requirements for 2000 High School Graduates

Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) Award -- To qualify, a student must have:

- ✓ earned a 3.5 weighted GPA (based on Statewide Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Weighting System) using 15 or up to 19 specific college preparatory credits, **and**
- ✓ earned a 1270 SAT or 28 ACT score, **and**
- ✓ completed 75 hours of community service.

There were other ways to qualify for the Florida Academic Scholars Award for students who: were home educated, earned a GED, were National Merit or Achievement Scholars and Finalists, were in an Early Admissions Program, or received an IB Diploma.

Academic Top Scholars (ATS) Award -- To qualify, a student must be the highest academically ranked initial FAS award recipient from his or her county, based on a multiple of the recipient's qualifying test score and grade point average. The top ranking initial recipient from each county receives $1,500 per year in addition to the FAS award. The award is renewable as long as the recipient remains eligible for the FAS award.

Florida Merit Scholars (FMS) Award -- To qualify, a student must have:

- ✓ earned a 3.0 weighted GPA (based on the Statewide Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Weighting System) using 15 or up to 19 specific college preparatory credits; **and**
- ✓ earned a 970 SAT or 20 ACT score.

No community service hours are required.

There were other ways to qualify for the Florida Merit Scholars Award for students who: were home educated, earned a GED, were in an Early Admissions Program, or completed the IB curriculum.

Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (FGSVS) Award -- To qualify, a recipient must have:

- ✓ earned a 3.0 weighted GPA using the 15 credits required for graduation, excluding electives, **and** a 3.5 unweighted GPA in a minimum of 3 Vocational Job Preparatory or Technology Education Program credits in one vocational program, and
- ✓ earned a minimum score on one of the following tests:

	CPT	Reading	83	Sentence Skills	83	Algebra	72
OR	ACT	Reading	16	English	16	Math	16
OR	SAT	Verbal	420	Math	440		

There are no other ways to qualify for the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award.

Other eligibility requirements for 2000 High School Graduates

In addition to meeting the academic requirements for eligibility, a student must:

- ✓ apply by completing a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Student Authorization Form and returning it to the high school guidance counselor;
- ✓ be a Florida resident and a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (the postsecondary institution attended will determine Florida residency status);
- ✓ earn a Florida standard high school diploma or its equivalent (see Bright Futures web site, www.firn.edu/doe/brfuture, for information regarding students in an Early Admissions Program, 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);
- ✓ be accepted by and seeking a degree or certificate in an eligible Florida public or independent postsecondary educational institution;
- ✓ be enrolled for at least six semester credit hours or the equivalent per term;
- ✓ not have been found guilty of, or pled no contest to, a felony charge; and
- ✓ begin using the award within three years of high school graduation.

Key Statistics and Enhancements

With increased funding, the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program was able to initiate summer funding for eligible students. This funding enabled students to meet State University System summer attendance requirements. Over $11 million dollars was disbursed to more than 23,000 students the first summer.

For the first time, the Bright Futures Scholarship Program provided high schools with a method for evaluating student eligibility earlier in the year, called seventh semester evaluation. This early notification procedure was implemented to permit students and their parents to better plan for college funding. Approximately 85% of all students expected to earn the scholarship this year were notified prior to their high school graduation.

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

	Disbursed FAS	Disbursed ATS	Disbursed FMS	Disbursed FGSV	Total Disbursed	Total Eligible
Initial Applicants						
1997-98	7,011	39	9,861	6,838	23,710	30,701
1998-99	7,453	64	15,576	2,314	25,407	32,102
1999-00	7,926	66	18,201	2,402	28,595	35,680
Renewal Applicants						
1997-98*	11,608	161	3,174	3,827	18,609	24,090
1998-99	14,132	152	9,569	7,021	30,874	35,023
1999-00	16,348	170	22,221	3,907	42,646	45,373
Total Disbursements						
1997-98	$43,603,062	$289,874	$15,242,245	$10,431,788	$69,566,969	NA
1998-99	$51,827,637	$302,434	$31,153,146	$10,049,353	$93,332,570	NA
1999-00	$65,248,346	$356,993	$58,656,888	$7,588,704	$131,850,932	NA

*1997-98 Renewals represent former FUSF and/or VGS recipients

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Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program

A Federal Program Administered by the Florida Department of Education

The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program is a federally funded program that provides scholarships to public and private high school graduating seniors and GED recipients.

Award Level

The maximum amount awarded each Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship recipient for the 1999-2000 award year was $1,500. Florida is divided into five geographical regions. In order to distribute funds in a geographically equitable manner, the number of initial awards for each district is based on its proportionate percentage of high school graduates each year.

Eligibility

The high school principal, adult education director, or principal/headmaster of a non-Florida high school may nominate one applicant for an award. Graduates from non-Florida high schools must be legal residents of Florida. Renewal awards have been made since 1993-1994 and require a student to meet citizenship requirements, be enrolled full-time and maintain satisfactory academic progress standards of the institution.

Key Statistics

The number of initial awards and award amount is determined each year by the US Congress. Florida is permitted to make 282 annual initial awards and renewal awards. The average award for the 1999-2000 academic year was $1,442. An appropriation of $1,987,000 reflects the total number of initial and renewal awards permitted. Not all renewal awards are used.

Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program

Year	Participants	Funds Disbursed
1995-96	821	$1,223,000
1996-97	1085	$1,185,457
1997-98	1107	$1,179,005
1998-99	1148	$1,620,880
1999-00	1,140	$1,644,278

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Professional Programs

Critical Occupational Therapist or Physical Therapist Shortage Scholarship Loan Program

Florida Statute 240.6074 State Board of Education Rules 6A-20.042

The purpose of the Critical Occupational Therapist or Physical Therapist Shortage Scholarship Loan (OT/PT-SL) Program is to encourage students to pursue degrees in one of these two professions and declare their intent to work as full-time therapists in Florida publicly funded schools (K-12).

Award Level

The annual amount of the award for the Critical OT/PT Shortage Scholarship Loan Program is $4,000 for a maximum of four semesters or six quarters.

Eligibility

Recipients of the Critical Occupational Therapist or Physical Therapist Shortage Scholarship Loan Program (OT/PT-SL) must be enrolled in a therapist assistant program, or an upper division or graduate level therapist program at an eligible Florida institution, and declare an intent to be employed for a minimum of three years as a licensed therapist in a Florida publicly funded school (K-12). Eligible applicants are ranked and selected on the basis of cumulative, unweighted grade point averages.

Key Statistics

The average award for the 1999-2000 academic year was $3,333. This program shared an appropriation of $91,500 with the OT/PT Loan Forgiveness and the OT/PT Tuition Reimbursement Programs.

OT/PT Scholarship Loan Program

Year	Students	Funds Awarded
1995-96	4	$16,000
1996-97	7	$24,000
1997-98	15	$57,792
1998-99	15	$54,000
1999-00	10	$38,000

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Critical Occupational Therapist or Physical Therapist Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program

Florida Statute 240.6073 State Board of Education Rules 6A-20.041

The purpose of the Critical Occupational Therapist or Physical Therapist Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness (OT/PT-LF) Program is to provide a financial incentive for licensed professionals to work full-time in Florida publicly funded schools (K-12).

Award Level

A therapist awarded through the Critical OT/PT-LF Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program may receive a full award of up to $2,500 per year to repay eligible undergraduate loans and up to $5,000 per year to repay eligible graduate loans. An applicant may receive an award for a maximum of four academic years or a total of $10,000, whichever comes first. A therapist assistant may receive student loan forgiveness for a maximum of two academic years or a total of $5,000, whichever comes first.

Eligibility

Recipients of the Critical Occupational Therapist or Physical Therapist Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program must:

- ✓ be licensed or have a temporary permit as a therapist from the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation;
- ✓ have been employed as a therapist in a Florida publicly funded school (K-12) for at least 90 days of the school year; and
- ✓ declare an intent to be employed for a minimum of three years as a licensed therapist in Florida publicly funded schools (K-12).

Awards are made from funds available for this program, based on the timely receipt of all required forms.

Key Statistics

The average award is $3,000. An appropriation of $91,500 is shared with the OT/PT Scholarship Loan and OT/PT Tuition Reimbursement.

OT/PT Student Loan Forgiveness

Year	Students	Funds Awarded
1995-96	1	$2,500
1996-97	4	$15,267
1997-98	4	$15,267
1998-99	12	$32,500
1999-00	25	$75,000

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Critical Occupational Therapist or Physical Therapist Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program

Florida Statute 240.6075 State Board of Education Rules 6A-20.040

The purpose of the Critical Occupational Therapist or Physical Therapist Shortage Tuition Reimbursement (OT/PT-TR) Program is to assist full-time therapists currently employed in Florida publicly funded schools (K-12) to enhance their professional skills.

Award Level

A therapist awarded through the Critical OT/PT-TR Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program may be reimbursed up to $78 dollars per semester hour, for a total of nine semester hours, or the equivalent in quarter hours per year. Maximum program length is limited to 36 semester hours or the equivalent in quarter hours.

Eligibility

Recipients of the Critical OT/PT-TR Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program must:

- ✓ be licensed or have a valid temporary permit as a therapist from the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation;
- ✓ be employed as a full-time therapist in a Florida publicly funded school (K-12); and have been employed as such for a minimum of three years; and
- ✓ have earned a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in all courses for reimbursement.

Awards are made from the funds available for this program based on the timely receipt of all required documentation.

Key Statistics

The first awards for this program were made in 1994-95. This program shares an appropriation with the OT/PT Scholarship Loan and the OT/PT Student Loan Forgiveness Programs. The 1999-2000 appropriation was $91,500.

Critical OT/PT Shortage Tuition Reimbursement

Year	Students	Funds Awarded
1995-96	2	$936
1996-97	1	$1,326
1997-98	1	$468
1998-99	2	$850
1999-00	1	$702

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Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program

Florida Statutes 231.621 State Board of Education Rules 6A-20.013

The purpose of the Critical Teacher Shortage (CTS) Student Loan Forgiveness Program is to encourage qualified personnel to seek employment in subject areas in which critical teacher shortages exist as identified annually by the State Board of Education.

Award Level

Recipients of the CTS Student Loan Forgiveness Program may receive an annual award of up to $2,500 for four years to repay undergraduate loans and $5,000 for two years to repay graduate loans that supported postsecondary educational studies. Eligible teachers employed in Florida publicly funded schools (K-12) may receive a maximum of $10,000 toward repayment of their educational loans.

Eligibility

Eligible teachers must submit an application, applicable transcripts, verification of loan balance, and verification of employment by July 15 after the end of their first school year certified and teaching in the critical shortage area. In order to receive a full annual award, recipients must have taught a full-year, 180 days, in a Florida publicly funded school (K-12) or developmental research school in a designated CTS subject area. If an eligible teacher has taught a CTS subject area at an appropriate school for at least 90 days during his/her first school year of teaching, he/she must submit an application by the deadline and will receive one-half the full annual award.

Key Statistics

The first awards for this program were made in 1983-84. The CTS Student Loan Forgiveness and Tuition Reimbursement programs shared an appropriation of $4,146,795. The average loan forgiveness award amount was $2,854. Priority was given to the loan forgiveness program due to its earlier deadline and the program's "first come, first served" requirement. The funds allocated for 1999-2000 were fully expended.

Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program

Year	Participants	Disbursed Funds
1995-96	751	$1,966,785
1996-97	977	$2,563,379
1997-98	1,168	$3,243,879
1998-99	1,293	$3,509,630
1999-00	1,451	$4,140,529

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Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program

Florida Statute 240.4064 State Board of Education Rules 6A-20.012

The purpose of the Critical Teacher Shortage (CTS) Tuition Reimbursement Program is to assist currently certified teachers or persons preparing to teach to become certified in critical teacher shortage areas.

Award Level

Recipients may receive tuition reimbursement payments for up to nine (9) semester hours or the equivalent per year at a rate of up to $78 per credit hour for a maximum amount of $702 per year from the funds available for this program.

Eligibility

Any full-time employee in a publicly funded school (PreK-12) or developmental research school, who is certified to teach in Florida, is eligible for this program. Tuition reimbursement is limited to:

- ✓ state-approved undergraduate courses leading to certification in a critical teacher shortage area as determined by the State Board of Education, or
- ✓ graduate level courses leading to an advanced degree.

Key Statistics

The first awards for CTS Tuition Reimbursement program were made in 1983-84. The CTS Tuition Reimbursement and Student Loan Forgiveness Programs shared the same appropriation of $4,146,795. Priority was given to the CTS Student Loan Forgiveness program due to its earlier deadline and the program's "first come, first served" requirement. The 1999-2000 appropriation was not sufficient to fund all Tuition Reimbursement applicants. All eligible Tuition Reimbursement applicants who applied by December 1 received funding.

The 2000-2001 program deadline and terms of eligibility were adjusted to assist those 12/1/99-9/15/00 applicants to receive reimbursements. This earlier deadline and realignment of eligibility terms coordinates the Tuition Reimbursement and Loan Forgiveness program parameters of cost delivery timeframes.

Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program

Year	Participants	Funds Disbursed
1995-96	1,687	$652,615
1996-97	1,591	$669,000
1997-98	1,222	$539,030
1998-99	1,110	$479,649
1999-00	654*	$145,345

* Denotes number of courses reimbursed.

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Exceptional Student Education Training Grant

Florida Statute 240.405 State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.025

The purpose of the Exceptional Student Education Training Grant is to encourage certified teachers employed full-time in Florida public schools (PreK-12) or state supported programs yet teaching out-of-field, to pursue certification in the exceptional education subject area assigned.

Award

Eligible applicants may receive tuition reimbursement for up to nine semester hours or the equivalent per term per academic year at a rate of $78 per credit hour which represents approximately 68% of current tuition costs.

Eligibility

Recipients of this grant must hold a valid Florida educator's certificate that does not reflect an exceptional student education coverage or endorsement appropriate for their assignment, and must hold a full-time contract to teach in a Florida public school (PreK-12), or a state supported program. In addition, recipients must earn a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in specialized courses needed for certification in the area in which she or he is assigned.

Key Statistics

This program has received level funding of $109,212 since 1994. Once funds are expended, applicants are transferred to the CTS Tuition Reimbursement Program for program participation.

Exceptional Student Education Training Grant

Year	Participants	Funds Disbursed
1995-96	351	$109,039
1996-97	321	$109,161
1997-98	300	$109,019
1998-99	307	$109,128
1999-00	470*	$109,212

*Denotes number of courses reimbursed.

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Florida Teacher Scholarship and Forgivable Loan Program

Florida Statue 240.4063 State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.039

The purpose of the Florida Teacher Scholarship and Forgivable Loan program (FTS&FL) is to attract capable and promising students to the teaching profession, attract teachers to areas of projected and current critical teaching shortages, attract liberal arts and science graduates to teaching, and provide opportunity for persons making mid-career decisions to enter the teaching profession. FTS&FL is comprised of a two-year scholarship for freshman and sophomores, the "Chappie" James Most Promising Teacher Scholarship, and a two-year loan program for juniors, seniors, and graduate students, the Critical Teacher Shortage (CTS) Forgivable Loan Program

Award Level

The maximum annual **Florida Teacher Scholarship** award is $1,500. Awards are prorated if funds are insufficient to provide all eligible recipients with a full scholarship.

The maximum annual award of the **Forgivable Loan** program toward completion of undergraduate study is $4,000 for no more than four semesters unless a student is enrolled in a teacher program requiring five years of instruction. The maximum annual award toward completion of graduate study is $8,000 for no more than four semesters. Loan recipients who do not fulfill the teaching obligation in Florida publicly funded or developmental research schools are required to repay the loan plus interest.

Eligibility

Scholarship recipients must:

- ✓ submit an application to, and be nominated by, their Florida high school principal;
- ✓ have a minimum unweighted cumulative GPA of 3.0;
- ✓ be ranked in the top quartile of their senior class, and have either an ACT or SAT test score;
- ✓ provide written acknowledgment of their intent to enter the public school (K-12) teaching profession in Florida;
- ✓ have been an active member of a future teacher organization if one exists at their high school; and
- ✓ enroll in a degree program.

Scholarship applicants are ranked first by intent to enroll in a CTS area, then by GPA. One recipient is selected from each public high school and a proportional number from all private high schools. Fifteen percent of the scholarships are designated for eligible minority students.

Undergraduate and graduate **Forgivable Loan** recipients must:

- ✓ be enrolled in a state-approved teacher preparation program which leads to certification in one of the approved critical teacher shortage areas; and
- ✓ provide written declaration of their intent to teach in publicly funded elementary or secondary schools in Florida equal to the number of years the loan is awarded.

In addition, undergraduate Forgivable Loan recipients must:

- ✓ be upper division students,
- ✓ have scored in the top 40th percentile or better on the SAT or ACT,
- ✓ have earned a minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.5, and
- ✓ not have previously earned a bachelor's degree.

Graduate level Forgivable Loan recipients must:

- ✓ have a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary institution,
- ✓ have earned a minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0, or
- ✓ earned at least a 1000 on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), and
- ✓ not hold a bachelor's degree in a critical teacher shortage area.

Key Statistics

In 1999-2000, the "Chappie" James Most Promising Teacher Scholarship and the Critical Teacher Shortage Forgivable Loan Program shared an appropriation of $1,857,000. The average award for the "Chappie" James was $1,421. The average CTS Forgivable Loan award was $4,538.

Florida Teacher Scholarship and Forgivable Loan

	"Chappie" James		Forgivable Loan		Total	
Year	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures
1995-96	502	$744,000	178	$722,049	680	$1,466,049
1996-97	431	$621,000	250	$1,079,942	681	$1,700,942
1997-98	416	$606,750	226	$971,779	642	$1,578,529
1998-99	437	$603,000	199	$908,373	636	$1,511,373
1999-00	423	$602,250	110	$493,838	533	$1,096,088

Nursing Scholarship Program

Florida Statute 240.4076

The purpose of the Nursing Scholarship Program is to attract capable and promising students to the nursing profession, and provide financial assistance to those who agree to work in medically under served areas. Such facilities include state-operated medical or health care facilities, county health departments, federally sponsored community health centers, or teaching hospitals as defined in Section 408.07, Florida Statutes.

Award Level

Students pursuing an associate degree or bachelor's degree in nursing may receive up to $8,000 annually. Students pursuing advanced registered nurse practitioner degrees may receive up to $12,000 per year. A scholarship may be awarded for no more than two years.

Eligibility

A Scholarship applicant must be enrolled as a full-time or part-time student in the upper division of an approved program leading to the award of a bachelor's or any advanced registered nurse practitioner degree, or be enrolled as a full-time or part-time student in an approved program leading to the award of an associate degree in nursing or a diploma in nursing. For each full year of scholarship assistance, the recipient agrees to work 12 months at a health care facility in a medically under served area approved by the department. Any recipient who does not complete an appropriate program, does not become licensed, does not accept employment at an approved health care facility, or does not complete 12 months of approved employment for each year of scholarship assistance, is subject to repayment with penalty.

Key Statistics

Prior to July 1, 1998, The Department of Health administered this program.

Nursing Scholarship Program

Year	Nurses Funded	Average Award Amount	Total Disbursements
1995-96	8	$10,500	$84,000
1996-97	1	$6,000	$6,000
1997-98	2	$12,000	$24,000
1998-99*	1	$3,000	$3,000
1999-00	0	0	0

* The DOE and the DOH each funded one applicant for the 1998-99 award year.

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Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program

Florida Statute 240.4075

The Purpose of the Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program is to increase employment and retention of licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, and advanced registered nurse practitioners in areas of this state where critical nursing shortages exists. Such employees are to be employed in nursing homes and hospitals in the state or in state operated medical and health care facilities, birth centers, federally sponsored community health centers, and teaching hospitals. The program awards repayment toward loans received by students from federal or state programs or commercial lending institutions for the support of postsecondary study in accredited or approved nursing programs.

Award Level

Recipients of the Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program may receive a loan repayment of up to $4,000 per year, for a maximum of four years.

Eligibility

Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses, and Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners employed full time in one of Florida's County Health Departments, in federally sponsored community and migrant health centers, or in any state operated medical facility or teaching hospital are eligible to participate in this program. The loans being repaid must be associated with obtaining either a nursing degree or nursing certification.

Key Statistics

Prior to July 1, 1998, the Department of Health administered this program. A total of 79 nurses received funds through this program from an allocation of $686,656 for the 1999-2000 year, with an average award of $2,732.

Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program

Year	Nurses Funded	Average Award Amount	Total Disbursements
1995-96	95	$1,301	$123,569
1996-97	58	$1,791	$103,853
1997-98	81	$2,251	$182,364
1998-99	90	$2,025	$182,269
1999-00	80	$2,709	$216,730

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Special Interest Programs

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Ethics in Business Scholarships

Florida Statute 240.6054

The program provides assistance to undergraduate students who enroll in Florida community colleges and eligible private Florida colleges and universities. This program is administered by the Florida Independent College Fund, the Foundation for Florida's Community Colleges, and the Bureau of Student Financial Assistance.

Award Level

Annual expenditures are based on the accrued annual interest from an endowed trust fund. Each sector provides matching funds and sets the award level.

Eligibility

Since this program has decentralized administration, student eligibility requirements are determined by the sectors or participating institutions.

Key Statistics

The Ethics in Business Scholarships was created by the 1997 Legislature from funds received from a $6 million settlements 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 million dollars was set up for the purpose of a scholarship.

Ethics in Business Scholarships

Year	Florida Independent College Fund	Florida Foundation for Community Colleges	Spending Authority
1998-99	$166,667	$333,333	$500,000
1999-00	$131,521	$263,041	$394,562

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Limited Access Competitive Grant Program

Florida Statute 240.6045 State Board of Education Rule 6A.20.044

The Limited Access Competitive Grant Program (LACG) provides funds to eligible applicants in limited access programs at public postsecondary institutions to assist with enrollment opportunities in eligible private colleges and universities. Limited access programs are defined as high priority employment fields requiring a baccalaureate degree for which state universities have insufficient capacity to serve all qualified applicants.

Award Level

The LACG award is equal to 50% of the state's cost per academic year to fund a full-time undergraduate student's public postsecondary education. The 1999-2000 award was $2,590.

Eligibility

Grant recipients must be Florida residents, either community college graduates or state university transfer students. Program applicants must meet Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state student financial aid and must be enrolled full-time at an eligible postsecondary institution.

Key Statistics

The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission (PEPC) announced the following two programs for participation in LACG for 1999-2000:

- ✓ Nursing
- ✓ Occupational Therapy

The first awards for the LACG program were made in 1996-97, with 10 programs eligible to participate. The 1999-2000 appropriation was $500,000, with an average award of $2,223. The number of participating students each year corresponds with the number of programs designated by PEPC each year. The remaining balance of $171,070 returns to general revenue.

Limited Access Competitive Grant

Year	Students	Eligible Programs	Institutions	Funds Awarded
1996-97	22	10	5	$41,895
1997-98	147	8	7	$274,274
1998-99	234	6	10	$388,618
1999-00	148	2	10	$328,930

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Nicaraguan and Haitian Scholarship Program

Florida Statute 240.4146

The purpose of the Nicaraguan and Haitian Scholarship Program is to recognize one Nicaraguan and one Haitian resident of Florida for their academic achievement and service to their community with an award to attend a state university in Florida.

Award Level

The maximum award is $5,000 per academic year. However, this scholarship has never been fully funded. The average annual award amount is $4,340.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants must be citizens of, or have been born in, Nicaragua or Haiti. Scholarship recipients are chosen on the basis of academic achievement and service to the community. Applicants are required to submit written documentation of their community service work along with their application. Recipients may be incoming freshmen, undergraduate or graduate students, and must attend a state university.

Key Statistics

This scholarship program was implemented during the 1991-92 academic year.

Nicaraguan and Haitian Scholarship Program

Year	Students	Award Amount	Expenditures
1995-96	2	$4,340	$8,681
1996-97	2	$3,255	$6,510
1997-98	2	$4,340	$8,680
1998-99	2	$4,340	$8,680
1999-00	2	$4,340	$8,680

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Scholarships for Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans

Florida Statute 295.01 State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.019

The purpose of the Scholarships for Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans Program is to provide educational opportunities to dependent children of Florida veterans who have died or have been determined 100% disabled as a result of specified military actions, or who have been declared Prisoners of War or Missing in Action.

Award Level

Award amounts are based on the cost of matriculation and fees at public postsecondary institutions.

Eligibility

The recipients of the Scholarships for Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans (CDDV) must be students between the ages of 16 and 22 who are dependents of Florida veterans. All military actions and wars from World War I through the Persian Gulf War and Operation Just Cause are included. The scholarship is limited to full-time students who are seeking a degree or certificate at eligible Florida public or private postsecondary education institutions.

Key Statistics

From an appropriation of $333,250, 142 eligible students received an average annual award of $1,513.

Children of Deceased and Disabled Veterans

Expenditures by Sector 1995/1996-1999/2000

	Private Sector		Public Sector		Total	
Year	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures	Students	Expenditures
1995-96	0	$0	70	$83,852	70	$83,852
1996-97	0	$0	64	$82,293	64	$82,293
1997-98	4	$6,159	92	$127,871	96	$134,030
1998-99	6	$12,918	108	$157,737	114	$170,655
1999-00	14	$27,181	128	$187,680	142	$214,861

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Student Member Scholarships

General Appropriations Act

The General Appropriations Act provides for three student board member scholarships, one each for the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, State Board of Community Colleges, and the State Board of Regents.

Award Level

The annual award is set by the Florida Legislature. For the last eight years the annual award has been $4,589.

Eligibility

Recipients of this program are selected by each board and must enroll at an eligible Florida postsecondary institution.

Key Statistics

The first awards for this program were made in 1983 for the State Board of Regents (SBOR) Scholarship. In 1990, Postsecondary Education Planning Commission (PEPC) and the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) Scholarships began.

Student Member Scholarships

Year	PEPC	SBCC	SBOR
1995-96	$4,589	$4,589	$4,589
1996-97	$2,294	$4,589	$0
1997-98	$4,589	$4,589	$4,589
1998-99	$2,295	$4,589	$2,295
1999-00	$4,589	$0	$4,589

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The William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grants

Florida Statute 240.605 State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.007

The purpose of the Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG) is to provide tuition assistance to students attending eligible independent nonprofit colleges or universities in Florida. FRAG awards are not based on financial need and are not considered financial assistance. The legislature finds these independent institutions an integral part of Florida's higher educational system, which reduces the tax burden on the citizens of Florida.

Award Level

Each year the FRAG award is based on a percentage of the state's cost for a full-time undergraduate student to attend a state university or an amount specified in the General Appropriations Act. The 1999-2000 General Appropriations Act set the maximum award amount at $2,074.

Eligibility

The Florida Resident Access Grant is available to Florida residents who attend eligible postsecondary institutions as full-time, degree seeking, undergraduate students. Eligible institutions include independent nonprofit Florida colleges and universities located in, and chartered by the state, which have a secular purpose, grant bachelor degrees and are accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Key Statistics

Florida's cost for a full-time undergraduate student to attend a state university in 1999-2000 was $5,039, and the maximum 1999-2000 FRAG award was $2,074. The average cost of tuition and fees at FRAG eligible institutions for 1999-2000 was $12,165. For the 1999-2000 academic year, 23,256 students were funded from this program. The balance of unexpended funds returned to general revenue.

William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant

Year	Appropriation	Expenditures	Student Awards	Average Award $	Maximum Award $
1995-96	$19,852,200	$19,339,548	16,184	$1,195	$1,200
1996-97	$28,852,200	$28,836,102	17,265	$1,670*	$1,800
1997-98	$28,852,200	$28,032,605	20,403	$1,374*	$1,800
1998-99	$40,852,200	$38,770,381	21,657	$1,790	$1,800
1999-00	$48,232,944	$47,645,674	23,787	$2,003	$2,074

* Prorated award amounts were made to accommodate all eligible applicants with appropriated funds.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Student Financial Assistance
www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org