



# BRIGHT FUTURES

Presented by

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# PROGRAM DETAILS

## Initial Eligibility

- Bright Futures eligibility is determined at the high school level. Students should meet with their guidance counselor beginning in 9<sup>th</sup> grade to see what the requirements are.

## Renewal Eligibility

- Is determined by the State based on your GPA and completed number of credits at the college you attend at the end of Spring semester.

# ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Attend an eligible Florida Postsecondary Institution to use funding.
- Must be a Florida Resident and a US Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen
  - Permanent US Resident (I-551)
  - Conditional Permanent US Resident (I-551C)
  - Holder of an I-94 with the designation of “Refugee,” “Asylum Granted,” or “Parolee,”
  - T-Visa Holder
  - “Cuban Haitian Entrant”
  - Holder of a valid certification proving “Victim of Human Trafficking” from DHHS

# ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Must be degree seeking. Awards cannot be determined if a major has not been selected.
- Enroll in a minimum of six non-remedial semester hours (or the equivalent in quarter/clock hours) per term to receive funding. However, if a student has less than six semester hours to graduate or six semester hours remaining on his/her scholarship the student may receive funding. Student should let financial aid know if this is the case.

# ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

- A student may choose to receive funding for one or both terms during the academic year (fall & spring). **SUMMER TERM IS NOT FUNDED.**
- Student should Contact Bright Futures if they decide to delay scholarship.

# RESTRICTIONS OF BRIGHT FUTURES FUNDING

- Maximum 45 semester hours per academic year.
- No remedial course work will be funded.

# BRIGHT FUTURES AWARDS

- Awards are forwarded to the school around July 1 of each year (and are loaded on a weekly basis thereafter).
- Awards are per credit hour and the per credit hour amount is determined by the State.
- Goal Seal no longer covers AA transfer degrees. (Starting 2012-2013 recipients)
- IRSC enters estimated amount for awards.
- Student can print schedules or go online to see what portion of their fees are covered and what they are required to pay.

# REASONS WHY A STUDENT IS NOT AWARDED

- No admissions application on file at IRSC.
- Have not declared a degree program.
- Did not list IRSC as the school of record.
- Have not received notification from BF of scholarship eligibility



# SCHOLARSHIP LENGTH

- Is now determined based on the year student graduated from high school (check Bright Futures website). Scholarships usually cover at least 100% of program.

# Withdrawals

- Students are now required to repay funds received for dropped/withdrawn hours. **Note: If you are receiving BF funds at IRSC, you will be unable to withdraw online.**
- Students are not required to complete credits they have repaid.
- A hold will be placed on students records until funds are repaid.
- If funds are not repaid by the end of Spring term, student's BF will not be renewed for the next academic year.
- Students can submit a petition for reinstatement of BF if there is a **verifiable illness or emergency.**

# Renewal Requirements

## Credit Requirements

Credit Hour Type	Hours Funded (per term)	Required Earned Hours (per term)
Semester Hours	12+ hours (full-time)	12
	9-11 hours (3/4-time)	9
	6-8 hours (1/2-time)	6
Clock Hours	360+ hours (full-time)	360
	270-359 hours (3/4-time)	270
	180-269 hours (1/2-time)	180

## GPA Requirements

Florida Academic	Florida Medallion	Florida Gold Seal
3.0 GPA	2.75 GPA	2.75 GPA

# RENEWAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Grades and Hours will be submitted at the end of every Spring semester.
- Summer Grades and Hours earned after the Spring semester may be used to meet scholarship requirements **VERIFY ON BRIGHT FUTURES WEBSITE!!!**
- **STUDENTS must request their summer grades and hours be submitted to the state by completing a re-evaluation form. This form is located on the IRSC financial aid website. Forms can be dropped of in the financial aid office to Sasha Ramirez-Acosta or in student services or faxed to 772-462-4606.**

# REINSTATEMENT AND RESTORATION

- Check the Bright Futures website for reinstatement and/or restoration criteria.
- Requirements will depend on the year you graduated from high school.
- Website information is at the end of this presentation

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Where can a student use the Bright Futures Scholarship?
- I was a dual enrolled student, do I still need to select a major?
- May a student receive funding for courses taken at two different postsecondary institutions during the same term?
- What if a student wants to change schools and receive funding at the new school they will be attending?

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Must a student use the scholarship for a full academic year?
- How does Bright Futures process if I have other scholarships (FL pre-paid, athletic, tuition, etc) or Financial Aid?
- Can I use my Bright Futures scholarship for books if my other scholarships or Financial Aid is paying my tuition?
- If I attend a community/state college, can I save my scholarship to use at a university?

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- BRIGHT FUTURES WEBSITE (OSFA):  
[www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org)  
(click on State Grants, Scholarships, Applications)
- BRIGHT FUTURES TOLL FREE NUMBER:  
1-888-827-2004

IRSC Student Services and Financial Aid:  
772-462-4740 and 772-462-7450  
[www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu)