

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

Contact OSFA
Toll-free Federal Loans:
1-800-366-3475

Locally Federal Loans:
1-850-410-5200

E-mail: OSFAStudentLoans@fldoe.org

Toll-free State Programs:
1-888-827-2004

E-mail: OSFA@fldoe.org
Visit our [website!](#)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Bright Futures Award Amounts	2
Legislative Changes Memo pg. 1	3
Legislative Changes Memo pg. 2	4
Continuing Adult Education	5
Financial Aid Resources	6
Outreach Regional Assignments	7
Upcoming Calendar Dates	8

OSFA News for Guidance Counselors

YOU SHOULD KNOW

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2011

2011 Florida Legislative Session Updates and Legislative History

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance would like to share with you the Bright Futures Legislative changes for 2011-12.

Senate Bill 2000 General Appropriations Act (GAA)

Specifies Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program award amounts per credit hour in the 2011-12 academic year. See page 2 for **2011-12 Bright Futures Award Amounts**.

Senate Bill 2150

Students are **now required to submit a complete, error-free FAFSA** for Bright Futures, Florida Resident Access Grant, and Access to Better Learning and Education Grant initial and renewal eligibility any time prior to disbursement. No FAFSA = No \$

Increase in community service requirement (and hours increase for Florida Academic Scholars) for all three Bright Futures award levels. Bright Futures Florida Academic

Scholars (FAS), Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS), and Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) during the 2011-12 academic year, and thereafter, must complete:

- FAS – 100 hours (up from 75)
- FMS – 75 hours (up from 0)
- GSV – 30 hours (up from 0)

The Florida Department of Education is required to approve home education community service hours for Bright Futures initial eligibility.

Increase in Bright Futures Florida Medallion Scholars award test scores for high school students graduating in the 2013-14 academic year.

- 1050 increased to 1170 for SAT
- 23 increased to 26 for ACT
- 1100 SAT increased to 1220 and 24 ACT increased to 27 for home educated students.

Visit our [website](#) for more information.



Bright Futures 2011-12 Award Amounts

	Semester Hour Award	Quarter Hour Award	Clock Hour Award
Florida Academic Scholars (FAS)			
4 Year	\$ 101	\$ 67	
2 Year	\$ 62	\$ 41	\$ 2.07
Florida Public Colleges (formerly named community colleges) Baccalaureate Programs	\$ 70		
Career/Technical Centers	\$ 51	\$ 34	\$ 1.70
Academic Top Scholars (ATS)			
4 Year	\$ 43	\$ 29	
2 Year	\$ 43	\$ 29	\$ 1.43
Florida Public Colleges (formerly named community colleges) Baccalaureate Programs	\$ 43		
Career/Technical Centers	\$ 43	\$ 29	\$ 1.43
Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)			
4 Year	\$ 76	\$ 51	
2 Year	\$ 47	\$ 31	\$ 1.57
Florida Public Colleges (formerly named community colleges) Associate Degree Programs	\$ 62		
Florida Public Colleges (formerly named community colleges) Baccalaureate Programs	\$ 52		
Career/Technical Centers	\$ 38	\$ 25	\$ 1.27
Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV)			
4 Year	\$ 76	\$ 51	
2 Year	\$ 47	\$ 31	\$ 1.57
Florida Public Colleges (formerly named community colleges) Baccalaureate Programs	\$ 52		
Career/Technical Centers	\$ 38	\$ 25	\$ 1.27

Chart A

MEMORANDUM: 2011 Florida Legislative Changes to State Administered Programs

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



John L. Winn
Interim Commissioner of Education



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

KATHLEEN SHANAHAN, Chair
ROBERTO MARTINEZ, *Vice Chair*

Members

GARY CHARTRAND
DR. AKSHAY DESAI
MARK KAPLAN
JOHN R. PADGET

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bright Futures District Contacts
Public and Private High School Guidance Counselors

FROM: Theresa Antworth
Director, State Scholarship and Grant Programs

DATE: June 13, 2011

SUBJECT: 2011 Florida Legislative Changes to State Administered Scholarships and Grants

The 2011 Florida Legislative Session ended May 6, 2011, and Governor Scott signed bills that affect 2011-12 high school seniors who wish to earn a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship. The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) website at <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/home/uamain.htm> will reflect these changes as of July 1, 2011.

You may access any session bills via the website at www.leg.state.fl.us/Welcome.

SB2150 – Senate Conforming Bill

- Requires **all Bright Futures students to file a FAFSA** prior to receiving funding in the 2011-12 academic year. The Florida Department of Education (FDOE), OSFA will continue to determine the student's academic eligibility for a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship. The postsecondary institution will determine (along with residency and citizenship), whether or not the student has submitted his annual FAFSA before funding Bright Futures. The FAFSA must be complete and error-free, but does not have to indicate financial need. Notifications have been sent to initial and renewing students.

LEVIS HUGHES
CHIEF OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

325 W. GAINES STREET • SUITE 1314 • TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0400 • (850) 410-5200 • FAX (850) 488-3612
Levis.Hughes@fldoe.org

MEMORANDUM: 2011 Florida Legislative Changes to State Administered Programs

June 13, 2011
Page 2

- Expands **Bright Futures initial eligibility community service hours** for all three scholarship levels beginning with 2011-12 high school graduates:
 - Florida Academic Scholars – increases from 75 to 100 hours
 - Florida Medallion Scholars – new requirement of 75 hours
 - Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars – new requirement of 30 hours
- Increases for the 2013-14 high school graduates, the Florida Medallion Scholars **initial eligibility test score requirement** from 1050 SAT to 1170, and 23 ACT to 26.

CS/HB7151 (K-20 Innovation Subcommittee)

- Requires the Department of Education to approve **home education community service hours for Bright Futures** initial eligibility. This means OSFA (not the public school district or a private high school administrator) will determine the policy for acceptable community service for home educated applicants and review their documentation of completed community service hours. This policy will be included on the Bright Futures website for home educated applicants beginning July 1.

The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship – not funded for the 2011-12 year; therefore, no initial or renewal awards will be made. Notifications have been sent to all Byrd applicants and renewing students.

Should you have questions about changes to the Bright Futures Scholarship Program, please call our toll-free number 1-888-827-2004.

Continuing Adult Education

Parents often inquire about how to find resources to continue their education. The Office of Student Financial Assistance has a wealth of information available on our [website](#) to answer all of those questions. We have audio presentations, online seminars, scholarship information, useful links to the Florida Department of Education and the U. S. Department of Education. We are your one stop shop to educational advancement!





List of Financial Aid Resources

www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov

Federal Student Aid for Counselors provides financial aid information for middle school, high school, and TRIO counselors.

www.StudentAid.ed.gov

The United States Department of Education site provides students with information on federal aid programs, choosing a school, a scholarship search, and a career interest inventory.

www.students.gov

Students.gov is the student gateway to the U.S. government. In addition to college and career resources, this site provides information about the military, campus life, study resources, and information about the U.S. government.

www.collegegoalsundayusa.org

College Goal Sunday is offered in over 30 sites in Florida to help students and families learn about financial aid. Parents and students receive one-on-one assistance to complete the FAFSA.

www.collegeaccess.org

The National College Access Network functions as a site for counselors, and provides advisors and mentors with resources for college access in general.

www.finaid.org

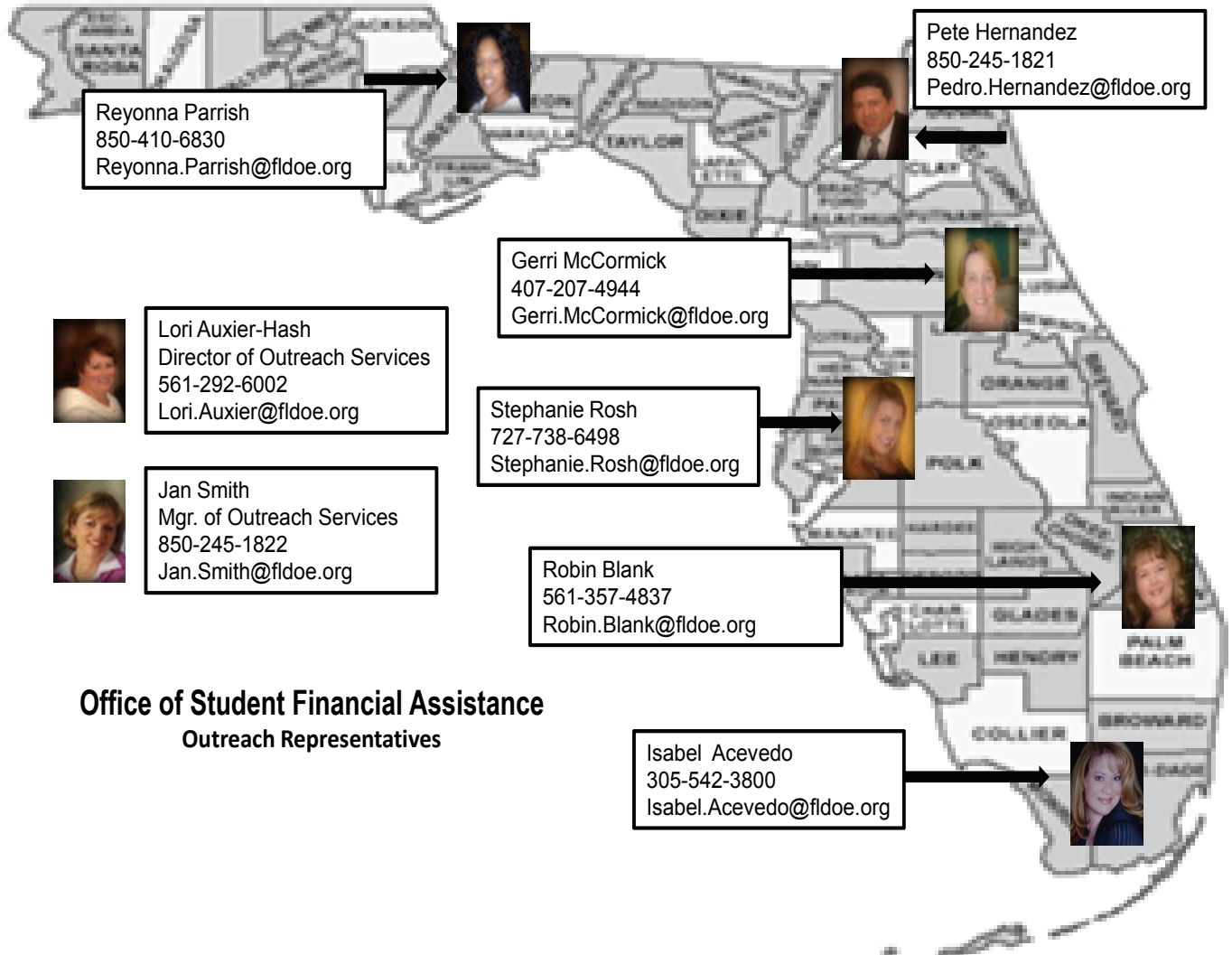
This comprehensive website includes information about scholarships, loans, savings plans, and military aid. It also has information about other types of financial aid, applications, and financial aid calculators.

www.ftc.gov/scholarshipcams

The Federal Trade Commission website provides information on scholarship scams and provides an online complaint form.



The OSFA Outreach Team is on the Map!



Office of Student Financial Assistance
Outreach Representatives

We've got you covered, Florida!

Upcoming Calendar Dates

- August 2011 – Welcome back students! Begin planning for your Financial Aid Nights for college bound students.
- September 2011 – Encourage your students to earn community service hours for Bright Futures eligibility.

Contact an OSFA Outreach Representative about your high school's needs.

The June 2011 NyFF E-News is available for your students. Provide them with the NyFF link for access to:

NPR's Financial Literacy Resources

The Simple Dollar Blog

"Investing" in Summer Fun

To read the full length newsletter click NyFF. Select Current E-News! Follow the link to subscribe.



Have you missed an issue of the

OSFA News for Guidance Counselors?

You may visit the archives for prior editions.

Feel free to share our updates with faculty peers!

OSFA's Outreach Team Contact information

Lori Auxier
Director of Outreach Services
561-292-6002, office/fax
Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org

Isabel Acevedo
Outreach Representative
South Florida
305-542-3800, office/fax
Isabel.Acevedo@fldoe.org

Robin Blank
Outreach Representative
Greater Palm Beach/Broward
561-357-4837, office/fax
Robin.Blank@fldoe.org

Pedro "Pete" Hernandez
Outreach Representative
Northeast Florida
850-245-1821, office
850-488-3612, fax
Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org

Gerri McCormick
Outreach Representative
Greater Orlando
407-207-4944, office/fax
Gerri.McCormick@fldoe.org

Reyonna Parrish
Outreach Representative
Northwest Florida
850-410-6830, office
850-488-3612, fax
Reyonna.Parrish@fldoe.org

Stephanie Rosh
Outreach Representative
Greater Tampa
727-738-6498, office
N/A, fax
Stephanie.Rosh@fldoe.org

Jan Smith
Manager of Outreach Services
850-245-1822, office
850-488-3612, fax
Jan.Smith@fldoe.org