NEWS TO KNOW



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS



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Participation and Allocation Request

In preparation for the 2018-19 Mary McLeod Bethune (MMB) Scholarship Program allocations, the Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA), requests each eligible institution to indicate the intent to participate. Matching institutional contributions are due to OSFA on August 1, 2018.

The MMB Participation and Allocation Request is available at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org.

The Final Allocation Notice will be sent to all participating institutions upon final appropriations.

For more information, refer to the OSFA postsecondary institution page, memorandum OSFA-STATE: #17-18:40.

If you have any question or need assistance, please contact Customer Service at 888-827-2004.



- ⇒ Overview of Financial Aid Programs—National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA), July 9 (Online). For more information, visit www.nasfaa.org/Training Events.
- ⇒ ACT Enrollment Management Summit—National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA), July 18—20 (Denver, CO). For more information, visit www.nasfaa.org/Training_Events.
- ⇒ 2018 FSA Training Conference—Federal Student Aid (FSA), November 27 30 (Atlanta, GA). For more information, visit <u>fsaconferences.ed.gov</u>.
- ⇒ Federal Student Aid, IFAP Training—Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP), Federal Student Aid provides a variety of ways to obtain training. For more information, visit <u>ifap.ed.gov/ifap/training/index.jsp</u>.
- ⇒ Federal Student Aid's Training for Financial Aid

 Professionals (TFAP) website contains information on
 current and future training activities and learning resources.
 To help you choose training that's tailored to your needs,
 the experience level and functional role appropriate for
 each series is identified. If you're in the first two years on
 the job (or just want a "refresher"), see the listings for New
 Financial Aid Professionals. If you need training on a
 specific financial aid system or in a specialized area of
 financial aid administration, check out courses in Training
 for Specific Functions. In addition, check the directions and
 other helpful information for FSA Regional Training
 Facilities. If you take training remotely via your computer,
 see available materials that you can download.



Free Materials and Publications

Order free materials at Navigating Your Financial Future.

Online Webinars

Mapping Your Future also offers a series of online classes, see <u>Webinars ondemand</u> for financial aid professionals.

Contact Information

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Program Updates for 2018-19

Benacquisto Scholarship (FIS) has been expanded to include out-of-state National Merit Scholars for the 2018-19 academic year. Out-of-state students are exempt from paying out-of-state fees.

Bright Futures – Florida Academic Scholars (BFFAS) recipients who attend a public institution will receive an award equal to 100 percent of tuition and applicable fees. The fixed per credit hour award for BFFAS recipients who attend a nonpublic institution will be equivalent to the average tuition and fees at a comparable public institution. The award amounts for recipients attending nonpublic institutions will be posted to the OSFA website prior to fall disbursement.

Recent 2018 high school graduates who have been officially evaluated as BFFAS may receive scholarship funding beginning with the summer 2018 term. These students will be disbursed on the Term 0 DER. **Note**: The additional \$300 for other educational expenses may only be provided during each fall and spring term, not summer.

Bright Futures – Florida Medallion Scholars (BFFMS) recipients who attend a public institution will receive an award equal to 75 percent of tuition and applicable fees beginning with the 2018-19 academic year. The fixed per credit hour award for BFFMS recipients who attend a nonpublic institution will be equivalent to the average tuition and fees at a comparable public institution. The award amounts for recipients attending nonpublic institutions will be posted to the OSFA website prior to fall disbursement.

Any eligible BFFMS student in the 2018-19 academic year may receive scholarship funding beginning with the summer 2019 term. These students will be disbursed on Term 6.

Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans (CDDV) – CDDV recipients who attend a public institution will receive an award that covers tuition and applicable fees. CDDV recipients who attend a nonpublic institution will receive a per credit hour award equivalent to the average tuition and fees at a comparable public institution. The award amounts for recipients attending nonpublic institutions will be posted to the OSFA website prior to fall disbursement.

Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG) – The 2018 Florida Legislature recently renamed this program to Effective Access to Student Education beginning with the 2018-19 academic year. For DER reporting purposes, FRAG will remain as the program's acronym.

Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship (FFSS) – The 2018 Florida Legislature recently created the FFSS Program (Chapter 2018-4, Laws of Florida). This new program will provide up to 50 scholarships for farmworkers and the children of farmworkers beginning with the 2018-19 academic year. Each scholarship will cover 100 percent of tuition and applicable fees at a public postsecondary education institution in Florida.

If you have questions, please contact Customer Service 888-827-2004.

Federal Program Reviews

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) performs program reviews to identify whether a school is abiding by the provisions governing Title IV aid programs, and if not, USED can impose hefty financial fines and liabilities against the school. This danger of financial ramifications may lead schools to fear program reviews.

Fear is often the product of the unknown, and program reviews are no different. This topic generates an abundance of questions from schools. The National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) gathered the frequent ones to make sure you're in the know and help eliminate some fear.

For a list of the 9 Common Questions Schools Have About Federal Program Reviews visit www.NASFAA.org.

Calendar



Contact OSFA

Customer Service: 888-827-2004

Email: OSFA@fldoe.org

Visit our website at:

www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org

Upcoming Deadlines

- ⇒ July 1, 2018, is the beginning of the new fiscal year for state scholarship and grant programs.
- ⇒ July—Summer grade and hours (G&H) Report open for Bright Futures (BF).
- ⇒ August—Program funds sent to eligible PSIs for Term 1.