MONEY FOR COLLEGE

BHS School Counseling

FINANCIAL AID?

- Financial aid is ANY Resource that can help you pay for college.
 - Grants (you don't have to pay back)
 - Scholarships (you don't have to pay back)
 - Work-Study (you don't have to pay back)
 - Loans (you DO have to pay back)
- You can use financial aid to help pay for:
 - Tuition
 - Books
 - Room & Board
 - Supplies
 - Transportation



Federal Student Aid – Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

• October 1 of senior year

Florida Financial Aid – Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) - this includes Bright Futures scholarship

• October 1 of senior year

Institutional Financial Aid When you apply to the college/university/vocational school

Scholarships

NOW

FOUR WAYS TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

SCHOLARSHIP TIPS



- Start searching for scholarships early and continue searching throughout college.
- Apply to EVERY scholarship for which you are eligible.
- Essays can be reused and tailored for each new application.
- Review your social media accounts and remove inappropriate material.
- Make sure you have an appropriate e-mail address.

GET ORGANIZED

- Make a list of deadlines and don't miss them.
- Keep a folder/file/binder with everything that is needed to apply for multiple scholarships.
 - ACT/SAT/PERT scores
 - High school transcript (request one from Naviance)
 - Letters of recommendation (because you may be able to use one for multiple scholarships)
 - Resume of activities, community service, and leadership roles
 - Essays (because you may be able to use one essay for multiple scholarships)
- Get an appropriate e-mail address
 - JohnSmitho1@gmail.com (YES)
 - BigDaddyo1@gmail.com (NO)



WHERE DO I FIND SCHOLARSHIPS?

- Scholarship links on the guidance webpage https://www-bhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/scholarships/
- Raise.Me https://www.raise.me/join/5778868440
- Google Search (but NEVER pay for scholarships)
 - http://www.fastweb.com/
 - http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/
 - https://www.raise.me/join/5778868440
 - Other schools' scholarship pages/social media
- College Board
 - https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search
- Parents' Employers
- Church and Civic Organizations
- Unions
 - https://www.unionplus.org/college-education-financing/union-plus-scholarship
- University/College Website
 - Check the scholarship web page at the colleges you would like to attend.
 - Check the webpage of the department of your intended major.

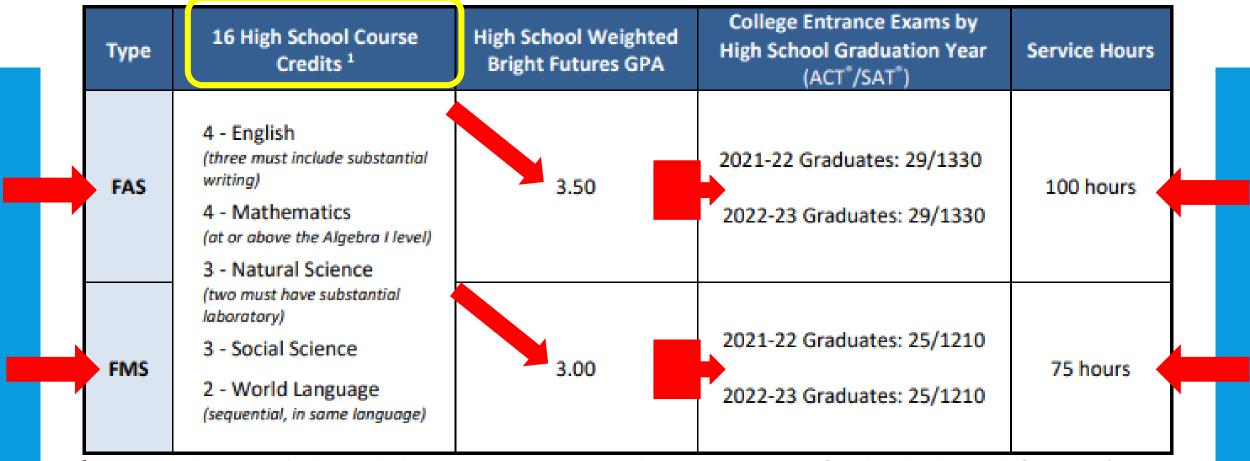
BEWARE OF SCAMS

- NEVER pay for scholarships or searches.
- Scholarships are never guaranteed.
- Feel too good to be true? Do more research and ask around.
- Trust your instinct.
- Scholarships are gifts; they never have to be repaid.
- Don't give out bank account, credit card, or social security information.





BRIGHT FUTURES REQUIREMENTS



¹ The required coursework aligns with the State University System admission requirements found in Florida Board of Governor's Regulation 6.002. Information regarding high school coursework can be found in the Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook.

Gold Seal Vocational Scholar (GVS) can only be used to fund a career education or certificate program.



You must apply for the scholarship by submitting a completed Florida Financial Aid Application during senior year



Your goal should be to have all of your community service completed by the end of junior year



Bright Futures GPA is NOT the same as BHS GPA



Bright Futures weighs honors, AP, and dual enrollment classes equally with 0.5 per credit earned – NOT 1.0 weight for AP or DE!



Bright Futures will also accept two additional academic electives toward the GPA calculation if it benefits the student.

BRIGHT FUTURES INFORMATION

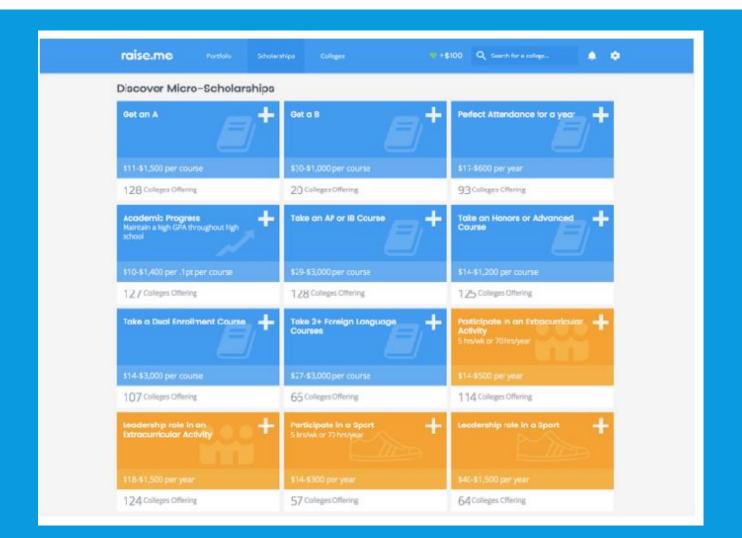
STARTING A RAISE.ME ACCOUNT

- Log into your HAC account to view report card grades/transcripts
- Go to https://www.raise.me/join/5778868440
- Enter your email address & a password you will remember
- Fill out basic details like your name, address, birthday, gender, and where you heard about Raise.me
- This information will be part of your student profile, so double check to make sure it's all accurate
- You receive report cards quarterly
- Update your graduation year
- Choose all of the colleges you're interested in (and more)

LET'S START EARNING MONEY FOR COLLEGE!

- Be sure to be honest and accurate as colleges will reference this information in the future
- Add achievements sports, activity, community service hours, awards, a college visit (event), grades
- All achievements are saved to your portfolio on Raise.Me
- Keep adding achievements to your portfolio throughout high school
- The stronger your portfolio is, the more opportunities you'll have to earn money from colleges you are following.

DISCOVER MICRO-SCHOLARSHIPS



The Micro-Scholarships page shows you all of the different things you earn money for while you're in high school.

Think of this page as a guide for all of the different things you can do to become a wellrounded applicant for college.

THE COLLEGES PAGE

- You can search and follow any school throughout the country.
- Following demonstrates interest in that school, which is an important part of the application process.
- Clicking on the college will show microscholarships available, eligibility requirements, tuition per year, location, and more.

