

# 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

## HELPFUL 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)
  - BigDaddy01@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

Type	16 High School Course Credits <sup>1</sup>	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT <sup>®</sup> /SAT <sup>®</sup> )	Service Hours
FAS	4 - English <i>(three must include substantial writing)</i> 4 - Mathematics <i>(at or above the Algebra I level)</i> 3 - Natural Science <i>(two must have substantial laboratory)</i>	3.50	2021-22 Graduates: 29/1330 2022-23 Graduates: 29/1330	100 hours
FMS	3 - Social Science 2 - World Language <i>(sequential, in same language)</i>	3.00	2021-22 Graduates: 25/1210 2022-23 Graduates: 25/1210	75 hours

<sup>1</sup> 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 screenshot shows the 'raise.me' website's 'Discover Micro-Scholarships' page. The page has a blue header with the 'raise.me' logo, navigation links for 'Portfolio', 'Scholarships', and 'Colleges', a balance of '\$100', a search bar, and notification/settings icons. Below the header, the title 'Discover Micro-Scholarships' is displayed. The main content is a grid of 12 scholarship cards, each with a title, icon, requirements, amount, and the number of colleges offering it.

Scholarship Category	Amount	Colleges Offering
Get an A	\$11-\$1,500 per course	128
Get a B	\$10-\$1,000 per course	20
Perfect Attendance for a year	\$17-\$600 per year	93
Academic Progress Maintain a high GPA throughout high school	\$10-\$1,400 per .1pt per course	127
Take an AP or IB Course	\$29-\$3,000 per course	128
Take an Honors or Advanced Course	\$14-\$1,200 per course	125
Take a Dual Enrollment Course	\$14-\$3,000 per course	107
Take 2+ Foreign Language Courses	\$27-\$3,000 per course	65
Participate in an Extracurricular Activity 5 hrs/wk or 70 hrs/year	\$14-\$500 per year	114
Leadership role in an Extracurricular Activity	\$18-\$1,500 per year	124
Participate in a Sport 5 hrs/wk or 70 hrs/year	\$14-\$300 per year	57
Leadership role in a Sport	\$40-\$1,500 per year	64

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 well-rounded 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 micro-scholarships available, eligibility requirements, tuition per year, location, and more.

The screenshot displays the 'raise.me' website's 'Colleges' section. The top navigation bar includes 'raise.me', 'Portfolio', 'Scholarships', and 'Colleges'. A search bar on the right shows '+\$100' and a search prompt 'Search for a college...'. Below the navigation, the 'Colleges' section features a search bar with the text 'Offering Micro-Scholarships at:'. A filter bar below the search bar includes tabs for 'Micro-Scholarships', 'following', 'location', 'type', 'size', 'cost', 'admission', 'majors', and '...'. The results section shows '155 Results' and a dropdown for 'If Close to Me'. The results are displayed in a grid of six college cards. Each card includes a college image, a scholarship amount, a tuition cost, a 'Follow this school to earn scholarships.' button, and a green checkmark icon. The colleges listed are: University of South Carolina (Columbia, SC), Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC), Presbyterian College (Clinton, SC), Wingate University (Wingate, NC), Queens University of Charlotte (Charlotte, NC), and Converse College (Spartanburg, SC).

College	Location	Scholarship Amount	Tuition Cost	Follow Button
University of South Carolina	Columbia, SC	\$2,000	\$580 per year	✓
Winthrop University	Rock Hill, SC	\$57,670	\$14,418 per year	+
Presbyterian College	Clinton, SC	\$68,425	\$17,106 per year	✓
Wingate University	Wingate, NC	\$8,745	\$2,186 per year	+
Queens University of Charlotte	Charlotte, NC			✓
Converse College	Spartanburg, SC			✓