

# 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®/CLT®/SAT®)	Volunteer Service Only	Paid Work Hours Only	Combination of Volunteer/Paid 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	2024-25 Graduates: 29/96/1340 2025-26 Graduates: 29/95/1330	100 hours	100 hours	100 hours
FMS	3 - Social Science 2 - Foreign/World Language <i>(sequential, in same language)</i>	3.00	2024-25 Graduates: 25/84/1210 2025-26 Graduates: 24/82/1190	75 hours	100 hours	100 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. Additional information regarding high school coursework can be found within 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 displays the 'Discover Micro-Scholarships' page on the raise.me website. The page features a blue header with the 'raise.me' logo, navigation tabs for 'Portfolio', 'Scholarships', and 'Colleges', a user balance of '+\$100', and a search bar. Below the header, the page is titled 'Discover Micro-Scholarships' and contains a grid of 12 scholarship cards. Each card lists a requirement, the amount awarded, and the number of colleges offering it. The cards are color-coded: blue for academic-related scholarships and orange for extracurricular and leadership-related ones.

Scholarship Requirement	Amount	Colleges Offering
Get an A	\$11-\$1,500 per course	128 Colleges Offering
Get a B	\$50-\$1,000 per course	20 Colleges Offering
Perfect Attendance for a year	\$17-\$600 per year	93 Colleges Offering
Academic Progress: Maintain a high GPA throughout high school	\$10-\$1,400 per .1pt per course	127 Colleges Offering
Take an AP or IB Course	\$29-\$3,000 per course	128 Colleges Offering
Take an Honors or Advanced Course	\$14-\$1,200 per course	125 Colleges Offering
Take a Dual Enrollment Course	\$14-\$3,000 per course	107 Colleges Offering
Take 2+ Foreign Language Courses	\$27-\$3,000 per course	65 Colleges Offering
Participate in an Extracurricular Activity (5 hrs/wk or 70 hrs/year)	\$14-\$500 per year	114 Colleges Offering
Leadership role in an Extracurricular Activity	\$18-\$1,500 per year	124 Colleges Offering
Participate in a Sport (5 hrs/wk or 70 hrs/year)	\$14-\$300 per year	57 Colleges Offering
Leadership role in a Sport	\$40-\$1,500 per year	64 Colleges Offering

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.

raise.me Portfolio Scholarships Colleges +\$100 Search for a college...

## Colleges

Offering Micro-Scholarships at

Micro-Scholarships following location type size cost admission majors ...

165 Results IF Close to Me

College	Location	Tuition per year	Micro-Scholarship
University of South Carolina	Columbia, SC	\$580	\$2,000
Winthrop University	Rock Hill, SC	-	Follow this school to earn scholarships.
Presbyterian College	Clinton, SC	\$14,418	\$57,670
Wingate University	Wingate, NC	\$17,106	\$68,425
Queens University of Charlotte	Charlotte, NC	Follow this school to earn scholarships.	-
Converse College	Spartanburg, SC	\$2,186	\$8,745