

Specific Requirements for Scholarships

Florida Academic Scholars (FAS)

Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)

Florida high school students who wish to qualify for the Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) award or the Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) award must meet the following initial eligibility requirements:

- Graduate high school from a Florida public high school with a standard Florida high school diploma ([high school graduation requirements](#)), graduate from a registered Florida Department of Education private high school, earn a [GED](#), complete a [home education](#) program, or graduate from a non-Florida high school if specific conditions are met (see the Out-of-State (OOS) guide referenced here for additional details – [OOS](#));
- Complete the required high school coursework;
- Achieve the required minimum high school grade point average (GPA);
- Achieve the required minimum score on either the ACT[®], CLT[®], or SAT[®] college entrance exam by August 31 of high school graduation year;
- Complete the required number of volunteer service, paid work hours, or the combination of 100 total hours; and
- Submit an FFAA no later than August 31 after high school graduation.

Type	16 High School Course Credits ¹	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	2023-24 Graduates: 29/96/1340 2024-25 Graduates: 29/96/1340	100 hours	100 hours	100 hours
FMS	3 - Social Science 2 - World Language <i>(sequential, in same language)</i>	3.00	2023-24 Graduates: 25/84/1210 2024-25 Graduates: 25/84/1210	75 hours	100 hours	100 hours

¹ 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](#).

High School Course Credits

For both FAS and FMS award types, the required coursework aligns with the State University System admission requirements. The world language requirement can be met by demonstrating proficiencies based on scores on [Credit-By-Exam Equivalencies](#) or other university approved means. Otherwise, the high school transcript must include a world language “completer” course to show that the world language requirement has been met. Please refer to the [Bright Futures Course Table](#) for specific information on which courses count toward FAS/FMS requirements.

High School GPA

Evaluation for Bright Futures includes an unrounded, weighted high school GPA (calculated to two decimal places) in the 16 college preparatory credits. The following courses are weighted 0.25 per semester course or 0.50 per year course in the calculation of the GPA: Advanced Placement (AP), Pre-International Baccalaureate (Pre-IB), International Baccalaureate (IB), Honors, Pre-Advanced International Certificate of Education (Pre-AICE), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), or academic Dual Enrollment. For example, whereas an ‘A’ equals 4.00 quality points for an un-weighted course, an ‘A’ would equal 4.50 quality points for a weighted course. If necessary, students may use two additional credits from courses in the above academic areas, or from AP, IB, or AICE fine arts courses to raise their GPA.

College Entrance Exams

Students must meet the scores set in statute for either the ACT[®], CLT[®], or SAT[®]

- The ACT[®] composite score is the average of the best section scores across the four subject area sections from any test sitting: [English](#), [Math](#), [Reading](#) and [Science](#). Composite scores ending in 0.50 will be rounded up to the next whole number.
- The SAT[®] combined score is the sum of the best [Reading](#) (Critical Reading or Evidence-Based Reading and Writing) and [Math](#) section scores from any test sitting of the SAT[®].
- The CLT[®] combined score is the sum of the best Verbal Reasoning, Grammar/Writing and Quantitative Reasoning from any test sitting of the CLT[®] for an Overall Score.
- The ACT[®], CLT[®], or SAT[®] exams may be taken an unlimited number of times through August 31 of the high school graduation year (or through January 31 for mid-year graduates).
- Students will be evaluated based on official test scores from the FDOE repository. To ensure OSFA obtains official test scores:
 - Ensure demographics on your test registration and high school transcript match; and
 - Request your official single sitting test scores be sent to one of Florida’s public colleges or state universities when registering for the ACT[®], CLT[®], or SAT[®].

Volunteer Service and Paid Work Hours

Students must complete a program of volunteer service or, beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-23 academic year and thereafter, paid work, as approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school. Each district school board and the administrators of a nonpublic school must establish approved activities and the process for documentation of volunteer service or paid work hours including the deadline by which they must be completed. Students must earn either the required volunteer service, paid work hours, or the combination of 100 total hours.

The student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that interests them and develop a plan for their personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area. The student must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon their volunteer service or paid work experience. Volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the student’s parent or guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

Other ways to qualify

Students who have demonstrated academic merit through a recognition program may be eligible for Bright Futures without having to meet one or more of the requirements. Note: Both AICE and IB Diplomas must be earned prior to high school graduation. Confirmations may come from AICE and IB as late as September. Please refer to the table below for how to qualify based on one of the merit recognition programs.

Merit Recognition Program	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year		Volunteer Service*	Paid Work Hours*	Combination of Volunteer/ Paid Hours	Bright Futures Award
	2023-24	2024-25				
National Merit® Finalists and Scholars			100 hours	100 hours	100 hours	FAS
			75 hours			FMS
National Hispanic Recognition Program			100 hours	100 hours	100 hours	FAS
			75 hours			FMS
Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) - Diploma			100 hours	100 hours	100 hours	FAS
			75 hours			FMS
International Baccalaureate (IB) - Diploma			100 hours	100 hours	100 hours	FAS
			75 hours			FMS
AICE - Curriculum	29/96/1340	29/96/1340	100 hours	100 hours	100 hours	FAS
	25/84/1210	25/84/1210	75 hours	100 hours	100 hours	FMS
International Baccalaureate (IB) - Curriculum	29/96/1340	29/96/1340	100 hours	100 hours	100 hours	FAS
	25/84/1210	25/84/1210	75 hours	100 hours	100 hours	FMS

*Student must earn the required volunteer service, paid work hours, or a combination of both equal to 100 total hours.

National Merit Finalists and Scholars, or National Hispanic Recognition Program

- In order to identify National Merit Scholarship Corporation students, OSFA will need the official letter of recognition from National Merit Scholarship Corporation sent to High Schools.
- In order to identify National Hispanic Recognition Program students, OSFA will need the official letter (email) of recognition from College Board Recognition Program as well as the certification showing the student has been recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition Program as a scholar recipient. The documents should be uploaded to OSFA’s secure file by either the high school or the student.

AICE Curriculum

- Complete a minimum of 14 AICE credits* identified by the Cambridge Assessment International Education (Cambridge International) in the Diploma Core and three academic areas as follows:
 - AICE Diploma Core – AICE Global Perspectives & Research AS level (Two Credits required)
 - Group 1 – Mathematics and Sciences (Two Credits required)
 - Group 2 – Languages (Two Credits required)
 - Group 3 – Arts and Humanities (Two Credits required)
 - Group 4 – Interdisciplinary Skills (Optional – Four Credits maximum)
 - Six additional credits required in any combination from the above four groups.

*Students earn one credit by completing and passing one AICE full credit course and another credit for taking the corresponding AICE examination.

IB Curriculum

- Complete a minimum of 10 credits identified by the International Baccalaureate Organization:
 - Two credits each in three of the following areas and one credit each in the remaining three areas: Language Arts, World Language, Social Studies, Science, Mathematics and Arts/Electives. Each of these credits must be an IB or AP course. Pre-IB courses do not meet IB curriculum requirements.
 - One credit in Theory of Knowledge
- Complete the Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) requirement
- Complete an extended essay.

Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV)

The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) award may be funded if a student is enrolled in a career education or certificate program. Florida high school students who wish to qualify for the GSV award must meet the following initial eligibility requirements:

- Achieve the required weighted minimum 3.0 GPA in the non-elective high school courses;
- Take at least 3 full credits in a single Career and Technical Education program;
- Achieve the required minimum 3.5 unweighted GPA in the career education courses;
- Achieve the required minimum score on the ACT[®], SAT[®] or Florida Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT) exams (see table below); and
- Complete 30 volunteer service hours, 100 paid work hours, or the combination of 100 total hours.