

Bright Futures Scholarship Program

NEW this year!

Please remind your students: Bright Futures award notifications are being posted to students' online SSFAD accounts. **No e-mail or hardcopy notifications are being sent this year.** Students were informed on their *Florida Financial Aid Applications* in the "Before You Begin" pages that: All communication will be available using their assigned User IDs and PINs to login to their Financial Aid Recipient History under the Application Status & Award History link: www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/home/ApplicationStatus.htm. Students may also obtain their logons at that website. Section VII: Correspondence History provides users with the ability to view and print a copy of the award notification.

Before you go home for the summer, please be sure you submitted final transcripts with final grades and high school graduation dates to Summer Production for all your seniors who submitted a Florida Financial Aid Application. A standard Florida high school diploma is a requirement for earning a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship. When you indicate the diploma type online, the links "standard" and "accelerated" will direct you to the listing of the coursework required for these diplomas. By checking the radio button next to these links, you are indicating the student has earned a standard Florida high school diploma.

In order for your private school students to earn a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship, your high school must:

- Be registered as a private high school with the Florida Department of Education. (You will find the Annual Survey process and the contact information for the School Choice Office at: www.floridaschoolchoice.org/. Be sure to indicate at least one senior on your survey, so your high school will be listed on the required Florida Financial Aid Application. The Annual Survey opens each September 1st), and
- Request, from OSFA/Bright Futures, secure access to the Bright Futures Scholarship Program's Evaluation System to submit your high school students' transcripts online for evaluation for a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship.

Refer students to www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/home/ApplyHere.htm to submit the required **Initial State Student Application**

To view the academic requirements for each Bright Futures Scholarship, refer students to www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/acadrequire.htm, and the Brochures link at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/ssfad/bf/.

Webinars –These hands on, instructor led, Web-based trainings are offered free August through May of each academic year. Visit <https://suncom.webex.com/> and choose the "Training Center" tab and then the "Upcoming" tab to register for Webinars.

Contact Beverly Lahtinen via e-mail at Beverly.Lahtinen@fldoe.org or (850) 245-1898 or toll-free at 1-888-827-2004 for assistance with any of the above.