Quick Guide to Florida Student Financial Aid

If you missed the group log-on that we did for all Seniors just before winter break, follow these guidelines for a quick guide to Florida's state website to apply for Bright Futures, other scholarships and grants/loans/aid. Print a copy of your application for your records when you have finished.

If you encounter any problems or get an error message please sign the <u>Guidance Log</u> in Student Services to see your counselor as soon as possible.

NOTE: You will be mailed a PIN and Log On ID which you will need to keep so that you can later update your data if necessary.

Directions for Bright Futures

1. Go to <u>www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org</u> and click on <u>State Grants</u>, <u>Scholarships and Applications</u>, then click on <u>Apply Here</u> (in Blue at the top of the page), then click on <u>Initial Student Application</u>

2. Click on Proceed to Application

If you are unsure of how to answer a question, check the corresponding number below Additional help

1. Enter your social security number or opt out of entering your number and you will be assigned a pseudo social security number by the state.

- 2. Be sure to enter your birth year in four digits (example: 03/09/1992)
- 3. 4. Use your birth name.....last name, first name
- 6.- 13. Enter your personal data. TYPE CAREFULLY
- 14. Enter your zip code (if you do not know the +4 digits do not worry about it)
- 15. Enter your email address if you wish. (They will send your Pin/Log on via email)
- 16. Most students will click "YES" that FL is your legal state of residence.
- 17. Most students are U..S. Citizens
- 18. Choose "YES"- you will graduate from a Florida High School
- 19. We are a "PUBLIC" school
- 20. Scroll down & choose "Pasco"
- 21. Scroll down & choose "Wesley Chapel High School"
- 22. Your graduation date is May 30,2009
- 23. In the fall of 2009 MOST seniors will be FRESHMEN in college-No previous college.

NOTE: If you have taken dual enrollment while in high school, you will be a <u>FRESHMEN in</u> <u>college with previous college.</u>

24. You must scroll down and click on a college. NOTE: If you do not know which school you are planning to attend, please click on PHCC (you can change it later)

25. Skip this question UNLESS you have been a dual enrollment student. If you have taken dual enrollment courses click on PHCC.

26. Unweighted GPA means Honors & AP extra quality points are NOT included. Give your best estimate, you can update this after you get your report card).

27. You can skip this one if you wish.

28. Unless you are dual enrolled, you won't have a college GPA (skip if N/A)

29. You must click an answer here.

30. Please select "YES" or "NO"

31. If you are Hispanic or your parent is Hispanic, click your/their country of origin. (Skip if N/A)

32. This question refers only to your biological or adopted parents. NOT your grandparents.

33. Rosewood was the name of an African-American community near Gainesville, FL. The community was burned to the ground in the 1920's. If you are African-American and if your ancestors have lived in Florida for many many years, you might be a descendent. (Most students will click "No" to this question)

34. Click "Yes" if your parents earned a Bachelor's degree or higher.

35. Click "Yes" to this question: work study (a college assigns you an unpaid job and takes money off the cost of tuition)

36. Click "Yes" for Student Loan (NOTE: for 35 & 36 you are not committing to anything, you are just opening yourself up for all monies available to you)

37. Check YES otherwise we won't be able to evaluate your grades.

38. READ THIS QUESTION VERY CAREFULLY (Most students should check NO and that is the desired answer.

Before you submit your completed application, you need to check your information on the summary screen & then print for your records.

ERROR MESSAGES THAT MAY OCCUR:

*After you click SUBMIT, if you receive an ERROR message you need to <u>"check your data".</u> Go to the question indicating a problem and see what you may have entered incorrectly.

*System Busy Error": try sending it again in a few minutes.

"Possible Duplicate": please see your Guidance Counselor. You will need to bring a copy of your Social Security card to resolve this issue.