#  <br> 2011-2012 Course Offerings Guide 

## Grades 6-8

Insert School Name

Insert Principal's Name



# The School Board of Broward County, Florida 

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## Principals Message

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# Leadership TEAM 

Administration

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## Guidance Department

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## Department Chairpersons

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## SUPPORT STAFF



## Promotion Requirements



## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

## PROMOTION TO GRADES 7 AND 8

Middle school students must meet course requirements for grade level promotion. In order to promote to Grades 7 and 8 , students must pass a total of four (4) courses, two (2) of which must be "core" courses. Core courses are those classes that fall within the English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies subject areas.

## PROMOTION TO GRADE 9

For promotion to Grade 9, students must successfully complete three (3) courses in each of the core subject areas. In addition, students must also pass a semester-length course in Career and Education Planning, including completion of an Electronic Personal Education Plan (ePEP).

## CAREER AND EDUCATION PLANNING

The Career and Education Planning course is typically embedded into an existing course, such as Social Studies, in the $7^{\text {th }}$ or $8^{\text {th }}$ Grade. This course will include career exploration using an online curriculum, called Career Visions. Career Visions incorporates the State's academic and career advisement websites Florida CHOICES and FACTS.org and results in the completion of the ePEP. The ePEP allows students to plan coursework toward the high school graduation requirements, high school assessment and college entrance test requirements, Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program requirements, state university and Florida college admission requirements, and programs through which a high school student can earn college credit and courses that lead to national industry certification.

## COURSE RECOVERY

Students who fail a core course will have the opportunity for "recovery." Recovery programs differ at each school. See your guidance counselor for the recovery options available at your school.

## ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

There is not an assessment requirement for middle school promotion, such as FCAT. However, for each year in which a student scores at Level 1 on FCAT Reading, the student must be enrolled in and complete an intensive reading course the following year. Placement of Level 2 readers in either an intensive reading course or a content area course in which reading strategies are delivered shall be determined by diagnosis of reading needs.

Also, for each year in which a student scores at Level 1 or Level 2 on FCAT Mathematics, the student must receive remediation the following year, which may be integrated into the student's required mathematics course.

Please note that each student is governed by the policies from the year in which they first entered sixth grade. This year of middle school entry is referred to as a student's "cohort." Each cohort may have different requirements, especially for End-of-Course Exams and earning high school credit. It is very important that students become aware of the specific requirements for their cohort.

## GEM (Great Explorations in Math)

The GEM Program is designed to allow students to move faster than they would in a regular program. Qualifying students for the GEM program must have a score of 380 or above in Math and a 300 on the reading portion on the Sunshine State Standards (SSS) - Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). Since some students are already good technicians, they can follow rules and apply those rules to routine exercises. GEM students need to go one step further, analyzing non-routine problems and digging beneath the surface in order to see the beauty, elegance, and application of the mathematics being learned.

In sixth grade, students take a Pre-Algebra and Pre-Geometry course. During the first half of the year, students study number theory, rational numbers, statistics, area and perimeter, patterns, variables, and ratio and proportion. During the second half of the year, they begin to work with symbolic representation needed to solve algebraic equations. Students also study the Pythagorean Theorem, exponential growth, quadratic growth, probability, and transformational geometry. These topics are studied in depth and prepare the students for Algebra in 7th grade and Geometry in 8th grade.

Students in 7th grade take Algebra I, a mathematics "gatekeeper course"; one has to go through it to reach the possibilities beyond. Algebra is the problem solving language of mathematics and science. It is an abstract language that uses letters to generalize mathematical operations. The purpose of the GEM Algebra curriculum is not merely to create computationally efficient students, but to offer a learning environment where students are challenged and engaged in complex mathematics problems that can be directly applied to real-world settings. In a technologically-fueled society, not knowing algebra limits what one can do in life.

Students in 8th grade take Geometry, a mathematics course that is the study of visual patterns. The textbook that the students use is unique in that the students actually create geometry for themselves as they proceed through the activities and problems. Concepts are first introduced visually, then analytically, then inductively, and, finally deductively. Students are first involved in investigating and conjecturing before they are exposed to formal proofs. The purpose of the GEM geometry curriculum is not merely to create computationally efficient students, but to offer a learning environment where students are challenged and engaged in complex mathematics problems that can be directly applied to real-world settings.

## High School Information

It is very important for middle school students to begin planning and preparing for their high school coursework in order to eventually meet their personal post-secondary goals. Recent legislation has redesigned the high school graduation requirements for each cohort over the next several years. The course and assessment requirements will change every year. Therefore, it is imperative that middle school students know and understand their expected graduation requirements for the year in which they first enter $9^{\text {th }}$ grade. The chart on the next page represents the graduation requirements for the incoming freshmen class of 2011. Subsequent cohorts should see their guidance counselor for revised graduation requirements.

One of the most important changes each cohort should be aware of is the requirement for End-of-Course (EOC) exams for specific high school courses. The EOC will begin in 2010-11 with Algebra 1, Algebra 1 Honors and Algebra 1B courses. All middle school students enrolled in these courses and those middle school students who have previously earned credit in one of these courses will be required to take the EOC. However, 2010-11 middle school students will not have the EOC score factored into their final grade. Instead, the EOC results will be used by the Florida Department of Education for analysis purposes only. But in 2011-12 and thereafter, all middle school students enrolled in one of these Algebra courses will be required to pass the EOC in order to earn high school credit. If the student passes the course but fails the EOC, then the student will be able to apply the class toward middle school promotion requirements, but not earn high school credit.

Beginning in 2011-12, EOC assessments will be introduced for Geometry, Geometry Honors, Biology, and Biology Honors. Additional EOC assessments and courses for high school graduation will be required for future cohorts. See your guidance counselor for the specific requirements for your cohort.

## STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE NINE DURING 2011-2012

| $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { SUBJECT } \\ \text { AREA } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Traditional 24-Credit Program | Three-Year 18-Credit College Preparatory Program ${ }^{1}$ | Three-Year 18 Credit Career Preparatory Program |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| English | 4 credits with major concentration in composition, reading for information, and literature | 4 credits with major concentration in composition and literature | 4 credits with major concentration in composition and literature |
| Mathematics | 4 credits, one of which must be Algebra I or its equivalent, and one of which must be in Geometry or its equivalent, or a higher level mathematics course | 4 credits, one of which must be Algebra 1 level or its equivalent, one of which must be in Geometry or its equivalent, or a high level mathematics from the list of courses that qualify for state university admission (SUS) | 4 credits, one of which must be Algebra I or its equivalent, and one of which must be in Geometry or its equivalent, or a higher level mathematics course |
| Science | 1 credit Biology or its equivalent 2 credits in Science | 1 credit Biology or its equivalent 2 credits in Science | 1 credit Biology or its equivalent 2 credits in Science |
| Social Studies | 1 credit World History 1 credit United States History . 5 credit United States Government .5 credit Economics | 1 credit World History 1 credit United States History . 5 credit United States Govt. .5 credit Economics | 1 credit World History 1 credit United States History .5 credit United States Govt. .5 credit Economics |
| Foreign <br> Language | Not required for high school graduation, but required for state university system admission | 2 credits in the same language or demonstrated proficiency in a second language | Not required |
| Fine Arts | 1 credit in Fine or Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts (eligible courses specified in CCD) | Not required | Not required |
| Physical Education | 1 credit in Physical Education to include integration of health | Not required | Not required |
| Electives | 8 credits | 2 credits in electives | 3 credits in a single vocational/career education program AND 1 elective credit OR 3 credits in career/technical certificate dual enrollment courses AND 1 elective credit OR 4 credits in vocational/career education courses, including 3 credits in one sequential career and technical education program |
| TOTAL | 24 credits | 18 credits ${ }^{1}$ | 18 credits |
| State <br> Assessment | Passing scores on the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading or scores on a standardized test that are concordant with the passing scores on the FCAT (ACT/ SAT) <br> The Algebra 1 or equivalent courses' End-of-Course Exam must be passed in order to earn credit for the course. <br> The Biology and Geometry or equivalent courses' End-of-Course Exams will count as $30 \%$ of the student's final course grade. | Passing scores on the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading or scores on a standardized test that are concordant with the passing scores on the FCAT (ACT/ SAT) <br> The Algebra 1 or equivalent courses' End-ofCourse Exam must be passed in order to earn credit for the course. <br> The Biology and Geometry or equivalent courses' End-of-Course Exams will count as $30 \%$ of the student's final course grade. | Passing scores on the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading or scores on a standardized test that are concordant with the passing scores on the FCAT (ACT/ SAT) <br> The Algebra 1 or equivalent courses' End-ofCourse Exam must be passed in order to earn credit for the course. <br> The Biology and Geometry or equivalent courses' End-of-Course Exams will count as $30 \%$ of the student's final course grade. |
| Computer Competency | Completion of one course from the approved list in grades 6-12; or demonstration of competency through a core subject area embedding the technology standards; or completion of a GLIDES Project; or demonstration of competencies on the approved checklist. | Not required | Not required |
| Minimum Cumulative GPA | Cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale | Cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in required courses and a weighted or unweighted grade that earns at least 3.0 points or its equivalent in each of the 18 required credits | Cumulative weighted GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the required courses and a weighted or unweighted grade that earns at least 2.0 points or its equivalent in each of the 18 required credits |
| Service <br> Learning | 40 hours required | Not required | Not required |

1 All courses earned toward the three-year, 18-credit college preparatory program must satisfy admission requirements for the State University System. To determine which courses meet State University System admission requirements, please use the Comprehensive Course Table at http://nwrdc.fsu.edu/fnbpem02 or see your high school counselor for assistance. At least six of the 18 credits must be completed in courses that include dual enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), or specifically listed as rigorous by the DOE.

Leontine Butler, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent

## 18-CREDIT DIPLOMA OPTION INFORMATION

Prior to a student selecting a college preparatory program or a career preparatory program, the following requirements must be met:

- The student and student's parent(s) must meet with designated school personnel to receive an explanation of the relative requirements, advantages, and disadvantages of each program option; and
- The student must receive the written consent of the student's parent.

Selection of one of the graduation options must be completed by the student prior to the end of ninth grade, subject to the requirements as stated above. The deadline shall be extended to the end of a student's first semester of tenth grade for a student who entered a Florida public school after ninth grade upon transfer from a private school or another state or who was prevented from choosing a graduation option due to illness during the ninth grade. If the student and parent fail to select a graduation option, the student will be assigned the 24 -credit graduation program.

A student who selected one of the accelerated three-year graduation options shall automatically be assigned to the 24 -credit program if the student:

- Exercises his or her right to change to the four-year program;
- Fails to earn five credits by the end of ninth grade or fails to earn 11 credits by the end of tenth grade; and
- Does not achieve a score of three or higher on the Grade 10 FCAT writing assessment; or
- Does not meet requirements of the 18 -credit option by the end of eleventh grade.


## High School Courses in Middle School

In order to meet the high school graduation requirements and get an early start on becoming college and career ready, students are encouraged to take high school courses while in middle school. Grades earned in high school courses taken during middle school will not be calculated into the District's Weighted Grade Point Average (GPA) used for class ranking. Class rank will only include grades earned after promotion from 8th to 9th grade.
*Please note: The grades earned in high school courses during middle school will still count toward ALL other important GPA's, including but not limited to:

- State of Florida's Unweighted GPA
$>$ This GPA is used for high school graduation.
- Bright Futures Scholarships
$>$ These Scholarships are funded by the State of Florida and students become eligible by earning specific credits, GPA, and test scores.
- State University System admissions
$>$ There are 11 public universities in Florida. Students become eligible for admission by earning specific credits, GPA, and test scores.
- Florida High School Athletic Association eligibility
$>$ The FHSAA is the governing body for high school athletic competition. Students must maintain at least a 2.0 unweighted GPA to be eligible to play sports.
- Extracurricular activity eligibility
$>$ In order to participate in any extracurricular activity (e.g., band, clubs) students must maintain at least a 2.0 unweighted GPA.
- NCAA Clearinghouse eligibility
$>$ The NCAA is the governing body for Division 1 and 2 athletic competition in college. Students become eligible to play sports in college by earning specific credits, GPA, and test scores.
- Core course GPA
$>$ Core courses are academic courses (e.g., English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Foreign Languages) as identified by the Florida Board of Regents for university admissions. This GPA gives students an indication of their academic GPA without including elective courses that might inflate the GPA. This GPA was created because many colleges and scholarships only use these academic "core" courses when they recalculate student GPA's.


## Forgiveness Policy

High School Grade Forgiveness Policy
A forgiveness policy for required core courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of:
$>$ D or the grade equivalent $60-69$, or
$>\mathrm{F}$ or the grade equivalent 0-59
with a grade of C or the grade equivalent 70-79 or higher, earned subsequently in the same or comparable course.

A forgiveness policy for elective courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of:
$>$ D or the grade equivalent $60-69$, or
$>\mathrm{F}$ or the grade equivalent 0-59
with a grade of C or the grade equivalent 70-79 or higher, earned subsequently in another course.

## Middle School Grade Forgiveness Policy

A district forgiveness policy for a middle school student who takes any high school course for high school credit and earns a grade of:
$>\mathrm{C}$ or the grade equivalent 70-79,
$>$ D or the grade equivalent $60-69$, or
$>\mathrm{F}$ or the grade equivalent 0-59
must allow the replacement of the grade with a grade of C or the grade equivalent 70-79 or higher, earned subsequently in the same or comparable course.

Middle school students taking high school courses, earning a B or B+ will be able to repeat those classes in high school, but not for credit or grade.

Any course grade not replaced according to a district school board forgiveness policy shall be included in the calculation of the 2.0 cumulative GPA required for graduation.


## Grading

The grading system used for middle and high school courses will be as follows:

| Numeric <br> Grade | Letter <br> Grade |
| :---: | :---: |
| $90-100$ | A |
| $87-89$ | $\mathrm{~B}+$ |
| $80-86$ | B |
| $77-79$ | $\mathrm{C}+$ |
| $70-76$ | C |
| $67-69$ | $\mathrm{D}+$ |
| $60-66$ | D |
| $0-59$ | F |
| Incomplete | I |

Please note: Plus grades may not be used for meeting the graduation requirements, determining athletic eligibility, the Bright Futures Scholarship Program, Florida's State University System, or the NCAA Clearinghouse.

## Exceptional Student Education

Eligibility for the ESE Program is based on district and state requirements. The Individual Educational Plan (IEP) Committee is responsible for making educational placement decisions, determining appropriate educational services, and developing an IEP for eligible students. The school's ESE Specialist will offer assistance in determining the appropriate placement of ESE students.

## English Language Learners

Students whose language of origin is other than English have educational needs that are somewhat different from those of native English-speaking students. Students in the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program are required to meet the same curriculum standards as any other student in English and content area instruction. Teachers provide comprehensible instruction to English Language Learners through the use of ESOL instructional strategies. The Guidance Department and ELL contact personnel will offer assistance in determining the appropriate placement, testing, and language assessment of ELLs.

## Broward Virtual School

Broward Virtual School offers full-time enrollment to students in grades K-12 through an online educational delivery system. BVS offers equitable access to high quality, individualized education, through the Internet and other distance learning technologies where students have the opportunity to earn a standard high school diploma entirely online. Students must meet eligibility criteria: a) reside in Broward County, b) FCAT Reading level 2 or higher, c) grades of C or higher in current semester coursework. The virtual environment provides flexibility of time and location. Students may learn
wherever they are, whenever they choose, maintaining a specified course pace. Successful online students are self-disciplined, motivated to learn, possess time management skills, and $21^{\text {st }}$ century technology skills.

As a component of The School Board of Broward County, Broward Virtual School is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and Commission on International and TransRegional Accreditation (CITA). Broward Virtual School is a franchise partner with Florida Virtual School for middle and high school curriculum. All courses are based on the Sunshine State and Next Generation Standards. BVS partners with K12 Inc. for its elementary school program.

For course offerings please visit our website at www.bved.net or call 754-321-1100.


## PoST-SECONDARY PLANNING

## Broward Advisors For Continuing Education (BRACE)

The BRACE Program is unique to the Broward County School System. BRACE Advisors provide students with information on scholarships, financial aid, and the college application process. Advisors also provide information on technical schools, military options, and direct workforce entry.

- BRACE Advisors help to successfully bridge a high school graduate to his/her postsecondary choice.
- BRACE Advisors help students explore their options, ranging from apprenticeships and college/university enrollment to workforce entrance, military or technical schools.
- BRACE Advisors also review job applications, college applications and advise on grants, scholarships and financial aid.


## State University System (SUS) Admission Requirements

There are eleven public universities in Florida. Admission into Florida's state universities is limited by available space. Competition for space depends on the number and qualifications of those who apply for admission. To increase the chance of admission, high school students should try to exceed the minimum requirements and apply to more than one university.

Admission decisions are based on: 1) high school graduation; 2) grade point average in academic core courses; 3) admission test scores; and 4) course distribution requirements.

Students must complete at least 18 units of high school work in the five core areas listed below in addition to two or three additional electives:

- 4 credits - English/Language Arts (three of which must have included substantial writing requirements);
- 3 credits - Natural Science (two of which must have included substantial laboratory requirements);
- 3 credits - Social Science (to include anthropology, history, civics, political science, economics, sociology, psychology, and/or geography);
- $\underline{2}$ credits - Foreign Language (Both credits must have been in the same language. For the purposes of this requirement, American Sign Language will be accepted in place of a foreign language. Students may not have one high school credit and one 3-4 credit hour postsecondary foreign language course unless the college credit course is at least at the second level of a foreign language);
- 4 credits - Mathematics (at or above the Algebra I level). Note: Liberal Arts Math will only be accepted for students entering state universities summer/fall 2011 - spring 2013 on a limited basis as meeting the minimum number of mathematics credits for admission to state universities.

2010-2011 12 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : These students are permitted to count the sequence of Algebra 1a and 1 b or the sequence of Applied Math I and II as two credits for high school graduation as well as for meeting SUS admission requirements. These students are permitted to count Liberal Arts as one of the four required credits of Algebra I or higher for admission to a state university as long as Liberal Arts Math was taken 2007-08, 2008-09, or 2009-10. If the course is taken during the 2010-2011 academic year or later, it will not count as one of the four credits for state university admission.

2010-2011 11 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Graders: These students are permitted to count the sequence of Algebra 1a and 1b or the sequence of Applied Math I and II as two credits for high school graduation as well as for meeting SUS admission requirements. These students are permitted to count Liberal Arts Math as one of the four required credits of Algebra I or higher for admission to a state university as long as Liberal Arts Math was taken in either 2008-09 or 2009-10. If the course is taken during the 2010-2011 academic year or later, it will not count as one of the four credits for state university admission.

2010-2011 10 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Graders and classes following: High school math credits for these students will revert to the traditional SUS policy that states the sequence of Algebra 1a and 1 b or the sequence of Applied Math I and II satisfy a total of one credit of math for SUS admission purposes. Liberal Arts Math will not be accepted as one of the four mathematics core courses.

Note: Students should be aware that their course selection affects possible admission to a state university. Students who have selected Liberal Arts Math, Algebra I a\&b, or Applied Math I \& II may not be as competitive as those who select course work beyond the Algebra II level.

- 2 credits - Additional Academic Credits:
- 2 credits among Level II courses in Department of Education Course Code Directory in English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Foreign Language, Fine Arts; Level III courses listed in the Directory in any academic credited discipline; or Dual Enrollment courses for which both high school and postsecondary academic credits are granted; OR
- One credit from the list directly above and one credit from grade nine or above in ROTC/Military Training, or an equivalent course in any discipline as determined by the Articulation Coordinating Committee and listed in the Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook.


## State University System (SUS) Elective Requirements

Freshman applicants to the State University System must have two or three additional high school credits as electives, depending on the year they entered high school.

- SUS applicants who entered high school before July 1, 007 must have three additional high school credits as electives (with three math courses)
- SUS applicants who entered high school July 1, 2007 or after must have two additional high school credits as electives (with four math courses).

Students and counselors are advised to consider carefully the importance of elective course work. Completion of the required 18 credits for SUS admission guarantees acceptance only in the case of Talented 20 students. Therefore, the stronger an applicant's preparation, the better their chance of admission into the university of choice.

## State University System (SUS) Information

Middle Ranges for Acceptance*

| SUS Institution | GPA | SAT | ACT |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| University of Florida | $4.1-4.4$ | $1870-2100$ | $28-32$ |
| Florida State University | $3.6-4.2$ | $1750-1970$ | $26-30$ |
| Florida A\&M University | $2.74-3.41$ | $1300-1540$ | $18-22$ |
| University of South Florida | $3.51-4.12$ | $1090-1290$ | $23-27$ |
| Florida Atlantic University | $3.2-3.8$ | $1510-1720^{* *}$ | $22-26$ |
| University of West Florida | $3.1-4.0$ | $1000-1180$ | $21-26$ |
| University of Central Florida | $3.5-4.2$ | $1700-1890$ | $25-28$ |
| Florida International University | $3.4-4.1$ | $1630-1810^{* *}$ | $24-27$ |
| University of North Florida | $3.4-4.1$ | $1140-1270$ | $23-26$ |
| Florida Gulf Coast University | $3.07-3.73$ | $1450-1680$ | $20-24$ |
| New College of Florida | $3.73-4.28$ | $1220-1390$ | $27-31$ |

*reflects students accepted Fall 2010, summer ranges differ
**all 3 sections
Figures bases on 2010 SUS Matrix

## Bright Futures

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program establishes three lottery-funded scholarships for Florida high school graduates who demonstrate high academic achievement and enroll in eligible Florida public or private postsecondary institutions. There are three award levels for which high school seniors may qualify. The scholarship may be used for either full time or part time enrollment and is renewable. All initial applicants must meet the general requirements for participation in this program and specific requirements for the individual award. To be eligible for an initial award from any of the three types of scholarships, a student must:

- Apply online and complete the Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org, by selecting Apply Here, during their last year in high school (after December 1 and prior to graduation). Students must apply by high school graduation or all future eligibility for a Bright Futures Scholarship is forfeited.
- Be a Florida resident and a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen. The postsecondary institution the student attends is responsible for verifying Florida residency and U.S. citizenship status.
- Earn a Florida standard high school diploma or its equivalent.
- Be accepted by and enrolled in an eligible Florida public or independent postsecondary education institution within three years of high school graduation. If enlisting directly into the military after graduation, the three-year period begins upon date of separation from active duty.
- Be enrolled for at least six non-remedial semester credit hours or the equivalent.
- Not have been found guilty of, nor pled no contest to, a felony charge, unless the student has been granted clemency by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Executive Office of Clemency.

Note: A student must earn at least 24 semester credit hours (or the equivalent) if enrolled full time for the entire academic year.
A student enrolled full time ( 12 or more semester hours or the equivalent) for only one term must earn at least 12 semester hours for that term. If a student is enrolled part time for any part of the academic year, the student must earn a prorated number of credit hours.

- A student enrolled three-quarter time ( $9-11$ semester hours or the equivalent) for a term must earn at least 9 semester hours for that term.
- A student enrolled half-time ( $6-8$ semester hours or the equivalent) for a term must earn at least 6 semester hours for that term.

A student must reimburse the postsecondary institution for the cost of course(s) dropped or withdrawn after the initial drop/add period. Non-refunded hours may affect the student's renewal eligibility.

Students will receive a flat cost per credit hour award during the 2010-11 academic year. See chart below.

The following charts outline the eligibility requirements for each of the three types of Bright Futures awards for 2011 high school graduates. A student may receive funding for only one award. The highest award earned by the student will be selected. Note: The Florida Legislature is authorized to change eligibility and funding requirements for future graduating classes.

## Initial Eligibility Requirements For Year 2011 High School Graduates

The following initial eligibility requirements must be met, in addition to earning a standard Florida high school diploma, prior to graduation from a Florida public high school or a registered Florida Department of Education private high school. Students must apply by submitting an Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/home/uamain.htm during their last year in high school, prior to their high school graduation or forever forfeit a Bright Futures Scholarship.

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline The Florida Legislature is authorized to change eligibility and funding requirements. \& \begin{tabular}{l}
Florida Academic Scholars \\
Award \\
(FAS)
\end{tabular} \& Florida Medallion Scholars Award (FMS) \& Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award (GSV) \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
Award Amount \\
A student may receive funding for only one award (FAS, FMS, or GSV). The highest award earned by the student will be selected.
\end{tabular} \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{\begin{tabular}{l}
Public and Private Institutions - \\
All students will receive the specified award amounts established by the Florida Legislature in the General Appropriations Act. Award amounts for the 2011-12 academic year will be available on the Bright Futures website in summer 2011, after the legislative session. \\
For current year award amounts visit: \\
www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/awardamt.htm
\end{tabular}} \\
\hline Grade Point
Average (GPA)
Weighting for more
challenging, higher-
level courses is
prescribed by law as .50
per course per year.

Example:

| Credit |
| :--- |
| 1.00 |
| .50 |$\frac{\text { Weighting }}{}$ \& | 3.5 weighted GPA using the credits listed below, combined with the test scores and community service hours listed below. |
| :--- |
| (Note: GPAs are not rounded.) | \& | 3.0 weighted GPA using the credits listed below, combined with the test scores listed below. |
| :--- |
| (Note: GPAs are not rounded.) | \& | 3.0 weighted GPA using the 16 core credits listed below for a 4-year Diploma and a 3.5 unweighted GPA in a minimum of 3 Career and Technical Education credits in one vocational program, combined with the test scores listed below. |
| :--- |
| (See "Other Ways to Qualify" for 3-year graduation options.) |
| (Note: GPAs are not rounded.) | <br>


\hline | Required Credits |
| :--- |
| See the Comprehensive Course Table on the Bright Futures website to identify courses that count toward each award level. | \& Courses must | include 16 |
| :--- |
| credits of |
| preparatory |
| college |
| courses. |

academic
4 English (3 with
substantial writing)
4 Mathematics** (Algebra

I level and above) \& \begin{tabular}{l}
Courses must include 16 credits of college preparatory academic courses. <br>
4 English (3 with substantial writing) <br>
4 Mathematics** (Algebra I level and above)

 \& 

4-year Diploma*** Credits must include 16 core credits required for high school graduation. <br>
4 English <br>
4 Mathematics (including <br>
Algebra I) <br>
3 Natural Science
\end{tabular} <br>

\hline
\end{tabular}

|  | 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab) <br> 3 Social Science <br> 2 Foreign Language (in the same language) <br> 16 Credits <br> May use up to 2 additional credits from courses in the academic areas listed above and/or AP, IB, or AICE fine arts courses to raise the GPA <br> **For 2011 and 2012 high school graduates only, the sequence of Algebra Ia and Ib and the sequence of Applied Math I and II may count as two credits for high school graduation, State University System (SUS) admissions and FAS/FMS eligibility. For 2013 and later high school graduates, these courses will revert to the traditional one credit per sequence for SUS Admissions and FAS/FMS eligibility. | 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab) <br> 3 Social Science <br> 2 Foreign Language (in the same language) <br> 16 Credits <br> May use up to 2 additional credits from courses in the academic areas listed above and/or AP, IB, or AICE fine arts courses to raise the GPA <br> **For 2011 and 2012 high school graduates only, the sequence of Algebra Ia and Ib and the sequence of Applied Math I and II may count as two credits for high school graduation, State University System (SUS) admissions and FAS/FMS eligibility. For 2013 and later high school graduates, these courses will revert to the traditional one credit per sequence for SUS Admissions and FAS/FMS eligibility. | 3 Social Science (U.S. <br> Hist., World Hist., U.S. <br> Govt., and Economics) <br> 1 Fine OR Identified <br> Practical Art OR . 5 credit in each <br> 1 Physical Education (to include integration of health) <br> 16 Credits <br> Plus a minimum of 3 Career and Technical Education credits in one vocational program, taken over at least 2 academic years <br> (See "Other Ways to Qualify" for 3-year graduation options.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Community Service | 75 hours, as approved by the district or private school | No requirement | No requirement |


| Test Scores <br> Sections of the SAT, ACT, or CPT from different test dates may be used to meet the test criteria. <br> For spring eligibility evaluations, test dates through the end of January will be admissible. <br> For summer eligibility evaluations, test dates through the end of June will be admissible. <br> Note: FAS and FMS test score requirements are increasing for future graduates. See the Bright Futures website | Best combined score of 1270 SAT Reasoning Test (based on the combined Critical Reading and Math sections only) Or <br> Best composite score of 28 ACT (excluding the writing section). <br> NOTE: The writing sections for both the SAT and ACT will not be used in the composite. <br> SAT Subject Tests are not used for Bright Futures eligibility. <br> (ACT scores are rounded up for scores with .5 and higher; SAT scores do not require rounding.) | Best combined score of 970 SAT Reasoning Test (based on the combined Critical Reading and Math sections only) <br> Or <br> Best composite score of 20 ACT (excluding the writing section). <br> NOTE: The writing sections for both the SAT and ACT will not be used in the composite. <br> SAT Subject Tests are not used for Bright Futures eligibility. <br> (ACT scores are rounded up for scores with .5 and higher; SAT scores do not require rounding.) | Students must earn the minimum score on each section of the CPT or SAT or ACT. <br> Sections of different test types may not be combined. <br> CPT: <br> Or SAT <br> Reasoning Test: <br> Critical Reading 440 <br> Math <br> 440 <br> Or ACT: |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Other Ways to Qualify <br> Initial eligibility criteria used in "Other Ways to Qualify" must be met by high school graduation. Contact the Bright Futures office for further details. | The other ways to qualify listed below must also include the community service hours requirement. <br> - National Merit or <br> Achievement Scholars and Finalists <br> - National Hispanic Scholars <br> - IB Diploma Recipients (based on exams taken prior to high school graduation) <br> - Students who have completed the IB <br> Curriculum with best composite score of 1270 SAT or 28 ACT <br> - AICE Diploma Recipients (based on exams taken prior to high school graduation) <br> - Students who have completed the AICE <br> Curriculum with best composite score of 1270 | - National Merit or Achievement Scholars and Finalists and National Hispanic Scholars who have not completed 75 hours of community service <br> - Students who have completed the IB Curriculum with best composite score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT <br> - AICE Diploma Recipients who have not completed 75 hours of community service <br> - Students who have completed the AICE Curriculum with best composite score of 970 SAT or 20 ACT <br> - Students who have attended a home education program according to s. | The other ways to qualify listed below must also include a 3.5 unweighted GPA in a minimum of 3 Career and Technical Education credits in one vocational program and minimum test scores listed above. <br> - 3-year Career Preparatory <br> Diploma*** with 3.0 <br> weighted GPA using the 14 core credits required for graduation listed below <br> 4 English (3 with substantial writing) <br> 4 Mathematics (including <br> Algebra I) <br> 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab) <br> 3 Social Science (U.S. <br> Hist., World Hist., U.S. |



## 2010-11 Award Amounts per Credit Hour Florida Bright Futures Scholarships

| 2010-11 Award Amounts |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Semester Hour Award | Quarter Hour Award | Clock Hour Award |
| Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) |  |  |  |
| 4 Year | \$ 125.00 | \$ 83.33 |  |
| 2 Year | \$ 77.00 | \$ 51.33 | \$ 2.57 |
| Florida Colleges Baccalaureate Programs (Public Community Colleges Only) | \$86.00 |  |  |
| Career/Technical Centers | \$ 63.00 | \$ 42.00 | \$ 2.10 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Academic Top Scholars (ATS) |  |  |  |
| 4 Year | \$ 53.00 | \$ 35.33 |  |
| 2 Year | \$ 53.00 | \$ 35.33 | \$ 1.77 |
| Florida Colleges Baccalaureate Programs (Public Community Colleges Only) | \$ 53.00 |  |  |
| Career/Technical Centers | \$ 53.00 | \$ 35.33 | \$ 1.77 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) |  |  |  |
| 4 Year | \$ 94.00 | \$ 62.67 |  |
| 2 Year | \$ 58.00 | \$ 38.67 | \$ 1.93 |
| Florida Colleges <br> Associate Degree Programs (Public Community Colleges Only) | \$ 77.00 |  |  |
| Florida Colleges Baccalaureate Programs (Public Community Colleges Only) | \$ 64.00 |  |  |
| Career/Technical Centers | \$ 47.00 | \$ 31.33 | \$ 1.57 |
| Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) |  |  |  |
| 4 Year | \$ 94.00 | \$ 62.67 |  |
| 2 Year | \$ 58.00 | \$ 38.67 | \$ 1.93 |
| Florida Colleges Baccalaureate Programs (Public Community Colleges Only) | \$ 64.00 |  |  |
| Career/Technical Centers | \$ 47.00 | \$ 31.33 | \$ 1.57 |

## FACTS.org

FACTS.org is the Florida Department of Education's statewide student advising website. FACTS.org is provided by the Florida Department of Education to help students make informed choices about their education. The site enables students to:

- Plan their high school course
- Track their progress toward graduation
- Check their eligibility for Bright Futures and other scholarships
- Explore careers
- Learn about Florida's postsecondary opportunities
- Apply online to state universities and community colleges
- Apply online for state and federal financial aid
- Much more.

Students go to www.FACTS.org and select the high school tab and then the "ePEP and High School Evaluations" button. First time users will create a Login ID and Password, complete a short demographic form, and then establish their settings. Once created, this Login ID and Password will be used for all FACTS functions, including college admission applications.

## Electronic Personal Education Planner (ePEP)

The ePEP is an interactive online planner that enables students to map out coursework for every year of high school. Students choose from school specific course options, based on their goals after graduation, such as admission to college, attending a career technical center, or going directly into the workforce. The ePEP automatically populates the courses in which the students are enrolled and those completed, along with the students' grades. For students entering $9^{\text {th }}$ grade in 2007 and beyond are required to have four credits in the same Major Area of Interest (MAI). Through ePEP, students choose their MAI.

## Virtual counselor: A Great Resource for Scheduling

Did you know that students and parents can access school records electronically? Use Virtual Counselor to review your courses, grades, graduations requirements and progress toward graduation, test scores, and select the best courses to take next year and more. Students begin by creating an account at school at http://web/dwh. Parents can create their own account at www.browardschools.com. Click the Virtual Counselor link.

