

## **Bright Futures Summer 2018 Funding – Questions and Answers**

### **1. Who is eligible to receive 2018 summer funding?**

Only Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) eligible for the 2017-18 academic year may receive summer 2018 funding. Florida Academic Scholars are eligible for the full academic year, beginning with the fall term.

### **2. Can students who graduated from high school in 2017-18 receive 2018 summer funding?**

No. High school graduates of 2017-18 are eligible as Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) beginning with the 2018-19 fall term.

### **3. May transient students receive 2018 summer funding?**

Yes. Degree-seeking students at your institution during the 2017-18 academic year who attend another institution during 2018 summer may receive funding if the coursework is approved by the home institution. Florida Academic Scholars enrolled in a public postsecondary institution must submit a Transient Student Admission Application located online at [FloridaShines](#).

### **4. What sessions are included in the summer term?**

All sessions offered by the institution during the summer 2018 term will be included in a single "Term 6" reporting to OSFA for summer 2018.

### **5. Which institution will receive the funding for transient students?**

Funding will be sent to the home institution, i.e. the institution where the student is degree-seeking. The home institution will be responsible for reporting student data on both the Disbursement Eligibility Report (DER) and the Grade and Hours Report (G&H).

### **6. May graduate students who are Florida Academic Scholars receive summer funding?**

Yes. Florida Academic Scholars who meet graduate funding requirements, may use the summer as their one semester of graduate study funding.

### **7. May Florida Academic Scholars enrolled less than half time (6 credits) be funded?**

Florida Academic Scholars enrolled less than half time may only be funded if they are enrolled in the remaining courses to finish their degree or if they are being disbursed the last remaining hours of FAS eligibility.

### **8. May 2017-18 Florida Academic Scholars who do not renew for 2018-19 still receive summer funding?**

Yes. The 2017-18 academic year includes the summer 2018 term. Any FAS student eligible for 2017-18 may receive summer funding, provided the student meets all enrollment criteria.

**9. How is the Florida Academic Scholars summer award amount to be calculated?**

Institutions will follow the same formula as used to disburse FAS students in the fall and spring terms, EXCEPT, there is no additional \$300 college-related expense stipend.

**10. Will a Florida Academic Scholar receive the Academic Top Scholar award during the summer?**

No. The summer appropriation only covers the cost of tuition and applicable fees.

**11. What process will OSFA use to provide funds to institutions for the summer term?**

Attached to the February 12, 2018, memo is a “Bright Futures Summer 2018 Allocation Request Form”. Use this form to request summer funds for your institution. Request forms must be returned by April 6, 2018 in order to receive an initial term allocation.

After your institution’s drop/add period, begin entering students on the DER and reconcile to request additional funds. NOTE: Institutions that have not reconciled and returned outstanding Bright Futures funds for prior term(s) will not receive additional summer funding.

**12. May institutions use prior term(s) Bright Futures allocations to disburse students for the summer?**

No. Institutions must reconcile per term. Any refunds due to OSFA for prior terms must be returned. Institutions needing additional funds for the summer must reconcile the summer term as well.

**13. What is the deadline for institutions to reconcile?**

Reconcile no later than June 22, 2018. By this date, please notify OSFA of the need for additional funds and/or return any undisbursed funds.

**14. How will students populate on the institution’s MEL/DER?**

Students last disbursed at your institution during the 2017-18 academic year will be prepopulated on your Master Eligibility List (MEL) and DER for Term 6. For students who are degree-seeking at your institution for the first time during the summer term, please confirm eligibility on the MEL and then report students on the DER.

**15. How will institutions report summer disbursements to OSFA?**

DER processes remain the same. Report your degree-seeking FAS students on the DER for Term 6. The DER will open at the close of your drop/add period and remain open through August 10, 2018.

The home institution will report approved transient students on the DER under “Other Institution” using the tuition and fee rate for the host institution where the student took the classes.

**16. Will the summer term be used to evaluate renewal?**

No. Renewal will be based on grade and hours submitted for the fall and spring terms on your institution’s spring G&H Report.

**17. Will institutions report grade and hours information for students funded in the summer term?**

Yes. Grade and hours information will be reported for all students funded during the summer. Those summer students who received a disbursement will populate on the Summer G&H Report and be reported on that file.

If a student has an opportunity to restore the Bright Futures award, the grades from the summer term may be used to meet restoration requirements.

**18. May students receive other state aid, in addition to Bright Futures, during the summer?**

No. The 2017-18 Florida Legislature authorized Bright Futures funding only for FAS recipients and University of Florida's Innovation Academy.

**19. As summer grade and hours will not be considered in the evaluation for renewal eligibility, will students still be required to repay summer dropped/withdrawn courses?**

Yes. Repayment obligations remain the same regardless of the term funded.