State Financial Aid

Some states offer additional scholarship/grant programs that focus on the needs of specific groups or are merit based.

About OSFA (Office of Student Financial Assistance) - Florida Aid Program

Systems differ from state to state but Florida has a comprehensive list of programs that help (among other groups) hispanic, low-income, and high achieving students.

OSFA - How to Apply

- Step 1: Create an account with OSFA here.
- Step 2: Complete Application
  - ➢ The application is very simple and should only take 20-30 minutes.
  - ➢ It will ask for demographic information such as name, race/ethnicity, academic information, etc.
  - ➢ It will then ask a series of specific questions that will determine what scholarships/grant you are eligible for. It will also ask follow-up questions. Ex. is your parent a veteran; If yes, what branch did they serve in.
  - ➢ Also will ask what colleges you are planning to or already attending.

- Step 3: Scholarship/Grant Eligibility
  - ➢ They will notify you of all the scholarship/grants you are eligible for and will automatically consider you for them.
- Step 4: Look at the requirements for each one
  - ➢ While some of the scholarships/grants only require you to be part of a group, others - such as Bright Futures - have academic and volunteering requirements.
- Step 5: Complete all requirements
  - ➢ Complete all requirements for the scholarships/grants you are eligible for.
  - ➢ Make sure if this requires paperwork, that it has been received by the appropriate party before any deadlines.
- Step 6: Receive an Email
  - ➢ You will receive an email letting you know if you received the scholarship/grant or not.
  - ➢ If you did, your university financial aid office will distribute the award into your

award package.

- Step 7: Renewal Process
  - ➢ Most scholarships/grants are automatically renewed given that you still meet their requirements.
  - ➢ Check what the renewal process entails
  - ➢ If you lost your scholarship, you might be able to appeal the claim or be eligible for restoration - do your research!

Resources
- [Information on FL Financial Aid Programs](#)