

**College and Financial Aid Newsletter  
Mandarin High School Guidance  
January 2012**

**Sign up for Planet HS today! (See Newsflash below for more information)**

This newsletter is intended to provide you with basic information, important dates, suggestions, and resources pertaining to college applications and about scholarships. Seniors are the main focus of this newsletter, however, it's never too early to start planning and setting goals. Many scholarships are targeted at seniors in high school, but it is a good idea to be proactive in your scholarship search. Many scholarships are available from year to year, so it will be helpful to be informed in preparation for your senior year.

**FLORIDA BRIGHT FUTURES**

**Application Opening Date: December 1, 2011 for current SENIORS ONLY!**

**Application can be accessed at [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org)**

**Grades 9-11: Be aware of your Bright Futures GPA by accessing your eligibility information at [www.FACTS.org](http://www.FACTS.org).**

- Click the High School Students tab along the top.
- Click the red "ePEP and High School Evaluations" button on the right-hand side.
- Sign in- you do have a user name and password. If you don't remember it, click on "forgot username and/or password"
- Click the "HS Evaluations" tab along the top.
- Once on your academic record, click the "Bright Futures Scholarship Eligibility" tab.
- Scroll down for eligibility at each level of Bright Futures.

**Newsflash:** Sign up for PlanetHS today! You can stay connected through PlanetHS with your school, your clubs/teams/classes and SCHOLARSHIPS that are available. Receive a text or e-mail when new scholarships become available. Go to [www.planeths.com](http://www.planeths.com) and sign up. Select the clubs/activities/scholarship information that you want to follow.

**Register** online for college entrance exams: SAT or ACT (if you haven't already).

**Request your scores be sent to Mandarin HS (CEEB Code # 100769) and the colleges to which you are applying.**

**Your scores MUST be sent to MHS to become part of your transcript and be considered for Florida Bright Futures Scholarships.**

SAT	Test date	Register by:	Late registration	ACT	Test date	Register by:	Late registration
SAT	Mar. 10	Feb. 10	Feb. 24	ACT and optional writing test	Feb. 11	Jan. 13	Jan. 20
SAT	May 5	Apr. 6	Apr. 20	ACT and optional writing test	Apr. 14	Mar. 9	Mar. 23
SAT	June 2	May 8	May 22	ACT and optional writing test	June 9	May 4	May 2018

*\*Though the writing test is optional for ACT, you must take the writing test if you are taking the ACT as part of the college admissions process.*

## IMPORTANT DATES:

**January 1, 2011**—the first date seniors may file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, commonly referred to as FAFSA, on the [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) website. The FAFSA is required by all financial aid offices to determine the amount of money a student will need.

**January 30-February 2, 2012:** BEACON workshop for seniors. Community volunteers will meet in small groups with seniors through their English class to discuss and answer your financial aid questions

**February 2, 2012:** Financial Aid Parent Night at 6 PM in the Auditorium. Parents, this will be a good time to get your questions answered regarding all aspects of the financial aid process and completing the FAFSA.

**Financial Aid deadlines:** Many universities have recommended deadlines for having the FAFSA submitted for their review. Here are a few:

- UNF: Feb 14: recommended deadline; April 1: priority deadline
- UCF: March 1: priority deadline
- UF: March 15: ontime financial aid application deadline
- USF: March 1: priority deadline

**Financial Aid offices** of institutions where you are applying should be contacted if you have questions regarding financial aid. There will be a Financial Aid Parent Night that will be held on **February 2, 2012**.

## Useful web sites:

Sites providing a starting point and efficient ways to gain information for college planning are:

[www.FACTS.org](http://www.FACTS.org) - compares your transcript with Bright Futures Academic requirements

[www.finaidfacts.org](http://www.finaidfacts.org) - Free scholarship and financial aid information

[www.offtocollege.com/calendar](http://www.offtocollege.com/calendar) - Financial aid tips and college planning guide

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) – Scholarship search engine and college planning guide

[www.scholaraid.com](http://www.scholaraid.com) – Scholarship search engine

<http://cyberguidance.net>

[www.usnews.com/usnews/edu](http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu)

[www.pellgrantsonline.ed.gov](http://www.pellgrantsonline.ed.gov)

[www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org) - The website to apply for your Bright Futures Scholarship after December 1, 2010 and before your graduation date.

<http://www.duvalschools.org/mhs/guidance> - Guidance page updates scholarship information monthly.

[www.duvalschools.org](http://www.duvalschools.org) - Duval County Public Schools Guidance link scholarship information booklet.

[www.fscj.edu](http://www.fscj.edu) – Florida State College of Jacksonville (FSCJ) Scholarship directory

## Inform!

**Bring in ALL acceptance letters and scholarship offers (whether you plan to attend the school or use the money or not) to your counselor so that you can be recognized!**

**Bright Futures:** The following link provides comprehensive information regarding the Bright Futures scholarship program: [https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/pdf/bf\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/pdf/bf_brochure.pdf)

There have been many updates regarding Bright Futures eligibility requirements. Refer to the following link for continuing updated information: <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/home/latestInfo.htm>

Changes:

- Community service hours: This is now an eligibility requirement for any Bright Futures award. The Medallion award requires at least 75 hours. The Academic award requires at least 100 hours.
- Qualifying SAT/ACT test scores is dependent upon the year that you will graduate from high school.
- A complete and error-free FAFSA must be completed in order to be eligible for Bright Futures money.

# SCHOLARSHIPS:

All applications are located either in guidance or on-line- see or e-mail Ms. Adams for details

**American Legion Financial Aid/Scholarships: *Information available online***

Go to [www.needalift.org](http://www.needalift.org) for a guide filled with scholarships, grants, fee waivers, student loans, and the organizations that offer them. Also included is information to help you select a school, apply for student financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), learn about loan forgiveness, understand tax credits, and much more!

**Asian American High School Scholars: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors of Asian ancestry may apply for this scholarship. GPA, leadership, college/career plans, extracurriculars, and financial need will be considered. At least 5 non-renewable scholarships of \$500 will be awarded.

**Application:** available in the Scholarship Bin in Guidance

**Deadline:** March 1, 2012

**B Davis Scholarship- \$1,000: *Apply online***

**Application:** <http://www.studentawardsearch.com/scholarships.htm>. Questions? Contact [awards@studentawardsearch.com](mailto:awards@studentawardsearch.com).

**Deadline:** May 28, 2012

**Best Buy Scholarship Program- \$1,000: *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** Students in grades 9-12

**Application:** Available on-line at [www.at15.com](http://www.at15.com) or [www.bestbuy-community-relations.com](http://www.bestbuy-community-relations.com).

**Deadline:** February 15, 2012

**Buick Achievers Scholarship Program: *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors who plan to enroll full-time at a 4-year university and plan to major in an eligible major (see website for list) and who are interested in pursuing a career in the automotive or related industries are eligible to apply for a Buick Achievers Scholarship of \$2000 (one-time) or Buick Achievers National Scholarship of up to \$25,000 renewable.

**Application:** Available online at [www.buickachievers.com](http://www.buickachievers.com)

**Deadline:** February 29, 2012

**Chartwells Thompson School Dining Services Scholarship: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** high school seniors who will graduate from a Duval County Public high school. One winner from each school will receive a one-time \$1000 scholarship to be applied towards their post-secondary institution. 2.5 GPA, and be accepted into a post-secondary institution

**Application:** Available in Guidance in the Scholarship bin

**Deadline:** April 13, 2012

**Continental Societies, National Scholarships: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors who have been accepted by a four-year university are eligible to apply for one of five offered scholarships.

**Application:** Available in the Scholarship Bin in Guidance

**Deadline:** March 10, 2012

**Cooperative Living Organization (CLO): *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** CLO is a student run low-cost housing cooperative. Must be attending University of Florida or Santa Fe College. Preference is given to Pell Grant eligible students. See [www.cloliving.org](http://www.cloliving.org) for more information.

**Application:** Apply online at [www.cloliving.org](http://www.cloliving.org)

**ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Math and Science Scholarships: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** Four scholarships for two males and two females (\$5000 each) are available to high school seniors who are accepted for full-time enrollment at a four-year college or university in the next academic year, and pursuing a degree in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM).

**Application:** Available in Scholarship Bin in Guidance

**Deadline:** April 2, 2012

**FASFEP Scholarship: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** Seniors with a minimum GPA of 3.0 and who plan on studying in the Arts or Sciences in Education may apply for a one-time award of \$1000. Application may also be accessed on <http://fasfepa.org>

**Application:** Application available in Scholarship Bin in Guidance or at <http://fasfepa.org>

**Deadline:** February 25, 2012

**FASFEP Vivian Scott Scholarship: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors who have a minimum 3.0 GPA, have contributed to society, and have financial need and are planning to attend a postsecondary institution full-time are eligible to apply for a \$1000.00 one-time scholarship. See <http://fasfepa.org> for more information.

**Application:** Available in Scholarship Bin in Guidance. Application must be turned into Ms. Adams in the Guidance Office

**Deadline:** February 24, 2012

**Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges 2012 Scholarship Program: *Apply online or application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** Various scholarships are available for member career schools and college ranging from \$1000 to \$5000 to full-tuition and can be used for a variety of programs including cosmetology, healthcare, culinary arts, and many more. See [www.FAPSC.org](http://www.FAPSC.org) for more details.

**Application:** apply online at [www.FAPSC.org](http://www.FAPSC.org) or pick up an application in Guidance

**Deadline:** April 6, 2012

**Florida PTA Community College Scholarship *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** Any high school senior who is a member of the MHS PTA, resident of FL, US citizen, high school GPA of 2.5 and higher and is planning to attend a Florida community college in the 2012-2013 school year may apply for a one-time \$1,000 scholarship.

**Application:** Available in Guidance in the Scholarship Bin

**Deadline:** Feb 4, 2012

**Florida PTA Fine Arts Scholarship *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** Any high school senior who is a member of the MHS PTA, resident of FL, US citizen, high school GPA of 3.0 and higher and is majoring in the fine arts at any postsecondary institution in Florida may apply for a one-time \$1,000 scholarship.

**Application:** Available in Guidance in the Scholarship Bin

**Deadline:** Feb 4, 2012

**Florida PTA University Scholarship** *Application available in Guidance*

**Eligibility:** Any high school senior who is a member of the MHS PTA, resident of FL (for at least 2 years), US citizen, high school GPA of 3.0 or higher and who will be pursuing their education at a Florida university may apply for a one-time \$2,000 scholarship.

**Application:** Available in Guidance in the Scholarship Bin

**Deadline:** Feb 4, 2012

**Florida PTA Vocational/Technical Scholarship** *Application available in Guidance*

**Eligibility:** Any high school senior who is a resident of Florida (for at least 2 years) and an US citizen, member of MHS PTA, GPA of 2.0 or higher may apply for a one-time \$1,000 scholarship.

**Application:** Available in Guidance in the Scholarship Bin

**Deadline:** Feb 4, 2012

**Florida State University Young Scholars Program:** *Application available online*

**Eligibility:** Students who have completed the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and earned a minimum of a B in all academic courses and a 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or better score on the SAT or PSAT.

**Applications:** Available on-line at <http://bio.fsu.edu/ysp/index.html>.

**Deadline** March 15, 2012

**Florida Striders Track Club- \$1,000** *Application available in Guidance*

**Eligibility:** Must be a resident of Northeast Florida for the past two years, graduating high school senior, a runner or active in track and field events.

**Application:** Available in guidance. Submit to: Florida Striders Track Club, Scholarship Applications, P.O. box 413, Orange Park, Florida 32067. **Deadline: March 16, 2012**

**GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program:** *Apply online*

**Eligibility:** High school seniors who embody the characteristics of President Ronald Reagan (leadership, drive, integrity, citizenship) at school, in the community, in the workplace, and at home. This program awards up to 20 exemplary college-bound students with \$10,000 renewable scholarships.

**Application:** Apply online at [www.reaganfoundation.org/ge-scholarships.aspx](http://www.reaganfoundation.org/ge-scholarships.aspx) or <http://facebook.com/GEReaganScholarships>.

**Deadline:** February 17, 2012

**Jacksonville Commitment- Full Tuition, Books, and Housing to UNF, JU, EWC OR a Stipend at FSCJ**

*Application available online or in Guidance*

**Eligibility:** Students must graduate from a Duval County Public High School and be on Free/Reduced Lunch. Applicants will fill out the FAFSA to determine Pell Grant eligibility which is also required. Students must be accepted to the institution that they plan to use the scholarship at.

**Application:** [http://www.unf.edu/jacksonvillecommitment/How\\_Can\\_I\\_Qualify.aspx](http://www.unf.edu/jacksonvillecommitment/How_Can_I_Qualify.aspx). or in Scholarship Bin in Guidance

**Janice M. Scott Memorial Scholarship Fund:** *Application available in Guidance*

**Eligibility:** High school senior with 3.0 GPA or higher who will attend a four-year university and have demonstrated leadership abilities through community service or extra-curricular activities. Parent income can not exceed \$100,000. Three to five scholarships of \$2500 will be awarded.

**Application:** available in Guidance in the Scholarship Bin

**Deadline:** postmarked by March 31, 2012

**Johnson Scholarship Foundation: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors with disabilities (documentation required) and who attend one of the 11 Florida state universities, have demonstrated financial need (must submit FAFSA by April 15), and GPA of 2.0 or higher may apply. See [http://www.jsf.bz/index\\_new.asp?page=/site/scholarships/susf.htm](http://www.jsf.bz/index_new.asp?page=/site/scholarships/susf.htm) for detailed information.

**Application:** Available in Scholarship Bin in Guidance or at [www.jsf.bz](http://www.jsf.bz)

**Deadline:** May 15, 2012

**Kappa Alpha Psi Foundation Jacksonville Scholarship: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors who have been accepted to a 4-year university can apply. Applicants will be evaluated on scholastic achievement, character and leadership, essay, and recommendations.

**Application:** Available in the Scholarship Bin in Guidance

**Deadline:** February 29, 2012

**The McCurry Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Program- Average award \$1,000 *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors enrolled in public school with a GPA of 3.0 or higher and who have employment experience. This is a need based scholarship and family income cannot exceed \$75,000 on the tax return. Other factors include academic success, leadership, work experience, scholarship excellence, and community service.

**Application:** [www.mccurryfoundation.org](http://www.mccurryfoundation.org). Paper applications available in guidance and can be mailed to Scholarship Selection Committee, The McCurry Foundation, Inc., 4417 Beach Blvd, Suite 200, Jacksonville, Florida 32207-4783. Questions: [Mccurryfndn@bellsouth.net](mailto:Mccurryfndn@bellsouth.net).

**Deadline:** February 15, 2012

**Moody's Mega Math Challenge: *Register your team online***

**Eligibility:** Register your team of 3-5 students and one teacher-coach to compete in the M3 Challenge. This internet-based applied math competition awards \$115,000 in scholarship prizes ranging from \$1000 to \$20,000 to teams of juniors and seniors. The Challenge takes place on March 3 and 4, 2012. See <http://m3challenge.siam.org/participate/> for more information.

**Register:** Teacher-coach must register online at <http://m3challenge.siam.org/participate/>

**Deadline:** February 24, 2012

**National Naval Officers Association Memorial Scholarship: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** Seniors who are planning to attend a 2 or 4 year college are eligible to apply for scholarships up to \$1500. Contact Lt Andrea Baker, [andrea.baker@med.navy.mil](mailto:andrea.baker@med.navy.mil) for more information.

**Application:** Available in the Scholarship Bin in Guidance

**Deadline:** April 30, 2012

**Northeast Florida Engineer's Scholarship: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors who have a minimum 3.5 GPA, meets minimum SAT/ACT scores and who plan on enrolling in an engineering program may apply for one of 2 \$1000 scholarships.

**Application:** Available in the Scholarship Bin in Guidance

**Deadline:** February 6, 2012 (postmarked by February 4)

**Order Sons of Italy in America Scholarship: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** Seniors of Italian descent, minimum unweighted GPA of 3.0, minimum SAT 1000 or ACT composite 23, enrolling as full-time student in community college or university may apply for one \$1,000 scholarship. Scholarships are also available at the national level. See [www.osia.org](http://www.osia.org) for more information.

**Application:** Available in the Scholarship Bin in Guidance

**Deadline:** March 31, 2012

**PFLAG Scholarship: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** Age 16 or older and complete high school by June 2011, have a permanent address in Jacksonville, and attend school full time in August 2012. Criteria include academics better than a C average, participation in school and community activities, clarity of goals, personal integrity, maturity as a gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered person, service to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community, and financial need.

**Application-** [www.pflagjax.org](http://www.pflagjax.org), Questions- [pflagjax@aol.com](mailto:pflagjax@aol.com). Mail paper applications to PFLAG of Jacksonville, P.O. Box 2971, Jacksonville, Florida 32203, Att: Frieda Saraga.

**Deadline:** June 1, 2011

**Point Foundation Scholarship: *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** Applicants should have proven leadership skills, excellent scholastic achievement, and want to make a difference in the world. Scholarships are available for LGBTQ students only. Information available on [www.pointfoundation.org](http://www.pointfoundation.org).

**Application:** available online at [www.pointfoundation.org](http://www.pointfoundation.org)

**Deadline:** Applications accepted between December 10, 2011 and February 11, 2012

**Riverside Hairstyling Academy: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** Graduated seniors who start the cosmetology program within one of graduation may apply for a \$1000 scholarship towards tuition.

**Application:** available in Scholarship Bin in Guidance

**Deadline:** none

**Scholarship Experts.com: *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** Various scholarships are available on [www.scholarshipexperts.com](http://www.scholarshipexperts.com)

**Applications:** available on website

**Deadlines:** vary depending on particular scholarships. Some as early as November 30.

**Southern Scholarship Foundation-\$7,000-10,000 *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** 3.0 unweighted GPA, financial need, strong character. This is to apply for scholarship housing for students attending FSU, FAMU, FGCU, UF, Tallahassee Community College, and Santa Fe College. You must be first accepted at the university.

**Application:** [www.southern scholarship.org](http://www.southern scholarship.org)

**Deadline:** Priority deadline is March 1, 2012 for Fall semester

**StudentScholarships.org: *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** Register at [www.StudentScholarships.org](http://www.StudentScholarships.org) so that you can be notified about various scholarships

**Application:** register at [www.StudentScholarships.org](http://www.StudentScholarships.org)

**Deadline:** varies depending on scholarships

**Sunflower Initiative Scholarship- \$10,000 *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** A highly motivated young woman who is passionate about learning and eager to attend a woman's college with a scholarship to a woman's college in the United States or Canada. Applicants must possess a stellar high school record, strong references, and a desire to make a contribution to society, as well as a strong sense of self.

**Application:** [www.thesunflowerinitiative.com](http://www.thesunflowerinitiative.com)

**Deadline:** March 15, 2012

**Suntrust Off to College Scholarship Sweepstakes *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors can enter for a chance to win \$1000 scholarship for their education expenses. One winner will be chosen every two weeks from October 28, 2011-May 11, 2012. Students can begin registering September 16, 2011 and the first drawing will be held October 28, 2011. Only one entry per person for each drawing; however, students can register after each completed drawing for the next scheduled drawing. Entrants must be at least 13 years old.

**REGISTER** online: [www.offtocollege.info](http://www.offtocollege.info)

**Deadline:** May 11, 2012

**UPS Employees through Johnson Scholarship Foundation: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors who are children of current or retired UPS employees and who have demonstrated financial need may apply for awards ranging from \$1000 to \$10,000. See

[http://www.jsf.bz/index\\_new.asp?page=/site/scholarships/children\\_of\\_ups.htm](http://www.jsf.bz/index_new.asp?page=/site/scholarships/children_of_ups.htm) for detailed information

**Application:** Available in Scholarship Bin in Guidance or at [www.jsf.bz](http://www.jsf.bz)

**Deadline:** April 15, 2012

**USDA/1890 National Scholars Program: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** This program awards scholarships to students attending one of the 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Universities (FAMU, South Carolina State for example) who are pursuing a bachelor's degree in agriculture, food, natural resource sciences and willing to work with the USDA upon graduation. Applicants must have minimum GPA of 3.0, SAT of 1500 or ACT of 21.

**Application:** see Ms Adams for the application

**Deadline:** February 1, 2012

**William J. English Computer/IT Scholarship: *Application available in Guidance or online***

**Eligibility:** Any high school senior who is a US citizen and resident of Florida with at least a 2.5 GPA (unweighted) and who is planning to attend an accredited Florida public or private college and who is planning to major in computer science and/or information technology related field.

**Application:** Available in Guidance in the scholarship bin or online at [www.faeds.org/schol\\_WilliamEnglish.cfm](http://www.faeds.org/schol_WilliamEnglish.cfm)

**Deadline:** February 15, 2012

**Wings over America Scholarship Foundation: *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors who are Naval aviation dependent children are eligible to apply. Applicants will be evaluated on scholastic achievement and community involvement. The applicant must pre-qualify before completing the application. See <http://www.wingsoveramerica.us/index.php/application-process> for information.

**Application:** Apply online at <http://www.wingsoveramerica.us/index.php/application-process>

**Deadline:** Pre-qualification deadline is March 1, 2012. Application deadline is April 1, 2012.

**Wise Choice \$2,500 “Find the Right College” Scholarship: *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** US Students graduating from high school in 2011-2014 and who register for wisechoice and respond to the question, “what do you think is important when it comes to finding a college that fits” (200 word max.)

**Application:** Available online at <http://www.wisechoice.com/scholarship?sid=gefx>.

**Deadline:** May 31, 2012

**Women’s Retail Network- \$5,000 *Apply online***

**Eligibility:** Female students interested in automotive retail careers

**Applications:** Available on-line at [www.gmsac.com](http://www.gmsac.com).

**Deadline:** April 16, 2012

**Wounded Warrior Project Scholarship: *Application available in Guidance***

**Eligibility:** High school seniors who reside in Clay, Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns counties in Florida and plan on continuing their education at a college, university, technical school, or other institution of higher learning. There will be one winner from each county who will be awarded a \$1000 scholarship.

**Application:** available in Guidance or at [www.woundedwarriorproject.org/scholarship](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/scholarship).

**Deadline:** postmarked by February 21, 2012

**www.cappex.com: *Complete online profile***

**Eligibility:** created your profile at [www.cappex.com](http://www.cappex.com) and they will send you scholarship opportunities that match your accomplishments and interests.

**Application:** register at [www.cappex.com](http://www.cappex.com)

**Deadline:** varies depending on scholarships.