

**HOW TO COMPLETE THE INITIAL STUDENT FLORIDA FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION**  
**(REQUIRED FOR BRIGHT FUTURES)**

**BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1st OF YOUR SENIOR YEAR (OR FINAL YEAR IN HS IF GRADUATING EARLY):**

- Go to <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org> website.
- Click on the *State Grants, Scholarships & Applications* tab.
- Click on *Student Application* tab.
- Review the Student Handbook sections and then click on *Proceed to Application* to begin.

**PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING:**

- Questions/fields marked with an asterisk (\*) require a response.
- **Question 1** (Social Security Number): This is not required but does help to match you with your record. If you are unsure of your number, do not guess.
- **Question 2** (Date of Birth): Be sure to put the **year you were born**, not current year!
- **Question 3**(Name): This should be your name as it appears on your social security card. Be sure to use your full name--no nicknames.
- **Question 14** (Zip Code): You should enter your 5-digit zip code. *You do not have to enter the last 4 digits.*
- **Question 22** (High School Graduation Date): **BE SURE TO PUT 2017, not 2016.**
- **Question 23** (Student Classification during 2015-16 School Year): Students should choose **FRESHMAN (FIRST TIME IN COLLEGE)**. {**Even if a student has taken dual enrollment courses, it is recommended by the state to select this.** “We don’t use that classification for anything pertaining to the evaluation so it isn’t a critical issue. We usually say “freshman first time in college” as a general rule simply because it alleviates having to enter a GPA for dual enrollment and the college the student is attending. ”}
- **Question 24** (Where You Plan to Attend School): You may (*and must*) change this if you decide to attend somewhere else. You can log back on to your account and update your school.
- **Question 25 and 28** (Last Postsecondary Attended): If you selected **FRESHMAN (FIRST TIME IN COLLEGE)**, you do not need to answer these questions.
- **Questions 26 and 27** (GPA): Give your best estimate of your GPA. (*Your official GPA will be certified by your school prior to eligibility determination.*)
- **Question 29** (Tests): If not certain what you are going to take, give your best guess.
- **Question 33** (Release of Information): You must answer **YES** if you want to be considered for Bright Futures.
- **Question 34** (Felony Conviction): Read carefully. For most students, the answer will be **NO**.

After completing all questions/fields, click **SUBMIT (& PRINT) MY APPLICATION** (click **CANCEL** if you do not wish to print). *Write down your USER ID AND PIN.* (You must use this ID & PIN to log back on to your account to find out if you are receiving an award—**NOTHING WILL BE MAILED OR SENT TO YOU.** )

USER ID: \_\_\_\_\_ PIN: \_\_\_\_\_

This is not the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. The FAFSA will be available to complete on October 1, 2016. You must complete the FAFSA to be eligible for **GRANTS, LOANS, WORK STUDY** and some **SCHOLARSHIPS**. Please look for upcoming information on **FAFSA NIGHTS** where you can get help completing the application. The application is available at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).