

FRESHMAN SEMINAR GUIDE



Today's presentation will cover all the topics listed below. All resources, including the PowerPoint, are posted on the ***Seminar Presentations & Resources*** page of the Guidance website: pcsb.org/Page/21892.

SCHOOL COUNSELOR

- Mrs. Havekotte: 9th grade
 - Process to meet
 - Help with advising, college/career planning, graduation, mental health, etc.

GRADUATION

- Credit Check
- Standard Diploma Requirements
 - Credits
 - GPA
 - Assessments
 - Acceleration

TUTORING & EXTENDED LEARNING

- Speak with your teacher
- Tutoring schedule on Guidance website
 - Scan QR code below
- Submit form, then begin attending as needed

CREDIT RECOVERY & GRADE FORGIVENESS

- Semester grade of D or F
- Options include:
 - After school
 - Virtual School
 - Night School
- Register with Counselor

POST-SECONDARY PLANNING

- Bright Futures Scholarship Program
 - Four types of scholarships
 - Begin tracking hours
- Visit the College and Career Center
 - Planning, scholarships, test prep:
pcsb.org/domain/12748

QUESTIONS

- Contact Mrs. Havekotte:
havekottea@pcsb.org
- Visit the Guidance website:
pcsb.org/Page/21888

College Planning
Guide



Tutoring & Extended
Learning



Bright Futures
Paperwork



SUS Matrix
Page 12



Credit Recovery &
Grade Forgiveness



BASIC STUDY SKILLS

- **USE A DAY PLANNER / AGENDA BOOK**

Keep up with assignments, due dates, etc.

- **TIME FORMULA**

Time outside of school, 5 days a week

Grade (9th, 10th, 11th, 12th) X 10 min = # of Mins/Day

- 90-120 minutes a day for high school X 5 days a week
- Add 30 mins per Honors class
- Add 1 hour per AP class

- **LOOK AT EVERY SUBJECT / EVERY NIGHT**

- Take out and open agenda book.
- Take folders out of back pack.
- Look on FOCUS as well as teacher posted site.
- Ask:
 1. What did I do in (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) period?
 2. Did I finish it? Do I have work? Where is it?
 3. When is the next test / project / deadline?

- **NO LOOSE PAPERS**

Have a folder, notebook, binder or binder section for EVERY subject.

- **ENGAGE IN CLASS**

Ask questions.

- Ask 1 to 3 questions per class, per week to engage in the discussions / topics.

Volunteer to answer / lead discussions.

- **COMMUNICATION WITH THE TEACHER**

Maintain regular communication with your teacher, via email, class discussion, chat, etc.

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) / Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)
2025-26

Initial Eligibility Requirements: (As determined by the Florida Department of Education)

1. Submit the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) no later than August 31 after high school graduation.
2. Graduate from a Florida high school with a standard high school diploma or its equivalent.
3. Complete the 16 college-preparatory courses required for admission to a state university.
4. Achieve the required weighted GPA in the 16 college-preparatory courses per the chart below.
5. Achieve the required composite ACT[®] score, Overall Score on the Classic Learning Test (CLT[®]), or combined SAT[®] score. Tests must be taken no later than August 31 of the student's graduation year (or through January 31 for mid-year graduates), per the chart below.
6. Complete the required number of volunteer service hours, paid work hours, or 100 total combined hours per the chart below.

Type	16 High School College-Preparatory Course Credits ¹	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT [®] /CLT [®] /SAT [®]) ²	Volunteer Service Hours ²	Paid Work Hours ²
FAS	4 - English (three must include substantial writing)	3.50	2025-26 Graduates: 29/95/1330	100 hours	100 hours
	4 - Mathematics (at or above the Algebra I level)		2026-27 Graduates: 29/95/1330		
FMS	3 - Natural Science (two must have substantial laboratory)	3.00	2025-26 Graduates: 24/82/1190	75 hours	100 hours
	3 - Social Science 2 - World Language (sequential, in same language)		2026-27 Graduates: 24/82/1190		

¹ The required coursework aligns with the State University System admission requirements found in Florida Board of Governor's Regulation 6.002. Additional information regarding high school coursework can be found within the Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook.

² Students must earn the required volunteer service hours, 100 paid work hours, or a combination that totals a minimum of 100 hours.

Requirements to Receive an Award: (As determined by the postsecondary institution)

1. Be evaluated by the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) as meeting initial eligibility requirements.
2. Be a Florida resident and U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen.
3. Enroll as a degree- or certificate-seeking student at a Florida institution in at least 6 non-remedial semester credit hours.

Renewal Requirements: (As determined by grade and hours submitted by the postsecondary institution)

1. Students must earn the number of credit hours based on the student's enrollment type per term.
2. The renewal cumulative GPA requirements are outlined in the table below.

	Florida Academic Scholars (FAS)	Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)
Minimum Cumulative GPA (unrounded and unweighted)	3.0	2.75

For detailed information, including other ways to qualify, please refer to the Bright Futures Student Handbook.

Eligibility requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

Students are responsible for tracking their application and award status online and ensuring that funding for an academic year is accurate by contacting their institution's financial aid office.

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV)

2025-26

Initial Eligibility Requirements: (As determined by the Florida Department of Education.)

1. Submit the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) no later than August 31 after high school graduation.
2. Graduate with a standard Florida high school diploma or its equivalent.
3. Achieve the required weighted 3.0 GPA in the non-elective high school courses.
4. Complete at least three (3) full Career and Technical Education credits.
5. Achieve the required minimum 3.5 unweighted GPA in Career and Technical Education credits.
6. Complete at least 30 volunteer service hours, 100 paid work hours, or a combination that equals a minimum of 100 total hours. For students entering grade 9 in the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter, 75 hours of volunteer service must be completed.
7. Achieve the required minimum scores on one of the college entrance exams per the chart below no later than August 31 of the year the student graduates from high school.

Exam Type	Subject	Required Score
ACT*	Reading	19
	English	17
SAT [®] (Math, Writing, and Reading)	Mathematics	19
	Critical Reading or Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	490
SAT [®] (Math or Reading/Science)	Mathematics	480
	Reading	24
	Writing and Language	25
PERT (Only applies to the SAT [®] scholarship)	Math Test	24
	Reading	106
	Writing	103
	Mathematics	114

Required test scores follow those established by Rule 6A-10.0315, Florida Administrative Code.

Requirements to Receive an Award: (As determined by your postsecondary institution.)

1. Be evaluated by the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) as meeting initial eligibility requirements.
2. Be a Florida resident and U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen.
3. Enroll as a degree- or certificate-seeking student at a Florida institution in at least six (6) non-remedial semester credit hours.

Scholarship Restrictions:

The GSV award may only be used at postsecondary institutions that offer an applied technology diploma, technical degree education program (associate in applied science or associate in science), or a career certificate program and not toward the completion of an associate in arts or a baccalaureate degree.

Renewal Requirements: (As determined by grade and hours submitted by your postsecondary institution.)

1. Students must earn the number of credit hours based on the student's enrollment type per term.
2. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative 2.75 GPA (unrounded and unweighted).

For detailed information, please refer to the Bright Futures Student Handbook.

Eligibility requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

Students are responsible for tracking their application and award status online and ensuring that funding for an academic year is accurate by contacting their institution's financial aid office.

Last updated: August 2025

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars (GSC)

2025-26

Initial Eligibility Requirements: (As determined by the Florida Department of Education.)

1. Submit the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) no later than August 31 after high school graduation.
2. Graduate with a standard high school diploma or its equivalent.
3. Earn a minimum of five (5) postsecondary credit hours through CAPE industry certifications that articulate for college credit.
4. Complete at least 30 volunteer service hours, 100 paid work hours, or a combination that equals a minimum of 100 total hours. For students entering grade 9 in the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter, 75 hours of volunteer service must be completed.

Eligible CAPE Certifications:
Bright Futures Course Table

Requirements to Receive an Award: (As determined by your postsecondary institution.)

1. Be evaluated by the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) as meeting initial eligibility requirements.
2. Be a Florida resident and U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen.
3. Enroll as a degree- or certificate-seeking student at a Florida institution in at least six (6) non-remedial semester credit hours.

Scholarship Restrictions:

Until a student has earned an eligible associate degree, Gold Seal CAPE (GSC) scholarships may only be used at postsecondary institutions that offer an applied technology diploma, technical degree education program (associate in applied science or associate in science), or a career certificate program.

Upon completion of an eligible associate degree program, a GSC Scholar may also receive an award for a maximum of 60 credit hours toward an eligible baccalaureate degree.

Renewal Requirements: (As determined by grade and hours submitted by your postsecondary institution.)

1. Students must earn the number of credit hours based on the student's enrollment type per term.
2. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative 2.75 GPA (unrounded and unweighted).

For detailed information, please refer to the Bright Futures Student Handbook.

Eligibility requirements are subject to change with each legislative session.

Students are responsible for tracking their application and award status online and ensuring that funding for an academic year is accurate by contacting their institution's financial aid office.

Last updated: August 2025