Message from the Director

The Office for Student Financial Affairs (SFA) is the financial aid office at the University of Florida. The mission of the Office for Student Financial Affairs is to enhance recruitment and retention of students through research and support of financial aid programs while assisting parents and students in planning for and meeting higher education expenses.

UF offers many financial aid options to help students, regardless of their class and college. On SFA’s website at www.sfa.ufl.edu, you will find information about how to apply for financial aid at UF, deadlines, and financial aid programs.

SFA is committed to providing students with the resources and information they need to become fiscally responsible and to understand the rights and responsibilities incurred when they receive financial aid.

• SFA believes that financial factors should not deny any student the opportunity to attend UF and successfully pursue their degree objectives.

• SFA is committed to maximizing the resources available to its students.

• SFA recognizes that each student’s financial situation is unique and makes every effort to develop policies and procedures that treat each student fairly and equitably while taking into account unusual circumstances.

For your own benefit, please take the time to read all the information provided in this newsletter carefully. You are responsible for being aware of all financial aid eligibility requirements and application procedures.

If you have questions, contact a financial aid adviser for further assistance.

We wish you success in achieving your academic goals.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Wilder
Director, Office for Student Financial Affairs
Create an FSA ID to access Federal Student Aid websites

The FSA ID, which consists of a user-created username and password, allows users to electronically access personal information on Federal Student Aid websites as well as electronically sign a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and other documents. The FSA ID replaced the Federal Student Aid PIN on May 10, 2015.

If you’re a student, parent, or borrower and you’re logging in to a U.S. Department of Education (ED) website, you will be asked to create new log-in credentials known as the FSA ID.

Creating an FSA ID is simple and only takes a few minutes. You’ll have an opportunity to link your current Federal Student Aid PIN to your FSA ID. Doing so allows you to use your newly created FSA ID almost immediately to log in to the five ED websites. Even if you’ve forgotten your FSA PIN or don’t have one, you can still create an FSA ID.

Remember, your federal student aid account information is valuable. Only the owner of the FSA ID should create and use the account. You should never share your FSA ID.

A dependent student will need to have one of his or her legal parents sign the student’s FAFSA, so the parent needs an FSA ID as well. It’s important to understand that the student and the parent may not share an FSA ID: Your FSA ID is your signature, so it has to be unique to you.

To create an FSA ID or for more information, visit StudentAid.gov/fsaid

Need to log in to one of these websites?
- fafsa.gov
- StudentLoans.gov
- StudentAid.gov
- nslds.ed.gov
- teach-ats.ed.gov

If you haven’t logged in since May 10, 2015, then you will need to create an FSA ID

Florida Bright Futures renewal requirements

- All Bright Futures recipients are required to meet minimum credit hour and GPA requirements in order to renew their award each year. Students enrolled full time for both semesters are required to earn at least 24 semester hours in order to renew their award at the end of each academic year. For students not enrolled full time for both semesters, the hours required to renew are prorated.

- Students who do NOT earn the credit hours for which they were funded by the end of the evaluation period will be TERMINATED from the scholarship program.

- Students who do NOT earn their program’s required GPA at the end of their first evaluation period will be permitted a one-time restoration opportunity. Traditional students receiving funding during fall/spring will be permitted a one-time summer opportunity. Innovation Academy students receiving funding during spring/summer will be permitted a one-time fall opportunity.

**Bright Futures Renewal Predictor**

Determining exactly how many hours you will need to renew your particular Bright Futures award can be confusing. SFA has created a Renewal Predictor to aid you in determining your individual renewal requirements.

### Renewal Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Florida Academic Scholars Award</th>
<th>Florida Medallion Scholars Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Cumulative GPA</td>
<td>3.0*</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(unrounded &amp; unweighted)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Hours Required Per Term,</td>
<td>12 semester earned hours</td>
<td>12 semester earned hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>if funded Full Time (12+ hours)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Hours Required Per Term,</td>
<td>9 semester earned hours</td>
<td>9 semester earned hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>if funded Three-quarter Time (9-11 hours)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Hours Required Per Term,</td>
<td>6 semester earned hours</td>
<td>6 semester earned hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>if funded Half Time (6-8 hours)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Florida Academic Scholars with 2.75-2.99 will renew as Florida Medallion Scholars.

http://www.sfa.ufl.edu/programs/bright-futures/renewal/

For more information, students should contact the FDOE Office of Student Financial Assistance at 1-888-827-2004.

www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org

**Florida Bright Futures Repayment Policy**

- Students will be required to repay their award hours for any course dropped or withdrawn after the drop-add period.

- Hours repaid for dropped or withdrawn courses are added back to the student’s total semester hours available, and are not included in the student’s total credit hours required to renew the award.

- Repayment for the cost of dropped or withdrawn award hours is required to renew a Bright Futures award for the subsequent academic year.

- Nonpayment of dropped or withdrawn Bright Futures award hours may also negatively affect renewal eligibility for other state programs.

If you’re a student, parent, or borrower and you’re logging in to a U.S. Department of Education (ED) website, you will be asked to create new log-in credentials known as the FSA ID.
Understanding how to repay your federal student loans can save you time and money

**Direct loan Repayment**

You don’t have to begin repaying most federal student loans until after you leave college or drop below half-time enrollment. Your loan servicer handles all billing regarding your student loan, so you’ll need to make payments directly to your servicer. Each servicer has its own payment process and can work with you if you need help making payments. To review your direct loan balance and servicer information go to [www.nslds.ed.gov](http://www.nslds.ed.gov)

Understanding how to repay your federal student loans can save you a lot of time and money. Your loan servicer can help you manage repayment and answer any questions.

There are several repayment plans available, providing the flexibility you need.

Here are some things you should know:

- You’ll be asked to choose a plan. If you don’t choose one, you will be placed on the Standard Repayment Plan, which will have your loans paid off in 10 years.
- You can switch to a different plan at any time to suit your needs and goals.
- Your monthly payment can be based on how much you make.
- A repayment estimator can be found at [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov)

### Overview of Direct Loan and FFEL Program Repayment Plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repayment Plan</th>
<th>Eligible Loans</th>
<th>Monthly Payment and Time Frame</th>
<th>Quick Comparison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Standard Repayment Plan</strong></td>
<td>• Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans&lt;br&gt;• Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans&lt;br&gt;• all PLUS loans</td>
<td>Payments are a fixed amount of at least $50 per month.&lt;br&gt;Up to 10 years</td>
<td>You’ll pay less interest for your loan over time under this plan than you would under other plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Graduated Repayment Plan</strong></td>
<td>• Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans&lt;br&gt;• Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans&lt;br&gt;• all PLUS loans</td>
<td>Payments are lower at first and then increase, usually every two years.&lt;br&gt;Up to 10 years</td>
<td>You’ll pay more for your loan over time than under the 10-year standard plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extended Repayment Plan</strong></td>
<td>• Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans&lt;br&gt;• Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans&lt;br&gt;• all PLUS loans</td>
<td>Payments may be fixed or graduated.&lt;br&gt;Up to 25 years</td>
<td>Your monthly payments would be lower than the 10-year standard plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income-Based Repayment Plan (IBR)</strong></td>
<td>• Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans&lt;br&gt;• Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans&lt;br&gt;• all PLUS loans made to students&lt;br&gt;• Consolidation Loans (Direct or FFEL) that do not include Direct or FFEL PLUS loans made to parents</td>
<td>Your maximum monthly payments will be 15 percent of discretionary income, the difference between your adjusted gross income and 150 percent of the poverty guideline for your family size and state of residence (other conditions apply).&lt;br&gt;Your payments change as your income changes.&lt;br&gt;Up to 25 years</td>
<td>You must have a partial financial hardship.&lt;br&gt;Your monthly payments will be lower than payments under the 10-year standard plan.&lt;br&gt;You’ll pay more for your loan over time than you would under the 10-year standard plan.&lt;br&gt;If you have not repaid your loan in full after making the equivalent of 25 years of qualifying monthly payments, any outstanding balance on your loan will be forgiven.&lt;br&gt;You may have to pay income tax on any amount that is forgiven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pay As You Earn Repayment Plan</strong></td>
<td>• Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans&lt;br&gt;• Direct PLUS loans made to students&lt;br&gt;• Direct Consolidation Loans that do not include (Direct or FFEL) PLUS loans made to parents</td>
<td>Your maximum monthly payments will be 10 percent of discretionary income, the difference between your adjusted gross income and 150 percent of the poverty guideline for your family size and state of residence (other conditions apply).&lt;br&gt;Your payments change as your income changes.&lt;br&gt;Up to 20 years</td>
<td>You must be a new borrower on or after Oct. 1, 2007, and must have received a disbursement of a Direct Loan on or after Oct. 1, 2011.&lt;br&gt;You must have a partial financial hardship.&lt;br&gt;Your monthly payments will be lower than payments under the 10-year standard plan.&lt;br&gt;You’ll pay more for your loan over time than you would under the 10-year standard plan.&lt;br&gt;If you have not repaid your loan in full after you made the equivalent of 20 years of qualifying monthly payments, any outstanding balance on your loan will be forgiven.&lt;br&gt;You may have to pay income tax on any amount that is forgiven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income-Contingent Repayment Plan</strong></td>
<td>• Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans&lt;br&gt;• Direct PLUS Loans made to students&lt;br&gt;• Direct Consolidation Loans</td>
<td>Payments are calculated each year and are based on your adjusted gross income, family size, and the total amount of your Direct Loans.&lt;br&gt;Your payments change as your income changes.&lt;br&gt;Up to 25 years</td>
<td>You’ll pay more for your loan over time than under the 10-year standard plan.&lt;br&gt;If you do not repay your loan after making the equivalent of 25 years of qualifying monthly payments, the unpaid portion will be forgiven.&lt;br&gt;You may have to pay income tax on the amount that is forgiven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income-Sensitive Repayment Plan</strong></td>
<td>• Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans&lt;br&gt;• FFEL PLUS Loans&lt;br&gt;• FFEL Consolidation Loans</td>
<td>Your monthly payment is based on annual income.&lt;br&gt;Your payments change as your income changes.&lt;br&gt;Up to 10 years</td>
<td>You’ll pay more for your loan over time than you would under the 10-year standard plan.&lt;br&gt;Each lender’s formula for determining the monthly payment amount under this plan can vary.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Make sure to stay eligible for your financial aid

You need to make satisfactory academic progress in order to continue receiving federal student aid. In other words, you have to make good enough grades, and complete enough classes (credits, hours, etc.), to keep moving toward successfully completing your degree.

Students who fail to meet the following criteria will be ineligible for federal, state, and/or institutional scholarship and grant funds:
• maintain the required cumulative grade point average,
• successfully complete the required percentage of attempted coursework,
• complete their program of study within the prescribed length of time.

Read about the quantitative and qualitative components you must meet to maintain your eligibility for financial aid at our website: http://www.sfa.ufl.edu/additional/academic-progress/

Check the status of your financial aid

Use “Aid Status” to:
• Find out if your financial aid file is complete or if you have outstanding requirements that will prevent the disbursement of your financial aid.
• Request student loans.
• Print verification documents.

To check your aid status:
1. Go to www.isis.ufl.edu
2. On the left menu, under “Financial Aid,” choose “Aid Status” for the correct academic year.

Remember to check your financial aid status frequently at www.isis.ufl.edu

Update your address and contact info

The UF Directory is the sole source of contact information for students. Remember to update and verify your local and permanent addresses, phone numbers and email in the UF Directory. Accurate information will ensure that you receive all university correspondence. You must update this information each time you change your address, including when you move home for summer or move to a different apartment or residence hall on campus.

In order to protect the confidentiality of your student record, the university will not allow the post office to forward mail to an address other than the one on your directory file. Remember to change your address info whenever any information changes.

To update your contact info:
1. Log on to myUFL portal at www.my.ufl.edu
2. From the main menu, go to “My Account” and choose “Update my Directory Profile.”
3. Follow the directions to verify and update all necessary information.

Sign up for direct deposit

UF now requires that all students receiving financial aid sign up for direct deposit.

To sign up, go online to https://my.ufl.edu/ and select “Access myUFL” to login. On the top toolbar, select “Main Menu.” Choose “My Campus Finances,” then “Direct Deposit—Student or PLUS.”

Direct Deposit is the quickest and safest way to receive your financial aid refunds.

Please direct any questions about direct deposit to the University Bursar (UB) at (352) 392-0737.
Proof of health insurance required

Effective June 30, 2014, all newly admitted or re-admitted domestic students who are enrolled at least half-time in a degree-seeking program along with all international students are required to purchase the Student Health Insurance Plan unless proof of comparable coverage is provided.

Students who do not have health insurance and/or do not submit a waiver will be automatically enrolled in the Student Health Insurance Plan for the immediate semester and will be financially responsible for the related charge, which will be placed on the student's myUFL/ISIS account.

For more information, including plan rates and benefits, UF requirements and how to complete a waiver, visit http://studentinsurance.shcc.ufl.edu.

Financial aid recipients who must purchase the UF plan will have the cost reflected in the personal component of their cost of attendance. Students with financial aid allotment questions/concerns should contact their pre-assigned adviser at Student Financial Affairs.

UF Online, transient, non degree seeking, dual enrolled, certificate students, and UF employees enrolled in the EEP program are exempt from this requirement.

**Florida Bright Futures**

For information about application, renewal requirements, reinstatements, restorations, appeals, and other topics, go to the

**Florida Department of Education**

website, www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org

Send questions by email: osfa@fldoe.org

Send mail to:

Florida Department of Education
Turlington Building, Suite 1314
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Toll-Free Hotline: 1-888-827-2004

---

**Financial Aid Addresses & Phone Numbers**

**U.S. Department of Education**

Student Aid Information Center
P. O. Box 84
Washington DC 20044-0084
1-800-433-3243/1-800-730-8913 (TTY)
www.ed.gov/finaid/landing.jhtml?src=rt

Federal Direct Loan Information
http://www.studentloans.gov
- View loan documents
- Entrance Counseling
- Sign MPN
- Complete PLUS Request Process

National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)
http://www.nslds.ed.gov/nslds_SA

Federal Direct Loan Consolidation
1-800-557-7392; 1-800-557-7395 (TTY)
http://loanconsolidation.ed.gov

---

**SFA CALENDAR**

**September 4**
Fee Payment Deadline

**September 7**
Labor Day - no classes

**October 9**
Financial Aid Fee Deferment Deadline
3:30 pm UB or online at 11:59 pm

**November 6-7**
Homecoming - no classes

**November 25-28**
Thanksgiving Holiday

**December 18-19**
Commencement