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**MEMORANDUM**

**OSFA-STATE HS: #23-24:XX**

**TO:** School District High School Bright Futures Contacts  
Public and Private High School Counselors

**FROM:** Shawn Haskin, Director  
State Scholarship and Grant Programs

**DATE:** August 9, 2023

**SUBJECT: Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Legislative Updates**

The 2023 Florida Legislature passed House Bill 1537, which became Chapter 2023-39, Laws of Florida, upon the approval of Governor DeSantis on May 9, 2023. Included in the bill are the following modifications to initial eligibility requirements necessary for students to qualify for a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program award that became effective July 1, 2023:

- Permitting students to combine volunteer service and paid work hours;
- Authorizing students to earn a concordant score on the Classic Learning Test (CLT) to meet the minimum test score requirement; and
- Revising the list of courses that receive additional weights for the purpose of calculating students' grade point averages (GPA) for BF purposes.

**Service Hour Requirement**

Effective July 1, 2023, students graduating in the 2022-23 academic year and thereafter may satisfy the service hour requirement for a specific BF program by completing the statutory required number of volunteer service hours, 100 paid work hours, or a combination of both. The combination of volunteer service hours and paid work hours must equal a minimum of 100 total hours to fulfill the service hour requirement. Eligible paid work hours completed on or after June 27, 2022, may be included retroactively in the calculation of the student's total paid work hours completed. Please ensure that all completed hours are included on students' final transcripts.

Suzanne Pridgeon  
Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations

### **Test Score Requirement**

Effective July 1, 2023, students graduating in the **2023-24** academic year and thereafter seeking to qualify for a Florida Bright Futures Florida Academic Scholarship (FAS) award, or a Florida Bright Futures Florida Medallion Scholarship (FMS) award, may satisfy the minimum test score requirement by earning a concordant score on the CLT. Students must achieve a test score at the 89th percentile to qualify for an FAS award or achieve a test score at the 75th percentile to qualify for an FMS award. In May 2023, the Classic Learning Initiatives, Inc. published [\*The Concordance Relationship Between the Classic Learning Test \(CLT\) and the Scholastic Aptitude Test \(SAT\)\*](#), establishing a concordance table between the CLT and the SAT.

During the 2022-23 school year, the Florida Department of Education announced American College Testing (ACT) and SAT test scores for students who plan to graduate in the 2023-24 school year. The updated test scores for 2023-24 graduates that include concordant CLT scores are:

- Florida Academic Scholarship:
  - ACT: 29
  - CLT: 96
  - SAT: 1340
- Florida Medallion Scholarship:
  - ACT: 25
  - CLT: 84
  - SAT: 1210

As a reminder, the department will publish test scores information for high school graduating students in the *Bright Futures Student Handbook: Chapter 1* prior to the start of each school year. The publication can be accessed on the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program website at [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN).

### **Grade Point Average Requirement**

House Bill 1537 authorizes specific Florida College System institutions and state universities to develop courses that align with section (s.) 1007.25, Florida Statutes (F.S.), for students in secondary education and provide the training required under s. 1007.35(6), F.S. Effective July 1, 2023, these advanced courses are now authorized to be included in a student's weighted GPA calculation for BF purposes for the **2023-24** academic year and thereafter.

Counselors are encouraged to use the [Bright Futures Course Table](#) (BFCT) in conjunction with the resources provided for counselors on the BFCT home screen at to locate specific weighted courses that affect the weighted GPA calculation. Users will find links on the BFCT to resources that provide comprehensive information concerning coursework approved in the state and how courses are used for various purposes. Counselors should use these resources to advise students.

For assistance, call OSFA Customer Service at 888-827-2004 and request to speak to a program specialist.

SH/na

cc: Lou Anne Standley, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Division of Finance and Operations