

Sunshine State Scholars 2024-25

Required and Optional Criteria for Eligibility

Minimum State Requirements

- Students have achieved **junior** class status and have an interest in pursuing postsecondary education opportunities in Florida.
- Students have expressed and/or demonstrated an interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics related studies.
- Students have a weighted grade point average of 3.9 or higher.
Based upon information available at this point in time, student should be on track to qualify for the Florida Academic Scholars Award according to the current guidelines established for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program (<http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/bfmain.htm>).
- Students should have documentation to support at least 25 hours of approved community service.
- Districts are allotted a scholar count based on the district's student enrollment.
 - Districts with less than 20,000 students are allotted one scholar.
 - Districts that have 20,001-78,999 students are allotted two scholars.
 - Districts that have more than 79,000+ students are allotted three scholars.

Other optional criteria as determined by district

Essay:

Students will write a short essay.

- Describe your plans to pursue a science, technology, engineering and mathematics related field.
- Describe your academic passion. What makes it your passion?
- What are your postsecondary plans as of right now?
- What do you think is the greatest challenge America has right now in the areas of science, technology, engineering or mathematics?
- What contribution do you think you could make to help resolve it?
- What impact will your science, technology, engineering, and mathematics studies have on your life?
- How do you expect to use what you learn in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to benefit your community in the future?

Interview:

Students will conduct an interview with a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics professional community member.

Advanced Coursework:

Students have taken or is currently enrolled in advanced courses.

- Dual enrollment credit mathematics and/or science courses
- Advanced Placement mathematics and/or science courses
- Advanced technology and/or career and technical education courses
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) or International Baccalaureate (IB) mathematics and/or science courses

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Assessment and Testing:

Students have consistently scored well on statewide assessments.

Assessment/Test	Required Score for Eligibility
SAT (<i>based upon the Critical Reading and Mathematics sections only</i>)	1300 or higher
ACT (<i>excluding the writing section</i>)	30 or higher
CLT	98 or higher
Advanced Placement Tests	3.0 or higher on one or more
Mathematics and Science EOC assessments	Level 4 or 5

Competitions and Contests:

Students have actively participated in science, technology, engineering and mathematics related competitions or shown leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics related activities.