

**2023-24 Florida Lottery Lighting the Way to a Bright Future  
Project Summaries**

<b>District</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Foundation</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Project Summary</b>
5 Gainesville	Alachua	The Education Foundation of Alachua County	Bright Futures for Alachua: College Bound and Career Ready	This project helps make accessing college easier for students of lower socio-economic backgrounds, 400 of whom still need a concordant score for graduation, through a multi-pronged approach to college readiness. Collaborating with Eastside, Loftan & Santa Fe High Schools and expanding this year to include Hawthorne, we will work with more than 2,500 students offering SAT/ACT Prep, FAFSA completion assistance, college readiness workshops, classroom guidance days, a career day and Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship Program information sessions for 9th through 12th graders. These schools plan to implement parent nights to provide financial aid and college prep resources. This project will also address students in lower grade levels by offering college and career exploration.
13 Miami	Broward	Broward Education Foundation	Bright Horizons: Illuminating Futures for Broward's Students and Families	This project will identify and support interested degree and certificate-bound students of low socio-economic backgrounds who have test or GPA scores slightly below the eligibility to receive Bright Future funding or have not tested at all. It will provide BRACE Advisor, school counselor and out of school provider supported training and application events both virtually and onsite to assist 12th grade students in test prep and application assistance as well as recognition of successful completion. Special attention and resources will be provided to Vocational/Technical bound students to illuminate their path to a Brighter Future. Middle school outreach will include awareness-building events for both students and parents. The goal is to help 2,000 students and their caregivers receive help with the new FAFSA, Bright Futures awareness and training, test-preparation and celebration of achievements. Students who pre-test within Bright Future eligibility, but not qualified for 100% funding will be targeted for improvement of test scores to maximize benefits. Students who do not qualify will be reviewed for Gold Seal interest and eligibility and provided the assistance and tools to obtain funding not previously qualified to receive.
4 Jacksonville	Clay	Clay Education Foundation	Future Ready Clay	As a trusted partner to Clay County District Schools, the Clay Education Foundation is leading efforts to increase access to college, especially in communities where students have the potential to attend college but may not see it as a possibility. The Future Ready Clay initiative introduces students and their families to essential college and career planning resources. With only 26% of adults over the age of 25 having earned a college degree, many students here are first in their family to approach this process. The Foundation supports student access to resources while reducing barriers by supplementing the current web-based resources for student and family engagement activities. Through the Future Ready Clay initiative, we will introduce the Student Success Guide (with a Bright Futures eligibility tracker), host FAFSA completion challenges, Reality Fairs, College and Career Nights, Career Expo, attend Freshman Expos, and quarterly Parent Academies.

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9 Tampa	Hillsborough	Hillsborough Education Foundation	Student Center for Post-Secondary Exploration (SCOPE)	Our Student Center of Post-Secondary Exploration (SCOPE) program provides foundational pillars of support for students to achieve postsecondary success. By primarily serving students considered economically disadvantaged, SCOPE helps to break down barriers and end generational cycles of poverty. Students from low-income backgrounds often require extra support and guidance when it comes to career and college planning, yet this crucial need often goes unaddressed due to limited resources and support. With a ratio of 449 students per guidance counselor, Florida schools struggle to support students' post-secondary guidance and planning needs. SCOPE is designed to bridge that gap and increase postsecondary success by providing a dedicated and accessible school-based site that provides support and resources for students and families. The foundation equips each center with a dedicated, full-time staff member who provides 1:1 guidance, financial aid assistance, including FAFSA, Bright Futures, and other scholarship opportunities, and exposure to potential career and college paths. SCOPE creates a culture where students can envision and make strides to achieve post-secondary success.
10 Ft. Myers	Lee	The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools, Inc.	Lighting the Way to a Bright Future	This project provides students with necessary information, outlets, and resources for completing all requirements of the Bright Futures scholarship (FAFSA, SAT/ACT, volunteer hours). We will train students to become volunteers who assist peers with the requirements of the Bright Futures scholarship. We will host workshops to assist students with applying for FAFSA, applying for scholarships, practicing for SATs/ACTs, and completing college applications. We will host workshops to allow volunteers to share with middle school students how to prepare for the Bright Futures application/requirements as well as prepare for college and career pathways. We will also assist students with the financial challenges of college application fees and SAT and ACT testing.
1 Tallahassee	Leon	Foundation for Leon County Schools	ASPIRE - BEACON	This project includes the continuation and expansion of the Bringing Economic And Career Opportunities Nearer for High School Seniors (BEACON) program. Work will continue on growing this FAFSA completion project with Godby High School and Ghazvini Learning Center while expanding to include Leon and SAIL high schools. Trained volunteers and financial aid experts will work individually with every senior at each school to complete their FAFSA and FFAA. This project also includes parent nights, FAFSA completion events, and incentives to create a FAFSA-forward culture at each school. Our new focus of BEACON is on boys in grades 6-8 at Griffin Middle School. In partnership with 100 Black Men and Big Brothers/Big Sisters, 50 middle school age boys will be paired with a mentor recruited and trained by Big Brothers/Big Sisters. The mentor/mentee will follow the Big Futures curriculum created by BBBS to foster college and career readiness.

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3 Pensacola	Okaloosa	Okaloosa Public Schools Foundation, Inc	Dare to Prepare!	Florida Lottery funding will support the expansion of the existing Okaloosa County post-graduation activities: 1) comprehensive College and Career Fair; 2) expansion of district SAT/ACT testing preparation opportunities; and 3) two Family Engagement nights for students in grades 5th-9th grade. The Fair has grown every year and continues to have great support from postsecondary schools, local businesses, and the military, all providing individualized information to students and their parents. SAT/ACT test prep programs for students to access outside the school functions/facilities will be expanded through coordination with the College Board on recommended implementation of SAT/ACT prep tools. Family engagement nights. Geared toward 5th-9th grade students and families, help prepare students for the future and focus on graduation requirements, Bright Futures/Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship information, financial aid and college applications.
11 West Palm Beach	Okeechobee	Education Foundation of Okeechobee County	Empowering Okeechobee's Youth for a Brighter Future	In Okeechobee County, where 33% of children live in poverty and all schools benefit from Title 1 funding, there's an evident need for robust educational interventions. To this end, The Education Foundation of Okeechobee, in collaboration with the Okeechobee County School District and Indian River State College, is rolling out multifaceted programs. Targeted activities include: 1) SAT/ACT Boot Camp to enhance student performance with focused training and test strategies; 2) workshops amplifying the importance of FAFSA; and 3) Career Exploration Fair, targeting 5th, 8th, and 11th graders, to bridge the gap between academics and real-world professions. This fair will provide an insightful lens into diverse career paths, aiding students in making informed decisions about their futures. By increasing promotion, involving families, and offering incentives for completion, we forecast a surge in student participation, increasing their access to financial assistance. With these initiatives, our vision is clear: to elevate FAFSA completions, refine SAT/ACT preparedness, and enhance career clarity, all fueling economic and social mobility for our deserving students.
6 Orlando	Volusia	FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools	College Tour Workshop	Students hear from an early age how important it is to attend college. They hear about universities, state colleges, certificate programs, private vs public institutions, but it's difficult to grasp what it's really like if you have never set foot on a college campus or had a parent who attended college. Touring college campuses is something many people take for granted, even when the campus is located close to home. This program offers a full day College Tour Workshop that includes two State College main campuses and the Advanced Technology College which offers a wide variety of programs in engineering, computer science, advanced manufacturing, automotive, electrical apprenticeship, heating and air conditioning, construction, and more. This program will enhance the college readiness and preparedness for students by offering a hands-on look at what colleges in our local area can provide. This will be a catalyst for students to get excited about applying/attending college and finding a program that fits their desired career plan or opens their eyes to a possible new path.