

***Bright Futures Scholarship  
Volunteer Service and Paid Work Information Sheet for  
Home Education Students***

Per the state of Florida, eligibility for a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship award requires that students be registered with the district during the current and prior academic year, meet testing requirements and complete the minimum number of volunteer service or paid work hours. For specific requirements, please see the [Florida Bright Futures Website](#).

Scholarship eligibility requires students to complete volunteer service or paid work hours as approved by the local school district for Florida Bright Futures Program. Volunteer Service or paid Work hours must be performed during high school and completed before the student terminates enrollment with Home Education. The addition of the paid work hours was approved and signed effective June 27, 2022; therefore, only paid work hours completed after June 27, 2022, will be accepted. [HB 1537](#)

Florida Statute 1009.534, 1009.535, 1009.536 regarding the Bright Futures Volunteer Service and Paid Work:

The student must complete a program of volunteer service or, beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023 academic year and thereafter, paid work, as approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home education program students, which must include:

- Florida Academic Scholarship – 100 hours volunteer service **OR** 100 hours paid work **OR** a combination of 100 hours of volunteer service and paid work hours
- Florida Medallion Scholarship – 75 hours volunteer service **OR** 100 hours paid work **OR** a combination of 100 hours of volunteer service and paid work hours

The student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that is of interest. The student must document earned volunteer hours or paid work hours on agency letterhead with the number of hours completed, dates of service, and signed by a supervisor.

Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office.

**Steps to Document the Bright Futures Volunteer Service or Paid Work Experience:**

1. Contact the agency or organization for an interview to discuss the social issue, civic issue or professional area of interest and develop a plan of action.
2. The agency where the volunteer service or paid work hours were earned must provide documentation on agency letterhead the number of hours completed, dates of service, and signature of supervisor.
3. The completed forms shall be sent to the Brevard Public Schools District Office for Home Education for approval and entry.
4. Seniors who would like their completed volunteer service or paid work hours to post for the Bright Futures Early Evaluation must have their documentation submitted by January 30<sup>th</sup> of their final year of home education.
5. All volunteer or paid work paperwork must be completed, signed, and submitted prior to the notice of termination sent to the Home Education office.

**What Hours Cannot Count for Bright Futures Volunteer Service/Paid Work Hours?**

1. Court mandated community service
2. Family related activities or service to family members (ex. babysitting, completing assigned chores, etc.)
3. Religious activity which can be interpreted as proselytizing (definition: to advocate, promote or attempt to convert (someone) from one religion, belief, or opinion to another.) This does not include religious education or service.
4. Donations, such as Locks of Love or giving blood
5. Service work that earns the student academic credit (except for credit earned through an approved service-learning course).
6. An activity where there is no responsible adult or supervisor on site to evaluate and confirm student performance.
7. Paid work hours completed prior to June 27, 2022.

**Note: Home-Educated students do not need to provide a student transcript. Test scores must be sent to one of Florida's twelve public universities when the student registers for the ACT/SAT, the scores will then be sent to the FDOE repository. Home-Educated students can also send official test scores directly to Bright Futures to the address listed in the Bright Futures Student Handbook, Chapter 1.**