

BUC Family Night

Working together for a successful year...

Welcome Students & Families

*Mainland is **PROUD** to be a Title I School!!*

Dr. Joseph Castelli – Principal

Ms. Hilarie Blum, Mr. Julian Guitierrez Quintero,

Ms. Brandy Meadows, Ms. Jennifer Robinson – Assistant Principals

Mr. Damon Barrs – Administrative Dean

Mr. Joe Giddens & Dr. Susan Lewis – SEL TOA

Mrs. Trisha Scheuerman – Parent Liaison

We are a Title 1 School

Mainland High School is PROUD to be a Title I school!

Fee waivers for ACT/SAT, college applications or NCAA/NAIA are available to students who qualify.

Direct Certification letters are mailed to eligible families by the District. All other families are encouraged to apply or complete the **Income Based Services Request form** on ww.VCSEDU.org: [IBSR form](#)

Students should speak with their School Counselor to find out their current designation for benefits.



Your Counselor Contacts

Who is **YOUR** School Counselor? Students are divided by **GRAD YEAR**:

- 9th A - H: Jewel Johnson, Counseling Director
 - jljohnso@volusia.k12.fl.us
- 9th I – Z: Caryn Hubbs
 - cnhubbs@volusia.k12.fl.us
- 10th: Samantha Hepburn
 - sghepbur@volusia.k12.fl.us
- 11th: Cassandra Lundy
 - calundy@volusia.k12.fl.us
- 12th: Allen Thomas
 - athomas1@volusia.k12.fl.us

Students are asked to email their counselors with questions or requests for appointments.

Parents are asked to call/email to request an appointment.
(386) 258-4665, Ext. 54226

Types of Financial Aid

There are Four Main Types of Aid

1. **Federal** Student Aid (FAFSA)
2. **State** Financial Aid (includes Bright Futures)
3. **Institutional** Financial Aid & Scholarships *
4. **Private** Local and National Scholarships

** Merit, Talent and Need Based scholarships are offered by the school you apply to.*

Additional scholarships are often available through foundation endowments and other donated funds. Research available options at the schools you are applying to.

FAFSA Application

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

What is the FAFSA?

- FAFSA is the **application** that is required for students to participate in and receive Federal Aid for their education expenses.
- New applications open each October 1st and must be **filed each year** that you are in school and plan to use Federal Financial Aid.
- It is used by the **State of Florida** to evaluate you for additional need-based financial aid programs that they offer. Deadline is May 15th.
- It is used by the **colleges/universities** you are applying at to determine your financial need as they prepare your financial aid offer.

Video Links: [What is the FAFSA?](#) and [FAFSA Overview](#)

Key Changes starting with the 2024-25 FAFSA

- The 2025-26 FAFSA cycle application will not **OPEN** until **December 2024**.
 - *The FAFSA should resume October 1st opening thereafter.*
- **Contributor** is the new term referring to anyone who is required to provide information, consent and approval, and a signature on the FAFSA.
- **Consent & Approval** is required from all contributors (*parent(s) & student*), even if the contributor does not have a SS# or has not filed taxes.
 - *Federal Tax information is to be retrieved and transferred directly into the FAFSA form via IRS direct data exchange, replacing the IRS Data Retrieval Tool*
- All parties will need an **FSaid**, even parents who may not have a SS#.
 - *However, a student must have a SS# in order to receive Federal Student Aid.*
- Student may select up to **(20) schools** to send their FAFSA to.

Key Changes for the 2024-25 FAFSA cont.

- Application will now be “**role-based**”, student and contributor(s) will have separate applications and also may submit their part of the application when their section is complete.
 - *Students will have access to see the status of their application and contributor’s progress from their main dashboard, “My Activity” page.*
- Students must **invite** their parent(s) to be a **contributor**.
- EFC (Expected Family Contribution) is being replaced with **SAI (Student Aid Index)** and there are some key changes in the calculations, including no longer considering the number of persons in household who are in college.
- Students who will be **pursuing** an initial **teaching certificate** may be considered for Pell Grant, regardless of financial status.

Video Link: [2024-25 Changes](#) and [Who is a Contributor?](#)

Who Gets Federal Student Aid?

Every student who meets certain requirements can get some type of Federal Student Aid, regardless of age or family income. Some of the most basic eligibility requirements are that you – the **STUDENT** – must:

- Have a **Social Security number**
- Be a U.S. **citizen** or eligible non-citizen
- Demonstrate **Financial Need** (for most programs)
- Maintain **satisfactory academic progress** in college or career school, and
- Show you are qualified to obtain a college or career school education by having a **high school diploma** or GED.

Video Link : [Who is Eligible for Federal Student Aid?](#)

Federal Financial Aid Includes



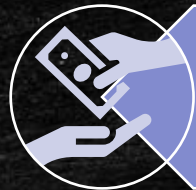
Grants



Loans



Work Study



Parent PLUS Loan

Types of Funds Available and Their Use

Grants

- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

Loans

- Subsidized
- Unsubsidized
- Parent PLUS

Work Study

- On-campus job

- Federal Student Aid helps pay expenses at universities, colleges, career schools and graduate school.
- It may be used to cover:
 - Tuition and fees
 - Room/Housing
 - Board/M meal Plan
 - Books and supplies
 - Transportation, additional costs

Review the “Seeking Financial Aid” booklet

Types of Federal Grants

Pell Grant

- Awarded to **undergraduate** students who have financial need and who have not earned a bachelor's or graduate degree; in some cases, however students enrolled in a post baccalaureate teacher certification program might receive a Federal Pell Grant.
- Federal Pell Grant **lifetime eligibility** is limited to 12 semesters or the equivalent.
- Award Amount: up to **\$8,145** (for 2025-2026)

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

- Awarded to **undergraduate** students who have **exceptional financial need** and who have not earned a bachelor's or graduate degree.
- Federal Pell Grant recipients receive **priority**.
- Not all colleges participate in the FSEOG program.
- Funds **depend on availability** at the college.
- Award Amount: Up to **\$4,000**

Types of Federal Loans

- Direct **Subsidized** Loans: must demonstrate financial need. Government covers interest while in school.
- Direct **Unsubsidized** Loans: does not have to demonstrate financial need. You are responsible for interest from time of disbursement.
- Direct **PLUS** Loans: loans to graduate students and parents of undergraduates.

Subsidized Loans	Unsubsidized Loans
Based on your financial need .	You can qualify , regardless of income or your financial need.
Available only if you're an undergraduate student.	Available if you're an undergraduate or graduate student.
Government does not usually charge you interest while you're in school at least half-time, for the first six months after you leave school, during a period of deferment (a postponement of payments), and, sometimes, during repayment under an income-driven repayment plan.	Government charges interest from the time your loan is disbursed through the life of the loan, except for some periods of repayment under an income-driven repayment plan.
Your school determines the amount you can borrow, and the amount may not exceed your financial need or the limit set on how much you can borrow per year and total.	Your school determines the amount you can borrow based on your cost of attendance and other financial aid you receive and may not exceed the limit set on how much you can borrow per year and total.

The FSAid and FAFSA

Creating and using your “Digital Signature”

Creating Your FSAid

www.StudentAid.gov

- The FSAid is your **electronic signature** that you will use to access, complete and sign the FAFSA each year.
- Parent(s) and student both need an FSAid to complete the FAFSA. **Each ID must be unique** – you will not be able to use the same email or phone number for student and parent.
- You should receive an **email within 1 to 3 days** confirming that your FSAid has been established.
- Use the **FAFSA Keeper** that we have created to keep all your FSAid and related information in one central place.
- It is best practice to have your FSAid **created and verified** ahead of starting the FAFSA.

Video Link: [Creating your FSAid](#)

Helpful Info & Tools

Once your **FSAid** has been **verified**, you are ready to fill out the FAFSA.

- You may also complete the application on your computer, tablet or mobile device web-browser.
- There are **(?) HELP** icons throughout the app, regardless of the device/platform you use.

Find more resources on the Federal Student Aid website:

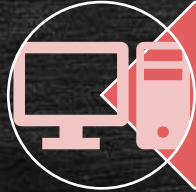
<https://studentaid.gov/help-center/answers/landing>

Federal Student Aid **Estimator** tool: <https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/>

**Try the FAFSA Prototype: <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/fafsa-prototype/2526>*

**Enter the access code: prototype2526*

Tips For Filling Out The FAFSA



Fill out and finalize the FAFSA as soon as possible. Some school-based programs that use the FAFSA info are funded on a first come first served basis – don't miss out!



Ensure that the FAFSA is filled out correctly. Read definitions carefully and use the help boxes if needed. The "FAFSA On the Web Worksheet" is also useful (2023-24).



Ensure that each contributor provides consent and approval, without which federal financial aid is denied.



Several weeks after filing your FAFSA, request a tax transcript from the IRS at: <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript> to have on hand if you are selected for verification.

Completing the FAFSA



www.FAFSA.gov

Make sure you use the correct website; you should **NEVER** have to pay to fill out the FAFSA!

Info Video:

[Starting the 2024-25 FAFSA](#)

- Gather your documents
 - Social Security #
 - Prior-prior year tax returns
 - W-2 Forms, Bank statements, investments records, if required
 - Email, Cell Phone #, and personal mailing address
- Enter requested information, *making sure you are answering correctly* as **STUDENT** or **PARENT**!
- Provide consent, or be denied federal financial aid
- Select up to 20 schools to receive your FAFSA
- Access FAFSA with your FSAid and **SUBMIT**!

Which FAFSA do I fill out?

- If you plan to attend college beginning in **SUMMER** after graduation, you will need to complete (2) FAFSA applications this year.
- If you will start college in the **FALL** after graduation, you will only need to complete the (1) FAFSA for the new school year.

FAFSA	Fall	Spring	Summer*
2024-25	2024	2025	2025
Requires 2022 tax information			

FAFSA	Fall	Spring	Summer
2025-26	2025	2026	2026
Requires 2023 tax information			

*2024-25 FAFSA is for academic year of July 1, 2024, to **June 30, 2025**.

Make Sure You Provide Consent!

Contributors to the FAFSA® Form



Parents or Spouses

Answers to the FAFSA form will determine if any contributors need to be identified. These contributors will complete their own sections of the form and are asked to provide personal and financial information, but will not become financially responsible for the student's education.



How to Invite

Contributors will need to log in with their own FSA ID to provide their information. To invite a contributor to a FAFSA form, you'll need to provide their name, date of birth, Social Security number, and email address.



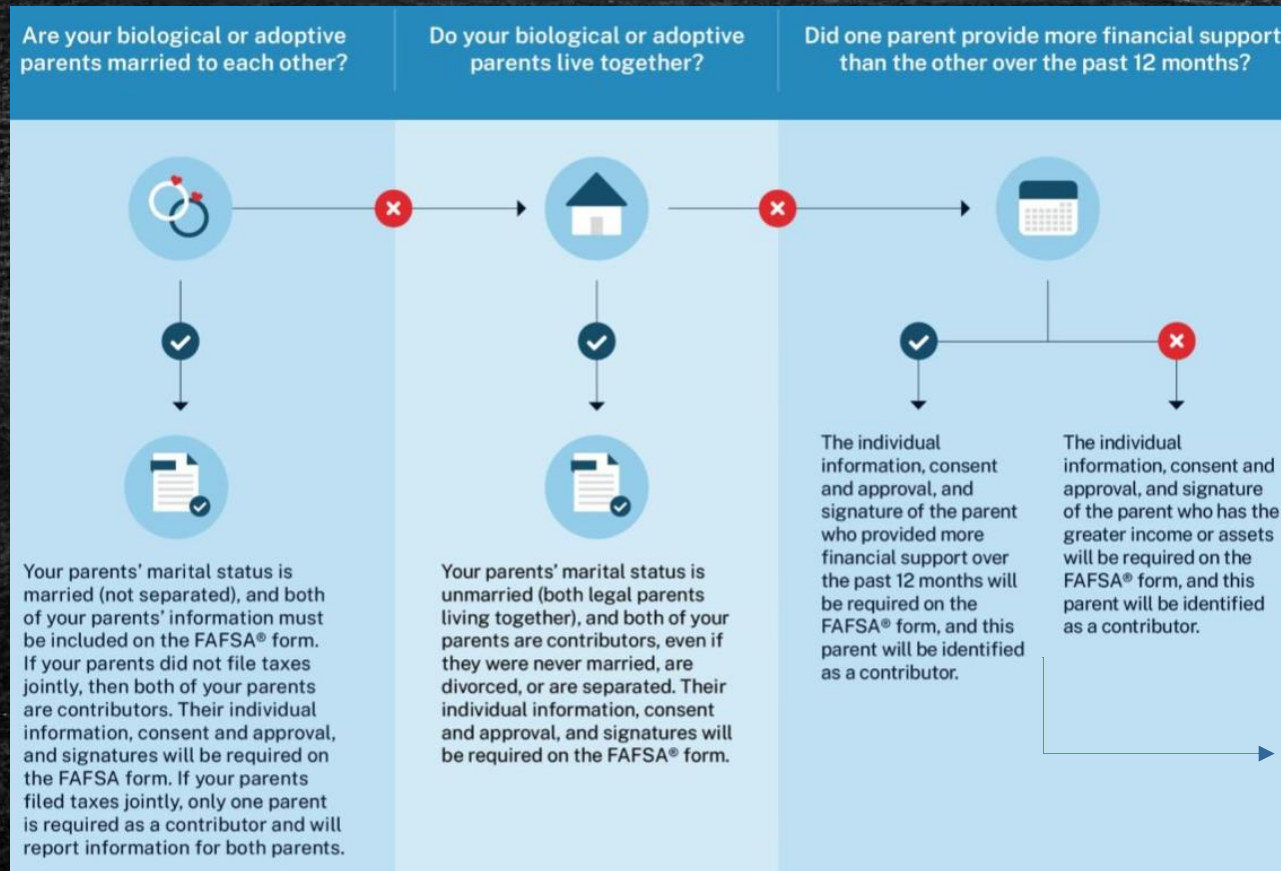
- **Every contributor**, student & parent(s), will be asked to provide **CONSENT**, *without which* the student will be **ineligible** to receive Federal Aid of any kind.
 - Information provided in the FAFSA will still be shared with student's selected institutions.

What To Expect

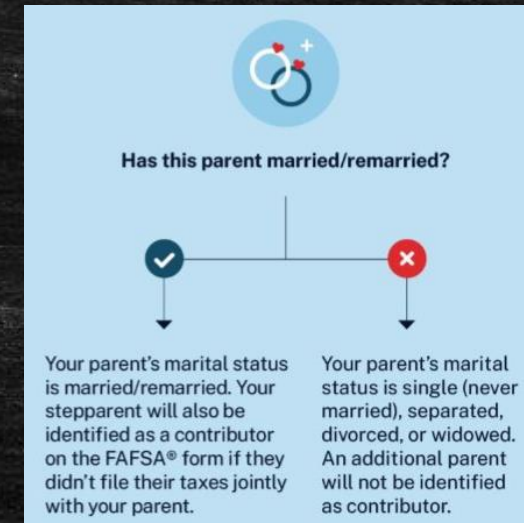
How long will this take? 🕒 1 hour

Every contributor must provide consent and approval for the student to be eligible for federal student aid. With your consent and approval, we can obtain your federal tax information automatically from the IRS to help you complete your section of the student's FAFSA® form. You can save the form and return to it later if you need more time.

Is My Parent a Contributor?



There are **walkthrough prompts** in the FAFSA that will help to determine which parent(s) will be required to invite as a contributor.



A **parent** means your legal (biological or adoptive) parent or a person that the state has determined to be your legal parent. A **stepparent** is considered a parent if they have adopted you. Stepparents that have not adopted you will be identified as a parent spouse.

Contributor Invitation

Trisha,

Angelina S can't be eligible for federal student aid without your input. Help them complete the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form.

Providing information as a contributor does not make you financially responsible for Angelina's education costs.

Completing the FAFSA form is how they qualify for student aid including

- Federal Pell Grants,
- federal student loans,
- state financial aid, and
- school financial aid.

Create an account or log in with an existing FSA ID (account username and password) to access and complete your section of the form. Creating a new FSA ID takes 10-15 minutes, but it can take up to three days for approval.

Note: Forms are deleted after 45 days of inactivity.

Don't recognize Angelina? Read about [what to do if you got an invite and don't recognize the sender](#).

[Get Started](#)

Parent/Contributor will receive an email from FAFSA, and after selecting **GET STARTED** will be taken to the FAFSA site and dashboard.

My Activity

Angelina Scheuerman Wants Your Help on a FAFSA® Form

Angelina Scheuerman has identified you as a parent on their *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form.

Parents are required to provide their financial and demographic information on the student's FAFSA form. This does not make you financially responsible for Angelina's educational costs or any federal student loans they decide to accept.

[Visit the 2024–25 FAFSA Help Center](#)

[Accept Invitation](#)

[Decline Invitation](#)



By accepting this invitation, you agree to share your personal and contact information from your StudentAid.gov account on the student's FAFSA form. Once you accept, your information will be linked to this form.

Make Sure You Answer Correctly!

- For the purposes of determining **FIRST GENERATION** student status, the definition of “*completed college*” is someone who has earned their baccalaureate degree (4yr degree) or beyond.
- The **State of Florida** offers a “first generation matching grant program” at participating schools and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. This determination is confirmed using data from the FAFSA.

Parent Education Status

Did either of the student's parents attend college or complete college?

☐ Neither parent attended college

☐ One or both parents attended college, but neither parent completed college

☐ One or both parents completed college

☐ Don't know

What Happens After I File the FAFSA?

- You will receive an **email confirming** your submission. Your application is not considered complete until **all required contributors** have also completed their application.
 - Your application has been added to the “**My Activity**” section in your student aid account. Visit this section to keep track of your FAFSA status; review, edit, or delete information on your form; and monitor the status of your contributor(s).
 - Once your application is complete and submitted, you can view your **FAFSA Submission Summary**, a summary of the information you provided on your FAFSA form. You’ll be able to access the FAFSA Submission Summary one to three days after you submit your application by logging back in with your account username and password (FSA ID).
- The **schools/organizations** that you listed will have access to your information electronically online 1 to 3 days after it is fully processed.

[What happens after I file the FAFSA?](#)

Info Page: [How to view and correct your FAFSA form](#)

What Happens After I File the FAFSA?

- **Maximum Pell Grant** is for SAI of -1500 to 0.
 - Based on family size, adjusted gross income, poverty guidelines, and tax filing status.
 - If an independent student (*and spouse, if applicable*) was not required to file a federal income tax return for 2022, then the student will automatically receive a SAI equal to -1500
- Students who do not qualify for a maximum Pell Grant may still be **eligible if** their calculated SAI is **less than** the maximum Pell Grant award for the award year.
 - The Pell Grant award will be equal to the maximum Pell Grant for the award year minus their SAI.
- **Minimum Pell Grant** – students whose SAI is greater than the maximum Pell Grant award for the year may still be eligible for a Pell Grant, based on family size, adjusted gross income, and poverty guidelines.

After Submitting the FAFSA® Form

Once the student's FAFSA® form is submitted, the student will need to check on its status and make corrections, if required.

→ The student's form will be processed in 1–3 days.

→ The student will receive a FAFSA Submission Summary. It will include their Student Aid Index (SAI), a number used to determine federal student aid eligibility.

→ Schools will use the student's SAI to create their financial aid offer that explains the types and amounts of aid they are offering to the student. Most schools will wait to send the student an aid offer only after they are accepted for admission.

Reminders...



Need help completing the FAFSA?

Do your parents have questions?

Contact Mrs. Scheuerman to set up a meeting!

Available at school, or over Teams call/meeting.

The FAFSA is FREE!

COLLEGE & CAREER SCHOOL ARE POSSIBLE FOR YOU!

- Take your time and enter correct info!
- Don't procrastinate and miss out!
- Ask for help! Don't guess.
- Check deadlines for your school choices.

You've got this!

FFAA Application

Florida Financial Aid Application

Florida Scholarships & Grants

- Florida Financial Aid Application opens October 1st and must be filed no later than **August 31st** after graduation.
- There is **one online application** and student's Social Security number is needed to file.
- There are (16) total scholarships and grants offered by the State of Florida, **Bright Futures** is the largest merit-based scholarship program but is just one of several financial offerings.
- Several of the programs require that the **FAFSA** be filed in order to qualify; May 15 is the State deadline to review FAFSA.
- Several **programs** have **deadlines** in April or first-come/served.

Bright Futures Qualification Requirements

Initial Eligibility Requirements: (As determined by the Florida Department of Education)

1. Submit the [Florida Financial Aid Application \(FFAA\)](#) no later than August 31 after high school graduation.
2. Graduate from a Florida high school with a standard high school diploma or its equivalent.
3. Complete the 16 college-preparatory courses required for admission to a state university.
4. Achieve the required weighted GPA in the 16 college-preparatory courses per the chart below.
5. Achieve the required composite ACT® score, Overall Score on the Classic Learning Test (CLT), or combined SAT® score. Tests are accepted through August 31 of the student's graduation year (or through January 31 for mid-year graduates), per the chart below.
6. Complete the required number of volunteer service hours, paid work hours, or 100 total combined hours per the chart below.

Type	16 High School College-Preparatory Course Credits ¹	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT®/CLT®/SAT®)	Volunteer Service Hours ²	Paid Work Hours ²
FAS	4 - English (three must include substantial writing)	3.50	2024-25 Graduates: 29/96/1340	100 hours	100 hours
	4 - Mathematics (at or above the Algebra I level)		2025-26 Graduates: 29/95/1330		
FMS	3 - Natural Science (two must have substantial laboratory)	3.00	2024-25 Graduates: 25/84/1210	75 hours	100 hours
	3 - Social Science		2025-26 Graduates: 24/82/1190		
	2 - World Language (sequential, in same language)				

¹ The required coursework aligns with the State University System admission requirements found in Florida Board of Governor's Regulation [6.002](#).

Additional information regarding high school coursework can be found within the [Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook](#).

² Students must earn the required volunteer service hours, 100 paid work hours, or a combination that totals a minimum of 100 hours.

Bright Futures Award Amounts

Florida Academic Scholars (FAS)

100% Tuition and Applicable Fees:

- Applicable fees include: activity and service fees, health fee, athletic fee, financial aid fee, capital improvement fee, campus access/transportation fee, technology fee and tuition differential fee.
- Students attending a non-public institution will receive a comparable amount as noted in the Private Award Chart*.

**Private Award Chart available on the Bright Futures page of:*
www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org

Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)

75% Tuition and Applicable Fees:

- Applicable fees include: activity and service fees, health fee, athletic fee, financial aid fee, capital improvement fee, campus access/transportation fee, technology fee and tuition differential fee.
- Students attending a non-public institution will receive a comparable amount as noted in the Private Award Chart*.
- **New 2021:** Students who enroll in an associate degree program at a State College will receive 100% tuition & some fees. Upon completing their AA, student may pursue their bachelor degree at the 75% tuition coverage.

Bright Futures – Gold Seal Scholarships

- There is also the **Gold Seal Scholarship** that may only be used at a State College or Technical School.
- **Gold Seal Vocational:**
 - GSV may only be used at postsecondary institutions that offer an applied technology diploma, technical degree education program (associate in applied science or associate in science), or a career certificate program.
- **Gold Seal Cape:**
 - Until a student has earned an eligible associate degree, Gold Seal CAPE (GSC) scholarships may only be used at postsecondary institutions that offer an applied technology diploma, technical degree education program (associate in applied science or associate in science), or a career certificate program. Upon completion of an eligible associate degree program, a GSC Scholar may also receive an award for a maximum of 60 credit hours toward an eligible baccalaureate degree.

Completing the FFAA

- **School Counselors** will assist students in the Fall with the FFAA.
- If completing the application at home, be sure to **read** the **instructions** and complete the entire process, making note of the Username assigned by the State.
 - Use the FAFSA Keeper form to keep track of login information
- A **confirmation email** will be sent from OSFA after student profile is complete and again after successful application. If no emails are received, an error most likely has been made.
- If in doubt...**ASK!** Questions? Call 888-827-2004

Institutional Aid

Scholarships & Grants from Institution

- Every institution (*College, University, Career/Technical Center*) will have **financial aid** based on criteria set by their individual institution. Amounts will vary.
- **Research** the schools that you are planning to apply to.
- Look for **additional** scholarships, grants or aid that may be available to apply for once you are admitted.
- Call the Institution's **Financial Aid office** if you have questions.
- **Compare** award letters to see which offer is best for your financial situation...and don't be afraid to appeal your offer if you feel your situation warrants review!

Private Scholarships

Local, State & National Opportunities

Check the MHS Website!

- The MainlandHighSchool.org website is updated with all local and some National scholarships being offered to our students.
 - Check under the **Student Life** / **Seniors** section often.
- Keep track of **deadlines**.
- Know what the **requirements** are before you apply.
 - Have you turned in your volunteer hours? Many organizations require Community Service as a pre-qualification to apply.
- Don't miss any **opportunities** for funding or supplies!

Additional Sources to Consider

- Many **employers** have scholarship programs designed for employees and the children of employees.
- **Service organizations** are a good source for scholarships.
- Scholarship **search engines**, many of which are listed on the Mainland website.
- Going to college while in the **military**.

There are many places to look for **FREE** funds – it just takes time and effort, but the payoff can be worth it!

Resources and Reminders

- The “**Seeking Financial Aid**” booklet covers the basics of programs offered by both FAFSA and Florida Financial Aid – review booklet to be sure no additional applications are needed to be eligible for a particular **STATE program**.
- www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org for State Aid info
- www.StudentAid.gov to create FSAid & access FAFSA
- <https://www.mainlandhighschool.org/parents-students/school-counselors/scholarships> for MHS scholarship page
- Use or create a **professional email** that you **KNOW** how to access and has enough storage to receive messages. **Gmail is a GREAT tool!**

Lunch Workshop – Student Services

- The School Counseling Department is offering **lunchtime workshops** every **Monday, Wednesday & Friday**.
- Assistance is being given to aid seniors in completing their **college applications** as well as **scholarship applications**.
- Students may RSVP to attend by scanning the QR code posted around campus or by emailing their school counselor. *Drop-ins are always welcome!*
- Be sure to check your **SCHOOL EMAIL** often for messages and opportunities shared by the School Counselors & other staff!

Thank You

Thank you for attending
BUC Family Night!
Your feedback is welcomed
and vital in helping us serve
you better.

Please take a moment to complete
the short survey,
either by completing the **YELLOW**
card or by scanning the **QR code**
with your phone.

