

Best & Brightest Scholarship Information

Teachers (http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/hreq/best_and_brightest)

Principals (http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/hreq/best_and_brightest/principals)

FAQ/Forms (http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/hreq/best_and_brightest/faq)

*****UPDATE*****

Eligibility files have been submitted to the Florida DOE, and final payout amounts should be available soon. We anticipate payments to be made at the end of March.

Individuals who resign to teach in a different FL public school classroom or FL charter school before payments are made **MUST** complete the Payment Forwarding Request form (http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/library/hr/PaymentForward_Request_Final.pdf) to provide information regarding future employment plans and a forwarding address. If this information is not provided, the funds will be returned to the state, and you will be considered ineligible for the scholarship.

The state of Florida created the **Best and Brightest Teacher Scholarship Program** (F.S. 1012.731 (http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?mode=View%20Statutes&SubMenu=1&App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=1012.731&URL=1000-1099/1012/Sections/1012.731.html)) to attract and retain high academic achievers in the teaching profession. This is a State funded program, with the District determining qualified recipients based on requirements defined by the statute. The District has no flexibility in changing the terms or timeline relative to this program.

Important Dates

- **December 1, 2017** (*updated*) - Application deadline for teachers
 - **January 2, 2018** (*updated*) - District deadline to submit qualified scholarship recipients
 - **February 1, 2018** - FL DOE to identify eligible school principals
 - **April 1, 2018** - Deadline for scholarship payments to qualified teachers and principals
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How to Qualify

1) You must be a classroom teacher as defined by Florida Statute 1012.01(2)(a)**([http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=1000-1099/1012/Sections/1012.01.html)****[App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=1000-1099/1012/Sections/1012.01.html](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=1000-1099/1012/Sections/1012.01.html)).**

- Classroom teachers are staff members assigned the professional activity of instructing students in courses in classroom situations, including basic instruction, exceptional student education, career education, and adult education.
 - Eligible Title Listing (http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/library/hr/BABTitleListing_8.1.16.pdf)
- K12 Classroom teachers do not include student services personnel (*guidance counselors, social workers, career specialists, school psychologists, etc.*); pre-kindergarten teachers; or other instructional staff (*resource teachers, coaches, learning specialists, trainers, and adjunct educators*)
- You must be an active classroom teacher with Pasco County Schools at the time of the submittal deadline (*November 1, 2017*) **AND** an active classroom teacher in Florida at the time of payment.

2) You must have received a summative evaluation rating of highly effective on your 2016-2017 evaluation.

- Since final evaluation scores may not be available before the November 1 deadline, teachers who meet the qualifications in (1) and (3) should submit their application before evaluation scores are finalized.
- First year teachers or teachers who transferred from another state who have not been evaluated do not need to meet this requirement.
- Teachers who were employed by another Florida school district or Charter School prior to 2017-2018 must provide official documentation that shows their final evaluation rating as Highly Effective.

3) You must have a qualifying ACT or SAT score based on the National Percentile Rank in effect when the assessment was taken

- Composite SAT (both Verbal and Math) or ACT score at or above the 80th percentile
 - SAT Percentiles 1973-2015 (<http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/library/hr/SATPercent1016.pdf>)
 - ACT Percentiles 1966-2015 (http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/library/hr/ACT_Info_8.3.16.pdf)
- *Note: Individuals who took the SAT prior to 1973 should use the 1973 percentile information to determine whether they scored at or above the 80th percentile.*

4) You must submit all required documentation to the District no later than December 1, 2017.

Required Documentation

- Best & Brightest Teacher Scholarship Program Application (http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/library/hr/BAB_Application_2017-18.pdf)
- Official record of your score (*A copy of your official score report or high school/college transcripts that contain your scores may fulfill this requirement. ACT/SAT scores printed from an online notification system do NOT meet the definition of an official record.*)
- Official evaluation document showing a final rating of Highly Effective **if you are new to the District in 2017-18 and were a teacher in another Florida county in 2016-17**
- Employees who received a final evaluation from the District do not have to submit evaluation data

How to Apply

1. Verify that your title is eligible for the scholarship on the Eligible Title Listing (http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/library/hr/BABTitleListing_8.1.16.pdf)
2. Complete the Best & Brightest Teacher Scholarship Program Application (http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/library/hr/BAB_Application_2017-18.pdf)
3. Email the form and supporting documentation to (<mailto:bestandbrightest@pasco.k12.fl.us?subject=BAB%20Inquiry>)bestandbrightest@pasco.k12.fl.us (<mailto:bestandbrightest@pasco.k12.fl.us>) **no later than December 1, 2017.**

Note: Recipients of last year's scholarship who worked for Pasco County Schools will automatically be considered for the scholarship and need not reapply. Each teacher will be re-evaluated based on current title and evaluation score to determine eligibility for the 2017-2018 school year.

New for the 2017-18 School Year

In addition to the primary scholarship provision of the Program, current legislature provides for an additional award to all classroom teachers (as defined in section 1012.01(2)(a), F.S), who were evaluated as Effective or Highly Effective pursuant to s. 1012.34 in the school year immediately preceding the year in which the scholarship will be awarded. Teachers do not need to apply for this provision and will automatically be considered for this award, contingent upon evaluation eligibility.

Award Amounts

- Primary Scholarship: \$6,000 per teacher
- Additional Award - Highly Effective: \$1,200 per teacher
- Additional Award - Effective: \$800 per teacher

Note: If the number of eligible classroom teachers exceeds the total allocation, the per-teacher scholarship amounts may be prorated.

How to Obtain Your Scores

SAT

Order archived score reports by calling 866.756.7346 or by completing and mailing the Archived Score Report Order Form (<https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/professionals/sat-archive-score-report.pdf>). Please review important information regarding archived score report requests and processing time included on the College Board website.

Request SAT Scores* (<https://sat.collegeboard.org/scores/send-old-sat-scores>)

**Please send scores to yourself.*

ACT

Replacement score reports can be ordered either by contacting ACT Student Services at 319.337.1270 or by using the 2015-2016 ACT Additional Score Report (ASR) Request Form at <http://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/asrform.pdf> . (<http://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/asrform.pdf>)

Reports for testing that occurred prior to September 2012 have a fee of \$34.00 for normal processing and can be requested back to 1966. **Please note: The percentile ranks provided on ASRs reflect current year norms, not the norms in effect at the time of testing.**

Request ACT Scores* (<http://www.actstudent.org/scores/send/>)

**Please send scores to yourself*

For teachers requesting a duplicate ACT score report, ACT has added a drop-down box of individual district numbers so that score reports can be sent directly to the school district upon request. The ACT Code for Pasco County Schools is 8914; however, the District highly recommends you **send the scores to yourself** to ensure timely processing. **Please note: ACT scores sent directly to the District are not considered an application and will not be processed without the application.**

Questions?

Email bestandbrightest@pasco.k12.fl.us (<mailto:bestandbrightest@pasco.k12.fl.us>) and include "Question" in the subject line

OR

Call 813.794.2316

Additional Information

- FL DOE website (<http://fldoe.org/about-us/best-brightest.shtml>)
- CS/HB 7069 Chapter 2017-116 (<http://laws.flrules.org/2017/116>) as of 6.16.17
- CHAPTER 2016-62 House Bill No. 5003 (<http://laws.flrules.org/2016/62>) *Last year's bill*