
First Generation Matching Grant Program

[Section 1009.701, Florida Statutes](#)

Program Description

The First Generation Matching Grant Program (FGMG) is a need-based grant program available to degree-seeking, resident, undergraduate students who demonstrate substantial financial need, and are enrolled in eligible participating postsecondary institutions. Eligible students have a parent(s) who has not earned a baccalaureate or higher degree.

Participating institutions determine application procedures, deadlines, student eligibility and award amount. This program is available at Florida state universities and Florida College System institutions (public community colleges).

Applying for an Award

- The student will demonstrate financial need by completing the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) (FAFSA) in time to be processed error-free by the deadline specified by the institution.
- The student will meet the application procedures established by the participating institution. Applications may be obtained at the financial aid offices of eligible participating postsecondary institutions.

Requirements to Receive Funding

The student must:

- Be a Florida resident and a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen. A student's residency and citizenship status are determined by the postsecondary institution. Questions regarding such status should be directed to the financial aid office or admissions office of the institution the student plans to attend.
- Not owe a repayment or be in default under any state or federal grant, loan or scholarship program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Not have previously received a baccalaureate degree.

- Be accepted at a Florida state university or Florida College System institution (public community college) and enroll in a minimum of 6 credit hours per term as a degree-seeking undergraduate student.
- Meet additional eligibility requirements as established by the postsecondary institution.
- Be a first generation college student. A student is considered “first generation” if neither of the student’s parents earned a college degree at the baccalaureate level or higher. A student who regularly resided with and received support from only one parent who did not earn a baccalaureate degree would also be eligible.
- Have met the eligibility requirements in section 1009.50, Florida Statutes, for demonstrated financial need for the Florida Public Student Assistance Grant, by submitting the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) (FAFSA).

Student Award Renewal

A student should consult the postsecondary institution for renewal, reinstatement, or restoration requirements established by the institution.

Award Procedures

The postsecondary institution shall determine eligible applicants on the basis of financial need, determine the award amount for each recipient, and notify each student of the award.

Award Disbursement

The postsecondary institution will disburse awards to eligible students each term. Awards are not currently available for the summer term.

Terms of Eligibility

A student should consult the postsecondary institution for program length established by the institution.

Institutional Appeal Process

An applicant who believes financial aid has been wrongly denied has certain rights to appeal. If aid is denied for failure to meet state academic progress requirements, an applicant may appeal the denial to the institution by providing proof of illness or other emergency beyond the applicant's control. An institutional academic progress appeal is to be filed within 30 days of the denial letter or by the date established by the institution's financial aid office, whichever is later.

Updating Information

An applicant must notify OSFA of any change in name, address or institution attended. A student may update information by contacting Customer Service at 888-827-2004 or logging into his or her online OSFA account:

<https://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/>

Transferring from one institution to another could affect an applicant's award.

Use of an Applicant's Social Security Number/Non-discrimination Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 requires state agencies to inform applicants of the reasons for requesting their Social Security numbers (SSN). The FDOE requests an SSN on all applications for student financial assistance in order to correctly identify applicants, match each applicant's financial aid record with the student record at the postsecondary institution the applicant attends, and help coordinate state student aid programs with federal student aid programs.

An applicant will not be denied financial assistance for failure to disclose the SSN. Without an SSN, correct identification of an applicant's record cannot be assured and may result in an error in the award amount or a delay in the award disbursement.

Pursuant to section 1000.05, Florida Statutes, state student financial assistance is provided to eligible applicants without discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or marital status. Minority status will be considered when required by law as a condition of eligibility or selection.

Contact Information

For further information, contact the financial aid office at eligible participating postsecondary institutions or the Florida Department of Education at:

Address:

Florida Department of Education
Office of Student Financial Assistance
State Scholarship and Grant Programs
Suite 1344
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Phone:

888-827-2004

Email:

OSFA@fldoe.org