Ready for college? Check out these scholarships for South Florida students

By Kari Barnett
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The 2021 Nat Moore Endowment Scholarship has applications open for the program with the mission to provide the youth of Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Palm Beach counties with the financial resources needed for education and training for employment readiness. (Miami Dolphins / Courtesy)

With current inflation, a competitive housing market and increasing gas prices, it’s more important than ever for families to save money. Rising educational expenses only add to the burden.

Here is a list of some scholarships available to South Florida students this year:

YMCA of South Florida and Infinite Scholars Scholarship Fair - Over 40 colleges will be represented and prepared to offer acceptances and scholarships to qualified students. 9 to 11:30 a.m., noon to 2 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. Jan. 23 at the L.A. Lee YMCA/Mizell Community Center, 1409 NW Sistrunk Blvd., in Fort Lauderdale. Students must bring multiple copies of ACT/SAT scores, unofficial transcript, resume and personal statement of “Why I want to attend college.” Register at bit.ly/3HlmRiv. Free.
BankUnited, Miami HEAT Charitable Fund - Five $5,000 scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors currently attending school in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward or Palm Beach counties and who will be enrolling in a four-year accredited college. The scholarships available are three $5,000 HEAT Scholarships, one $5,000 Dr. Jack Ramsay Scholarship and one $5,000 Alec Kessler Student-Athlete Scholarship. Students who have shown academic excellence and a record of community service may apply by Jan. 28 at nba.com/heat/community/scholarships. Winners will be recognized at a Miami HEAT game.

Deerfield Beach Academic Scholarship Award - The city of Deerfield Beach Education Advisory Board will select two graduating seniors as winners for the 2022-23 school year. One recipient will receive a one-time $2,000 scholarship, and one recipient will receive a one-time $1,500 scholarship for demonstrating excellence in the classroom and community. Applicants must be Deerfield Beach residents. Submit completed applications with all attachments to the city of Deerfield Beach Community Services Department, 227 NW Second St., Deerfield Beach, or wyatt@deerfield-beach.com by 5 p.m. Jan. 30. Download an application at bit.ly/3XnZWuT.

2023 Academic Scholarship Program - The city of North Lauderdale in partnership with Waste Management is offering $1,000 each to five graduating seniors. Applicants must be North Lauderdale residents. Visit bit.ly/3GzNhi1 or email slypher@nlauderdale.org.
**Bob Borovy Student Citizen of the Year** - The City of Boynton Beach’s Education & Youth Advisory Board is accepting applications for its 22nd annual award for a high school senior who “epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism.” Named in honor of the late Bob Borovy, a United States Veteran and former Advisory Board member, the recipient will get $1,000 and have his or her name placed on the plaque. Applicants who live in the city of Boynton Beach and are active volunteers may apply by March 31 at form.123formbuilder.com/5148303.

**Alliance of Women Executives Scholarship** - Female students graduating from a Palm Beach County high school who will be attending Florida Atlantic University, Lynn University, Palm Beach Atlantic University or Palm Beach State College can apply for the $1,500 AWE scholarships. A total of 25 will be awarded, with recipients required to attend the Awards Ceremony at 5:30 p.m. May 9 in Jupiter to receive their awards. Application packets are available at aweinc.org/scholarship and must be returned by April 2.

**Educational Scholarship Program** - The city of Greenacres has 10 Educational Scholarships for $1,500 each available for academic, technical and vocational school tuition and books. One scholarship will be awarded to an athlete in memory of former city employee Denise Padgett and another will be given in memory of former Councilman Norman W. Rose. Applications, which are due by 5 p.m. April 7, are available at bit.ly/3ZzCrRM or at the Greenacres Community Center, 501 Swain Blvd.

**Freedom Alliance Scholarship for Children of Military Heroes** - College-age children who are the dependent son or daughter of a U.S. soldier, sailor, airman, Marine or Guardsman who was killed or permanently disabled (100% VA disability rating) in a combat mission or training accident may apply for a scholarship. Students whose parent suffered a major limb amputation due to enemy action or who was awarded the Medal of Honor, Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Coast Guard Cross also are eligible. Students must be a high school senior or graduate or registered as a full-time undergraduate and under age 26. Apply at fascholarship.com.

**Palm Health Foundation Scholarship** - Applications are open for the nursing and mental/behavioral health professions for residents of Palm Beach, Broward or Martin counties. Administered by the George Snow Scholarship Fund, the foundation gives out needs-based scholarships to nurses in LPN, undergraduate, graduate and doctorate programs, and to behavioral health professions students seeking bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social work, psychology, clinical mental health counseling, school counseling and other focus areas. Apply by Feb. 1 at scholarship.org.
George Snow Scholarship Fund - Established in 1982 as a memorial to George Snow, a Boca Raton developer who died in a helicopter accident in 1980, the fund helps students achieve career goals through their pursuit of higher education. Scholarship recipients receive financial assistance and support services. Apply by 11:59 p.m. Feb. 1 at scholarship.org.

Nat Moore Scholarship & Vocational Grant Endowment Program - Students in Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Palm Beach counties may apply for the scholarship or grant from the Miami Dolphins Foundation. Winners will be selected through an application process taking community service, leadership, financial need and academic standing into account. The Nat Moore Scholarship awards $10,000 ($2,500 per year for four years). Application deadline is 11:59 p.m. Feb. 28. The Nat Moore Vocational Grant gives a maximum award amount of $3,500 (towards cost of entire program). Applicants must be between ages 18 to 24. Visit bit.ly/3GgQrZa to apply.

Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars Program - Academically gifted, first-generation, low-income high school seniors have the opportunity to graduate debt-free from Florida Atlantic University. Selected students will receive four-year financial aid packages for tuition, on-campus housing, books, a meal plan and additional resources needed to complete their college degree. Apply by Feb. 1 at kellystrulscholars.fau.edu/apply. Applicants also must submit a completed FAFSA application (studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa) to assess eligibility for Federal Pell Grant funds, enroll in 30 credits per academic year and live on campus for all four years.
Royal Palm Beach Education Advisory Board Scholarship - Awards of $1,000 each will be given to 10 high school seniors living in Royal Palm Beach. Seniors, graduating in May, can download applications at bit.ly/3JAwfnt. The completed application must be postmarked no later than Feb. 10 or may be hand delivered to the Clerk’s Office at Village Hall, 1050 Royal Palm Beach Blvd., by 5 p.m. Feb. 10. Finalists must be available for interviews on April 1. The scholarship committee of the Education Advisory Board will make the final selections. Winners will be announced in May and the scholarships will be awarded at the Village Council meeting on May 18. Call 561-790-5101.

Rolando Serrano, a Cuban student in Miami, is able to pursue his dream of studying aerospace engineering at Florida International University with the McDonald’s HACER National Scholarship. (Rolando Serrano / Courtesy)

McDonald’s HACER® National Scholarship - Hispanic high school seniors can apply through Feb. 3 to receive support for their college expenses. Nearly $500,000 in scholarships are awarded every year. Recipients are selected based on academic achievement, community service and financial needs. The selection process involves submission of an application, a questionnaire and interviews before a diverse panel of judges. Visit mcdonalds.com/us/en-us/community/hacer.html to apply.