



# Pinellas Education Foundation

## TSIC Scholarship FAQ's

- Your TSIC scholarship is called a Florida Prepaid Plan, it is how schools will invoice or ask for the money using your SSN. It will often be referred to as a FL Prepaid Plan (FPP).
- You do not own your scholarship and are considered the Beneficiary; the Foundation is the owner of the plan.
- The scholarship is not a "full ride" plan and will not be enough to cover all the college expenses such as: Housing, meal plans and additional fees. Your scholarship pays for tuition only.
- TSIC Annual Update is due by June 30<sup>th</sup> of each summer <https://pinellaseducation.org/students/>. We will make every effort to help remind you that your update is due via email. Set a calendar reminder for yourself.
- Failure to complete your Annual Update will be considered as forfeiture of your scholarship. It is your responsibility to remember your deadline. You may email [TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org](mailto:TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org) for updates on your contact information: Email, phone, address.
- Your scholarship will pay year-round.
- Florida Prepaid Usage Form – Some universities may require you to fill out a Florida Prepaid Usage Form to Opt-In/Opt-Out to use your FPP plan. If attending a university, be sure to check with the financial aid office to see if you need to fill one out.
  - Not doing so may result in you taking out more loans than expected or using other grants or payment plans to cover your tuition rather than your scholarship. FAMU is an example of a university that requires the FPP Usage Form to be completed each semester.

### Not starting college right away?

- You may take a semester off from school or have a gap year, but you do need to take at least one 1 course within 15 months of post high school graduation or finish your first plan within 4 years post high school graduation.
- For example, if graduating high school in June, you have until August of the following year to be enrolled at a trade school, college, or university. Email [TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org](mailto:TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org) if you are unable to take a course within 15 months to see if you qualify for an extenuating circumstance to have one extra semester to enroll.

## Military

- If you are registered as an active-duty full time military member, you may apply for a military deferment to postpone using your scholarship plan. You will be asked to provide your active-duty enlistment papers along with filling out the military deferment form. You will be exempt from the 15-month rule stated above once approved of a military deferment. Please email [TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org](mailto:TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org) to request a military deferment.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> plan eligibility

- Upon high school graduation, students will receive a 60-credit college level tuition plan. Once the plan is either fully depleted, or has 12 or few remaining credits, the student becomes eligible to apply for up to 60 additional college-level credits towards a bachelor's degree. *The approval of a second account request is subject to committee approval and account availability.* To be considered for up to 60 additional credit hours, you need to have 12 or less credits on your 1st Florida Prepaid plan. You may email [TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org](mailto:TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org) to ask how many credits you have left before applying.
  - To apply for a 2nd account, you should be enrolled in college and pursuing a bachelor's degree.
  - **Be current** with your summer annual update (due each June 30<sup>th</sup>)
  - Making above a 2.0 GPA
  - Must request within 4 years after high school graduation.

## Trade School

- Your scholarship will pay for a trade school certification if the program is eligible to receive funding from the FAFSA. TSIC will only pay for tuition. Any tools, fees or books will not be covered by your scholarship.

## College or University?

- Do you know the difference between a COLLEGE versus UNIVERSITY?
  - A college will offer certifications and a diploma up to a bachelor's (4-year) degree. A university refers to a larger institution offering certifications, undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral degrees.
  - In-State public Florida university tuition & fees are generally almost double the cost of an in-state public college.
  - Your scholarship is designed to have the most value to you at an in-state college. You will have significantly less financial support at a private or out-of-state college.
    - Example: If a student attends a Florida based public university, such as USF, UF, FSU, UCF, FAMU for 15 credits (an average of 5 classes), the university will use up approximately 28 credits from the scholarship plan to cover the tuition. At a college such as SPC, HCC, or Tallahassee Community College, only 15 credits would be used from the plan, because you have a *FPP College Tuition Rate Plan*.

Have questions? Email: [TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org](mailto:TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org)

- College Example: Your first scholarship plan is valued at 60 college tuition credits and will pay up to an AA/AS from a college (SPC, HCC, TCC etc.) and you may request for an additional scholarship plan for up to 60 college tuition credits totaling 120 credits-potentially earning you up to a bachelor's degree.
- University Example: Your TSIC scholarship plan will cover tuition at a Florida public university, but it will be used faster. A student can have their scholarship fund up to approximately two years of education. Attending a university will use up your plan almost twice as fast as it would if attending a college. You can potentially run out of your scholarship plan in your 3<sup>rd</sup> semester attending full time on your first plan and in your junior year with a second plan, if issued.

#### Wanting to attend a private school or out of state school?

- You may use your scholarship at a private or out-of-state college/university, but you will only receive approximately \$100 per credit hour. Often, these schools will cost over \$25,000 or more PER semester and tuition varies greatly per institution.
- Be sure to review the financial aid award letter showing all funds coming in to cover all costs of attendance. You can email [TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org](mailto:TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org) to ask for a review of your award letter or financial aid packet to make sure you fully understand the financial commitment you are considering. We are here to help you!
  - If you don't want loans or payment plans, be sure to verify to schedule for any private loans (including a Parent Plus loan) or payment plans the financial aid office may have scheduled for you. These will usually require immediate payment starting in your first semester.
- You may use your scholarship at a private or out of state school. When you signed your Take Stock in Children contract, the Pinellas Education Foundation bought a FPP account for you. The FPP scholarship is accepted anywhere that the FAFSA/Federal Aid is accepted. However, using your TSIC FPP scholarship in this circumstance will cause an additional financial burden on you and you are responsible for the difference in cost. You will need to contact [TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org](mailto:TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org) to complete a transfer form on your behalf and provide the name and address of your school within the email.

Additional Scholarships opportunities and updates:

**HELPFUL TIP:** We advise that you apply for additional scholarships, through free resources such as [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com) or [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com). When completing your profile, it is advisable to click **“NO”** to all advertisers that pop up on each of those pages.

\*While FastWeb and Scholarships.com are excellent resources to find money for school, it is not uncommon for advertisers help support scholarship search engines. If you click “YES” to any advertisement, you may receive an abundance of unwanted solicited calls, emails, and letters to your home.

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## Annual Updates – TSIC Scholarship Requirements

### Requirement #1 – TSIC scholarship requirement

DUE: May 15<sup>th</sup> - June 30<sup>th</sup> each year

<https://pinellaseducation.org/students/>

- Scroll down to TSIC College Students and click on “ANNUAL UPDATE”

### Requirement #2 – Florida Prepaid requirement

DUE: July 31<sup>th</sup> each year

<https://myfloridaprepaidcollegefoundation.com/survey/s/>

**Not completing the annual requirements will automatically put your account on hold, with eventual automatic forfeiture. Your school will not be paid if your scholarship is on hold or forfeited.**

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Understanding Your Scholarship Better

Examples from a public college, university, and private school

Difference with attending an in-state public university vs in-state college examples:

Your TSIC scholarship was purchased at a college tuition rate. Which means, if you attend a public college, such as SPC, you will receive the best value for your scholarship. A university is considerably more expensive and uses your scholarship credits almost 2x faster.

Example 1: Any Florida public college (SPC, HCC etc.)

If you take 15 credits, you will use 15 credits from your scholarship account.

Example 2: Any Florida public university (USF, UF, FSU, UCF, etc.)

If you take 15 credits at a university, it may require up to 28 credits from your FPP scholarship bank because the university cost is much higher than a college. If attending full time, you may run out of credits in your 3<sup>rd</sup> semester on your scholarship plan you received upon high school graduation.

Screenshot example of a university billing cycle from a Florida Prepaid Plan account

The screenshot shows a software interface titled "Plan Usage History". It includes a menu bar (File, Functions, Help), a toolbar with icons, and a search box. Below the search box are fields for Plan ID, Product, B2FC, Product Type, and Tuition. There are also fields for Beneficiary, Address, and City/ST/Zip. A summary box on the right shows "Projected Maturity Date", "Actual Maturity Date", "Plan Balance Due .00", and "Fee Balance Due .00". At the bottom, there are buttons for "Display Details", "Display Invoice", and "Reverse". A table displays usage history with columns: Year, Term, Status, Restore?, Quantity Billed, Quantity Consumed, Post Date, and School Name. The table has two rows: one for FALL with 15.000 billed and 28.000 consumed, and one for SUM-A with 9.000 billed and 17.000 consumed. The 15.000 and 28.000 values are circled in red.

Year	Term	Status	Restore?	Quantity Billed	Quantity Consumed	Post Date	School Name
	FALL	Posted		15.000	28.000		UNIVERS
	SUM-A	Posted		9.000	17.000		UNIVERS

This student took 15 credits in the Fall semester with a total of 28 credits deducted from the FPP scholarship plan to cover the tuition. At this rate, this student will be out of their scholarship in the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester.

**You are getting the same amount of money from your scholarship. The only difference is FPP will pay out at a faster rate to a public in-state university to cover the higher cost of tuition.**

Term invoicing examples:

USF example

- Look at your invoicing each term to make sure there are no accidental charges, such as being charged for out of state tuition rate.
- Also look for all your scholarships and grant funds to come in and any necessary loans you require.

Below is an example of a student being overcharged as an out of state student and how to look to see if you received your Florida Prepaid on your account.

Detail Code	Description	Item Date	Charge	Payment	Balance
AX21	USF Tampa ID Card	21-JUL-17	\$10.00		
PDLU	STP Distance Learning Fee UG	27-JUL-17	\$90.00		
P1FC	Tuition-UG Out-of-State FinAid	27-JUL-17	\$155.88		
P1MC	Tuition-UG Out-of-State Fee	27-JUL-17	\$3,118.50		
PDJF	Tuition - Differential	27-JUL-17	\$316.26		
PPAF	Fiat Fee Athletic St. Pete	27-JUL-17	\$5.06		
PUGF	Tuition - Green Energy Fee	27-JUL-17	\$9.00		
PULF	Tuition - UnderGrad Local Fees	27-JUL-17	\$296.82		
PUMC	Tuition - Undergraduate	27-JUL-17	\$945.63		
PUSF	Tuition - UnderGrad State Fees	27-JUL-17	\$108.09		
PUTF	Tuition - UnderGrad Tech Fee	27-JUL-17	\$47.25		
PUTR	Tuition - UG Transportation	27-JUL-17	\$20.25		
P1FC	Tuition-UG Out-of-State FinAid	18-AUG-17	-\$155.88		
P1MC	Tuition-UG Out-of-State Fee	18-AUG-17	-\$3,118.50		
XPDF	FLPP St Pete Differential Exm	01-AUG-17		\$316.26	
XPDF	FLPP St Pete Differential Exm	12-AUG-17		-\$316.26	
XPDF	FLPP St Pete Differential Exm	31-AUG-17		\$316.26	
<b>Net Term Balance</b>					\$1,532.04
<b>Net Balance for Other Terms:</b>					\$0.00
<b>Account Balance:</b>					\$1,532.04

Look for accidental charges. This student graduated from a Florida high school and was charged out of state fees.

Accidental charges removed once brought to the school's attention. You **MUST** always review your student portal to make sure you are not missing important details, such as, over charges or a balance due.

Review pending transactions on your account and the expected charge or credit for the selected term. To view pending transactions for another term, choose the "Select Another Term" link at the bottom of the page.

**Memos as of Sep 07, 2017**

Detail Code	Description	Expected Charge	Expected Payment	Balance
PPET	EFT-Florida Prepaid Tuition		\$1,053.72	
<b>Memo Balance:</b>				-\$1,053.72

If you have a balance, make sure you have a plan to pay for the balance. Ex: Pell Grant, Loans, Payment Plan

FPP Scholarship paid the school \$1,053.72.

\$1,532.04 Account balance  
~~-\$1,053.72~~ FPP payment  
**\$478.32 is NOT COVERED**

\*Plan ahead to either pay off the balance or schedule it through Financial Aid.

USF student example had **\$478 not covered**. This student needs to either pay cash or make other arrangements through Financial Aid (loans or grants).

Term invoicing examples cont'd:

SPC example:

Schedule and Fees



**ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE**  
**PO Box 13489 St. Petersburg, FL 33733**  
**FEE SCHEDULE**

You may update your address, phone number, and e-mail in MySPC.

Year/Term: Fall Term  
 Career: Undergraduate  
 Program: AA  
 Plan: ARTBFA-TR  
 Residency: Resident  
 Perm. Phone:  
 Date Printed:  
**Student ID:**

Fees for the following credit classes are due on: 10/19/23 Total due on this date: 0.00

Course # Class #	Course Description	Credit Hrs/Grd	Site-Bldg Room	Meeting Time/Days Instructor	Start Date	End Date	Fees Charge	Fees Balance	Drop With Refund
ART1300C 19	Drawing I/Drawing I	3	CL-CR161	2:00PM 4:40PM TTh Grass, Kevin L.	08/14/23	12/08/23	405.19	0.00	08/18/23
ENC1101 1142	Composition I	3	TS- INTRNET	-TBA- -TBA- Kuropas, Cindy L.	08/14/23	12/08/23	389.25	0.00	08/18/23
ARH1000 2123	Understanding Art/Understanding Art	3	CL-CR142	6:00PM 8:40PM W Oberlaender, Michaela	08/14/23	12/08/23	344.25	0.00	08/18/23
MGF1106 2159	Mathematics for Liberal Arts I	3	CL-NM158	6:00PM 7:15PM TTh Maymeskul, Olena	08/14/23	12/08/23	344.25	0.00	08/18/23

Tuition & Fees:	1482.94
Bookstore Charges:	263.23
<b>Total Fees:</b>	1746.17
Less Fees Paid:	0.00
Less FA Applied to Fees:	405.17
Less Tuition Payment Plan(s):	0.00
Less FL Prepaid Plan:	1341.00
<b>Total Fees Due:</b>	0.00
Anticipated Financial Aid:	0.00*
Past Due Amt:	0.00*

This student had Financial Aid (Pell Grant) cover the bookstore charges and fees that the scholarship did not cover.

Look for your Florida PrePaid plan funds being applied to your account.

Always look to see if you have a balance to pay. For SPC, it would be located under **Total Fees Due**. In this scenario, the student does not have a balance to pay.

If you are attending SPC, and if you have a concern regarding your Florida Prepaid not showing up on your account or the amount looks different than what you expected, you can email [prepaid@spcollege.edu](mailto:prepaid@spcollege.edu).

Award letter or financial aid package letter example:

While this is a private school example, the same information still applies to public schools.

**THIS DOCUMENT IS PENDING ON ACCEPTANCE**  
**INTO UNIVERSITY**

**SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE**



Pell Grant: \$5,920 \* Pending verification

University  
Academic/Athletic Scholarship: \$8,500\* This amount subject to increase or decrease based upon the performance of the student athlete in the classroom and on the field

Florida Resident Grant: \$3,000

Federal Stafford Loan Options: **Subsidized and Unsubsidized are student LOANS. You will be required to pay them back.**  
-Subsidized \$3,500  
-Unsubsidized \$2,000

Take Stock In Children  
16 credits @(\$96.41) per credit \$3,085.  
\*12 credits @(\$96.41) per credit \$2,313.84

Total Package: \$26,005.12 (16 credits) \*12 credits (\$25,233.84)

Warner University Tuition,  
Academic Year 2016-17:

Your TSIC FPP scholarship will only pay private or out of state schools up to 15 credit hours per semester.

\*The fine print states: \$8,500 Academic/Athletic Scholarship is subject to increase or decrease based upon the performance of the student athlete in the classroom and on the field.



- While an athletic scholarship is fantastic to have, it can go away based off athletic and academic performance.
- Even if you DO have an academic or athletic scholarship that does pay 100% of your tuition, we advise that you keep your TSIC FPP scholarship by staying compliant with your annual requirements.

Award letter or financial aid package letter example cont'd:

While this is a private school example, the same information still applies to public schools.

### WHAT WILL IT COST YOU?

Tuition:	\$20,716
Room and Board:	\$7,736
Fees:	\$200
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$28,852</b>
<b>Your Package:</b>	<b>\$26,005.12 (16 credits)</b>
<b>Your Cost:</b>	<b>\$2,846.88 (\$238 per month-12 month plan)</b>

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When calculating your total out of pocket cost for the school year or semester, make sure to add up your student loans and any payment plans you may have.

This scenario is showing a payment plan.

### LET'S ADD UP THE TOTAL COST FOR THE FRESHMAN YEAR

\$5,500.00 Loans

\$2,846.88 **Payment plan (\$238 x 12 months)**

**\$8,346.88** is the total cost for their freshman year that is **NOT** covered by grants or scholarships. This does not include sophomore through senior year!

## SUMMARY

- This student was expected to pay \$238 monthly payment to cover what their loans, scholarships, and grants did not cover. The student stated that the financial aid office gave them the impression that they were receiving a "full ride" due to their athletic scholarship.
- Upon closer review of this award letter, they were scheduled to have a payment plan that they or their parent could not afford. This would have required them to move back home at the END of their first semester.
- If you are unable to pay for the balance, you are at **HIGH RISK OF BEING DISMISSED FROM SCHOOL** and **may not be able to transfer to another school** until you pay your bad debt off due to not being able to obtain an official transcript.
- They also were scheduled to receive an in-house scholarship that was subject to be removed based on academic and/or athletic performance.

Your college support TSIC team member is here to help you understand your financial aid award letter better. We want to help you. Email [TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org](mailto:TSIC.Grad@pinellaseducation.org) for an appointment or provide us with a copy of your financial aid award letter to review it with you.