



PRESS RELEASE

ENLACE FLORIDA
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, SOC 107
Tampa, FL 33620
(813)974-3897-office
(813)974-1050-fax

For More Information:

Media Contact: Braulio Colón, Asst. Director, (813)974-3897-direct
(813)313-8903-cell

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIPS COVER LESS THAN 23% OF TOTAL COST FOR COLLEGE

Tampa, FL-According to a research policy brief released today by ENLACE Florida, the popular Bright Future scholarship, awarded to thousands of high school graduates planning on attending a state university, covers only twenty-three percent (23%) of the total cost of attending most state universities in Florida. ENLACE Florida, a statewide network funded by the Kellogg Foundation, released the policy brief in an effort to bring awareness to the critical need for more need-based financial aid in Florida. “The state of Florida invests little money in need-based financial aid,” said Paul Dosal, Ph.D., Executive Director of ENLACE Florida. According to the brief, the Bright Futures Scholarship program accounts for about 80% of the total financial aid offered by the State of Florida with only 20% of financial aid allocated on the basis of need. “Many students receiving the scholarship don’t need the money,” said Dosal. In fact, researchers conducting an informal study at the University of Florida found that 23% of Bright Futures recipients attending the University of Florida reported family incomes of more than \$150,000. “Florida can do a better job of investing its scarce financial resources. Under the current circumstances, a student who has qualified for admission to a state university and earned a Bright Futures Scholarship may not be able to afford to attend that university,” said Dosal.

ENLACE FLORIDA is a statewide network funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and managed by NCEP to promote college readiness, access, and success for Latinos, African-Americans, and other underrepresented students through non-partisan research, communication, advocacy, and support.

###