



Council For Lifelong Learning Florida Lottery

Fact Sheet

September 2001

1. What is the history of the Florida Lottery?	In 1986, voters amended Florida's Constitution to allow the State to operate lotteries. The 1987 Legislature enacted the Florida Public Education Lottery Act (Ch. 87-65, L.O.F.) to implement the constitutional amendment in a manner that enabled the people of the state to benefit from significant additional moneys for education and also enabled the people of the state to play the best lottery games available.
2. What was the intent of the Legislature in enacting the Lottery Act?	The intent of the Legislature was to use the net proceeds of the lottery games to support improvements in public education. The lottery proceeds were not to be used as a substitute for existing resources for public education.
3. How are lottery revenues distributed?	<p>Florida law requires that "as nearly as practical" 50 percent of the gross revenue from lottery ticket sales be returned to the public in the form of prizes or to retailers.</p> <p>At least 38 percent of the moneys must be deposited in the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund to be used to benefit public education.</p> <p>The remaining revenues are used to pay the expenses of running the lottery.</p>
4. What are specific dedicated uses of lottery funds?	<p>Lottery funds are used for several programs including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bright Futures Scholarship Program;• Classrooms First Program and the 1997 School Capital Outlay Bond Program; and• Florida School Recognition Program. <p>Bright Futures Scholarship Program Bright Futures is a merit-based scholarship program designed to provide college scholarships to students who achieve certain academic levels. In the 2001-2002 General Appropriations Act, \$202 million is appropriated for the scholarship program (Specific Appropriation 2). (See the Bright Futures Scholarship Program Fact Sheet.)</p> <p>Classrooms First Program A portion of the lottery revenues is pledged to pay debt service on bonds issued by the state pursuant to the Classrooms First Program or the 1997 School Capital Outlay</p>

	<p>Bond Program. These funds are used for the new construction of schools, maintenance or repair of schools, the School Infrastructure Thrift (SIT) Program incentive funds, and Effort Index Grants. The Legislature annually pledges \$180 million for this purpose (Specific Appropriation 1). (See the SMART Schools Act of 1997 Fact Sheet.)</p> <p>Florida School Recognition Program The Florida School Recognition Program is designed to reward individual schools that sustain high performance or demonstrate exemplary improvement. Schools chosen to be recognized by the program can receive rewards of up to \$100 per student. The 2001-2002 GAA provides \$113.5 million for this program (Specific Appropriation 4A). (See the School Recognition Program Fact Sheet.)</p>
<p>5. How are the remaining funds in the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund used?</p>	<p>The remaining lottery funds are apportioned among public schools, community colleges, and universities. The House of Representatives has tried to maintain a policy of appropriating 70 percent of these funds to public schools, 15 percent to the Florida Community College System, and 15 percent to the State University System.</p>
<p>6. What are acceptable uses of lottery dollars?</p>	<p>Public educational programs and purposes funded by the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund may include, but are not limited to: endowment, scholarship, matching funds, direct grants, research and economic development related to education, salary enhancement, contracts with independent institutions to conduct programs consistent with the state master plan for postsecondary education, and other educational programs or purposes deemed desirable by the Legislature.</p>
<p>7. What are the applicable statutes and rules?</p>	<p>Chapter 24, F.S. -- Florida Lottery Sections 240.40201 - 240.40209, F.S. -- Bright Futures Scholarships Section 235.187, F.S. -- Classrooms First Program Section 235.2195, F.S. -- 1997 School Capital Outlay Bond Program Section 231.2905, F.S. -- Florida School Recognition Program</p>
<p>8. Where can I get additional information?</p>	<p>Florida Department of Lottery (850) 487-7777 www.flalottery.com.</p> <p>The Florida House of Representatives Council for Lifelong Learning (850) 414-6694</p>

	The Florida House of Representatives Committee on Education Innovation (850) 488-7451
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