



Palm Beach State rewards 28 students with new 4.0 Achievement Award

The \$500 renewable scholarship for maintaining excellent grades is among four new scholarships created by the College to attract and retain top students.

(Lake Worth, Fla. – April 18, 2013) Twenty-eight Palm Beach State College students with a 4.0 grade point average have received some unexpected cash to help pay for their college expenses.

They are the first recipients of Palm Beach State's **4.0 Achievement Award**, a new scholarship created this year to recognize and reward outstanding students enrolled at the College.

The students were not required to apply for the scholarship, and they had no idea they would receive it. Instead, the College combed through academic records to identify eligible students. The \$500 scholarships were awarded to students who had completed two consecutive terms of full-time enrollment in an associate or bachelor's degree program with a minimum of 24 credit hours earned at the College and a cumulative 4.0 grade point average. The scholarship recipients also will receive an additional \$500 each term as long as they are enrolled fulltime and their cumulative grade point average does not dip below 3.8.

"I was excited about it and glad to be recognized for working so hard," said Marinna Haley of Wellington, an Associate in Arts degree student and aspiring equine veterinarian. "Something like that is definitely encouraging. Most kids are like 'as long as I pass this class I'll be fine.' You always want to do your best. It's nice to be recognized for that extra effort."

"I was so excited to get the scholarship," said Shohanur Rahman of Boynton Beach who is pursuing an Associate in Arts degree and aspires to become an engineer. "The scholarship helps me a lot because I can't work. If I want to do better I have to study."

"This is a retention scholarship to encourage them to continue and complete their studies at Palm Beach State College," said Dr. Peter Barbatis, vice president of student services and

enrollment management. “It is one of four new scholarships created by the College to attract and retain top students.”

The other new scholarships are:

- **Presidential Honors College Scholarship**, a two-year award worth \$2,000 per semester awarded to current high school graduates with a minimum 3.5 un-weighted GPA and minimum SAT/ACT scores of 1170/24. Recipients must participate in the Honors College.
- **Green and Gold Scholarship**, a two-year award worth \$1,000 per term awarded to current high school graduates with a minimum of 3.2 un-weighted GPA and in the top 10 percent of their graduating class.
- **Honors College Merit Award**, a \$500 stipend awarded to Honors College participants who have completed at least two honors courses and at least 12 credit hours and a 3.5 GPA in Palm Beach State courses.

New students eligible for the scholarship will be identified at the end of each fall and spring term, Barbatis said.

For more information on Palm Beach State scholarships, visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/financialaid/scholarships or call 561-868-3386.

Serving 49,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing bachelor’s degrees, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida’s first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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Editor’s note: A list of the scholarship recipients who provided permission to be listed is below.

Alicia Astemborski, West Palm Beach

Sadli Benjadid, Greenacres

Daniel Buffett, Jupiter

Yvens Bellanton, Boynton Beach

Hannah Campbell, Lake Worth

Sebastian Cardone, West Palm Beach

Camila Cavalcante, Boca Raton

Maryam Eneim, Boca Raton

Edgar Grant, Lake Worth

Ottavia Green, Lake Park

Marinna Haley, Wellington

Ginell Iversen, Wellington

Lauren Jackson, Coconut Creek

Shelby Keller, Lantana

Lauren Lowy, Boca Raton

Elena Maris, Wellington

Mikeria Moore, Loxahatchee

Megan O'Rourke, Boynton Beach

Alexzandra Pernsteiner, Jupiter

Shohanur Rahman, Boynton Beach

Alexandra Rodriguez, Coconut Creek

Christopher Sousa, Loxahatchee

Beverly Vrigneau, West Palm Beach

Daniela Zuniga, West Palm Beach