Funding for Combined Degree (BS/MS) in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

The following funding options could be available to students pursuing a Combined Degree (BS/MS) in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation. The current tuition rate for graduate school course work is $530.69 per credit hour.

Florida Prepaid:
Will pay 120 hours of coursework regardless of level. If a student has an account and funds are used completing a bachelor’s degree, the remaining balance can be used to fund graduate coursework.

Plan Types and Payment Rate:
- 2 + 2 Account = $116.66 per credit hour
- 2+ 2 Account with bundle plan - $199.22 per credit hour
  - Bundle plan includes local fee and tuition differentials
- 4-year plan - $116.66 per credit hour
- 4-year plan with local fees only - $154.05 per credit hour
- 4-year plan with differential tuition only - $161.82 per credit hour
- 4-year plan with bundle - $199.22
  - Bundle plan includes local fee and tuition differentials

Tuition differential began in 2007.

Bright Futures:
Currently paying $212.71 per credit hour.
The amount paid per credit hour is subject to the Florida Legislature budgeting process. Since 2016 the award covers 100% of tuition costs. Prior to 2016 the fund covered $104 per credit hour. During the 2021 legislative session there was a push reduce the amount paid per credit hour. While the measure did not pass students did lose the $300 per semester book stipend.

- Covers 120 credit hours
- Once a bachelor’s degree is conferred, if a student has a minimum balance of 18 credit hours, he/she can use these credits during the first semester of graduate school

Financial Aid:
The federal financial aid package can be used until a student is awarded their bachelor’s degree. Award packages include need-based grants, i.e., Pell Grants, other undergraduate grants, and student loans.

- 3rd and 4th year student qualify for a maximum of $7,500 in subsidized and unsubsidized loans. Max of unsubsidized loans is $5,500, which is included in the $7,500 figure
- If an undergraduate student needs additional funding, he/she can qualify for a parent plus loan up to the cost of attendance.

A student could use financial aid to cover credits of graduate coursework until their BS is awarded.