

By the Committee on Education and Senator Kirkpatrick

304-2164D-98

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to student grants; amending s.
3 216.136, F.S.; providing duties of the
4 Education Estimating Conference; amending s.
5 240.409, F.S.; authorizing eligibility
6 determination and grant distribution for the
7 Florida Public Student Assistance Grant Program
8 to be conducted by the receiving institution;
9 specifying a dollar value range for grant
10 awards; amending s. 240.4095, F.S.; authorizing
11 eligibility determination and grant
12 distribution for the Florida Private Student
13 Assistance Grant Program to be conducted by the
14 receiving institution; specifying a dollar
15 value range for grant awards; amending s.
16 240.4097, F.S.; authorizing eligibility
17 determination and grant distribution for the
18 Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant
19 Program to be conducted by the receiving
20 institution; specifying a dollar value range
21 for grant awards; providing an effective date.

22
23 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

24
25 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 216.136, Florida
26 Statutes, is amended to read:

27 216.136 Consensus estimating conferences; duties and
28 principals.--

29 (4) EDUCATION ESTIMATING CONFERENCE.--

30 (a) Duties.--The Education Estimating Conference shall
31 develop such official information relating to the state public

1 educational system, including forecasts of student
2 enrollments, the number of students qualified for state
3 financial aid programs and the appropriation required to fund
4 the full award amounts for each program, fixed capital outlay
5 needs, and Florida Education Finance Program formula needs, as
6 the conference determines is needed for the state planning and
7 budgeting system. The conference's initial projections of
8 enrollments in public schools shall be forwarded by the
9 conference to each school district no later than 2 months
10 prior to the start of the regular session of the Legislature.
11 Each school district may, in writing, request adjustments to
12 the initial projections. Any adjustment request shall be
13 submitted to the conference no later than 1 month prior to the
14 start of the regular session of the Legislature and shall be
15 considered by the principals of the conference. A school
16 district may amend its adjustment request, in writing, during
17 the first 3 weeks of the legislative session, and such amended
18 adjustment request shall be considered by the principals of
19 the conference. For any adjustment so requested, the district
20 shall indicate and explain, using definitions adopted by the
21 conference, the components of anticipated enrollment changes
22 that correspond to continuation of current programs with
23 workload changes; program improvement; program reduction or
24 elimination; initiation of new programs; and any other
25 information that may be needed by the Legislature. For public
26 schools, the conference shall submit its full-time equivalent
27 student consensus estimate to the Legislature no later than 1
28 month after the start of the regular session of the
29 Legislature. No conference estimate may be changed without the
30 agreement of the full conference.
31

1 (b) Adjustments.--No later than 2 months prior to the
2 start of the regular session of the Legislature, the
3 conference shall forward to each eligible postsecondary
4 education institution its initial projections of the number of
5 students qualified for state financial aid programs and the
6 appropriation required to fund those students at the full
7 award amount. Each postsecondary education institution may
8 request, in writing, adjustments to the initial projection.
9 Any adjustment request must be submitted to the conference no
10 later than 1 month prior to the start of the regular session
11 of the Legislature and shall be considered by the principals
12 of the conference. For any adjustment so requested, the
13 postsecondary education institution shall indicate and
14 explain, using definitions adopted by the conference, the
15 components of anticipated changes that correspond to
16 continuation of current programs with enrollment changes,
17 program reduction or elimination, initiation of new programs,
18 award amount increases or decreases, and any other information
19 that is considered by the conference. The conference shall
20 submit its consensus estimate to the Legislature no later than
21 1 month after the start of the regular session of the
22 Legislature. No conference estimate may be changed without the
23 agreement of the full conference.

24 (c)~~(b)~~ Principals.--The Associate Deputy Commissioner
25 for Educational Management, the Executive Office of the
26 Governor, the director of the Division of Economic and
27 Demographic Research of the Joint Legislative Management
28 Committee, and professional staff of the Senate and House of
29 Representatives who have forecasting expertise, or their
30 designees, are the principals of the Education Estimating
31 Conference. The Associate Deputy Commissioner for Educational

1 Management or his or her designee shall preside over sessions
2 of the conference.

3 Section 2. Effective July ~~January~~ 1, 1999, section
4 240.409, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

5 240.409 Florida Public Student Assistance Grant
6 Program; eligibility for grants.--

7 (1) There is hereby created a Florida Public Student
8 Assistance Grant Program. The program shall ~~to~~ be administered
9 by the participating institutions ~~Department of Education~~ in
10 accordance with rules of the state board.

11 (2)(a) State student assistance grants through the
12 program may be made ~~only~~ to ~~full-time~~ degree-seeking students
13 enrolled for a minimum of 6 credit hours who meet the general
14 requirements for student eligibility as provided in s.
15 240.404, except as otherwise provided in this section. Such
16 grants shall be awarded annually for the amount of
17 demonstrated unmet need for the cost of education and may not
18 exceed an amount equal to the average prior academic year cost
19 of ~~tuition and~~ matriculation fees and other registration fees
20 for 30 credit hours at state universities or such other amount
21 as specified in the General Appropriations Act, to any
22 recipient. A demonstrated unmet need of less than \$200 shall
23 render the applicant ineligible for a state student assistance
24 grant. Recipients of such grants must have been accepted at a
25 state university or community college authorized by Florida
26 law. No student may receive an award for more than the
27 equivalent of 9 semesters or 14 quarters of full-time
28 enrollment ~~in a period of not more than 6 consecutive years,~~
29 except as otherwise provided in s. 240.404(3).

30 (b) A student applying for a Florida public student
31 assistance grant shall be required to apply for the Pell

1 Grant. The Pell Grant entitlement shall be considered ~~by the~~
2 ~~department~~ when conducting an assessment of the financial
3 resources available to each student.

4 (c) ~~The criteria and procedure for establishing~~
5 ~~standards of eligibility shall be determined by the~~
6 ~~department. The department is directed to establish a rating~~
7 ~~system upon which to base the approval of grants, and such~~
8 ~~system shall include a certification of acceptability by the~~
9 ~~state university or community college of the applicant's~~
10 ~~choice and the use of a nationally recognized system of need~~
11 ~~analysis.~~ Priority in the distribution of grant moneys shall
12 be given to students with the lowest total family resources,
13 in accordance with a nationally recognized system of need
14 analysis as determined pursuant to this subsection, taking
15 into consideration the receipt of Pell Grants and student
16 contributions to educational costs. Using the system of need
17 analysis, the department shall establish a maximum expected
18 family contribution. An institution may not make a grant from
19 this program to a student whose expected family contribution
20 exceeds the level established by the department.

21 (d) Each participating institution shall report, to
22 the department by the established date, the eligible students
23 to whom grant moneys are disbursed each academic term. Each
24 institution shall also report to the department necessary
25 demographic and eligibility data for such students.~~The~~
26 ~~department is directed to establish, for fall enrollment, an~~
27 ~~initial application deadline for students attending all~~
28 ~~eligible institutions and an additional application deadline~~
29 ~~for community college applicants who apply after the initial~~
30 ~~application deadline. The second community college deadline~~
31 ~~shall be at the close of each institution's drop-add period.~~

1 ~~The department shall reserve an amount to be designated~~
2 ~~annually in the General Appropriations Act for the purpose of~~
3 ~~providing awards to community college students who apply for a~~
4 ~~student assistance grant after the initial application~~
5 ~~deadline. Community college applicants who apply during the~~
6 ~~initial application period and are eligible to receive an~~
7 ~~award, but do not receive an award because of insufficient~~
8 ~~funds, shall have their applications reconsidered with those~~
9 ~~community college applicants who apply after the initial~~
10 ~~application deadline. The provisions of this paragraph shall~~
11 ~~take effect beginning with the 1990-1991 academic year.~~

12 (3) Based on the unmet financial need of an eligible
13 applicant, the full amount of a Florida public student
14 assistance grant must be between \$200 and the weighted average
15 of the cost of matriculation and other registration fees for
16 30 credit hours at state universities~~\$1,500~~ per academic year
17 or the amount specified in the General Appropriations Act.
18 Students enrolled for 6 to 8 credit hours may receive up to
19 one-half of the maximum award, students enrolled for 9 to 11
20 credit hours may receive up to three-fourths of the maximum
21 award, and students enrolled for 12 or more credit hours may
22 receive up to the full award.~~When funds are not sufficient to~~
23 ~~make full awards to all eligible applicants, the department~~
24 ~~shall reduce the amount of each recipient's grant award pro~~
25 ~~rata. For any year in which a pro rata grant reduction is~~
26 ~~necessary, such adjustment shall be made by reducing the~~
27 ~~second semester or the second and third quarter award~~
28 ~~disbursements to grant recipients. In each such instance,~~
29 ~~institutions shall notify students of award adjustments.~~

30 (4) ~~In the event that a Florida public student~~
31 ~~assistance grant recipient transfers from one institution~~

1 ~~eligible under this section, s. 240.4095, or s. 240.4097 to~~
2 ~~another, his or her eligibility shall be transferable upon~~
3 ~~approval of the department. When approved by the department,~~
4 ~~the amount of the unmet need shall be recalculated for the new~~
5 ~~institution and shall be adjusted accordingly.~~

6 (4)(5)(a) The funds appropriated for the Florida
7 Public Student Assistance Grant shall be distributed to
8 eligible institutions in accordance with a formula recommended
9 by the Department of Education's Florida Council of Student
10 Financial Aid Advisors and reviewed by the Postsecondary
11 Education Planning Commission, the State Board of Community
12 Colleges, and the Board of Regents. The formula shall consider
13 at least the prior year's distribution of funds, the number of
14 full-time and part-time eligible applicants who did not
15 receive awards, the standardization of the expected family
16 contribution, and provisions for unused funds.

17 (b) Payment of Florida public student assistance
18 grants shall may be transmitted to the president of the state
19 university or community college which the recipient is
20 attending, or to his or her representative, in advance of the
21 registration period. Institutions shall notify students of the
22 amount of their awards.

23 ~~(c)(b) Institutions shall certify to the department,~~
24 ~~within 30 days of the end of regular registration, the~~
25 ~~eligibility status of each awarded student. The eligibility~~
26 ~~status of each student to receive a disbursement shall be~~
27 ~~determined by each institution as of the end of its regular~~
28 ~~registration period, inclusive of a drop-add period.~~
29 ~~Institutions shall not be required to reevaluate a student's~~
30 ~~eligibility status after this date for purposes of changing~~
31 ~~amending eligibility determinations previously made. ~~However,~~~~

1 ~~an institution shall be required to make refunds for students~~
2 ~~who receive award disbursements and terminate enrollment for~~
3 ~~any reason during the academic term when an institution's~~
4 ~~refund policies permit a student to receive a refund under~~
5 ~~these circumstances.~~

6 (d)~~(c)~~ Institutions shall certify to the department
7 the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit
8 to the department any undisbursed advances by June 1 of each
9 year within 60 days of the end of regular registration.

10 (5)~~(6)~~ Funds appropriated by the Legislature for state
11 student assistance grants shall be deposited in the State
12 Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund. Notwithstanding the
13 provisions of s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351, any
14 balance in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year that
15 has been allocated to the Florida Public Student Assistance
16 Grant Program shall remain therein and shall be available for
17 carrying out the purposes of this section.

18 (6)~~(7)~~ The State Board of Education shall establish
19 rules necessary to implement this section.

20 Section 3. Effective July 1, 1999, section 240.4095,
21 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

22 240.4095 Florida Private Student Assistance Grant
23 Program; eligibility for grants.--

24 (1) There is hereby created a Florida Private Student
25 Assistance Grant Program. The program shall ~~to~~ be administered
26 by the participating institutions ~~Department of Education~~ in
27 accordance with rules of the state board.

28 (2)(a) Florida private student assistance grants from
29 the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund may be made
30 ~~only to full-time~~ degree-seeking students enrolled for a
31 minimum of 6 credit hours who meet the general requirements

1 for student eligibility as provided in s. 240.404, except as
2 otherwise provided in this section. Such grants shall be
3 awarded for the amount of demonstrated unmet need for tuition
4 and fees and may not exceed an amount equal to the average
5 matriculation and other registration fees for 30 credit hours
6 at state universities plus \$1,000 ~~a total of \$1,500~~ per
7 academic year, or as specified in the General Appropriations
8 Act, to any applicant. A demonstrated unmet need of less than
9 \$200 shall render the applicant ineligible for a Florida
10 private student assistance grant. Recipients of such grants
11 must have been accepted at a baccalaureate-degree-granting
12 independent nonprofit college or university, which is
13 accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern
14 Association of Colleges and Schools, ~~and which has a secular~~
15 ~~purpose,~~ and which is located in and chartered as a domestic
16 corporation by the state. No student may receive an award for
17 more than the equivalent of 9 semesters or 14 quarters of
18 full-time enrollment in a period of not more than 6
19 ~~consecutive years,~~ except as otherwise provided in s.
20 240.404(3).

21 (b) A student applying for a Florida private student
22 assistance grant shall be required to apply for the Pell
23 Grant. The Pell Grant entitlement shall be considered ~~by the~~
24 ~~department~~ when conducting an assessment of the financial
25 resources available to each student.

26 (c) ~~The criteria and procedure for establishing~~
27 ~~standards of eligibility shall be determined by the~~
28 ~~department. The department is directed to establish a rating~~
29 ~~system upon which to base the approval of grants, including~~
30 ~~the use of a nationally recognized system of need analysis.~~
31 ~~The system shall include a certification of acceptability by~~

1 ~~the independent nonprofit college or university of the~~
2 ~~applicant's choice.~~ Priority in the distribution of grant
3 moneys shall be given to students with the lowest total family
4 resources, in accordance with a nationally recognized system
5 of need analysis as determined pursuant to this subsection,
6 taking into consideration the receipt of Pell Grants and
7 student contributions to educational costs. Using the system
8 of need analysis, the department shall establish a maximum
9 expected family contribution. An institution may not make a
10 grant from this program to a student whose expected family
11 contribution exceeds the level established by the department.

12 (d) Each participating institution shall report, to
13 the department by the established date, the eligible students
14 to whom grant moneys are disbursed each academic term. Each
15 institution shall also report to the department necessary
16 demographic and eligibility data for such students.

17 (3) Based on the unmet financial need of an eligible
18 applicant, the ~~full~~ amount of a Florida private student
19 assistance grant must be between \$200 and the average cost of
20 matriculation and other registration fees for 30 credit hours
21 at state universities plus \$1,000~~\$1,500~~ per academic year or
22 the amount specified in the General Appropriations Act.
23 Students enrolled for 6 to 8 credit hours may receive up to
24 one-half of the maximum award, students enrolled for 9 to 11
25 credit hours may receive up to three-fourths of the maximum
26 award, and students enrolled for 12 or more credit hours may
27 receive up to the full award.~~When funds are not sufficient to~~
28 ~~make full awards to all eligible applicants, the department~~
29 ~~shall reduce the amount of each recipient's grant award pro~~
30 ~~rata. For any year in which a pro rata grant reduction is~~
31 ~~necessary, such adjustment shall be made by reducing the~~

1 ~~second semester or the second and third quarter award~~
2 ~~disbursements to grant recipients. In each such instance,~~
3 ~~institutions shall notify students of award adjustments.~~

4 ~~(4) In the event that a Florida private student~~
5 ~~assistance grant recipient transfers from one institution~~
6 ~~eligible under this section, s. 240.409, or s. 240.4097 to~~
7 ~~another, his or her eligibility shall be transferable upon~~
8 ~~approval of the department. When approved by the department,~~
9 ~~the amount of the unmet need shall be recalculated for the new~~
10 ~~institution and shall be adjusted accordingly.~~

11 (4)(5)(a) The funds appropriated for the Florida
12 Private Student Assistance Grant shall be distributed to
13 eligible institutions in accordance with a formula recommended
14 by the Department of Education's Florida Council of Student
15 Financial Aid Advisors and reviewed by the Postsecondary
16 Education Planning Commission and the Independent Colleges and
17 Universities of Florida. The formula shall consider at least
18 the prior year's distribution of funds, the number of
19 full-time and part-time eligible applicants who did not
20 receive awards, the standardization of the expected family
21 contribution, and provisions for unused funds.

22 (b) Payment of Florida private student assistance
23 grants shall ~~may~~ be transmitted to the president of the
24 college or university which the recipient is attending, or to
25 his or her representative, in advance of the registration
26 period. Institutions shall notify students of the amount of
27 their awards.

28 ~~(c)(b) Institutions shall certify to the department,~~
29 ~~within 30 days of the end of regular registration, the~~
30 ~~eligibility status of each awarded student. The eligibility~~
31 ~~status of each student to receive a disbursement shall be~~

1 determined by each institution as of the end of its regular
2 registration period, inclusive of a drop-add period.
3 Institutions shall not be required to reevaluate a student's
4 eligibility status after this date for purposes of changing
5 ~~amending~~ eligibility determinations previously made. ~~However,~~
6 ~~an institution shall be required to make refunds for students~~
7 ~~who receive award disbursements and terminate enrollment for~~
8 ~~any reason during the academic term when an institution's~~
9 ~~refund policies permit a student to receive a refund under~~
10 ~~these circumstances.~~

11 (d)~~(c)~~ Institutions shall certify to the department
12 the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit
13 to the department any undisbursed advances by June 1 of each
14 year ~~within 60 days of the end of regular registration.~~

15 (e)~~(d)~~ Each institution that receives moneys through
16 the Florida Private Student Assistance Grant Program shall
17 cause to be prepared a biennial report that includes an
18 independent external audit of the institution's administration
19 of the program and a complete accounting of moneys in the
20 State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund allocated to the
21 institution for the program. Such report shall be submitted to
22 the department on or before March 1 every other year. The
23 department may conduct its own annual or biennial audit of an
24 institution's administration of the program and its allocated
25 funds in lieu of the required biennial report and independent
26 external audit. The department may suspend or revoke an
27 institution's eligibility to receive future moneys from the
28 trust fund for the program or request a refund of any moneys
29 overpaid to the institution through the trust fund for the
30 program if the department finds that an institution has not
31 complied with the provisions of this section. Any refund

1 requested pursuant to this paragraph shall be remitted within
2 60 days.

3 (5)~~(6)~~ Funds appropriated by the Legislature for
4 Florida private student assistance grants shall be deposited
5 in the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund.
6 Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 and pursuant to
7 s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the end of any
8 fiscal year that has been allocated to the Florida Private
9 Student Assistance Grant Program shall remain therein and
10 shall be available for carrying out the purposes of this
11 section and as otherwise provided by law.

12 (6)~~(7)~~ The State Board of Education shall adopt rules
13 necessary to implement this section.

14 Section 4. Effective July 1, 1999, section 240.4097,
15 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

16 240.4097 Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance
17 Grant Program; eligibility for grants.--

18 (1) There is hereby created a Florida Postsecondary
19 Student Assistance Grant Program. The program shall ~~to~~ be
20 administered by the participating institutions ~~Department of~~
21 ~~Education~~ in accordance with rules of the state board.

22 (2)(a) Florida postsecondary student assistance grants
23 through the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund may
24 be made ~~only~~ to ~~full-time~~ degree-seeking students enrolled for
25 a minimum of 6 credit hours who meet the general requirements
26 for student eligibility as provided in s. 240.404, except as
27 otherwise provided in this section. Such grants shall be
28 awarded for the amount of demonstrated unmet need for tuition
29 and fees and may not exceed an amount equal to the average
30 prior-academic-year cost of matriculation and other
31 registration fees for 30 credit hours at state universities

1 plus \$1,000 ~~a total of \$1,500~~ per academic year, or as
2 specified in the General Appropriations Act, to any applicant.
3 A demonstrated unmet need of less than \$200 shall render the
4 applicant ineligible for a Florida postsecondary student
5 assistance grant. Recipients of such grants must have been
6 accepted at a postsecondary institution that is located in and
7 chartered as a domestic corporation by the state and that is:

8 1. A private nursing diploma school approved by the
9 Florida Board of Nursing; or

10 2. An institution either licensed by the State Board
11 of Independent Colleges and Universities or exempt from
12 licensure pursuant to s. 246.085(1)(a), excluding those
13 institutions the students of which are eligible to receive a
14 Florida private student assistance grant pursuant to s.
15 240.4095.

16
17 No student may receive an award for more than the equivalent
18 of 9 semesters or 14 quarters of full-time enrollment in a
19 ~~period of not more than 6 consecutive years~~, except as
20 otherwise provided in s. 240.404(3).

21 (b) A student applying for a Florida postsecondary
22 student assistance grant shall be required to apply for the
23 Pell Grant. The Pell Grant entitlement shall be considered ~~by~~
24 ~~the department~~ when conducting an assessment of the financial
25 resources available to each student.

26 (c) ~~The criteria and procedure for establishing~~
27 ~~standards of eligibility shall be determined by the~~
28 ~~department. The department is directed to establish a rating~~
29 ~~system upon which to base the approval of grants, including~~
30 ~~the use of a nationally recognized system of need analysis.~~
31 ~~The system shall include a certification of acceptability by~~

1 ~~the school of the applicant's choice.~~ Priority in the
2 distribution of grant moneys shall be given to students with
3 the lowest total family resources, in accordance with a
4 nationally recognized system of need analysis as determined
5 ~~pursuant to this subsection, taking into consideration the~~
6 ~~receipt of Pell Grants and student contributions to~~
7 ~~educational costs.~~ Using the system of need analysis, the
8 department shall establish a maximum expected family
9 contribution. An institution may not make a grant from this
10 program to a student whose expected family contribution
11 exceeds the level established by the department.

12 (d) Each participating institution shall report, to
13 the department by the established date, the eligible students
14 to whom grant moneys are disbursed each academic term. Each
15 institution shall also report to the department necessary
16 demographic and eligibility data for such students.

17 (3) Based on the unmet financial need of an eligible
18 applicant, the ~~full~~ amount of a Florida postsecondary student
19 assistance grant must be between \$200 and the average cost of
20 matriculation and other registration fees for 30 credit hours
21 at state universities plus \$1,000~~\$1,500~~ per academic year or
22 the amount specified in the General Appropriations Act.
23 Students enrolled for 6 to 8 credit hours may receive up to
24 one-half of the maximum award, students enrolled for 9 to 11
25 credit hours may receive up to three-fourths of the maximum
26 award, and students enrolled for 12 or more credit hours may
27 receive up to the full award.~~When funds are not sufficient to~~
28 ~~make full awards to all eligible applicants, the department~~
29 ~~shall reduce the amount of each recipient's grant award pro~~
30 ~~rata. For any year in which a pro rata grant reduction is~~
31 ~~necessary, such adjustment shall be made by reducing the~~

1 ~~second semester or the second and third quarter award~~
2 ~~disbursements to grant recipients. In each such instance,~~
3 ~~institutions shall notify students of award adjustments.~~

4 ~~(4) In the event that a student assistance grant~~
5 ~~recipient transfers from one institution eligible under this~~
6 ~~section, s. 240.409, or s. 240.4095 to another, his or her~~
7 ~~eligibility shall be transferable upon approval of the~~
8 ~~department. When approved by the department, the amount of~~
9 ~~the unmet need shall be recalculated for the new institution~~
10 ~~and shall be adjusted accordingly.~~

11 (4)(5)(a) The funds appropriated for the Florida
12 Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant shall be distributed to
13 eligible institutions in accordance with a formula recommended
14 by the Department of Education's Florida Council of Student
15 Financial Aid Advisors and reviewed by the Postsecondary
16 Education Planning Commission and the Florida Association of
17 Postsecondary Schools and Colleges. The formula shall consider
18 at least the prior year's distribution of funds, the number of
19 full-time and part-time eligible applicants who did not
20 receive awards, the standardization of the expected family
21 contribution, and provisions for unused funds.

22 (b) Payment of Florida postsecondary student
23 assistance grants shall ~~may~~ be transmitted to the president of
24 the eligible institution ~~which the recipient is attending,~~ or
25 to his or her representative, in advance of the registration
26 period. Institutions shall notify students of the amount of
27 their awards.

28 ~~(c)(b) Institutions shall certify to the department,~~
29 ~~within 30 days of the end of regular registration, the~~
30 ~~eligibility status of each awarded student. The eligibility~~
31 ~~status of each student to receive a disbursement shall be~~

1 determined by each institution as of the end of its regular
2 registration period, inclusive of a drop-add period.
3 Institutions shall not be required to reevaluate a student's
4 eligibility status after this date for purposes of changing
5 ~~amending~~ eligibility determinations previously made. ~~However,~~
6 ~~an institution shall be required to make refunds for students~~
7 ~~who receive award disbursements and terminate enrollment for~~
8 ~~any reason during the academic term when an institution's~~
9 ~~refund policies permit a student to receive a refund under~~
10 ~~these circumstances.~~

11 (d)~~(c)~~ Institutions shall certify to the department
12 the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit
13 to the department any undisbursed advances by June 1 of each
14 year ~~within 60 days of the end of regular registration.~~

15 (e)~~(d)~~ Each institution that receives moneys through
16 the Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant Program
17 shall cause to be prepared a biennial report that includes an
18 independent external audit of the institution's administration
19 of the program and a complete accounting of moneys in the
20 State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund allocated to the
21 institution for the program. Such report shall be submitted
22 to the department on or before March 1 every other year. The
23 department may conduct its own annual or biennial audit of an
24 institution's administration of the program and its allocated
25 funds in lieu of the required biennial report and independent
26 external audit. The department may suspend or revoke an
27 institution's eligibility to receive future moneys from the
28 trust fund for the program or request a refund of any moneys
29 overpaid to the institution through the trust fund for the
30 program if the department finds that an institution has not
31 complied with the provisions of this section. Any refund

1 requested pursuant to this paragraph shall be remitted within
2 60 days.

3 (5)~~(6)~~ Any institution that was eligible to receive
4 state student assistance grants on January 1, 1989, and that
5 is not eligible to receive grants pursuant to s. 240.4095 is
6 eligible to receive grants pursuant to this section.

7 (6)~~(7)~~ Funds appropriated by the Legislature for
8 Florida postsecondary student assistance grants shall be
9 deposited in the State Student Financial Assistance Trust
10 Fund. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 and
11 pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the
12 end of any fiscal year that has been allocated to the Florida
13 Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant Program shall remain
14 therein and shall be available for carrying out the purposes
15 of this section and as otherwise provided by law.

16 (7)~~(8)~~ The State Board of Education shall adopt rules
17 necessary to implement this section.

18 Section 5. Except as otherwise provided in this act,
19 this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

20

21 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
22 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
23 SB 1852

24

25 The committee substitute does not transfer administration of
26 all the state's financial assistance programs to a private
27 corporation.

28 Rather, it will decentralize the state's three need-based
29 grant programs to be administered by the universities and
30 colleges that enroll the students, instead of the Department
31 of Education.

It also makes part-time students eligible for the programs./

30

31