

By Representative Brown

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures
3 Scholarship Program; amending ss. 240.40205 and
4 240.40206, F.S.; revising academic requirements
5 for receipt of a Florida Academic Scholars
6 award or a Florida Merit Scholars award;
7 providing an effective date.

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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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11 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 240.40205,
12 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

13 240.40205 Florida Academic Scholars award.--

14 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Academic
15 Scholars award if the student meets the general eligibility
16 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
17 Program and the student:

18 (a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted ~~unweighted~~ grade point
19 average on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in high school
20 courses that are adopted by the Board of Regents and
21 recommended by the State Board of Community Colleges as
22 college-preparatory ~~academic~~ courses; and

23 (b) Has attained at least the score identified by
24 rules of the Department of Education on the combined verbal
25 and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the
26 Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic
27 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an
28 equivalent score on the American College Testing Program; or

29 (c) Has attended a home education program according to
30 s. 232.02(4) during grades 11 and 12, and has attained at
31 least the score identified by rules of the Department of

1 Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the
2 Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or
3 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College
4 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the American
5 College Testing Program; or

6 (d) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate
7 Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office; or

8 (e) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement
9 programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a
10 scholar or finalist.

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12 Effective with the 1998-1999 school year, a student must
13 complete a program of community service work, as approved by
14 the district school board or the administrators of a nonpublic
15 school, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of service
16 work and require the student to identify a social problem that
17 interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her personal
18 involvement in addressing the problem, and, through papers or
19 other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her
20 experience.

21 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 240.40206,
22 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

23 240.40206 Florida Merit Scholars award.--

24 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Merit Scholars
25 award if the student meets the general eligibility
26 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
27 Program and the student:

28 (a) Has achieved a weighted ~~an unweighted~~ grade point
29 average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent, in high
30 school courses that are adopted by the Board of Regents and

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1 recommended by the State Board of Community Colleges as
2 college-preparatory ~~academic~~ courses; and
3 (b) Has attained at least the score identified by
4 rules of the Department of Education on the combined verbal
5 and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the
6 Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic
7 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an
8 equivalent score on the American College Testing Program; or
9 (c) Has attended a home education program according to
10 s. 232.02(4) during grades 11 and 12, and has attained at
11 least the score identified by rules of the Department of
12 Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the
13 Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or
14 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College
15 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the American
16 College Testing Program.
17 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1 of the
18 year in which enacted.

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21 HOUSE SUMMARY

22 With respect to the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
23 Program, revises student grade point average requirements
24 for receipt of a Florida Academic Scholars award or a
25 Florida Merit Scholars award.
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