

By the Committee on Education Innovation and  
Representatives K. Pruitt, Chestnut, Fasano and Minton

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to education; establishing the  
3           Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;  
4           providing levels of award; providing for  
5           administration and funding; providing student  
6           eligibility and program requirements; providing  
7           for awards; providing requirements for  
8           qualification for a Florida Academic Scholars  
9           award, a Florida Merit Scholarship award, and a  
10          Florida Gold Seal Vocational Endorsement  
11          Scholarship award; providing a transition in  
12          eligibility for scholarship awards; amending s.  
13          24.121, F.S.; providing for funding of the  
14          Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program from  
15          the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund;  
16          repealing ss. 232.2465, 239.217, 240.402,  
17          240.4021, and 240.4024, F.S., relating to the  
18          Florida Academic Scholars' Certificate Program,  
19          the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Endorsement  
20          Program, the Florida Undergraduate Scholars'  
21          Program, the Vocational Gold Seal Endorsement  
22          Scholarship Program, and the Florida  
23          Postsecondary Tuition Program; amending ss.  
24          240.233, 232.246, 240.404, and 240.40242, F.S.;  
25          correcting cross references; and conforming  
26          language; providing an effective date.

27  
28   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

29  
30                   Section 1.   The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship  
31   Program.--

1       (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that a  
2 lottery-funded scholarship program be established for students  
3 who have demonstrated high academic achievement in high school  
4 and are ready for postsecondary education. Such a scholarship  
5 program shall be available to any student who meets high  
6 academic standards and who subsequently enrolls in a public or  
7 private Florida community college, university, college, or  
8 postsecondary vocational or technical program leading to a  
9 degree or skill certification.

10       (2) The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program is  
11 established and shall consist of two levels of award. The  
12 first level of award, which is the highest award, shall be for  
13 students who meet the most rigorous academic standards and  
14 qualify as Florida Academic Scholars. The second level of  
15 award shall be for students who graduate from high school with  
16 a 3.0 grade point average in courses required for graduation  
17 and who demonstrate readiness for a community college,  
18 university, or postsecondary vocational or technical program.  
19 Students at this level shall qualify either for a Florida  
20 Merit Scholarship award or a Florida Gold Seal Vocational  
21 Endorsement Scholarship award. These two awards shall be  
22 equivalent.

23       (3) The program shall be administered by the  
24 Department of Education according to rules and procedures  
25 established by the Commissioner of Education. Advertising or  
26 notification to students, teachers, parents, guidance  
27 counselors, and principals, or other relevant school  
28 administrators, of the criteria and application procedures for  
29 the award shall be the responsibility of the department. Such  
30 advertising or notification shall begin no later than January  
31 of each year.

1           (4) Funds allocated to the program shall be from the  
2 Educational Enhancement Trust Fund and shall be allocated  
3 prior to disbursement to public schools, community colleges,  
4 and state universities.

5           (a) If funds appropriated by the Legislature are not  
6 sufficient to provide awards as authorized in law, awards in  
7 all three components of the program shall be prorated using  
8 the same percentage reduction.

9           (b) If all funds allocated to the program are not  
10 fully utilized in a fiscal year, up to 5 percent of the total  
11 allocation may be carried over to fund potential shortages in  
12 future years.

13           (5) The following shall apply to recipients of either  
14 level of award under the program:

15           (a) Students may use awards for enrollment in any  
16 Florida public university, community college, or technical  
17 institute or any eligible Florida independent college,  
18 university, or vocational-technical school. An independent  
19 college, university, or vocational-technical school shall be  
20 eligible to participate if the following criteria are met:

21           1. It is an independent postsecondary institution that  
22 offers a nursing diploma approved by the Board of Nursing or a  
23 Florida college, university, or community college which is  
24 accredited by a member of the Commission on Recognition of  
25 Postsecondary Accreditation, the credits of which are  
26 acceptable for transfer to state universities; or

27           2. It is a nonpublic postsecondary educational  
28 institution licensed by the State Board of Independent  
29 Postsecondary Vocational, Technical, Trade, and Business  
30 Schools that:

31           a. Is located in and licensed to operate by the state.

1           b. Has a program completion and placement rate at the  
2 minimum rate established under the Florida Administrative Code  
3 or current Florida Statutes which govern the institution or as  
4 established by the department.

5           c. Shows evidence of sound financial condition.

6           d.(I) Is accredited at the institutional level by an  
7 accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department  
8 of Education and has operated in the state for 3 years under  
9 the same ownership and there have been no complaints for which  
10 probable cause has been found during this period; or

11           (II) Is licensed by the state and has operated in the  
12 state for 5 years under the same ownership and there have been  
13 no complaints for which probable cause has been found during  
14 this period.

15           (b) An award recipient shall be a full-time or  
16 part-time student enrolled in a minimum of 6 semester credit  
17 hours or the equivalent. To qualify for renewal, students must  
18 have completed at least 12 semester hours or the equivalent in  
19 an academic year. Students may be eligible for renewal awards  
20 for up to 7 years after high school graduation. Awards shall  
21 be disbursed each academic term. Students enrolled in 6 to 8  
22 credit hours may receive up to one-half of the maximum award;  
23 students enrolled in 9 to 11 credit hours may receive up to  
24 three-fourths of the maximum award; and students enrolled in  
25 12 or more credit hours may receive up to the full award.

26           (c) An award recipient shall be allowed a one-time  
27 reinstatement upon raising his or her cumulative grade point  
28 average to the required level.

29           (d) Students shall apply for a Florida Bright Futures  
30 Scholarship Program award by April 1 of the last semester  
31 before high school graduation. Eligibility shall be determined

1 based on the cumulative grade point average in courses  
2 required for graduation as of application. Students who apply  
3 for awards no later than April 1 and who meet all other  
4 eligibility requirements to receive awards may later reapply  
5 to receive awards during subsequent application periods when  
6 they do not accept their initial awards. Similarly, students  
7 who receive initial awards and who later do not accept renewal  
8 awards may reapply to receive awards during subsequent  
9 application periods. Students who apply under this paragraph  
10 must submit reinstatement applications within 3 years after  
11 filing their initial applications.

12 (e) Initial and subsequent renewal awards shall be  
13 limited to 132 credit hours if attending a 4-year program and  
14 165 credit hours if attending an approved 5-year program.  
15 Awards may be used for summer-term enrollment if the  
16 Department of Education is notified by June 1 of the year  
17 preceding the summer term in which the student plans to  
18 enroll. No scholarship funds shall be applied to matriculation  
19 and fees for postsecondary remedial courses.

20 (f) To be eligible, a student must not have been found  
21 guilty of a felony, or pled nolo contendere to a felony  
22 charge, unless granted clemency by the Governor and the  
23 Cabinet sitting as the Executive Office of Clemency.

24 (g) To be eligible, a student must be a Florida  
25 resident.

26 (h) Recipients must have met the requirements of a  
27 standard Florida high school diploma or its equivalent as  
28 described in s. 229.814, Florida Statutes. Any student who is  
29 enrolled on a full-time basis in the early admission program  
30 of an eligible postsecondary institution or completes a home  
31 education program according to the provisions of s. 232.02(4),

1 Florida Statutes, shall be exempt from this requirement. Also  
2 exempt shall be the dependents of Florida residents who are on  
3 military or public service assignments away from Florida when  
4 such dependents live with such Florida residents and receive  
5 high school diplomas from non-Florida schools.

6 (i) The award may be renewed annually upon  
7 documentation by the recipient that he or she meets the  
8 necessary qualifications. If any recipient transfers from one  
9 eligible institution to another eligible institution, the  
10 award shall be transferable if the student is otherwise  
11 eligible for the award.

12 (j) Program awards shall be awarded annually. Annual  
13 awards may be for up to 45 credit hours or the equivalent.  
14 Students wishing to renew an award shall notify the  
15 institution on forms approved by the Department of Education.  
16 The institution shall provide all required information to the  
17 department by June 1 of the academic year preceding the  
18 renewal year. Students whose grade point average is too low to  
19 qualify for a renewal shall receive a renewal if, by the end  
20 of the summer session, the cumulative grade point average  
21 meets the requirement. In such cases, the institution shall  
22 notify the department whether the grade point average may be  
23 increased sufficiently during the summer term. If not, the  
24 student shall be notified of nonrenewal for the next academic  
25 year. If it is possible for the student to raise the grade  
26 point average to the required level, an award shall be  
27 reserved for the student. The renewal, however, shall be  
28 granted only upon meeting the required grade point average.  
29 The institution may release the award upon verification of the  
30 acceptable grade point average.

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1       (k) If a student does not meet the requirements of  
2 this subsection as a result of inaccurate or incomplete  
3 information provided by a high school guidance counselor,  
4 teacher, or school district personnel, the student may,  
5 nevertheless, be eligible for the award if the principal of  
6 the school or the district superintendent verifies that such  
7 inaccuracies or misinformation caused the deficiencies. The  
8 school district must provide a means for the student to  
9 correct deficiencies resulting from such misinformation. The  
10 student must correct the deficiencies no later than December  
11 31 immediately following high school graduation, either by  
12 completing comparable work at the postsecondary institution or  
13 by completing a directed individualized study program that is  
14 developed and administered by the school district. If the  
15 student does not complete the requirements necessary to  
16 correct the deficiencies by December 31 immediately following  
17 high school graduation, the student is ineligible to  
18 participate in the program.

19       (6) Payment of an award shall be transmitted in  
20 advance of the registration period each semester on behalf of  
21 the student to the president of the university or community  
22 college, or the director of the area vocational-technical  
23 school, or his or her representative, except that the  
24 department may withhold payment if the receiving institution  
25 fails to report or to make refunds to the department as  
26 required in this subsection.

27       (a) Within 30 days after the end of regular  
28 registration each semester, institutions shall certify to the  
29 department the eligibility status of each student who receives  
30 an award. The eligibility status of each student to receive a  
31 disbursement shall be determined by each institution as of

1 this date. Institutions are not required to reevaluate a  
2 student's eligibility status after this date for the purpose  
3 of revising an eligibility determination previously made.  
4 However, an institution must make refunds to the department  
5 for students who receive award disbursements and terminate  
6 enrollment for any reason during the academic term when the  
7 institution's refund policy permits a student to receive a  
8 refund.

9 (b) An institution that receives funds from the  
10 program shall certify to the department the amount of funds  
11 disbursed to each student and shall remit to the department  
12 any undisbursed advances within 60 days after the end of  
13 regular registration.

14 (7) A student is eligible for only one annual award  
15 from the program. However, a student may, upon meeting  
16 provisions of this section, move from one program to another.

17 (a) A student receiving a Florida Academic Scholars  
18 award may become eligible for a Florida Merit Scholarship  
19 award upon failing to meet the renewal grade point average  
20 requirement for the Florida Academic Scholars award if he or  
21 she meets the renewal criteria for the Florida Merit  
22 Scholarship award.

23 (b) A student may transfer from a Florida Gold Seal  
24 Vocational Endorsement Scholarship award to a Florida Merit  
25 Scholarship award upon meeting the renewal grade point average  
26 requirement and being accepted in an upper-division program or  
27 college in a public or private university or college.

28 (8) A program award shall be awarded prior to the  
29 certification or award of a federal family education loan or  
30 federal direct loan and shall be considered in the  
31



1 certification or calculation of the student's loan  
2 eligibility.

3 (9) Each institution that receives moneys through this  
4 program shall cause to be prepared an annual report that  
5 includes an independent external audit or an audit prepared by  
6 the Office of the Auditor General. The report shall include an  
7 audit of the institution's administration of the program and a  
8 complete accounting of the moneys for the program. This report  
9 must be submitted to the Department of Education annually on  
10 or before March 1. The department may conduct its own annual  
11 audit of an institution's administration of the program. The  
12 department may request a refund of any moneys overpaid to the  
13 institution for the program. The department may suspend or  
14 revoke an institution's eligibility to receive future moneys  
15 for the program if the department finds that an institution  
16 has not complied with this section. The institution must remit  
17 within 60 days any refund requested in accordance with this  
18 subsection.

19 Section 2. Florida Academic Scholars award.--

20 (1) In addition to criteria specified in section 1 of  
21 this act, a student may qualify for a Florida Academic  
22 Scholars award if the following requirements are met:

23 (a) The student has a 3.5 unweighted grade point  
24 average on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent, in high school  
25 subjects for credit acceptable for a college preparatory  
26 curriculum as approved by the Board of Regents and State Board  
27 of Community Colleges and the student has attained at least  
28 the minimum score as determined by rules of the Department of  
29 Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the  
30 Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or  
31 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College

1 Entrance Examination or an equivalent score on the American  
2 College Testing Program;  
3 (b) The student has attended a home education program  
4 during grade levels 9 through 12 according to the provisions  
5 of s. 232.02(4), Florida Statutes, and has attained at least  
6 the minimum score as determined by rules of the Department of  
7 Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the  
8 Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or  
9 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College  
10 Entrance Examination or an equivalent score on the American  
11 College Testing Program;  
12 (c) The student has been awarded an International  
13 Baccalaureate Diploma from the International Baccalaureate  
14 Office; or  
15 (d) The student is recognized by the merit or  
16 achievement programs of the National Merit Scholarship  
17 Corporation as a scholar or finalist.  
18  
19 Effective with the 1998-1999 school year, a student must  
20 complete a program of community service work, as approved by  
21 the district school board or the administrators of a nonpublic  
22 school, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of service  
23 work and require the student to identify a social problem that  
24 interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her personal  
25 involvement in addressing the problem, and, through papers or  
26 other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her  
27 experience.  
28 (2) A renewal award shall be made to students who have  
29 maintained the equivalent of a 3.0 cumulative grade point  
30 average on a 4.0 scale for all college work attempted. The  
31 Department of Education shall not make awards to reinstatement

1 applicants who submit applications that are postmarked after  
2 June 1.

3 (3) Florida Academic Scholars shall be eligible for an  
4 award equal to that required to pay matriculation, mandatory  
5 fees, and \$600 for college-related expenses annually. Awards  
6 for students attending nonpublic institutions shall be limited  
7 to the average matriculation and fees of a comparable Florida  
8 public institution.

9 (4) In each school district, the Florida Academic  
10 Scholar with the highest grade point average shall receive an  
11 additional award of \$1,500 for college-related expenses. This  
12 award shall be funded from the Florida Bright Futures  
13 Scholarship Program.

14 Section 3. Florida Merit Scholarship award.--

15 (1) In addition to criteria specified in section 1 of  
16 this act, a student may qualify for a Florida Merit  
17 Scholarship award if the following requirements are met:

18 (a)1. The student has a 3.0 unweighted grade point  
19 average on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent, in high school  
20 subjects for credit acceptable for a college preparatory  
21 curriculum as approved by the Board of Regents and State Board  
22 of Community Colleges; and

23 2. The student has attained at least the minimum score  
24 as determined by rules of the Department of Education on the  
25 combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic  
26 Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the  
27 recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance  
28 Examination or an equivalent score on the American College  
29 Testing Program; or

30 (b) The student has attended a home education program  
31 during grade levels 9 through 12 according to the provisions

1 of s. 232.02(4), Florida Statutes, and has attained at least  
2 the minimum score as determined by rules of the Department of  
3 Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the  
4 Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or  
5 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College  
6 Entrance Examination or an equivalent score on the American  
7 College Testing Program.

8 (2) A Florida Merit Scholarship award shall be an  
9 amount equal to 75 percent of the matriculation and mandatory  
10 fees of the institution being attended. Awards for nonpublic  
11 institutions shall be limited to that of the average  
12 matriculation and fees of a comparable Florida public  
13 institution.

14 (3) A renewal award shall be made to students who have  
15 maintained the equivalent of a 2.75 cumulative grade point  
16 average on a 4.0 scale for all college work attempted. The  
17 Department of Education shall not make awards to reinstatement  
18 applicants who submit applications that are postmarked after  
19 June 1 preceding the renewal academic year.

20 Section 4. Florida Gold Seal Vocational Endorsement  
21 Scholarship award.--

22 (1) There is created the Florida Gold Seal Vocational  
23 Endorsement Scholarship award within the Florida Bright  
24 Futures Scholarship Program in order to recognize and reward  
25 academic achievement and vocational preparation by high school  
26 students and to inform potential employers of the quality of a  
27 student's academic and vocational preparation.

28 (2) Each school district may award the Florida Gold  
29 Seal Vocational Endorsement to a high school student who meets  
30 the requirements of this section. To be eligible for award of  
31 the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Endorsement, a student must:

1       (a) Meet all requirements for graduation as specified  
2 in s. 232.246, Florida Statutes, including number of credits,  
3 courses, grade point average, and mastery of minimum  
4 performance standards and basic skills.

5       (b) Complete three vocational credits over a period of  
6 at least 2 years in a sequential program of studies in a  
7 vocational job-preparatory or technology-education program.  
8 On-the-job training credit may not be substituted for the  
9 three vocational credits. A student must complete the  
10 secondary school portion of a sequential program of studies  
11 which requires at least three secondary school vocational  
12 credits taken over at least 2 academic years, and is continued  
13 in a planned, related postsecondary education program. If the  
14 student's school does not offer such a two-plus-two program,  
15 the student is eligible for a vocational endorsement if the  
16 student completes a job-preparatory vocational education  
17 program selected by the Occupational Forecasting Conference or  
18 the Jobs and Education Partnership of Enterprise Florida for  
19 its ability to provide high-wage employment in an occupation  
20 with high potential for employment opportunities.

21       (c) Demonstrate readiness for postsecondary education  
22 by earning a passing score on the Florida College Placement  
23 Test.

24       (d) Earn a minimum cumulative unweighted grade point  
25 average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale on all subjects required for a  
26 standard high school diploma.

27       (e) Earn a minimum unweighted grade point average of  
28 3.5 on a 4.0 scale for secondary vocational courses comprising  
29 the vocational program.

30       (3) The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Endorsement  
31 Scholarship award shall be an amount equal to 75 percent of

1 the matriculation and mandatory fees of the institution being  
2 attended. Awards for nonpublic institutions shall be limited  
3 to that of the average costs of a comparable Florida public  
4 institution.

5 (4) A renewal award shall be made to students who have  
6 maintained the equivalent of a 2.75 cumulative grade point  
7 average on a 4.0 scale for all college work attempted. The  
8 Department of Education shall not make awards to reinstatement  
9 applicants who submit applications after June 1 preceding the  
10 renewal academic year.

11 (5) The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Endorsement  
12 Scholarship award shall be limited to 80 credit hours or the  
13 equivalent. After completion of 80 credit hours or the  
14 equivalent, a student who is accepted into an upper division  
15 or college within a public or private college or university,  
16 and who has a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 in all  
17 postsecondary work, may apply for and be granted a Florida  
18 Merit Scholarship award. All other provisions for the Florida  
19 Merit Scholarship award shall apply, and the limitations shall  
20 be calculated as if the student had used the first 2 years of  
21 the Florida Merit Scholarship award.

22 Section 5. Eligibility for scholarship awards;  
23 transition.--

24 (1) Students who graduate from high school in 1997 or  
25 earlier and who are eligible for the Florida Undergraduate  
26 Scholar's Program pursuant to s. 240.402, Florida Statutes,  
27 shall be eligible for the Florida Academic Scholars award  
28 under section 2 of this act.

29 (2) Students who graduate from high school in 1997 or  
30 earlier and who are eligible for the Vocational Gold Seal  
31 Endorsement Scholarship award pursuant to s. 240.4021, Florida

1 Statutes, shall be eligible for the Florida Gold Seal  
2 Vocational Endorsement Scholarship award under section 3 of  
3 this act.

4 Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section  
5 24.121, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended,  
6 paragraph (e) is redesignated as paragraph (f), and a new  
7 paragraph (e) is added to said subsection, to read:

8 24.121 Allocation of revenues and expenditure of funds  
9 for public education.--

10 (5)

11 (b) Except as provided in paragraphs (c), ~~and~~ (d) and  
12 (e), the Legislature shall equitably apportion moneys in the  
13 trust fund among public schools, community colleges, and  
14 universities.

15 (e) All components of the Florida Bright Futures  
16 Scholarship Program shall be funded annually from the  
17 Educational Enhancement Trust Fund. Funds shall be allocated  
18 to this program prior to application of the formula for  
19 equitable distribution to public schools, community colleges,  
20 and state universities. If shortages require reductions in  
21 estimated distributions from the Educational Enhancement Trust  
22 Fund, funds for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program  
23 shall be reduced only after reductions in all other  
24 distributions are made.

25 Section 7. Sections 232.2465, 239.217, 240.402, and  
26 240.4021, Florida Statutes, and section 240.4024, Florida  
27 Statutes, as created by section 2 of chapter 96-341, Laws of  
28 Florida, are hereby repealed.

29 Section 8. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section  
30 240.233, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

31

1           240.233 Universities; admissions of students.--Each  
2 university shall govern admissions of students, subject to  
3 this section and rules of the Board of Regents.

4           (3)

5           (b) Within the admission standards provided for in  
6 subsection (1), the Board of Regents shall develop procedures  
7 for weighting courses which are necessary to meet the  
8 requirements of a college preparatory curriculum ~~s. 232.2465~~  
9 at a higher value than less rigorous courses. Credits  
10 received in such courses shall be given greater value in  
11 determining admission by universities than cumulative grade  
12 point averages in high school.

13           Section 9. Subsection (9) of section 232.246, Florida  
14 Statutes, is amended to read:

15           232.246 General requirements for high school  
16 graduation.--

17           (9) A student who meets all requirements prescribed in  
18 subsections (1), (5), and (6) shall be awarded a standard  
19 diploma in a form prescribed by the state board. A school  
20 board may attach the Florida gold seal vocational endorsement  
21 to a standard diploma ~~pursuant to s. 239.217~~ or, in lieu of  
22 the standard diploma, award differentiated diplomas to those  
23 exceeding the prescribed minimums. A student who completes the  
24 minimum number of credits and other requirements prescribed by  
25 subsections (1) and (5), but who is unable to meet the  
26 standards of paragraph (6)(a), paragraph (6)(b), or paragraph  
27 (6)(d), shall be awarded a certificate of completion in a form  
28 prescribed by the state board. However, any student who is  
29 otherwise entitled to a certificate of completion may elect to  
30 remain in the secondary school either as a full-time student  
31 or a part-time student for up to 1 additional year and receive



1 special instruction designed to remedy his or her identified  
2 deficiencies. This special instruction shall be funded from  
3 the state compensatory education funds of the district.

4 Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
5 240.404, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

6 240.404 General requirements for student eligibility  
7 for state financial aid.--

8 (1)(a) The general requirements for eligibility of  
9 students for state financial aid awards consist of the  
10 following:

11 1. Acceptance at a state university or community  
12 college; a nursing diploma school approved by the Florida  
13 Board of Nursing; a Florida college, university, or community  
14 college which is accredited by a member of the Commission on  
15 Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation; any Florida  
16 institution the credits of which are acceptable for transfer  
17 to state universities; any area technical center; or any  
18 private vocational-technical institution accredited by a  
19 member of the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary  
20 Accreditation.

21 2. Participation in the college-level communication  
22 and computation skills testing program. This requirement is  
23 limited to students seeking associate's or bachelor's degrees.

24 3. Residency in this state for no less than 1 year  
25 preceding the award of aid for a program established pursuant  
26 to ~~s. 240.402, s. 240.4021~~, s. 240.4085, s. 240.409, s.  
27 240.4093, s. 240.4095, s. 240.4097, s. 240.412, s. 240.4125,  
28 s. 240.413, s. 240.4987, s. 240.605, or s. 240.606. Residency  
29 in this state must be for purposes other than to obtain an  
30 education. Resident status for purposes of receiving state  
31 financial aid awards shall be determined in the same manner as

1 resident status for tuition purposes pursuant to s. 240.1201  
2 and rules of the State Board of Education.

3 4. Compliance with Selective Service System  
4 registration requirements pursuant to s. 240.4045.

5 5. Submission of certification attesting to the  
6 accuracy, completeness, and correctness of information  
7 provided to demonstrate a student's eligibility to receive  
8 state financial aid awards. Falsification of such information  
9 shall result in the denial of any pending application and  
10 revocation of any award currently held to the extent that no  
11 further payments shall be made. Additionally, students who  
12 knowingly make false statements in order to receive state  
13 financial aid awards shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the  
14 second degree subject to the provisions of s. 837.06 and shall  
15 be required to return all state financial aid awards  
16 wrongfully obtained.

17 Section 11. Section 240.40242, Florida Statutes, 1996  
18 Supplement, is amended to read:

19 240.40242 Use of certain scholarship funds by children  
20 of deceased or disabled veterans.--The criteria for the use of  
21 scholarship funds which apply to students under the Florida  
22 Bright Futures Scholarship ~~Postsecondary Tuition~~ Program shall  
23 also apply to the children of deceased or disabled veterans  
24 who receive scholarships under chapter 295.

25 Section 12. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
26 law.

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