

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures  
3           Scholarship Program; amending s. 240.40202,  
4           F.S.; requiring the Department of Education to  
5           collect specified data from Bright Futures  
6           Scholarship recipients; amending s. 240.40203,  
7           F.S.; setting a time limit for the receipt of a  
8           scholarship; amending s. 240.40205, F.S.;  
9           requiring a test score and two levels of  
10          maximum annual award for a scholarship;  
11          amending s. 240.40206, F.S.; requiring a test  
12          score, to be raised in certain increments, and  
13          two levels of maximum annual award for a  
14          scholarship; amending s. 240.40207, F.S.;  
15          requiring the use of a scholarship at certain  
16          postsecondary educational institutions;  
17          amending s. 240.40208, F.S.; deleting a  
18          cross-reference; repealing s. 240.40209, F.S.;  
19          relating to awards used at nonpublic  
20          postsecondary educational institutions;  
21          providing an effective date.

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

24  
25           Section 1. Subsection (5) is added to section  
26   240.40202, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, to read:  
27           240.40202 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;  
28   student eligibility requirements for initial awards.--

29           (5) Beginning with students who graduate from high  
30   school in the year 2000, the Department of Education shall  
31

1 collect family socio-economic data from Bright Futures  
2 Scholarship recipients.

3 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 240.40203,  
4 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

5 240.40203 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;  
6 student eligibility requirements for renewal awards.--

7 (2) A student who is enrolled in a program that  
8 requires 120 credit hours or more to complete ~~terminates in an~~  
9 ~~associate degree or a baccalaureate degree~~ may receive an  
10 award for a maximum of 132 semester credit hours or the  
11 equivalent ~~110 percent of the number of credit hours required~~  
12 ~~to complete the program.~~ A student who is enrolled in a  
13 program that terminates in an associate degree or a technical  
14 certificate may receive an award for a maximum of 110 percent  
15 of the credit hours or clock hours required to complete the  
16 program up to 90 credit hours. A student who transfers from  
17 one of these program levels to another becomes eligible for  
18 the higher of the two credit hour limits.

19 Section 3. Subsections (1) and (2) of section  
20 240.40205, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended to  
21 read:

22 240.40205 Florida Academic Scholars award.--

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

27 (a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted grade point average as  
28 calculated pursuant to s. 240.40202, or its equivalent, in  
29 high school courses that are adopted by the Board of Regents  
30 and recommended by the State Board of Community Colleges as  
31 college-preparatory academic courses~~†~~and

1           ~~(b)~~ has attained at least a the score of 1270  
2 ~~identified by rules of the Department of Education~~ on the  
3 combined verbal and quantitative parts of the ~~Scholastic~~  
4 ~~Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the~~  
5 recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance  
6 Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment  
7 Program or another test identified by the department ~~the~~  
8 ~~American College Testing Program; or~~

9           ~~(b)(c)~~ Has completed ~~attended~~ a college-preparatory  
10 curriculum through a registered home education program  
11 according to s. 232.0201 ~~during grades 11 and 12~~ or has  
12 completed the International Baccalaureate curriculum but  
13 failed to earn the International Baccalaureate Diploma, and  
14 has attained at least a the score of 1270 ~~identified by rules~~  
15 ~~of the Department of Education~~ on the combined verbal and  
16 quantitative parts of the ~~Scholastic Aptitude Test, the~~  
17 ~~Scholastic Assessment Test, or the~~ recentered Scholastic  
18 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an  
19 equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program or another test  
20 identified by the department ~~the American College Testing~~  
21 ~~Program; or~~

22           ~~(c)(d)~~ Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate  
23 Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office; or

24           ~~(d)(e)~~ Has been recognized by the merit or achievement  
25 programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a  
26 scholar or finalist.

27  
28 Effective with the 1998-1999 school year, a student must  
29 complete a program of community service work, as approved by  
30 the district school board or the administrators of a nonpublic  
31 school, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of service

1 work and require the student to identify a social problem that  
2 interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her personal  
3 involvement in addressing the problem, and, through papers or  
4 other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her  
5 experience.

6 (2) A Florida Academic Scholar who is enrolled in a  
7 baccalaureate-degree-granting public postsecondary education  
8 institution is eligible for a maximum award of \$2,800 ~~an award~~  
9 ~~equal to the amount required to pay matriculation, fees, and~~  
10 ~~\$600 for college-related expenses~~ annually. A Florida Academic  
11 Scholar who is enrolled in an institution that does not award  
12 baccalaureate degrees is eligible for a maximum annual award  
13 of \$2,000. The maximum award amount must be prorated each  
14 semester as provided in s. 240.4021(6). ~~student who is~~  
15 ~~enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education institution is~~  
16 ~~eligible for an award equal to the amount that would be~~  
17 ~~required to pay for the average matriculation and fees of a~~  
18 ~~public postsecondary education institution at the comparable~~  
19 ~~level, plus the annual \$600.~~

20 Section 4. Section 240.40206, Florida Statutes, 1998  
21 Supplement, is amended to read:

22 240.40206 Florida Merit Scholars award.--

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

28 (a) The student has achieved a weighted grade point  
29 average of 3.0 as calculated pursuant to s. 240.40202, or the  
30 equivalent, in high school courses that are adopted by the  
31 Board of Regents and recommended by the State Board of

1 Community Colleges as college-preparatory academic courses~~+~~  
2 and

3 ~~(b)~~ has attained at least the applicable score listed  
4 in subsection (2)~~identified by rules of the Department of~~  
5 ~~Education~~ on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the  
6 ~~Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or~~  
7 ~~the~~ recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College  
8 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT  
9 Assessment Program or another test identified by the  
10 department.~~the American College Testing Program; or~~

11 ~~(b)(c)~~ The student has completed attended a  
12 college-preparatory curriculum through a registered home  
13 education program according to s. 232.0201 ~~during grades 11~~  
14 ~~and 12 or has completed the International Baccalaureate~~  
15 ~~curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate~~  
16 ~~Diploma,~~ and has attained at least the applicable score listed  
17 in subsection (2)~~identified by rules of the Department of~~  
18 ~~Education~~ on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the  
19 ~~Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or~~  
20 ~~the~~ recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College  
21 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT  
22 Assessment Program or another test identified by the  
23 department ~~the American College Testing Program.~~

24 (c) The student has completed the International  
25 Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the International  
26 Baccalaureate Diploma, and has attained at least the  
27 applicable score listed in subsection (2) on the combined  
28 verbal and quantitative parts of the recentered Scholastic  
29 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an  
30 equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program or another test  
31 identified by the department.

1           (2) The test score required for a student to earn a  
2 Florida Merit Scholars award must be raised annually in the  
3 following increments:

4           (a) A student who graduates from high school by the  
5 end of the 2001-2002 school year must earn a score of 970 or  
6 above on the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test or its  
7 equivalent on the ACT Assessment Program or another test  
8 identified by the department. A student who wishes to earn an  
9 award through a home-education program but whose parents  
10 cannot document a college preparatory curriculum must earn a  
11 score of 1020 or above.

12           (b) A student who graduates from high school in the  
13 2002-2003 school year must earn a score of 1020 or above on  
14 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test or its equivalent on  
15 the ACT Assessment Program or another test identified by the  
16 department. A student who wishes to earn an award through a  
17 home-education program but whose parents cannot document a  
18 college preparatory curriculum must earn a score of 1070 or  
19 above.

20           (3)~~(2)~~ A Florida Merit Scholar who is enrolled in a  
21 baccalaureate-degree-granting postsecondary education  
22 institution is eligible for a maximum ~~an~~ award of \$1,700  
23 annually. A Florida Merit Scholar who is enrolled in an  
24 institution that does not award baccalaureate degrees is  
25 eligible for a maximum annual award of \$1,100. The maximum  
26 award must be prorated each semester as provided in s.  
27 ~~240.40201(6).equal to the amount required to pay 75 percent~~  
28 ~~of matriculation and fees, if the student is enrolled in a~~  
29 ~~public postsecondary education institution. A student who is~~  
30 ~~enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education institution is~~  
31 ~~eligible for an award equal to the amount that would be~~

1 ~~required to pay 75 percent of the matriculation and fees of a~~  
2 ~~public postsecondary education institution at the comparable~~  
3 ~~level.~~

4 ~~(4)(3)~~ To be eligible for a renewal award as a Florida  
5 Merit Scholar, a student must maintain the equivalent of a  
6 grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale for all  
7 postsecondary education work attempted, with an opportunity  
8 for reinstatement one time as provided in this act.

9 Section 5. Section 240.40207, Florida Statutes, is  
10 amended to read:

11 240.40207 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars  
12 award.--The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award is  
13 created within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program  
14 to recognize and reward academic achievement and vocational  
15 preparation by high school students who wish to continue their  
16 education. Beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, a student  
17 may not use a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award to  
18 enroll in a baccalaureate-degree-granting institution, except  
19 that a student may renew an initial award issued before the  
20 2001-2002 school year.

21 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal  
22 Vocational Scholars award if the student meets the general  
23 eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures  
24 Scholarship Program and the student:

25 (a) Completes the secondary school portion of a  
26 sequential program of studies that requires at least three  
27 secondary school vocational credits taken over at least 2  
28 academic years, and is continued in a planned, related  
29 postsecondary education program. If the student's school does  
30 not offer such a two-plus-two or tech-prep program, the  
31 student must complete a job-preparatory career education

1 program selected by the Occupational Forecasting Conference or  
2 the Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida for its  
3 ability to provide high-wage employment in an occupation with  
4 high potential for employment opportunities. On-the-job  
5 training may not be substituted for any of the three required  
6 vocational credits.

7 (b) Demonstrates readiness for postsecondary education  
8 by earning a passing score on the Florida College Entry Level  
9 Placement Test or its equivalent as identified by the  
10 Department of Education.

11 (c) Earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point  
12 average of 3.0, as calculated pursuant to s. 240.40202, on all  
13 subjects required for a standard high school diploma,  
14 excluding elective courses.

15 (d) Earns a minimum unweighted grade point average of  
16 3.5 on a 4.0 scale for secondary vocational courses comprising  
17 the vocational program.

18 (e) Completes the requirements of a vocational-ready  
19 diploma program, as defined by rules of the State Board of  
20 Education.

21 (2) A Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholar is eligible  
22 for a maximum annual award of \$1,100. The maximum award amount  
23 must be prorated each semester as provided in s. 240.40201(6)  
24 ~~an award equal to the amount required to pay 75 percent of~~  
25 ~~matriculation and fees, if the student is enrolled in a public~~  
26 ~~postsecondary education institution. A student who is enrolled~~  
27 ~~in a nonpublic postsecondary education institution is eligible~~  
28 ~~for an award equal to the amount that would be required to pay~~  
29 ~~75 percent of the matriculation and mandatory fees of a public~~  
30 ~~postsecondary education institution at the comparable level.~~

31



1           (3) To be eligible for a renewal award as a Florida  
2 Gold Seal Vocational Scholar, a student must maintain the  
3 equivalent of a grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale for  
4 all postsecondary education work attempted, with an  
5 opportunity for reinstatement one time as provided in this  
6 act.

7           (4) A student may earn a Florida Gold Seal Vocational  
8 Scholarship for 110 percent of the number of credit hours  
9 required to complete the program, up to 90 credit hours or the  
10 equivalent. ~~A Florida Gold Seal Scholar who has a cumulative~~  
11 ~~grade point average of 2.75 in all postsecondary education~~  
12 ~~work attempted may apply for a Florida Merit Scholars award at~~  
13 ~~any renewal period. All other provisions of that program~~  
14 ~~apply, and the credit-hour limitation must be calculated by~~  
15 ~~subtracting from the student's total eligibility the number of~~  
16 ~~credit hours the student attempted while earning the Gold Seal~~  
17 ~~Vocational Scholarship.~~

18           (5) If an award recipient successfully completes the  
19 postsecondary education component of the education program  
20 described in paragraph (1)(a) and wishes to continue in  
21 postsecondary education, the student may transfer to the  
22 Florida Merit Scholars award component of the Bright Futures  
23 Scholarship Program. To transfer the scholarship, the student  
24 must meet all requirements to renew a Merit Scholarship.

25           Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 240.40208,  
26 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

27           240.40208 Eligibility for the Florida Bright Futures  
28 Scholarship Program; transition.--

29           (1) A student who graduates from high school in 1997  
30 or earlier and who is eligible for the Florida Undergraduate  
31 Scholar's Program ~~pursuant to s. 240.402~~ is eligible for the

1 Florida Academic Scholars award as provided in this act. A  
2 student who graduates from high school in 1998 or 1999 is  
3 eligible for the Florida Academic Scholars award if the  
4 student meets the criteria in s. 240.40205. However, in lieu  
5 of satisfying the requirements set forth in s. 240.40205(1)(a)  
6 ~~and (b)~~, a student may meet the following criteria:

7 (a) Complete a program of at least 24 credits in  
8 advanced-level studies as prescribed by the State Board of  
9 Education, including as a minimum:

10 1. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in  
11 language arts, including courses in English composition and  
12 literature.

13 2. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in  
14 science, including laboratory courses in biology, chemistry,  
15 and physics where laboratory facilities are available.

16 3. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in  
17 mathematics, including courses in algebra, geometry, and  
18 calculus or trigonometry.

19 4. Two years of sequential foreign language.

20 5. One year of instruction in art and music or in  
21 either art or music.

22 6. Three years of instruction in social studies,  
23 including courses in American history and government, world  
24 history, and comparative political and economic systems.

25 7. One year of instruction in health and physical  
26 education to include assessment, improvement, and maintenance  
27 of personal fitness.

28 (b) Obtain at least the equivalent of an unweighted  
29 grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for all courses  
30 taken for which high school credit may be granted.

31

1 (c) Achieve a score of 1180 on the combined verbal and  
2 quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the  
3 Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic  
4 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an  
5 equivalent score on the ACT Assessment ~~American College~~  
6 ~~Testing~~ Program or an equivalent program.

7 (d) Complete a program of community service work, as  
8 approved by the district school board or the administrators of  
9 a nonpublic school, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours  
10 of service work and require the student to identify a social  
11 problem that interests him or her, develop a plan for his or  
12 her personal involvement in addressing the problem, and,  
13 through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect  
14 upon his or her experience.

15  
16 Students who graduate from high school after 1999 must meet  
17 the eligibility criteria pursuant to s. 240.40205.

18 Section 7. Section 240.40209, Florida Statutes, as  
19 created by section 6 of chapter 97-379, Laws of Florida, is  
20 repealed.

21 Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.  
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