

By Representative Betancourt

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida Academic
3 Scholars award; amending s. 240.40205, F.S.;
4 providing that a student who is a recipient of
5 the National Hispanic Scholar Award and who
6 meets certain other eligibility requirements is
7 eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars award;
8 providing an effective date.

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

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

14 240.40205 Florida Academic Scholars award.--

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

19 (a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted grade point average as
20 calculated pursuant to s. 240.40202, or its equivalent, in
21 high school courses that are adopted by the Board of Regents
22 and recommended by the State Board of Community Colleges as
23 college-preparatory academic courses; and

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

30 (c) Has attended a home education program according to
31 s. 232.0201 during grades 11 and 12 or has completed the

1 International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the
2 International Baccalaureate Diploma, and has attained at least
3 the score identified by rules of the Department of Education
4 on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the
5 Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or
6 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College
7 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the American
8 College Testing Program; or

9 (d) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate
10 Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office; or

11 (e) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement
12 programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a
13 scholar or finalist; or-

14 (f) Is a recipient of the National Hispanic Scholar
15 Award.

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

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides that a student who receives the National Hispanic Scholar Award is eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars award if the student meets the eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship and has achieved a specified grade point average.