

By the Committee on Colleges & Universities and
Representatives Betancourt and Greenstein

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 has been
5 recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition
6 Program as a scholar recipient and who meets
7 certain other eligibility requirements is
8 eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars award;
9 providing an effective date.

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

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

15 240.40205 Florida Academic Scholars award.--

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

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

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

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1 (c) Has attended a home education program according to
2 s. 232.0201 during grades 11 and 12 or has completed the
3 International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the
4 International Baccalaureate Diploma, and has attained at least
5 the score identified by rules of the Department of Education
6 on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the
7 Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or
8 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College
9 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the American
10 College Testing Program; or

11 (d) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate
12 Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office; or

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

16 (f) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic
17 Recognition Program as a scholar recipient.

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