

By the Council for Lifelong Learning and Representatives
Kilmer, Waters and Harrington

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures
3 Scholarship Program; amending ss. 240.40201 and
4 240.40202, F.S.; revising eligibility
5 requirements; providing eligibility
6 requirements for students who enter the
7 military service; providing for reinstatement
8 of awards; creating s. 240.40215, F.S.;
9 providing for Florida Bright Futures
10 Scholarship awards for students attending
11 United States military service academies;
12 providing for the issuance of warrants;
13 providing an effective date.

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

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17 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 240.40201,
18 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

19 240.40201 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
20 Program.--

21 (1) The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program is
22 created to establish a lottery-funded scholarship program to
23 reward any Florida high school graduate who merits recognition
24 of high academic achievement and who enrolls in an eligible
25 Florida public or private postsecondary education institution
26 within 7 3 years of graduation from high school. Regardless of
27 the year in which the student first receives scholarship
28 funding, all eligibility shall end 7 years after high school
29 graduation; however, students who enter the military service
30 within 7 years following high school graduation shall have
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1 their Bright Futures Scholarship eligibility extended for 7
2 years after the student ends active military duty.

3 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 240.40202,
4 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

5 240.40202 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;
6 student eligibility requirements for initial awards.--

7 ~~(2) A student is eligible to accept an initial award~~
8 ~~for 3 years following high school graduation and to accept a~~
9 ~~renewal award for 7 years following high school graduation.~~A
10 student who applies for an award by April 1 and who meets all
11 ~~other~~ eligibility requirements, but who does not accept his or
12 her award, may apply for reinstatement of the award.

13 Reinstatement applications must be received by the deadline
14 established by the Department of Education ~~reapply during~~
15 ~~subsequent application periods up to 3 years after high school~~
16 ~~graduation.~~

17 Section 3. Section 240.40215, Florida Statutes, is
18 created to read:

19 240.40215 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
20 recipients attending United States military service
21 academies.--

22 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of ss.
23 240.40201-240.40209 relating to postsecondary education
24 institutions, a student who is otherwise eligible to receive
25 an award under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
26 and who is accepted and enrolls as a student in the U.S. Air
27 Force Academy, the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Naval
28 Academy, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, or the U.S. Merchant
29 Marine Academy shall receive a fixed award calculated by using
30 the average matriculation and fee calculation for full-time
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1 attendance at a public postsecondary education institution at
2 the comparable level.

3 (2) Upon verification by the Department of Education
4 that the student is enrolled in a United States military
5 service academy and meets the eligibility requirements for
6 receipt of an award, the Comptroller shall issue an individual
7 warrant made payable to the student and mailed by the
8 Department of Education to the United States military service
9 academy in which the student is enrolled.

10 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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