

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.; providing eligibility
5 requirements for students who enter the
6 military service; providing for reinstatement
7 of awards; creating s. 240.40215, F.S.;
8 providing for Florida Bright Futures
9 Scholarship awards for students attending
10 United States military service academies;
11 providing for the issuance of warrants;
12 providing an effective date.

13
14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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

18 240.40201 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
19 Program.--

20 (1) The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program is
21 created to establish a lottery-funded scholarship program to
22 reward any Florida high school graduate who merits recognition
23 of high academic achievement and who enrolls in an eligible
24 Florida public or private postsecondary education institution
25 within 3 years of graduation from high school. However,
26 students who enter the military service within 7 years
27 following high school graduation shall have their Bright
28 Futures Scholarship eligibility extended for 7 years after the
29 student ends active military duty, provided the student was
30 discharged or released from active duty under conditions other
31 than dishonorable.

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

3 240.40202 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;
4 student eligibility requirements for initial awards.--

5 (2) Except as otherwise provided in s. 240.40201(1), a
6 student is eligible to accept an initial award for 3 years
7 following high school graduation and to accept a renewal award
8 for 7 years following high school graduation. A student who
9 applies for an award by April 1 and who meets all ~~other~~
10 eligibility requirements, but who does not accept his or her
11 award, may apply for reinstatement of the award. Reinstatement
12 applications must be received by the deadline established by
13 the Department of Education ~~reapply during subsequent~~
14 ~~application periods up to 3 years after high school~~
15 ~~graduation.~~

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

18 240.40215 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
19 recipients attending United States military service
20 academies.--

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

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

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