



HB 0911

2003

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the Florida Academic Improvement Trust  
3 Fund matching grants; amending s. 1011.765, F.S.;  
4 providing for the use of such funds for classroom support;  
5 revising the means of allocating such funds; providing an  
6 effective date.

7  
8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9  
10 Section 1. Section 1011.765, Florida Statutes, is amended  
11 to read:

12 1011.765 Florida Academic Improvement Trust Fund matching  
13 grants.--

14 (1) MATCHING GRANTS.--The Florida Academic Improvement  
15 Trust Fund shall be utilized to provide matching grants to the  
16 Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Endowment Fund and to  
17 any public school district education foundation that meets the  
18 requirements of this section and is recognized by the local  
19 school district as its designated K-12 education foundation.

20 (a) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for the  
21 administration, submission, documentation, evaluation, and  
22 approval of requests for matching funds and for maintaining  
23 accountability for matching funds.

24 (b) Donations, state matching funds, or proceeds from  
25 endowments established pursuant to this section shall be used at  
26 the discretion of the public school district education  
27 foundation or the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind for  
28 academic achievement and classroom support within the school  
29 district or school, and shall not be expended for the  
30 construction of facilities or for the support of interscholastic



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31 athletics. No public school district education foundation or the  
 32 Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind shall accept or  
 33 purchase facilities for which the state will be asked for  
 34 operating funds unless the Legislature has granted prior  
 35 approval for such acquisition.

36 (2) ALLOCATION OF THE TRUST FUND.--Funds appropriated to  
 37 the Florida Academic Improvement Trust Fund shall be allocated  
 38 by the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations ~~Department of~~  
 39 ~~Education~~ in the following manner:

40 (a) For every year in which there is a legislative  
 41 appropriation to the trust fund, 1 percent ~~an equal amount~~ of  
 42 the annual appropriation shall be allocated by match to each of,  
 43 ~~to be determined by dividing the total legislative appropriation~~  
 44 ~~by the number of~~ local education foundations as well as the  
 45 Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, with any remaining  
 46 funds distributed by unweighted FTE ~~must be reserved for each~~  
 47 ~~public school district education foundation and the Florida~~  
 48 ~~School for the Deaf and the Blind Endowment Fund to provide~~  
 49 ~~each foundation and the Florida School for the Deaf and the~~  
 50 ~~Blind with an opportunity to receive and match appropriated~~  
 51 ~~funds.~~ Trust funds that remain unmatched by contribution by  
 52 January 15 ~~on April 1~~ of any year shall be made available for  
 53 matching by any public school district education foundation and  
 54 by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind ~~which shall~~  
 55 ~~have an opportunity to apply for excess trust funds prior to the~~  
 56 ~~award of such funds.~~

57 (b) Matching grants shall be proportionately allocated  
 58 from the trust fund on the basis of matching each \$1 ~~\$4~~ of state  
 59 funds with \$1 ~~\$6~~ of private funds. To be eligible for matching,  
 60 a minimum of \$2,500 ~~\$4,500~~ must be raised from private sources.



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61 (c) Funds sufficient to provide the match shall be  
62 transferred from the state trust fund to the Consortium of  
63 Florida Education Foundations ~~public school education foundation~~  
64 ~~or to the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Endowment~~  
65 ~~Fund~~ upon certification ~~notification~~ that a proportionate amount  
66 has been received and deposited by the individual foundation or  
67 the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind ~~school into its~~  
68 ~~own trust fund.~~

69 (d) If the total of the amounts to be distributed in any  
70 quarter pursuant to this subsection exceeds the amount of funds  
71 remaining from specific appropriations made for the  
72 implementation of this section, all grants shall be  
73 proportionately reduced so that the total of matching grants  
74 distributed does not exceed available appropriations.

75 (3) GRANT ADMINISTRATION.--

76 (a) Each public school district education foundation and  
77 the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind participating in  
78 the Florida Academic Improvement Trust Fund shall separately  
79 account for all funds received pursuant to this section, and may  
80 establish its own academic improvement trust fund as a  
81 depository for the private contributions, state matching funds,  
82 and earnings on investments of such funds. State matching funds  
83 shall be administered through the Consortium of Florida  
84 Education Foundations, with an administrative fee, not to exceed  
85 5 percent, ~~transferred~~ to the public school district education  
86 foundation or to the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind  
87 ~~Endowment Fund~~ upon certification ~~notification~~ that the  
88 foundation or school has received and deposited private  
89 contributions that meet the criteria for matching as provided in  
90 this section. The public school district education foundations



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91 and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind are  
92 responsible for the maintenance, investment, and administration  
93 of their academic improvement trust funds.

94 (b) The public school district education foundations and  
95 the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind shall be  
96 responsible for soliciting and receiving contributions to be  
97 deposited and matched with grants for academic achievement  
98 within the school district or school.

99 (c) Each public school district education foundation and  
100 the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind shall be  
101 responsible for proper expenditure of the funds received  
102 pursuant to this section.

103 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.