

HB 0019

2004

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to educational grants; amending s. 1009.89, F.S.; revising eligibility requirements for participation in the William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant Program by independent nonprofit colleges and universities; amending s. 1009.891, F.S.; revising eligibility requirements for participation in the Access to Better Learning and Education Grant Program by for-profit and nonprofit colleges and universities; reenacting ss. 282.105(4), 1009.57(2)(a), and 1009.765, F.S., to incorporate the amendment to s. 1009.89, F.S., in references; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 1009.89, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.89 The William L. Boyd, IV, Florida resident access grants.--

(3) The department shall issue through the program a William L. Boyd, IV, Florida resident access grant to any full-time degree-seeking undergraduate student registered at an independent nonprofit college or university which is located in and chartered by the state; which is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; which grants baccalaureate degrees; and which is not a state university or state community college; ~~and which has a secular purpose~~, so long as the receipt of state aid by students at the institution would not have the primary effect of advancing or impeding religion or result in an excessive

HB 0019

2004

31 entanglement between the state and any religious sect. Any
 32 independent college or university that was eligible to receive
 33 tuition vouchers on January 1, 1989, and which continues to meet
 34 the criteria under which its eligibility was established, shall
 35 remain eligible to receive William L. Boyd, IV, Florida resident
 36 access grant payments.

37 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 1009.891, Florida
 38 Statutes, is amended to read:

39 1009.891 The Access to Better Learning and Education Grant
 40 Program.--

41 (3) The department shall issue an access grant to any
 42 full-time student seeking a baccalaureate degree who is
 43 registered at a for-profit college or university that is located
 44 in and chartered by the state and that is accredited by the
 45 Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges
 46 and Schools or who is registered at a nonprofit college or
 47 university that is chartered out of the state, that has been
 48 located in the state for 10 years or more, and that is
 49 accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern
 50 Association of Colleges and Schools, the Middle States
 51 Association of Colleges and Schools, the North Central
 52 Association of Colleges and Schools, or the New England
 53 Association of Colleges and Schools; that grants baccalaureate
 54 degrees; and that is not a state university or state community
 55 college; ~~and that has a secular purpose~~, if the receipt of state
 56 aid by students at the institution would not have the primary
 57 effect of advancing or impeding religion or result in an
 58 excessive entanglement between the state and any religious sect.
 59 Institutions eligible for the Access to Better Learning and
 60 Education Grant Program in the initial year of funding shall

HB 0019

2004

61 include only those for-profit colleges or universities
62 identified in this subsection. Nonprofit colleges or
63 universities identified in this subsection shall be eligible for
64 financial support in the second year of funding.

65 Section 3. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
66 to section 1009.89, Florida Statutes, in references thereto, the
67 sections or subdivisions of Florida Statutes set forth below are
68 reenacted to read:

69 282.105 Use of state SUNCOM Network by nonprofit
70 corporations.--

71 (4) Institutions qualified to participate in the William
72 L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant Program pursuant to
73 s. 1009.89 shall be eligible to use the state SUNCOM Network,
74 subject to the terms and conditions of the office. Such entities
75 shall not be required to satisfy the other criteria of this
76 section.

77 1009.57 Florida Teacher Scholarship and Forgivable Loan
78 Program.--

79 (2) Within the Florida Teacher Scholarship and Forgivable
80 Loan Program shall be established the "Chappie" James Most
81 Promising Teacher Scholarship which shall be offered to a top
82 graduating senior from each public secondary school in the
83 state. An additional number of "Chappie" James Most Promising
84 Teacher Scholarship awards shall be offered annually to
85 graduating seniors from private secondary schools in the state
86 which are listed with the Department of Education and accredited
87 by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or any other
88 private statewide accrediting agency which makes public its
89 standards, procedures, and member schools. The private secondary
90 schools shall be in compliance with regulations of the Office

HB 0019

2004

91 for Civil Rights. The number of awards to private secondary
 92 school students shall be proportional to the number of awards
 93 available to public secondary school students and shall be
 94 calculated as the ratio of the number of private to public
 95 secondary school seniors in the state multiplied by the number
 96 of public secondary schools in the state.

97 (a) The scholarship may be used for attendance at a state
 98 university, a community college, or an independent institution
 99 as defined in s. 1009.89.

100 1009.765 Ethics in Business scholarships for community
 101 colleges and independent postsecondary educational
 102 institutions.--When the Department of Insurance or the Office of
 103 Insurance Regulation of the Financial Services Commission
 104 receives a \$6 million settlement as specified in the Consent
 105 Order of the Treasurer and Insurance Commissioner, case number
 106 18900-96-c, that portion of the \$6 million not used to satisfy
 107 the requirements of section 18 of the Consent Order must be
 108 transferred from the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund to the
 109 State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund is appropriated
 110 from the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund to
 111 provide Ethics in Business scholarships to students enrolled in
 112 public community colleges and independent postsecondary
 113 educational institutions eligible to participate in the William
 114 L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant Program under s.
 115 1009.89. The funds shall be allocated to institutions for
 116 scholarships in the following ratio: Two-thirds for community
 117 colleges and one-third for eligible independent institutions.
 118 The Department of Education shall administer the scholarship
 119 program for students attending community colleges and
 120 independent institutions. These funds must be allocated to

HB 0019

2004

121 institutions that provide an equal amount of matching funds
122 generated by private donors for the purpose of providing Ethics
123 in Business scholarships. Public funds may not be used to
124 provide the match, nor may funds collected for other purposes.
125 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Board of
126 Administration shall have the authority to invest the funds
127 appropriated under this section. The Department of Education may
128 adopt rules for administration of the program.

129 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.