

By the Committee on Education; and Senator Lawson

581-1875-06

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to student financial
3 assistance; creating s. 1009.701, F.S.;
4 creating the First Generation Matching Grant
5 Program to provide financial aid to
6 undergraduate students with financial need
7 whose parents have not earned a baccalaureate
8 degree; providing for the appropriation,
9 allocation, and distribution of funds;
10 providing student eligibility requirements;
11 providing duties of institutions participating
12 in the program; providing an effective date.

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

16 Section 1. Section 1009.701, Florida Statutes, is
17 created to read:

18 1009.701 First Generation Matching Grant Program.--

19 (1) The First Generation Matching Grant Program is
20 created to enable each state university and community college
21 to provide donors with a matching grant incentive for
22 contributions that will create grant-based student financial
23 aid for undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need
24 and whose parents, as defined in s. 1009.21(1), have not
25 earned a baccalaureate degree. In the case of any individual
26 who regularly resided with and received support from only one
27 parent, an individual whose only such parent did not complete
28 a baccalaureate degree would also be eligible.

29 (2) Funds appropriated by the Legislature for the
30 program shall be allocated by the Office of Student Financial
31 Assistance to match private contributions on a

1 dollar-for-dollar basis. Contributions made to a state
2 university or community college and pledged for the purposes
3 of this section are eligible for state matching funds
4 appropriated for this program and are not eligible for any
5 other state matching grant program. Pledged contributions are
6 not eligible for matching prior to the actual collection of
7 the total funds. The Office of Student Financial Assistance
8 shall reserve one-half of the total appropriated funds for
9 state universities and the remaining one-half for community
10 colleges. Within each 50-percent portion, the Office of
11 Student Financial Assistance shall reserve a proportionate
12 allocation for each state university and community college on
13 the basis of full-time equivalent enrollment. Funds that
14 remain unmatched as of December 1 shall be reallocated to
15 state universities and community colleges that have remaining
16 unmatched private contributions for the program on the basis
17 of full-time equivalent enrollment.

18 (3) Payment of the state matching grant shall be
19 transmitted to the president of each participating institution
20 or his or her representative in advance of the official
21 drop-add deadline as defined by the institution.

22 (4) Each participating state university and community
23 college shall establish an application process, determine
24 student eligibility for initial and renewal awards in
25 conformance with subsection (5), identify the amount awarded
26 to each recipient, and notify recipients of the amount of
27 their awards.

28 (5) In order to be eligible to receive a grant
29 pursuant to this section, an applicant must:

30 (a) Be a resident for tuition purposes pursuant to s.
31 1009.21.

1 (b) Be a first-generation college student. For the
2 purposes of this section, a student is considered "first
3 generation" if neither of the student's parents, as defined in
4 s. 1009.21(1), earned a college degree at the baccalaureate
5 level or higher or, in the case of any individual who
6 regularly resided with and received support from only one
7 parent, if that parent did not earn a baccalaureate degree.

8 (c) Be accepted at a state university or community
9 college.

10 (d) Be enrolled for a minimum of six credit hours per
11 term as a degree-seeking undergraduate student.

12 (e) Have demonstrated financial need by completing the
13 Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

14 (f) Meet additional eligibility requirements as
15 established by the institution.

16 (6) The award amount shall be based on the student's
17 need assessment after any scholarship or grant aid, including,
18 but not limited to, a Pell Grant or a Bright Futures
19 Scholarship, has been applied. An award may not exceed the
20 institution's estimated annual cost of attendance for the
21 student to attend the institution.

22 (7) Each participating institution shall report to the
23 Office of Student Financial Assistance by the date established
24 by the office the eligible students to whom grant moneys are
25 disbursed each academic term. Each institution shall certify
26 to the Office of Student Financial Assistance the amount of
27 funds disbursed to each student and shall remit to the office
28 any undisbursed advances by June 1 of each year.

29 (8) No later than July 1, each participating
30 institution shall annually report to the Executive Office of
31 the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the

1 House of Representatives, and each community college to the
2 State Board of Education, and each state university to the
3 Board of Governors, the eligibility requirements for
4 recipients, the aggregate demographics of recipients, the
5 retention and graduation rates of recipients, and a
6 delineation of funds awarded to recipients.

7 (9) This section shall be implemented only as
8 specifically funded.

9 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
10 law.

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12 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
13 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
14 Senate Bill 1750

15 The committee substitute provides the following changes:

16 Expands the First Generation Matching Grant Program to include
17 community colleges as participating institutions and requires
18 the Office of Student Financial Assistance to reserve and
19 allocate one-half of the total appropriated funds for
20 community colleges;

21 Provides eligibility to students whose parents have not earned
22 a baccalaureate degree and provides that in the case of a
23 student who regularly resided with and received support from
24 only one parent, a student would be eligible if that parent
25 did not complete a baccalaureate degree;

26 Provides eligibility to students enrolled for a minimum of six
27 credit hours per term at a community college or state
28 university as a degree seeking undergraduate student;

29 Permits individual institutions to establish additional
30 eligibility requirements and requires the grant award amount
31 to be based on a student's need assessment after other awarded
scholarship and grant aid have been applied; and

Provides that this section shall be implemented only as
specifically funded.