

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to student financial assistance; creating
 3 s. 1009.701, F.S.; creating the First Generation Matching
 4 Grant Program to provide financial aid to undergraduate
 5 students of a state university who have a financial need
 6 and whose parents have not earned a baccalaureate degree;
 7 providing for the appropriation, allocation, and
 8 distribution of funds; providing student eligibility
 9 requirements; providing duties of institutions
 10 participating in the program; providing an appropriation;
 11 creating s. 1009.892, F.S.; requiring postsecondary
 12 institutions to include certain testing costs in the costs
 13 of attendance; amending s. 1011.85, F.S.; specifying that
 14 the matching ratio for donations for scholarships includes
 15 scholarships for students who are the first generation in
 16 college; providing an effective date.

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

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 20 Section 1. Section 1009.701, Florida Statutes, is created
 21 to read:

22 1009.701 First Generation Matching Grant Program.--
 23 (1) The First Generation Matching Grant Program is created
 24 to enable each state university to provide donors with a
 25 matching grant incentive for contributions that will create
 26 grant-based student financial aid for undergraduate students who
 27 demonstrate financial need and whose parents, as defined in s.

28 | 1009.21(1), have not earned a baccalaureate degree. In the case
29 | of any individual who regularly resided with and received
30 | support from only one parent, an individual whose only such
31 | parent did not complete a baccalaureate degree would also be
32 | eligible.

33 | (2) Funds appropriated by the Legislature for the program
34 | shall be allocated by the Office of Student Financial Assistance
35 | to match private contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis.
36 | Contributions made to a state university and pledged for the
37 | purposes of this section are eligible for state matching funds
38 | appropriated for this program and are not eligible for any other
39 | state matching grant program. Pledged contributions are not
40 | eligible for matching prior to the actual collection of the
41 | total funds. The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall
42 | reserve a proportionate allocation of the total appropriated
43 | funds for each state university on the basis of full-time
44 | equivalent enrollment. Funds that remain unmatched as of
45 | December 1 shall be reallocated to state universities that have
46 | remaining unmatched private contributions for the program on the
47 | basis of full-time equivalent enrollment.

48 | (3) Payment of the state matching grant shall be
49 | transmitted to the president of each participating institution
50 | or his or her representative in advance of the official drop-add
51 | deadline as defined by the institution.

52 | (4) Each participating state university shall establish an
53 | application process, determine student eligibility for initial
54 | and renewal awards in conformance with subsection (5), identify

55 | the amount awarded to each recipient, and notify recipients of
56 | the amount of their awards.

57 | (5) In order to be eligible to receive a grant pursuant to
58 | this section, an applicant must:

59 | (a) Be a resident for tuition purposes pursuant to s.
60 | 1009.21.

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

68 | (c) Be accepted at a state university.

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

71 | (e) Have demonstrated financial need by completing the
72 | Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

73 | (f) Meet additional eligibility requirements as
74 | established by the institution.

75 | (6) The award amount shall be based on the student's need
76 | assessment after any scholarship or grant aid, including, but
77 | not limited to, a Pell Grant or a Bright Futures Scholarship,
78 | has been applied. An award may not exceed the institution's
79 | estimated annual cost of attendance for the student to attend
80 | the institution.

81 (7) Each participating institution shall report to the
 82 Office of Student Financial Assistance by the date established
 83 by the office the eligible students to whom grant moneys are
 84 disbursed each academic term. Each institution shall certify to
 85 the Office of Student Financial Assistance the amount of funds
 86 disbursed to each student and shall remit to the office any
 87 undisbursed advances by June 1 of each year.

88 (8) No later than July 1, each participating institution
 89 shall annually report to the Executive Office of the Governor,
 90 the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
 91 Representatives, and the Board of Governors, the eligibility
 92 requirements for recipients, the aggregate demographics of
 93 recipients, the retention and graduation rates of recipients,
 94 and a delineation of funds awarded to recipients.

95 (9) This section shall be implemented only as specifically
 96 funded.

97 Section 2. For the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the recurring
 98 sum of \$6.5 million from the General Revenue Fund is
 99 appropriated to the Department of Education for the First
 100 Generation Matching Grant Program pursuant to this act.

101 Section 3. Section 1009.892, Florida Statutes, is created
 102 to read:

103 1009.892 Cost of attendance; adult norm-referenced
 104 testing.--

105 (1) A public or private postsecondary institution shall
 106 include in its cost of attendance adult norm-referenced testing

107 | that it requires for eligible students to qualify for
108 | accommodations for disabilities.

109 | (2) To be eligible, a student must be a legal resident of
110 | this state, as defined in s. 1009.21; must be enrolled in at
111 | least 6 semester hours, or the equivalent, per term in a degree,
112 | certificate, or diploma program; and must have documented
113 | learning disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities
114 | Education Improvement Act of 2004 or the Americans with
115 | Disabilities Act of 1990.

116 | Section 4. Subsection (5) of section 1011.85, Florida
117 | Statutes, is amended to read:

118 | 1011.85 Dr. Philip Benjamin Matching Grant Program for
119 | Community Colleges.--

120 | (5) The matching ratio for donations that are specifically
121 | designated to support scholarships, including scholarships for
122 | first-generation-in-college students, student loans, or need-
123 | based grants shall be \$1 of state funds to \$1 of local private
124 | funds.

125 | Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.