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2 An act relating to higher education; amending  
3 s. 1009.531, F.S.; revising the eligibility  
4 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures  
5 Scholarship Program; providing for the  
6 disbursement of funds under the program to  
7 students enrolled in the early admission  
8 program during the 2007-2008 second term;  
9 amending s. 1009.534, F.S.; requiring that the  
10 amount awarded to Florida Academic Scholars for  
11 college-related expenses be specified by law or  
12 in the General Appropriations Act; providing an  
13 effective date.

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

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17 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1009.531, Florida  
18 Statutes, is amended to read:19 1009.531 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;  
20 student eligibility requirements for initial awards.--21 (1) Effective January 1, 2008, in order to be eligible  
22 for an initial award from any of the three types of  
23 scholarships under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship  
24 Program, a student must:25 (a) Be a Florida resident as defined in s. 1009.40 and  
26 rules of the State Board of Education.27 (b) Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its  
28 equivalent as described in s. 1003.429, s. 1003.43, or s.  
29 1003.435 unless:30 1. The student ~~is enrolled full time in the early~~  
31 ~~admission program of an eligible postsecondary education~~

1 ~~institution or~~ completes a home education program according to  
2 s. 1002.41; or

3         2. The student earns a high school diploma from a  
4 non-Florida school while living with a parent or guardian who  
5 is on military or public service assignment away from Florida.

6         (c) Be accepted by and enroll in an eligible Florida  
7 public or independent postsecondary education institution.

8         (d) Be enrolled for at least 6 semester credit hours  
9 or the equivalent in quarter hours or clock hours.

10         (e) Not have been found guilty of, or entered a plea  
11 of nolo contendere to, a felony charge, unless the student has  
12 been granted clemency by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as  
13 the Executive Office of Clemency.

14         (f) Apply for a scholarship from the program by high  
15 school graduation.

16         Section 2. Disbursement of funds from the Florida  
17 Bright Futures Scholarship Program for the 2007-2008 second  
18 term to students who received an initial award for the  
19 2007-2008 academic year for enrollment in the early admission  
20 program is contingent upon funds being available after payment  
21 to all other recipients of the Florida Bright Futures  
22 Scholarship who are required to pay tuition and fees. If funds  
23 are insufficient to pay in full all recipients enrolled in the  
24 early admission program, the available funds shall be prorated  
25 among the eligible students. This section expires July 1,  
26 2008.

27         Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 1009.534, Florida  
28 Statutes, is amended to read:

29         1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.--

30         (2) Effective January 1, 2008, a Florida Academic  
31 Scholar who is enrolled in a public postsecondary education

1 institution is eligible for an award equal to the amount  
2 required to pay tuition, fees, and an additional amount~~\$600~~  
3 for college-related expenses annually as specified in law or  
4 the General Appropriations Act. A student who is enrolled in a  
5 nonpublic postsecondary education institution is eligible for  
6 an award equal to the amount that would be required to pay for  
7 the average tuition and fees of a public postsecondary  
8 education institution at the comparable level, plus the annual  
9 amount specified in law or the General Appropriations Act for  
10 college-related expenses~~\$600~~.

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

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