

By Senator Ring

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship  
3 Program; amending ss. 1009.534, 1009.535, and 1009.536,  
4 F.S.; revising the amounts of the awards available to a  
5 student qualifying as a Florida Academic Scholar, a  
6 Florida Medallion Scholar, or a Florida Gold Seal  
7 Vocational Scholar; increasing the amounts available to a  
8 qualifying student who pursues a major in the field of  
9 science, technology, engineering, mathematics, education,  
10 or nursing or another health profession; decreasing the  
11 amounts available to a qualifying student who pursues a  
12 major in another field; providing an effective date.

13  
14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

15  
16 Section 1. Subsections (2) and (4) of section 1009.534,  
17 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

18 1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.--

19 (2) A Florida Academic Scholar who is enrolled in a public  
20 postsecondary education institution is eligible for an award  
21 equal to the amount required to pay 80 percent of tuition and  
22 fees and \$475 ~~\$600~~ for college-related expenses annually, or, if  
23 the student is pursuing a major in the field of science,  
24 technology, engineering, mathematics, education, or nursing or  
25 another health profession, he or she is eligible for an award  
26 equal to the amount required to pay 110 percent of tuition and  
27 fees and \$660 for college-related expenses annually. A student  
28 who is enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education  
29 institution is eligible for an award equal to the amount that

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30 | would be required to pay 80 percent of ~~for~~ the average tuition  
31 | and fees of a public postsecondary education institution at the  
32 | comparable level, plus \$475 for college-related expenses  
33 | annually, or, if the student is pursuing a major in the field of  
34 | science, technology, engineering, mathematics, education, or  
35 | nursing or another health profession, he or she is eligible for  
36 | an award equal to the amount required to pay 110 percent of the  
37 | average tuition and fees of a public postsecondary education  
38 | institution at the comparable level plus \$660 for college-related  
39 | expenses annually ~~the annual \$600.~~

40 | (4) In each school district, the Florida Academic Scholar  
41 | who has ~~with~~ the highest academic ranking shall receive an  
42 | additional award of \$1,200 ~~\$1,500~~ for college-related expenses,  
43 | or, if the student is pursuing a major in the field of science,  
44 | technology, engineering, mathematics, education, or nursing or  
45 | another health profession, he or she shall receive an additional  
46 | award of \$1,650 for college-related expenses. This award must be  
47 | funded from the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.

48 | Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 1009.535, Florida  
49 | Statutes, is amended to read:

50 | 1009.535 Florida Medallion Scholars award.--

51 | (2) A Florida Medallion Scholar is eligible for an award  
52 | equal to the amount required to pay 55 ~~75~~ percent of tuition and  
53 | fees if the student is enrolled in a state university or a  
54 | baccalaureate degree program authorized pursuant to s. 1007.33,  
55 | or, if while so enrolled the student is pursuing a major in the  
56 | field of science, technology, engineering, mathematics,  
57 | education, or nursing or another health profession, he or she is  
58 | eligible for an award equal to the amount required to pay 85

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59 percent of tuition and fees. A Florida Medallion Scholar is  
60 eligible for an award equal to the amount required to pay 80 ~~100~~  
61 percent of tuition and fees for college credit courses leading to  
62 an associate degree if the student is enrolled in a community  
63 college, or, if while so enrolled the student is pursuing a major  
64 in the field of science, technology, engineering, mathematics,  
65 education, or nursing or another health profession, he or she is  
66 eligible for an award equal to the amount required to pay 110  
67 percent of tuition and fees for college credit courses leading to  
68 an associate degree. A student who is enrolled in a nonpublic  
69 postsecondary education institution is eligible for an award  
70 equal to the amount that would be required to pay 55 ~~75~~ percent  
71 of the tuition and fees of a public postsecondary education  
72 institution at the comparable level, or, if the student is  
73 pursuing a major in the field of science, technology,  
74 engineering, mathematics, education, or nursing or another health  
75 profession, he or she is eligible for an award equal to the  
76 amount that would be required to pay 85 percent of the tuition  
77 and fees of a public postsecondary education institution at the  
78 comparable level.

79 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 1009.536, Florida  
80 Statutes, is amended to read:

81 1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award.--The  
82 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award is created within the  
83 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to recognize and  
84 reward academic achievement and career preparation by high school  
85 students who wish to continue their education.

86 (2) A Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholar is eligible for  
87 an award equal to the amount required to pay 55 ~~75~~ percent of

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88 tuition and fees~~,~~ if the student is enrolled in a public  
89 postsecondary education institution, or, if while so enrolled the  
90 student is pursuing a major in the field of science, technology,  
91 engineering, mathematics, education, or nursing or another health  
92 profession, he or she is eligible for an award equal to the  
93 amount required to pay 85 percent of tuition and fees. A student  
94 who is enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education  
95 institution is eligible for an award equal to the amount that  
96 would be required to pay 55 ~~75~~ percent of the tuition and  
97 mandatory fees of a public postsecondary education institution at  
98 the comparable level, or, if the student is pursuing a major in  
99 the field of science, technology, engineering, mathematics,  
100 education, or nursing or another health profession, he or she is  
101 eligible for an award equal to the amount that would be required  
102 to pay 85 percent of the tuition and mandatory fees of a public  
103 postsecondary education institution at the comparable level.

104 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.