

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, as amended by chapter 2007-330, Laws of
 18 Florida, are amended to read:

19 1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.--

20

21 (2) Effective January 1, 2008, a Florida Academic Scholar
 22 who is enrolled in a public postsecondary education institution
 23 is eligible for an award equal to the amount required to pay 80
 24 percent of tuition and ~~and~~ fees, and \$475 ~~an additional amount~~ for
 25 college-related expenses annually, or, if the student is
 26 pursuing a major in the field of science, technology,
 27 engineering, mathematics, education, or nursing or another
 28 health profession, he or she is eligible for an award equal to
the amount required to pay 110 percent of tuition and fees and

29 \$660 for college-related expenses annually ~~as specified in law~~
 30 ~~or the General Appropriations Act.~~ A student who is enrolled in
 31 a nonpublic postsecondary education institution is eligible for
 32 an award equal to the amount that would be required to pay 80
 33 percent of ~~for~~ the average tuition and fees of a public
 34 postsecondary education institution at the comparable level,
 35 plus \$475 for college-related expenses annually, or, if the
 36 student is pursuing a major in the field of science, technology,
 37 engineering, mathematics, education, or nursing or another
 38 health profession, he or she is eligible for an award equal to
 39 the amount required to pay 110 percent of the average tuition
 40 and fees of a public postsecondary education institution at the
 41 comparable level plus \$660 for college-related expenses annually
 42 ~~the annual amount specified in law or the General Appropriations~~
 43 ~~Act for college related expenses.~~

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

52 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 1009.535, Florida
 53 Statutes, is amended to read:

54 1009.535 Florida Medallion Scholars award.--

55 (2) A Florida Medallion Scholar is eligible for an award
 56 equal to the amount required to pay 55 ~~75~~ percent of tuition and

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57 | fees if the student is enrolled in a state university or a
58 | baccalaureate degree program authorized pursuant to s. 1007.33,
59 | or, if while so enrolled the student is pursuing a major in the
60 | field of science, technology, engineering, mathematics,
61 | education, or nursing or another health profession, he or she is
62 | eligible for an award equal to the amount required to pay 85
63 | percent of tuition and fees. A Florida Medallion Scholar is
64 | eligible for an award equal to the amount required to pay 80 ~~100~~
65 | percent of tuition and fees for college credit courses leading
66 | to an associate degree if the student is enrolled in a community
67 | college, or, if while so enrolled the student is pursuing a
68 | major in the field of science, technology, engineering,
69 | mathematics, education, or nursing or another health profession,
70 | he or she is eligible for an award equal to the amount required
71 | to pay 110 percent of tuition and fees for college credit
72 | courses leading to an associate degree. A student who is
73 | enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education institution is
74 | eligible for an award equal to the amount that would be required
75 | to pay 55 ~~75~~ percent of the tuition and fees of a public
76 | postsecondary education institution at the comparable level, or,
77 | if the student is pursuing a major in the field of science,
78 | technology, engineering, mathematics, education, or nursing or
79 | another health profession, he or she is eligible for an award
80 | equal to the amount that would be required to pay 85 percent of
81 | the tuition and fees of a public postsecondary education
82 | institution at the comparable level.

83 | Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 1009.536, Florida
84 | Statutes, is amended to read:

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

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

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