



439704

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FAV	.	
04/13/2010	.	
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The Committee on Higher Education (Aronberg) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 1009.705, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

1009.705 Talent and Economic Advancement Matching Grant
Program.—

(1) (a) The Talent and Economic Advancement Matching Grant
Program is established to provide businesses in this state with
incentives to partner with eligible postsecondary educational
institutions to expand access to higher education for residents



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13 of the state by providing grants to students who enroll in the
14 certificate or degree programs described in subsection (2). The
15 matching grant program shall be administered by the Department
16 of Education.

17 (b) For purposes of this section, the term "department"
18 means the Department of Education and the term "office" means
19 the Office of Student Financial Assistance.

20 (2) An institution that is licensed by the Commission for
21 Independent Education and accredited by a national or regional
22 accrediting agency or association recognized by the United
23 States Department of Education may partner with a business in
24 this state to provide grants to students who enroll in
25 postsecondary certificate or undergraduate degree programs
26 identified annually by the State Board of Education which
27 prepare students for careers in science, technology,
28 engineering, mathematics, allied health, or other high-skill,
29 high-wage occupations as identified on the final targeted
30 occupations lists published by Workforce Florida, Inc., and the
31 Agency for Workforce Innovation.

32 (3) (a) To the extent that matching funds are provided in
33 the General Appropriations Act for credit to the State Student
34 Financial Assistance Trust Fund as provided in s. 1010.73,
35 contributions by a business to an eligible postsecondary
36 institution to support the grants described in subsection (2)
37 may be eligible to be matched by the department on a dollar-for-
38 dollar basis.

39 (b) Participating institutions shall certify to the
40 department any contributions received from businesses to support
41 the grants described in subsection (2). Pledged contributions



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42 are not eligible for matching prior to the actual collection of
43 total funds. The institution shall certify the name of each
44 business that donates funds to the matching grant program, the
45 amount collected from the business, and the certificate or
46 degree program or programs for which the donated funds are
47 provided.

48 (4) (a) The department shall allocate to each eligible
49 institution an amount equal to the amount of private
50 contributions certified by that institution, not to exceed 25
51 percent of the total funds appropriated for the matching grant
52 program. Such funds shall be released to qualifying educational
53 institutions on a first-come, first-served basis upon receipt by
54 the department of the appropriated funds and the information
55 required in paragraph (3) (b). Funds that remain unallocated on
56 December 1 of each year shall be available for allocation to
57 eligible institutions with remaining certified private
58 contributions that have not been matched.

59 (b) Notwithstanding s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351,
60 any balance in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year
61 which has been allocated to the matching grant program shall
62 remain in the trust fund and shall be available for carrying out
63 the purposes of the matching grant program.

64 (c) The Chief Financial Officer shall authorize
65 expenditures from the trust fund upon receipt of vouchers
66 approved by the department.

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

69 (a) Meet the general eligibility requirements set forth in
70 s. 1009.40.



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71 (b) Enroll for a minimum of six credit hours per term, or
72 the equivalent, in an eligible institution in an undergraduate
73 degree or postsecondary certificate program that prepares
74 students for careers in science, technology, engineering,
75 mathematics, allied health, or other high-skill, high-wage
76 occupations as identified annually by the State Board of
77 Education pursuant to subsection (2).

78 (6) The award amount for a grant provided under this
79 section shall not exceed \$4,000 per year. If a participating
80 student is a veteran or the spouse or child of military
81 personnel on active duty, institutions participating in the
82 matching grant program must agree to provide additional support
83 to the student in the form of reduced tuition or fees or with
84 scholarships in addition to the amount the student is provided
85 by the grant. The award amount for the grant may not exceed the
86 institution's estimated annual cost of attendance for the
87 student.

88 (7) Each participating institution shall certify to the
89 office by the date established by the office the eligible
90 students to whom grant moneys are disbursed each academic term,
91 the eligible certificate or degree program in which each student
92 is enrolled, and the amount of funds disbursed to the student.
93 The institution shall remit to the office any undisbursed
94 amounts by June 1 of each year.

95 (8) Each participating institution shall report annually to
96 the office by the date specified by the department and in the
97 manner prescribed by the department the businesses participating
98 in the matching grant program, the eligible certificate or
99 degree programs for which each business provided contributions,



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100 the amount contributed, and any reductions in tuition and fees
101 granted to participating students by the institution. The office
102 shall provide a summary of the institutional reports to the
103 Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate,
104 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

105 (9) If an institution fails to comply with the requirements
106 in subsection (7), the institution is no longer eligible to
107 participate in the matching grant program.

108 (10) The State Board of Education shall adopt any rules
109 necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

110 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

111

112 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

113 And the title is amended as follows:

114 Delete everything before the enacting clause
115 and insert:

116 A bill to be entitled
117 An act relating to the Talent and Economic Advancement
118 Matching Grant Program; creating s. 1009.705, F.S.;
119 establishing the Talent and Economic Advancement
120 Matching Grant Program for certain purposes; providing
121 for administration of the program by the Department of
122 Education; providing definitions; authorizing
123 businesses to partner with certain institutions to
124 provide grants to students who enroll in certain
125 educational programs; authorizing the department to
126 match certain private contributions; requiring
127 participating institutions to certify to the
128 department contributions received by businesses for



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129 grant purposes; providing eligibility and
130 certification requirements; requiring the department
131 to allocate contributions to eligible institutions;
132 providing allocation requirements; providing
133 requirements for unallocated funds; providing duties
134 of the Chief Financial Officer; providing match
135 criteria; providing eligibility criteria for grant
136 recipients; providing criteria for award amounts;
137 providing limitations; providing certification
138 requirements for participating institutions; requiring
139 the return of undisbursed amounts to the Office of
140 Student Financial Assistance; providing reporting
141 requirements for participating institutions;
142 specifying institution participation ineligibility
143 criteria; requiring the State Board of Education to
144 adopt rules; providing an effective date.