

HB 1275

2015

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures
3 Scholarship Program; amending s. 1009.531, F.S.;
4 reducing the minimum SAT and ACT scores required for
5 certain students to be eligible for a Florida Academic
6 Scholars award and a Florida Medallion Scholars award;
7 amending ss. 1009.534 and 1009.535, F.S.; increasing
8 the minimum weighted grade point average required for
9 a student to be eligible for a Florida Academic
10 Scholars award and a Florida Medallion Scholars award;
11 providing an effective date.

12
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

14
15 Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (6) of
16 section 1009.531, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

17 1009.531 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;
18 student eligibility requirements for initial awards.—

19 (6) (a) The State Board of Education shall publicize the
20 examination score required for a student to be eligible for a
21 Florida Academic Scholars award, pursuant to s. 1009.534(1) (a)
22 or (b), as follows:

23 1. For high school students graduating in the 2010-2011
24 and 2011-2012 academic years, the student must earn an SAT score
25 of 1270 or a concordant ACT score of 28.

26 2. For high school students graduating in the 2012-2013

27 | academic year, the student must earn an SAT score of 1280 which
28 | corresponds to the 88th SAT percentile rank or a concordant ACT
29 | score of 28.

30 | 3. For high school students graduating in the 2013-2014
31 | academic year and thereafter, the student must earn an SAT score
32 | of 1280 ~~1290~~ which corresponds to the 88th ~~89th~~ SAT percentile
33 | rank or a concordant ACT score of 28 ~~29~~.

34 | (b) The State Board of Education shall publicize the
35 | examination score required for a student to be eligible for a
36 | Florida Medallion Scholars award, pursuant to s. 1009.535(1) (a)
37 | or (b), as follows:

38 | 1. For high school students graduating in the 2010-2011
39 | academic year, the student must earn an SAT score of 970 or a
40 | concordant ACT score of 20 or the student in a home education
41 | program whose parent cannot document a college-preparatory
42 | curriculum must earn an SAT score of 1070 or a concordant ACT
43 | score of 23.

44 | 2. For high school students graduating in the 2011-2012
45 | academic year, the student must earn an SAT score of 980 which
46 | corresponds to the 44th SAT percentile rank or a concordant ACT
47 | score of 21 or the student in a home education program whose
48 | parent cannot document a college-preparatory curriculum must
49 | earn an SAT score of 1070 or a concordant ACT score of 23.

50 | 3. For high school students graduating in the 2012-2013
51 | academic year, the student must earn an SAT score of 1020 which
52 | corresponds to the 51st SAT percentile rank or a concordant ACT

53 score of 22 or the student in a home education program whose
 54 parent cannot document a college-preparatory curriculum must
 55 earn an SAT score of 1070 or a concordant ACT score of 23.

56 4. For high school students graduating in the 2013-2014
 57 academic year and thereafter, the student must earn an SAT score
 58 of 1050 ~~1170~~ which corresponds to the 57th ~~75th~~ SAT percentile
 59 rank or a concordant ACT score of 23 ~~26~~ or the student in a home
 60 education program whose parent cannot document a college-
 61 preparatory curriculum must earn an SAT score of 1100 ~~1220~~ or a
 62 concordant ACT score of 24 ~~27~~.

63 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 1009.534, Florida
 64 Statutes, is amended to read:

65 1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.—

66 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars
 67 award if the student meets the general eligibility requirements
 68 for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and the
 69 student:

70 (a) Has achieved a 3.7 ~~3.5~~ weighted grade point average as
 71 calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or its equivalent, in high
 72 school courses that are designated by the State Board of
 73 Education as college-preparatory academic courses; and has
 74 attained at least the score pursuant to s. 1009.531(6)(a) on the
 75 combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic
 76 Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered
 77 Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination,
 78 or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

79 (b) Has attended a home education program according to s.
80 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12 or has completed the
81 International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the
82 International Baccalaureate Diploma or has completed the
83 Advanced International Certificate of Education curriculum but
84 failed to earn the Advanced International Certificate of
85 Education Diploma, and has attained at least the score pursuant
86 to s. 1009.531(6) (a) on the combined verbal and quantitative
87 parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment
88 Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the
89 College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT
90 Assessment Program;

91 (c) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate
92 Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office or an
93 Advanced International Certificate of Education Diploma from the
94 University of Cambridge International Examinations Office;

95 (d) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement
96 programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a
97 scholar or finalist; or

98 (e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic
99 Recognition Program as a scholar recipient.

100
101 A student must complete a program of community service work, as
102 approved by the district school board, the administrators of a
103 nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home
104 education program students, which shall include a minimum of 75

105 hours of service work for high school students graduating in the
106 2010-2011 academic year and 100 hours of service work for high
107 school students graduating in the 2011-2012 academic year and
108 thereafter, and must identify a social problem that interests
109 him or her, develop a plan for his or her personal involvement
110 in addressing the problem, and, through papers or other
111 presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.

112 Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 1009.535, Florida
113 Statutes, is amended to read:

114 1009.535 Florida Medallion Scholars award.—

115 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Medallion Scholars
116 award if the student meets the general eligibility requirements
117 for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and the
118 student:

119 (a) Has achieved a weighted grade point average of 3.3 ~~3.0~~
120 as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or the equivalent, in
121 high school courses that are designated by the State Board of
122 Education as college-preparatory academic courses; and has
123 attained at least the score pursuant to s. 1009.531(6)(b) on the
124 combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic
125 Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered
126 Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination,
127 or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

128 (b) Has completed the International Baccalaureate
129 curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate
130 Diploma or has completed the Advanced International Certificate

131 of Education curriculum but failed to earn the Advanced
132 International Certificate of Education Diploma, and has attained
133 at least the score pursuant to s. 1009.531(6)(b) on the combined
134 verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test,
135 the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic
136 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an
137 equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

138 (c) Has attended a home education program according to s.
139 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12 and has attained at least the
140 score pursuant to s. 1009.531(6)(b) on the combined verbal and
141 quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the
142 Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic
143 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an
144 equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program, if the student's
145 parent cannot document a college-preparatory curriculum as
146 described in paragraph (a);

147 (d) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement
148 program of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a
149 scholar or finalist but has not completed a program of community
150 service as provided in s. 1009.534; or

151 (e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic
152 Recognition Program as a scholar, but has not completed a
153 program of community service as provided in s. 1009.534.

154

155 A high school student graduating in the 2011-2012 academic year
156 and thereafter must complete a program of community service work

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157 approved by the district school board, the administrators of a
158 nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home
159 education program students, which shall include a minimum of 75
160 hours of service work, and must identify a social problem that
161 interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her personal
162 involvement in addressing the problem, and, through papers or
163 other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her
164 experience.

165 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.