



835856

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/02/2015	.	
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The Committee on Fiscal Policy (Legg) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) and paragraphs
(a) and (b) of subsection (6) of section 1009.531, Florida
Statutes, are amended to read:

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

(2)

(c) A student graduating from high school in the 2012-2013



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12 academic year and thereafter is eligible to accept an initial
13 award for 2 years following high school graduation and to accept
14 a renewal award for 5 years following high school graduation. A
15 student who applies for an award by high school graduation and
16 who meets all other eligibility requirements, but who does not
17 accept his or her award, may reapply during subsequent
18 application periods up to 2 years after high school graduation.
19 For a student who enlists in the United States Armed Forces
20 immediately after completion of high school, the 2-year
21 eligibility period for his or her initial award and the 5-year
22 renewal period shall begin upon the date of separation from
23 active duty. For a student who is receiving a Florida Bright
24 Futures Scholarship award and discontinues his or her education
25 to enlist in the United States Armed Forces, the remainder of
26 his or her 5-year renewal period shall commence upon the date of
27 separation from active duty. For a student who is unable to
28 accept an initial award immediately after completion of high
29 school due to a full-time religious or service obligation
30 lasting at least 18 months, the 2-year eligibility period for
31 his or her initial award and the 5-year renewal period begin
32 upon the completion of his or her religious or service
33 obligation. The organization sponsoring the full-time religious
34 or service obligation must meet the requirements for nonprofit
35 status under s. 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or be a
36 federal government service organization that includes, but is
37 not limited to, the Peace Corps and AmeriCorps programs. The
38 obligation must be documented in writing and verified by the
39 entity for which the student completed the obligation on a
40 standardized form prescribed by the department. If a course of



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41 study is not completed after 5 academic years, an exception of 1
42 year to the renewal timeframe may be granted due to a verifiable
43 illness or other documented emergency pursuant to s.

44 1009.40(1)(b)4.

45 (6)(a) The State Board of Education shall publicize the
46 examination score required for a student to be eligible for a
47 Florida Academic Scholars award, pursuant to s. 1009.534(1)(a)
48 or (b), ~~as follows:~~

49 ~~1. For high school students graduating in the 2010-2011 and~~
50 ~~2011-2012 academic years, the student must earn an SAT score of~~
51 ~~1270 or a concordant ACT score of 28.~~

52 ~~2. For high school students graduating in the 2012-2013~~
53 ~~academic year, the student must earn an SAT score of 1280 which~~
54 ~~corresponds to the 88th SAT percentile rank or a concordant ACT~~
55 ~~score of 28.~~

56 ~~3. For High school students graduating in the 2013-2014~~
57 ~~academic year and thereafter, the student must earn an SAT score~~
58 ~~of 1290 which corresponds to the 89th SAT percentile rank or a~~
59 ~~concordant ACT score of 29.~~

60 (b) The State Board of Education shall publicize the
61 examination score required for a student to be eligible for a
62 Florida Medallion Scholars award, pursuant to s. 1009.535(1)(a)
63 or (b), ~~as follows:~~

64 ~~1. For high school students graduating in the 2010-2011~~
65 ~~academic year, the student must earn an SAT score of 970 or a~~
66 ~~concordant ACT score of 20 or the student in a home education~~
67 ~~program whose parent cannot document a college-preparatory~~
68 ~~curriculum must earn an SAT score of 1070 or a concordant ACT~~
69 ~~score of 23.~~



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70 ~~2. For high school students graduating in the 2011-2012~~
71 ~~academic year, the student must earn an SAT score of 980 which~~
72 ~~corresponds to the 44th SAT percentile rank or a concordant ACT~~
73 ~~score of 21 or the student in a home education program whose~~
74 ~~parent cannot document a college-preparatory curriculum must~~
75 ~~earn an SAT score of 1070 or a concordant ACT score of 23.~~

76 ~~3. For high school students graduating in the 2012-2013~~
77 ~~academic year, the student must earn an SAT score of 1020 which~~
78 ~~corresponds to the 51st SAT percentile rank or a concordant ACT~~
79 ~~score of 22 or the student in a home education program whose~~
80 ~~parent cannot document a college-preparatory curriculum must~~
81 ~~earn an SAT score of 1070 or a concordant ACT score of 23.~~

82 ~~4. For High school students graduating in the 2013-2014~~
83 ~~academic year and thereafter, the student must earn an SAT score~~
84 ~~of 1170 which corresponds to the 75th SAT percentile rank or a~~
85 ~~concordant ACT score of 26 or the student in a home education~~
86 ~~program whose parent cannot document a college-preparatory~~
87 ~~curriculum must earn an SAT score of 1220 or a concordant ACT~~
88 ~~score of 27.~~

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

91 1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.—

92 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars
93 award if he or she ~~the student~~ meets the general eligibility
94 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
95 and ~~the student~~:

96 (a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted grade point average as
97 calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or its equivalent, in high
98 school courses that are designated by the State Board of



99 Education as college-preparatory academic courses~~+~~ and has
100 attained at least the score required under ~~pursuant to~~ s.
101 1009.531(6) (a) on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of
102 the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or
103 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College
104 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT
105 Assessment Program;

106 (b) Has attended a home education program according to s.
107 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12, ~~or~~ has completed the
108 International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the
109 International Baccalaureate Diploma, or has completed the
110 Advanced International Certificate of Education curriculum but
111 failed to earn the Advanced International Certificate of
112 Education Diploma, and has attained at least the score required
113 under ~~pursuant to~~ s. 1009.531(6) (a) on the combined verbal and
114 quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the
115 Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic
116 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an
117 equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

118 (c) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma
119 from the International Baccalaureate Office or an Advanced
120 International Certificate of Education Diploma from the
121 University of Cambridge International Examinations Office;

122 (d) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement
123 programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a
124 scholar or finalist; or

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

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128 The ~~A~~ student must complete a program of volunteer ~~community~~
129 service work, as approved by the district school board, the
130 administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of
131 Education for home education program students, which must ~~shall~~
132 include a minimum of 75 hours of service work for high school
133 students graduating in the 2010-2011 academic year and 100 hours
134 of service work for high school students graduating in the 2011-
135 2012 academic year and thereafter. The student, ~~and~~ must
136 identify a social or civic issue or a professional area ~~problem~~
137 that interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her
138 personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about
139 the area ~~problem~~, and, through papers or other presentations,
140 evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience. Except for
141 credit earned through service-learning courses adopted pursuant
142 to s. 1003.497, the student may not receive remuneration or
143 academic credit for the volunteer service work performed. Such
144 work may include, but is not limited to, a business or
145 government internship, work for a nonprofit community service
146 organization, or activity on behalf of a candidate for public
147 office. The hours of volunteer service must be documented in
148 writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the
149 student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the
150 organization for which the student performed the volunteer
151 service work.

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

154 1009.535 Florida Medallion Scholars award.—

155 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Medallion Scholars
156 award if he or she ~~the student~~ meets the general eligibility



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157 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
158 and ~~the student~~:

159 (a) Has achieved a weighted grade point average of 3.0 as
160 calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or the equivalent, in high
161 school courses that are designated by the State Board of
162 Education as college-preparatory academic courses; and has
163 attained at least the score required under ~~pursuant to~~ s.
164 1009.531(6) (b) on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of
165 the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or
166 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College
167 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT
168 Assessment Program;

169 (b) Has completed the International Baccalaureate
170 curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate
171 Diploma or has completed the Advanced International Certificate
172 of Education curriculum but failed to earn the Advanced
173 International Certificate of Education Diploma, and has attained
174 at least the score required under ~~pursuant to~~ s. 1009.531(6) (b)
175 on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic
176 Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered
177 Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination,
178 or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

179 (c) Has attended a home education program according to s.
180 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12 and has attained at least the
181 score required under ~~pursuant to~~ s. 1009.531(6) (b) on the
182 combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic
183 Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered
184 Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination,
185 or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program, if the



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186 student's parent cannot document a college-preparatory
187 curriculum as described in paragraph (a);

188 (d) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement program
189 of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a scholar or
190 finalist but has not completed the a program of volunteer
191 community service work required under as provided in s.
192 1009.534; or

193 (e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic
194 Recognition Program as a scholar, but has not completed the a
195 program of volunteer community service work required under as
196 provided in s. 1009.534.

197
198 A high school student graduating in the 2011-2012 academic year
199 and thereafter must complete at least 75 hours a program of
200 volunteer community service work approved by the district school
201 board, the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the
202 Department of Education for home education program students. The
203 student, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of service
204 work, and must identify a social or civic issue or a
205 professional area problem that interests him or her, develop a
206 plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the issue
207 or learning about the area problem, and, through papers or other
208 presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.
209 Except for credit earned through service-learning courses
210 adopted pursuant to s. 1003.497, the student may not receive
211 remuneration or academic credit for volunteer service work
212 performed. Such work may include, but is not limited to, a
213 business or government internship, work for a nonprofit
214 community service organization, or activity on behalf of a



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215 candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer service must
216 be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the
217 student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative
218 of the organization for which the student performed the
219 volunteer service work.

220 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 1009.536, Florida
221 Statutes, is amended to read:

222 1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award.—The
223 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award is created within
224 the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to recognize and
225 reward academic achievement and career preparation by high
226 school students who wish to continue their education.

227 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal
228 Vocational Scholars award if he or she ~~the student~~ meets the
229 general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures
230 Scholarship Program and ~~the student~~:

231 (a) Completes the secondary school portion of a sequential
232 program of studies that requires at least three secondary school
233 career credits. On-the-job training may not be substituted for
234 any of the three required career credits.

235 (b) Demonstrates readiness for postsecondary education by
236 earning a passing score on the Florida College Entry Level
237 Placement Test or its equivalent as identified by the Department
238 of Education.

239 (c) Earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average
240 of 3.0, as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, on all subjects
241 required for a standard high school diploma, excluding elective
242 courses.

243 (d) Earns a minimum unweighted grade point average of 3.5



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244 on a 4.0 scale for secondary career courses that comprise
245 ~~comprising~~ the career program.

246 (e) Beginning with high school students graduating in the
247 2011-2012 academic year and thereafter, completes at least 30
248 hours a program of volunteer community service work approved by
249 the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic
250 school, or the Department of Education for home education
251 program students. The student must identify, which shall include
252 a minimum of 30 hours of service work, and identifies a social
253 or civic issue or a professional area problem that interests him
254 or her, develop ~~develops~~ a plan for his or her personal
255 involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area
256 problem, and, through papers or other presentations, evaluate
257 ~~evaluates~~ and reflect ~~reflects~~ upon his or her experience.
258 Except for credit earned through service-learning courses
259 adopted pursuant to s. 1003.497, the student may not receive
260 remuneration or academic credit for the volunteer service work
261 performed. Such work may include, but is not limited to, a
262 business or government internship, work for a nonprofit
263 community service organization, or activity on behalf of a
264 candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer service must
265 be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the
266 student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative
267 of the organization for which the student performed the
268 volunteer service work.

269 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

270
271 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

272 And the title is amended as follows:



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273 Delete everything before the enacting clause
274 and insert:

275 A bill to be entitled
276 An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures
277 Scholarship Program; amending s. 1009.531, F.S.;
278 providing that the initial award period and the
279 renewal period for students who are unable to accept
280 an initial award immediately after completion of high
281 school due to a full-time religious or service
282 obligation begin upon the completion of the religious
283 or service obligation; specifying requirements for an
284 entity that is sponsoring the obligation; requiring
285 verification from the entity for which the student
286 completed such obligation; revising eligibility
287 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures
288 Scholarship Program; deleting obsolete provisions;
289 amending ss. 1009.534, 1009.535, and 1009.536, F.S.;
290 requiring a student, as a prerequisite for the Florida
291 Academic Scholars award, the Florida Medallion
292 Scholars award, or the Florida Gold Seal Vocational
293 Scholars award, to identify a social or civic issue or
294 a professional area of interest and develop a plan for
295 his or her personal involvement in addressing the
296 issue or learning about the area; prohibiting the
297 student from receiving remuneration or academic credit
298 for the volunteer service work performed except in
299 certain circumstances; requiring the hours of
300 volunteer service work to be documented in writing and
301 signed by the student, the student's parent or



302 guardian, and a representative of the organization for
303 which the student performed the volunteer service
304 work; providing an effective date.