

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to postsecondary education for certain
 3 military personnel; amending s. 1004.096, F.S.;
 4 requiring the Board of Governors and State Board of
 5 Education to create a uniform system for the award of
 6 postsecondary college credit to certain servicemembers
 7 and veterans of the United States military; providing
 8 the requirements for such uniform system; requiring
 9 public postsecondary institutions to participate in
 10 the uniform system; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.;
 11 requiring specified postsecondary institutions to
 12 waive the transcript fee for active duty members of
 13 the Armed Forces of the United States and certain
 14 veterans; providing an effective date.

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16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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18 Section 1. Section 1004.096, Florida Statutes, is amended
 19 to read:

20 1004.096 College credit for military experience and
 21 training and education courses.-

22 (1) In consultation with the Chancellors of the State
 23 University System and the Florida College System, the Board of
 24 Governors shall adopt regulations and the State Board of
 25 Education shall adopt rules that create a uniform system that

26 | enables ~~enable~~ eligible servicemembers or veterans of the United
 27 | States Armed Forces to earn academic college credit at public
 28 | postsecondary educational institutions for experience and
 29 | college-level training and education acquired in the military.

30 | (2) The regulations and rules shall include, but are not
 31 | limited to:

32 | (a) Procedures for the ~~credential~~ evaluation of military
 33 | credentials and experience and the award of academic college
 34 | credit based on such credentials and experience, including, but
 35 | not limited to, equivalency and alignment of military coursework
 36 | and experience with appropriate college courses and, course
 37 | descriptions.

38 | (b)1. A list of courses for which academic college credit
 39 | shall be awarded for specified military credentials and
 40 | experience. Academic college credit must be offered for required
 41 | coursework based on military credentials and experience, when
 42 | appropriate.

43 | 2. The State Board of Education and Board of Governors
 44 | must use the American Council on Education's "Guide to the
 45 | Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services," or
 46 | a similar resource if such guide is discontinued, when
 47 | determining what military credentials and experience shall be
 48 | applied toward the award of academic college credit, ~~type and~~
 49 | ~~amount of college credit that may be awarded, and transfer of~~
 50 | ~~credit.~~

51 (c) A policy for the mandatory transfer of academic
52 college credits awarded pursuant to this section between public
53 postsecondary educational institutions.

54 (d) The minimum number of academic college credits each
55 public postsecondary educational institution must offer for
56 qualifying military credentials and experience; however, a
57 public postsecondary educational institution may offer
58 additional academic credits for such credentials and experience,
59 when appropriate.

60 (3) Each public postsecondary educational institution must
61 participate in the uniform system created under this section.

62 Section 2. Subsection (16) is added to section 1009.26,
63 Florida Statutes, to read:

64 1009.26 Fee waivers.—

65 (16) (a) A state university, Florida College System
66 institution, career center operated by a school district under
67 s. 1001.44, or charter technical career center shall waive the
68 transcript fee for a person who is an active duty member of the
69 Armed Forces of the United States or an honorably discharged
70 veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States.

71 (b) Each state university, Florida College System
72 institution, career center operated by a school district under
73 s. 1001.44, and charter technical career center shall report to
74 the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education,
75 respectively, the number and value of fee waivers granted

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76 | annually under this subsection.

77 | (c) The Board of Governors and the State Board of
78 | Education shall respectively adopt regulations and rules to
79 | administer this subsection.

80 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.