



214326

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
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Floor: 1/AD/2R	.	Floor: C
04/26/2021 04:47 PM	.	04/28/2021 07:09 PM
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Senator Gruters moved the following:

**Senate Amendment (with directory and title amendments)**

Between lines 253 and 254

insert:

(19) The State University Free Seat Program is created to encourage veterans, active duty members of the United States Armed Forces, active drilling members of the Florida National Guard, and nontraditional students to enroll in an online baccalaureate degree program at a state university. Fee waivers granted pursuant to this subsection may not exceed 1,000 students systemwide each academic year.



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12           (a) A state university shall waive the tuition and fees for  
13 one online course for a student who is a resident for tuition  
14 purposes under s. 1009.21, has not previously earned a  
15 bachelor's degree, and is enrolled in an online baccalaureate  
16 degree program, provided the student meets one of the following  
17 eligibility requirements:

18           1. Is a veteran as defined in s. 1.01(14);

19           2. Is an active duty member of the United States Armed  
20 Forces;

21           3. Is an active drilling member of the Florida National  
22 Guard; or

23           4. Has not been enrolled in a postsecondary institution for  
24 more than 5 years.

25           (b) For all other courses in the program, a state  
26 university may not charge a student described in paragraph (a)  
27 more than 75 percent of the tuition rate as specified in s.  
28 1009.24(4) and 75 percent of the tuition differential pursuant  
29 to s. 1009.24(16), if the student remains enrolled at least  
30 part-time in the program during each academic year.

31           (c) A student who qualifies for the tuition discount under  
32 paragraph (b) is eligible to receive the discount for up to 110  
33 percent of the number of required credit hours of the degree  
34 program for which the student is enrolled.

35           (d) Each state university shall report annually to the  
36 Board of Governors the number and value of all fee waivers  
37 granted under this subsection during the previous 12-month  
38 period.

39           (e) The Board of Governors shall adopt regulations to  
40 administer this subsection.



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41 (20) (a) Beginning with the 2022-2023 academic year, a state  
42 university shall waive the out-of-state fee for a student who:

43 1. Has a grandparent who is a legal resident as defined in  
44 s. 1009.21(1). For purposes of this subsection, the term  
45 "grandparent" means a person who has a legal relationship to a  
46 student's parent as the natural or adoptive parent or legal  
47 guardian of the student's parent.

48 2. Earns a high school diploma comparable to a Florida  
49 standard high school diploma, or its equivalent, or completes a  
50 home education program.

51 3.a. Achieves an SAT combined score no lower than the 89th  
52 national percentile on the SAT;

53 b. Achieves an ACT score concordant to the required SAT  
54 score in sub-subparagraph a., using the latest published  
55 national concordance table developed jointly by the College  
56 Board and ACT, Inc.; or

57 c. If a state university accepts the Classic Learning Test  
58 (CLT) for admission purposes, achieves a CLT score concordant to  
59 the required SAT score specified in sub-subparagraph a., using  
60 the latest published scoring comparison developed by Classic  
61 Learning Initiatives.

62 4. Beginning with students who initially enroll in the 2022  
63 fall academic term and thereafter, enrolls as a full-time  
64 undergraduate student at a state university in the fall academic  
65 term immediately following high school graduation.

66 (b) The waiver under this subsection is applicable for up  
67 to 110 percent of the number of required credit hours of the  
68 degree program for which the student is enrolled.

69 (c) Before waiving the out-of-state fee, the state



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70 university shall require the student or the student's parent, if  
71 the student is a dependent child, to provide a written  
72 declaration pursuant to s. 92.525(2) attesting to the student's  
73 familial relationship to a grandparent who is a legal resident  
74 and any other corroborating documentation required by regulation  
75 of the Board of Governors. A state university is not required to  
76 independently verify the statements contained in each  
77 declaration if the signatory declares it to be true under the  
78 penalties of perjury as required by s. 92.525(2). However, the  
79 state university may refer any signed declaration suspected of  
80 containing fraudulent representations to law enforcement.

81 (d) Each state university annually shall report to the  
82 Board of Governors the number and value of all fee waivers  
83 granted under this subsection during the previous 12-month  
84 period.

85 (e) Beginning with students who initially enroll for the  
86 2022-2023 academic year or thereafter, a state university shall,  
87 within the nonresident student enrollment systemwide, prioritize  
88 the enrollment of a student who is granted a fee waiver under  
89 this subsection over an out-of-state student who is not eligible  
90 for an out-of-state fee waiver if the students have  
91 substantially similar academic and other credentials used in  
92 determining admission to the state university.

93 (f) Fee waivers granted pursuant to this subsection may not  
94 exceed 350 students systemwide each academic year.

95 (g) The Board of Governors shall adopt regulations to  
96 administer this subsection.

97  
98 ===== D I R E C T O R Y C L A U S E A M E N D M E N T =====



99 And the directory clause is amended as follows:  
100 Delete line 216  
101 and insert:  
102 Section 4. Subsections (18), (19), and (20) are added to  
103 section 1009.26,

104  
105 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

106 And the title is amended as follows:  
107 Delete line 42  
108 and insert:  
109 regulations; creating the State University Free Seat  
110 Program; providing a purpose; providing a limitation  
111 on fee waivers under the program; providing an  
112 exemption from tuition and fees for one online course  
113 at a state university for certain resident students;  
114 prohibiting a state university from charging such  
115 students more than a specified percentage of the  
116 tuition rate and the tuition differential under  
117 certain circumstances; providing a limitation on the  
118 application of such tuition discount; requiring each  
119 state university to annually report to the Board of  
120 Governors certain information regarding waivers under  
121 the program; requiring the board to adopt regulations;  
122 requiring a state university to waive the out-of-state  
123 fee for a nonresident student who meets certain  
124 requirements; defining the term "grandparent";  
125 providing applicability; requiring a student or his or  
126 her parent to provide specified documentation before a  
127 state university waives the out-of-state fee;



128 providing that a state university is not required to  
129 independently verify certain statements; authorizing  
130 the state university to refer specified documentation  
131 to law enforcement under certain circumstances;  
132 requiring each state university to annually report to  
133 the Board of Governors specified information regarding  
134 such out-of-state fee waivers; requiring a state  
135 university, within the nonresident student enrollment  
136 systemwide, to prioritize the enrollment of a student  
137 granted such fee waiver over a certain out-of-state  
138 student under certain conditions; providing a  
139 limitation on the number of fee waivers granted per  
140 academic year; requiring the Board of Governors to  
141 adopt regulations; amending s. 1009.40, F.S.;  
142 conforming