

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Florida Postsecondary Student
 3 Assistance Grant Program; amending s. 1009.52, F.S.;
 4 expanding eligibility for the Florida Postsecondary
 5 Student Assistance Grant Program to certain students
 6 accepted at a competency-based, nonprofit virtual
 7 postsecondary institution that meets specified
 8 criteria; providing an effective date.

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

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 12 Section 1. Paragraphs (b) through (f) of subsection (2) of
 13 section 1009.52, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 14 paragraphs (c) through (g), respectively, present paragraph (c)
 15 is amended, and a new paragraph (b) is added to that subsection,
 16 to read:

17 1009.52 Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant
 18 Program; eligibility for grants.—

19 (2) Florida postsecondary student assistance grants may be
 20 made to students who meet the general requirements for student
 21 eligibility as provided in s. 1009.40, except as otherwise
 22 provided in this section. Such grants shall be awarded for the
 23 amount of demonstrated unmet need for tuition and fees and may
 24 not exceed the maximum annual award amount specified in the
 25 General Appropriations Act. A demonstrated unmet need of less

26 | than \$200 shall render the applicant ineligible for a Florida
27 | postsecondary student assistance grant.

28 | (b) Awards may be made to full-time degree-seeking
29 | students who have been accepted to a competency-based, nonprofit
30 | virtual postsecondary institution that is accredited by a member
31 | of the Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions, was created
32 | by the governors of several states, and which employs a Florida
33 | chancellor responsible for state and local workforce
34 | coordination and financial aid reporting to the department.

35 | (d)-(e) If funds are available, a student who received an
36 | award in the fall or spring term may receive an award in the
37 | summer term. Priority in the distribution of summer awards shall
38 | be given to students who are within one semester, or equivalent,
39 | of completing a degree or certificate program. No student may
40 | receive an award for more than the equivalent of 9 semesters or
41 | 14 quarters of full-time enrollment, except as otherwise
42 | provided in s. 1009.40 (3). A student specified in paragraph (c)
43 | ~~(b)~~ is eligible for an award of up to 110 percent of the number
44 | of clock hours required to complete the program in which the
45 | student is enrolled.

46 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.