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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/25/2023	.	
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The Committee on Appropriations (Simon) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 1009.521, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

1009.521 Educational grants to former eligible tuition
assistance grant students.—

(1)(a) The department shall issue a grant pursuant to s.
1009.89 to any full-time degree-seeking undergraduate student



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11 who meets the requirements of s. 1009.89(4) (a) and (b)1. and is
12 registered at an independent nonprofit university that, as of
13 January 1, 2021, was eligible for the Access to Better Learning
14 and Education Grant Program, as created by former s. 1009.891,
15 if such university has been located in this state for more than
16 20 years; offers nursing programs at its Florida campus which
17 include licensed practical nurse (LPN), registered nurse (RN),
18 including associate of science in nursing (ASN) and bachelor of
19 science in nursing (BSN), accelerated BSN, practical nurse
20 bridge to ASN, and practical nurse bridge to BSN; and is
21 accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

22 (b) The department shall issue a grant pursuant to s.
23 1009.89 to any full-time degree-seeking undergraduate student
24 who meets the requirements of s. 1009.89(4) (a) and (b)1. and is
25 registered at an independent for-profit college or university
26 located in and chartered by this state, accredited by an
27 accrediting agency or association recognized by the database
28 created and maintained by the United States Department of
29 Education, was licensed by the department on or before October
30 1, 2021, and has Level 6 accreditation from the Commission on
31 Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

32 (2) An institution that meets the criteria specified in
33 paragraph (1) (a) or paragraph (1) (b) may not be a state
34 university or Florida College System institution. In addition,
35 the institution must have a secular purpose, and the receipt of
36 state aid by students at the institution may not have the
37 primary effect of advancing or impeding religion or result in an
38 excessive entanglement between the state and any religious sect.

39 (3) To qualify for funding under this section, an



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40 institution must exercise a one-time option to participate by
41 notifying the department, in writing, of its decision to
42 participate on or before September 1, 2023, and must comply with
43 s. 1009.89(5)(a)-(c).

44 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
45 1009.40, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

46 (1)(a) The general requirements for eligibility of students
47 for state financial aid awards and tuition assistance grants
48 consist of the following:

49 1. Achievement of the academic requirements of and
50 acceptance at a state university or Florida College System
51 institution; a nursing diploma school approved by the Florida
52 Board of Nursing; a Florida college or university which is
53 accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the State
54 Board of Education; a Florida institution the credits of which
55 are acceptable for transfer to state universities; a career
56 center; or a private career institution accredited by an
57 accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of Education.

58 2. Residency in this state for no less than 1 year
59 preceding the award of aid or a tuition assistance grant for a
60 program established pursuant to s. 1009.50, s. 1009.505, s.
61 1009.51, s. 1009.52, s. 1009.521, s. 1009.53, s. 1009.60, s.
62 1009.62, s. 1009.72, s. 1009.73, s. 1009.75, s. 1009.77, s.
63 1009.89, or s. 1009.894. Residency in this state must be for
64 purposes other than to obtain an education. Resident status for
65 purposes of receiving state financial aid awards shall be
66 determined in the same manner as resident status for tuition
67 purposes pursuant to s. 1009.21.

68 3. Submission of certification attesting to the accuracy,



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69 completeness, and correctness of information provided to
70 demonstrate a student's eligibility to receive state financial
71 aid awards or tuition assistance grants. Falsification of such
72 information shall result in the denial of a pending application
73 and revocation of an award or grant currently held to the extent
74 that no further payments shall be made. Additionally, students
75 who knowingly make false statements in order to receive state
76 financial aid awards or tuition assistance grants commit a
77 misdemeanor of the second degree subject to the provisions of s.
78 837.06 and shall be required to return all state financial aid
79 awards or tuition assistance grants wrongfully obtained.

80 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

81
82 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

83 And the title is amended as follows:

84 Delete everything before the enacting clause
85 and insert:

86 A bill to be entitled
87 An act relating to educational grants; creating s.
88 1009.521, F.S.; providing education grants under the
89 William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student
90 Education Grant Program to certain students who were
91 eligible as of a specified date to receive grants
92 under the former Access to Better Learning and
93 Education Grant Program; providing education grants to
94 eligible students at for-profit colleges or
95 universities under certain conditions; prescribing
96 criteria for participating institutions; requiring
97 that institutions that wish to participate provide



98 notice to the Department of Education by a certain
99 date; requiring that such institutions comply with
100 specified provision; amending s. 1009.40, F.S.; adding
101 a cross reference to the eligibility requirement for
102 residency; providing an effective date.