

By Senator Ingoglia

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to education; amending s. 1007.2616,  
3       F.S.; requiring high schools to offer certain computer  
4       science courses; requiring such courses to satisfy  
5       specified instruction requirements; requiring Florida  
6       College System institutions and state universities to  
7       recognize credits from such courses as foreign  
8       language credits; requiring such courses to be  
9       included in the Course Code Directory; amending s.  
10      1009.53, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made  
11     by the act; requiring the Department of Education to  
12     include specified information in an annual  
13     notification to certain individuals; amending s.  
14     1009.532, F.S.; beginning in a specified academic  
15     year, authorizing students who earn a Florida Gold  
16     Seal Vocational Scholars award to enroll in certain  
17     programs; amending s. 1009.533, F.S.; providing that  
18     entities that operate apprenticeship programs are  
19     considered a postsecondary education institution  
20     eligible for participation in the program; amending  
21     ss. 1009.534 and 1009.535, F.S.; authorizing students  
22     to use a combination of volunteer service hours and  
23     paid work hours to meet certain program eligibility  
24     requirements; providing that paid work hours completed  
25     on or after a specified date shall be used to meet  
26     certain program eligibility requirements; amending s.  
27     1009.536, F.S.; authorizing the department to identify  
28     aptitude tests students may use to demonstrate  
29     readiness for postsecondary education for specified

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

30 purposes; authorizing students to use a combination of  
31 volunteer service hours and paid work hours to meet  
32 certain program eligibility requirements; providing  
33 that paid work hours completed on or after a specified  
34 date shall be used to meet certain program eligibility  
35 requirements; authorizing students who earn a Florida  
36 Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award to enroll in  
37 certain programs; providing an effective date.

38  
39 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

40  
41 Section 1. Present subsections (7) and (8) of section  
42 1007.2616, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (8)  
43 and (9), respectively, and a new subsection (7) is added to that  
44 section, to read:

45 1007.2616 Computer science and technology instruction.—

46 (7) High schools must provide students opportunities to  
47 take computer science courses of sufficient rigor, as identified  
48 by the commissioner, such that two credits in such courses and  
49 the earning of a related industry certification or technical  
50 certificate satisfies two credits of sequential foreign language  
51 instruction. Florida College System institutions and state  
52 universities must recognize the credits as foreign language  
53 credits. Computer science courses identified by the commissioner  
54 and computer science courses taken to earn the related industry  
55 certification or technical certificate shall be included in the  
56 Course Code Directory.

57 Section 2. Subsections (1), (3), and (6) of section  
58 1009.53, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

59 1009.53 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.—

60 (1) The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program is  
61 created to establish a lottery-funded scholarship program to  
62 reward any Florida high school graduate who merits recognition  
63 of high academic achievement and who enrolls in a degree  
64 program, certificate program, ~~or~~ applied technology program, or  
65 apprenticeship program, as defined in s. 446.021(6), at an  
66 eligible Florida public or private postsecondary education  
67 institution.

68 (3) The Department of Education shall administer the Bright  
69 Futures Scholarship Program according to rules and procedures  
70 established by the State Board of Education. A single  
71 application must be sufficient for a student to apply for any of  
72 the awards. The department shall advertise the availability of  
73 the scholarship program and shall notify students, teachers,  
74 parents, certified school counselors, and principals or other  
75 relevant school administrators of the criteria and application  
76 procedures. The notification must also include a list of  
77 approved apprenticeship programs, eligible postsecondary  
78 educational institutions, high-demand jobs and critical skill  
79 sets in the state, and a wage breakdown of jobs in the state.

80 The department must begin this process of notification no later  
81 than January 1 of each year beginning with a student's freshman  
82 year.

83 (6) A student enrolled in 6 to 8 semester credit hours or  
84 the equivalent clock hours may receive up to one-half of the  
85 maximum award; a student enrolled in 9 to 11 credit hours or the  
86 equivalent clock hours may receive up to three-fourths of the  
87 maximum award; and a student enrolled in 12 or more credit hours

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

88 or the equivalent clock hours may receive up to the full award.

89 Section 3. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1),  
90 subsection (2), and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
91 1009.532, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

92 1009.532 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;  
93 student eligibility requirements for renewal awards.—

94 (1) To be eligible to renew a scholarship from any of the  
95 scholarships under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship  
96 Program, a student must:

97 (a) Effective for students funded in the 2009-2010 academic  
98 year and thereafter, earn at least 24 semester credit hours or  
99 the equivalent clock hours in the last academic year in which  
100 the student earned a scholarship if the student was enrolled  
101 full time, or a prorated number of credit hours or clock hours  
102 as determined by the Department of Education if the student was  
103 enrolled less than full time for any part of the academic year.

104 (b) Maintain the cumulative grade point average or the  
105 equivalent required by the scholarship program, except that:

106 1. If a recipient's grades fall beneath the average  
107 required to renew a Florida Academic Scholarship, but are  
108 sufficient to renew a Florida Medallion Scholarship, a Florida  
109 Gold Seal CAPE Scholarship, or a Florida Gold Seal Vocational  
110 Scholarship, the Department of Education may grant a renewal  
111 from one of those other scholarship programs, if the student  
112 meets the renewal eligibility requirements; or

113 2. For students initially eligible in the 2010-2011  
114 academic term and thereafter, if at any time during a student's  
115 first academic year the student's grades or the equivalent are  
116 insufficient to renew the scholarship, the student may restore

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

117 eligibility by improving the grade point average or the  
118 equivalent to the required level. A student is eligible for such  
119 a restoration one time. The Legislature encourages education  
120 institutions to assist students to calculate whether or not it  
121 is possible to raise the grade point average or the equivalent  
122 during the summer term. If the education institution determines  
123 that it is possible, the institution may so inform the  
124 department, which may reserve the student's award if funds are  
125 available. The renewal, however, must not be granted until the  
126 student achieves the required cumulative grade point average or  
127 the equivalent. If the summer term is not sufficient to raise  
128 the grade point average or the equivalent to the required  
129 renewal level, the student's next opportunity for renewal is the  
130 fall semester of the following academic year.

131 (2) For students initially eligible in the 2010-2011  
132 academic term and thereafter, and unless otherwise provided in  
133 this section, if a student does not meet the requirements for  
134 renewal of a scholarship because of lack of completion of  
135 sufficient credit hours or insufficient grades or the  
136 equivalent, the scholarship shall be renewed only if the student  
137 failed to complete sufficient credit hours or to meet sufficient  
138 grade requirements or the equivalent due to verifiable illness  
139 or other documented emergency, in which case the student may be  
140 granted an exception from academic requirements pursuant to s.  
141 1009.40(1)(b)4.

142 (3)(a) A student who is initially eligible in the 2023-2024  
143 ~~2012-2013~~ academic year and thereafter may receive an award for  
144 a maximum of 100 percent of the number of credit hours required  
145 to complete an associate degree program, a baccalaureate degree

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

146 program, or a postsecondary career certificate program or, for a  
147 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award, may receive an  
148 award for a maximum of 100 percent of the number of credit hours  
149 or equivalent clock hours required to complete one of the  
150 following at a Florida public or nonpublic education institution  
151 that offers these specific programs: for an applied technology  
152 diploma program as defined in s. 1004.02(7), up to 60 credit  
153 hours or equivalent clock hours; for a technical degree  
154 education program as defined in s. 1004.02(13), up to the number  
155 of hours required for a specific degree not to exceed 72 credit  
156 hours or equivalent clock hours; ~~or~~ for a career certificate  
157 program as defined in s. 1004.02(20), up to the number of hours  
158 required for a specific certificate not to exceed 72 credit  
159 hours or equivalent clock hours; for an industry certification,  
160 up to the number of hours required for a specific certificate  
161 not to exceed 36 credit hours or equivalent clock hours; for a  
162 technical certificate, up to the number of hours required for a  
163 specific certificate not to exceed 15 credit hours or equivalent  
164 clock hours; for an applied technology diploma, up to the number  
165 of hours required for a specific diploma not to exceed 50 credit  
166 hours or equivalent clock hours; for a career and technical  
167 certificate, up to the number of hours required for a specific  
168 certificate not to exceed 19 credit hours or equivalent clock  
169 hours; or for an apprenticeship program, as defined in s.  
170 446.021(6), up to the number of credit hours or equivalent clock  
171 hours required for a registered apprenticeship certificate of  
172 completion if the student is not exempt from paying tuition and  
173 fees, including lab fees, under s. 1009.25, and 100 percent of  
174 the tools, books, and materials necessary to complete the

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

175 apprenticeship program not to exceed \$2,000. A student who  
176 transfers from one of these program levels to another program  
177 level becomes eligible for the higher of the two credit hour  
178 limits.

179 Section 4. Subsection (6) is added to section 1009.533,  
180 Florida Statutes, to read:

181 1009.533 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;  
182 eligible postsecondary education institutions.—A student is  
183 eligible for an award or the renewal of an award from the  
184 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program if the student meets  
185 the requirements for the program as described in this act and is  
186 enrolled in a postsecondary education institution that meets the  
187 description in any one of the following subsections:

188 (6) An entity that operates an apprenticeship program, as  
189 defined in s. 446.021(6).

190 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 1009.534, Florida  
191 Statutes, is amended to read:

192 1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.—

193 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars  
194 award if he or she meets the general eligibility requirements  
195 for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and:

196 (a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted grade point average as  
197 calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or its equivalent, in high  
198 school courses that are designated by the State Board of  
199 Education as college-preparatory academic courses and has  
200 attained at least the score required under s. 1009.531(6)(a) on  
201 the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic  
202 Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered  
203 Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination,

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

204 or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

205 (b) Has attended a home education program according to s.  
206 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12, has completed the International  
207 Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the International  
208 Baccalaureate Diploma, or has completed the Advanced  
209 International Certificate of Education curriculum but failed to  
210 earn the Advanced International Certificate of Education  
211 Diploma, and has attained at least the score required under s.  
212 1009.531(6) (a) on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of  
213 the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or  
214 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College  
215 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT  
216 Assessment Program;

217 (c) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma  
218 from the International Baccalaureate Office or an Advanced  
219 International Certificate of Education Diploma from the  
220 University of Cambridge International Examinations Office;

221 (d) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement  
222 programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a  
223 scholar or finalist; or

224 (e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic  
225 Recognition Program as a scholar recipient.  
226

227 The student must complete a program of volunteer service or,  
228 beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023  
229 academic year and thereafter, paid work, as approved by the  
230 district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school,  
231 or the Department of Education for home education program  
232 students, which must include 100 hours of volunteer service, ~~or~~



11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

233 paid work, or a combination of both. Eligible paid work  
234 completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be included in the  
235 student's total of paid work hours. The student may identify a  
236 social or civic issue or a professional area that interests him  
237 or her and develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in  
238 addressing the issue or learning about the area. The student  
239 must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and  
240 reflect upon his or her volunteer service or paid work  
241 experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but  
242 is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work  
243 for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on  
244 behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer  
245 service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the  
246 document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or  
247 guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the  
248 student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

249 Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 1009.535, Florida  
250 Statutes, is amended to read:

251 1009.535 Florida Medallion Scholars award.—

252 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Medallion Scholars  
253 award if he or she meets the general eligibility requirements  
254 for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and:

255 (a) Has achieved a weighted grade point average of 3.0 as  
256 calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or the equivalent, in high  
257 school courses that are designated by the State Board of  
258 Education as college-preparatory academic courses and has  
259 attained at least the score required under s. 1009.531(6)(b) on  
260 the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic  
261 Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

262 Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination,  
263 or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

264 (b) Has completed the International Baccalaureate  
265 curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate  
266 Diploma or has completed the Advanced International Certificate  
267 of Education curriculum but failed to earn the Advanced  
268 International Certificate of Education Diploma, and has attained  
269 at least the score required under s. 1009.531(6)(b) on the  
270 combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic  
271 Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered  
272 Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination,  
273 or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

274 (c) Has attended a home education program according to s.  
275 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12 and has attained at least the  
276 score required under s. 1009.531(6)(b) on the combined verbal  
277 and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the  
278 Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic  
279 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an  
280 equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

281 (d) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement program  
282 of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a scholar or  
283 finalist but has not completed the program of volunteer service  
284 or paid work required under s. 1009.534; or

285 (e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic  
286 Recognition Program as a scholar, but has not completed the  
287 program of volunteer service or paid work required under s.  
288 1009.534.

289  
290 A high school student must complete a program ~~at least 75 hours~~

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

291 of volunteer service or, beginning with a high school student  
292 graduating in the 2022-2023 academic year and thereafter, ~~100~~  
293 ~~hours of~~ paid work approved by the district school board, the  
294 administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of  
295 Education for home education program students, which must  
296 include 75 hours of volunteer service, 100 hours of paid work,  
297 or 100 hours of a combination of both. Eligible paid work  
298 completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be included in a  
299 student's total of required paid work hours. The student may  
300 identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that  
301 interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her personal  
302 involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area.  
303 The student must, through papers or other presentations,  
304 evaluate and reflect upon his or her volunteer service or paid  
305 work experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may  
306 include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental  
307 internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization,  
308 or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The  
309 hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in  
310 writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the  
311 student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the  
312 organization for which the student performed the volunteer  
313 service or paid work.

314 Section 7. Paragraphs (b) and (e) of subsection (1),  
315 paragraph (b) of subsection (2), and paragraph (a) of subsection  
316 (5) of section 1009.536, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

317 1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and Florida  
318 Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards.—The Florida Gold Seal Vocational  
319 Scholars award and the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award are

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

320 created within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to  
321 recognize and reward academic achievement and career preparation  
322 by high school students who wish to continue their education.

323 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal  
324 Vocational Scholars award if he or she meets the general  
325 eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures  
326 Scholarship Program and:

327 (b) Demonstrates readiness for postsecondary education by  
328 earning a passing score on:

329 1. The Florida College Entry Level Placement Test or its  
330 equivalent as identified by the Department of Education; or

331 2. Other aptitude tests identified by the department,  
332 including, but not limited to, the Armed Services Vocational  
333 Aptitude Battery and ACT WorkKeys Assessments.

334 (e) Completes at least 30 hours of volunteer service or,  
335 beginning with high school students graduating in the 2022-2023  
336 academic year and thereafter, 100 hours of paid work, approved  
337 by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic  
338 school, or the Department of Education for home education  
339 program students, or 100 hours of a combination of both.  
340 Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be  
341 included in a student's total of required paid work hours. The  
342 student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional  
343 area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her  
344 personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about  
345 the area. The student must, through papers or other  
346 presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her volunteer  
347 service or paid work experience. Such volunteer service or paid  
348 work may include, but is not limited to, a business or

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

349 governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service  
350 organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public  
351 office. The hours of volunteer service or paid work must be  
352 documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the  
353 student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative  
354 of the organization for which the student performed the  
355 volunteer service or paid work.

356 (2) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal CAPE  
357 Scholars award if he or she meets the general eligibility  
358 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program,  
359 and the student:

360 (b) Completes at least 30 hours of volunteer service or,  
361 beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023  
362 academic year and thereafter, 100 hours of paid work, approved  
363 by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic  
364 school, or the Department of Education for home education  
365 program students, or 100 hours of a combination of both.

366 Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be  
367 included in a student's total required paid work hours. The  
368 student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional  
369 area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her  
370 personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about  
371 the area. The student must, through papers or other  
372 presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.  
373 Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not  
374 limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a  
375 nonprofit community service organization, or activities on  
376 behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer  
377 service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

378 document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or  
379 guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the  
380 student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

381 (5) (a) A student who is initially eligible in the 2023-2024  
382 ~~2012-2013~~ academic year and thereafter may earn a Florida Gold  
383 Seal Vocational Scholarship for a maximum of 100 percent of the  
384 number of credit hours or equivalent clock hours required to  
385 complete one of the following at a Florida public or nonpublic  
386 education institution that offers these specific programs: for  
387 an applied technology diploma program as defined in s.  
388 1004.02(7), up to 60 credit hours or equivalent clock hours; for  
389 a technical degree education program as defined in s.  
390 1004.02(13), up to the number of hours required for a specific  
391 degree not to exceed 72 credit hours or equivalent clock hours;  
392 ~~or~~ for a career certificate program as defined in s.  
393 1004.02(20), up to the number of hours required for a specific  
394 certificate not to exceed 72 credit hours or equivalent clock  
395 hours; for an industry certification, up to the number of hours  
396 required for a specific certificate not to exceed 36 credit  
397 hours or equivalent clock hours; for a technical certificate, up  
398 to the number of hours required for a specific certificate not  
399 to exceed 15 credit hours or equivalent clock hours; for an  
400 applied technology diploma, up to the number of hours required  
401 for a specific diploma not to exceed 50 credit hours or  
402 equivalent clock hours; for a career and technical certificate,  
403 up to the number of hours required for a specific certificate  
404 not to exceed 19 credit hours or equivalent clock hours; or for  
405 an apprenticeship program, as defined in s. 446.021(6), up to  
406 the number of credit hours or equivalent clock hours required

11-00855A-23

20231654\_\_

407 for a registered apprenticeship certificate of completion if the  
408 student is not exempt from paying tuition and fees, including  
409 lab fees, under s. 1009.25, and 100 percent of the tools, books,  
410 and materials necessary to complete the apprenticeship program  
411 not to exceed \$2,000.

412 Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.