

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to financial aid for female victims of
 3 rape, incest, domestic violence, or human trafficking;
 4 amending s. 1009.25, F.S.; providing that certain low-
 5 income, female students who are pregnant as a result
 6 of rape, incest, domestic violence, or human
 7 trafficking and who decide to carry the pregnancy to
 8 term are exempt from paying specified postsecondary
 9 tuition and fees; authorizing the State Board of
 10 Education and the Board of Governors to adopt rules
 11 and regulations, respectively; creating s. 1009.8963,
 12 F.S.; establishing the Academic Success of Pregnant
 13 Female Students Who Are Victims of Sexual Abuse Grant
 14 Program within the Department of Education; providing
 15 the purpose of the program; providing student
 16 eligibility requirements; providing for program
 17 funding and the disbursement of awards; authorizing
 18 the State Board of Education to adopt rules; providing
 19 an effective date.

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

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 23 Section 1. Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (1) of
 24 section 1009.25, Florida Statutes, to read:

25 1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

26 (1) The following students are exempt from the payment of
 27 tuition and fees, including lab fees, at a school district that
 28 provides workforce education programs, Florida College System
 29 institution, or state university:

30 (h) Beginning with a female student who has a conception
 31 date of January 1, 2023, or thereafter, a female student who is
 32 pregnant as a result of rape, incest, domestic violence, or
 33 human trafficking, who decides to carry the pregnancy to term,
 34 and whose household income level does not exceed 185 percent of
 35 the federal poverty level. The State Board of Education may
 36 adopt rules and the Board of Governors may adopt regulations
 37 regarding documentation and procedures to implement this
 38 paragraph.

39 Section 2. Section 1009.8963, Florida Statutes, is created
 40 to read:

41 1009.8963 The Academic Success of Pregnant Female Students
 42 Who Are Victims of Sexual Abuse Grant Program.—There is
 43 established within the Department of Education the Academic
 44 Success of Pregnant Female Students Who Are Victims of Sexual
 45 Abuse Grant Program. The purpose of the program is to provide
 46 funds for child care for low-income, female students who are
 47 pregnant as a result of rape, incest, domestic violence, or
 48 human trafficking and who decide to carry the pregnancy to term.

49 (1) A student is eligible for the program if she:

50 (a) Is pregnant as a result of rape, incest, domestic

51 violence, or human trafficking; has a conception date of January
52 1, 2023, or thereafter; and decides to carry the pregnancy to
53 term.

54 (b) Has a household income level that does not exceed 185
55 percent of the federal poverty level.

56 (c) Is a Florida resident as described in s. 1009.40 and
57 rules of the State Board of Education.

58 (d) Is enrolled at a school district career center,
59 charter career technical center, Florida College System
60 institution, or state university.

61 (2)(a) Subject to legislative appropriation, the
62 department shall award grants to eligible students on a first-
63 come, first-served basis.

64 (b) The amount of a grant award shall be the average cost
65 of a child care provider that holds a Gold Seal Quality Care
66 designation under s. 1002.945 for the county in which the
67 eligible student resides.

68 (c) The department shall disburse grant awards to eligible
69 students at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters.

70 (3) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to
71 implement this section.

72 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.