

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
 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. Subsections (7) and (8) of section 1007.2616,
 42 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (8) and (9),
 43 respectively, and a new subsection (7) is added to that section,
 44 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:

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
69 Bright Futures Scholarship Program according to rules and
70 procedures 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
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
98 | academic year and thereafter, earn at least 24 semester credit
99 | hours or the equivalent clock hours in the last academic year in
100 | which the student earned a scholarship if the student was

101 enrolled full time, or a prorated number of credit hours or
102 clock hours as determined by the Department of Education if the
103 student was enrolled less than full time for any part of the
104 academic year.

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

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

114 2. For students initially eligible in the 2010-2011
115 academic term and thereafter, if at any time during a student's
116 first academic year the student's grades or the equivalent are
117 insufficient to renew the scholarship, the student may restore
118 eligibility by improving the grade point average or the
119 equivalent to the required level. A student is eligible for such
120 a restoration one time. The Legislature encourages education
121 institutions to assist students to calculate whether or not it
122 is possible to raise the grade point average or the equivalent
123 during the summer term. If the education institution determines
124 that it is possible, the institution may so inform the
125 department, which may reserve the student's award if funds are

126 available. The renewal, however, must not be granted until the
127 student achieves the required cumulative grade point average or
128 the equivalent. If the summer term is not sufficient to raise
129 the grade point average or the equivalent to the required
130 renewal level, the student's next opportunity for renewal is the
131 fall semester of the following academic year.

132 (2) For students initially eligible in the 2010-2011
133 academic term and thereafter, and unless otherwise provided in
134 this section, if a student does not meet the requirements for
135 renewal of a scholarship because of lack of completion of
136 sufficient credit hours or insufficient grades or the
137 equivalent, the scholarship shall be renewed only if the student
138 failed to complete sufficient credit hours or to meet sufficient
139 grade requirements or the equivalent due to verifiable illness
140 or other documented emergency, in which case the student may be
141 granted an exception from academic requirements pursuant to s.
142 1009.40 (1) (b) 4.

143 (3) (a) A student who is initially eligible in the 2023-
144 2024 ~~2012-2013~~ academic year and thereafter may receive an award
145 for a maximum of 100 percent of the number of credit hours
146 required to complete an associate degree program, a
147 baccalaureate degree program, or a postsecondary career
148 certificate program or, for a Florida Gold Seal Vocational
149 Scholars award, may receive an award for a maximum of 100
150 percent of the number of credit hours or equivalent clock hours

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

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

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

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

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

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

193 1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.—

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

197 (a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted grade point average as
198 calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or its equivalent, in high
199 school courses that are designated by the State Board of
200 Education as college-preparatory academic courses and has

201 attained at least the score required under s. 1009.531(6)(a) on
 202 the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic
 203 Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered
 204 Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination,
 205 or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

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

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

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

225 (e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic

226 Recognition Program as a scholar recipient.
 227
 228 The student must complete a program of volunteer service or,
 229 beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023
 230 academic year and thereafter, paid work, as approved by the
 231 district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school,
 232 or the Department of Education for home education program
 233 students, which must include 100 hours of volunteer service, ~~or~~
 234 paid work, or a combination of both. Eligible paid work
 235 completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be included in the
 236 student's total of paid work hours. The student may identify a
 237 social or civic issue or a professional area that interests him
 238 or her and develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in
 239 addressing the issue or learning about the area. The student
 240 must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and
 241 reflect upon his or her volunteer service or paid work
 242 experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but
 243 is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work
 244 for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on
 245 behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer
 246 service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the
 247 document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or
 248 guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the
 249 student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

250 Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 1009.535, Florida

251 Statutes, is amended to read:

252 1009.535 Florida Medallion Scholars award.—

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

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

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

275 (c) Has attended a home education program according to s.

276 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12 and has attained at least the
 277 score required under s. 1009.531(6)(b) on the combined verbal
 278 and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the
 279 Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic
 280 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an
 281 equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

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

286 (e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic
 287 Recognition Program as a scholar, but has not completed the
 288 program of volunteer service or paid work required under s.
 289 1009.534.

290
 291 A high school student must complete a program ~~at least 75 hours~~
 292 of volunteer service or, beginning with a high school student
 293 graduating in the 2022-2023 academic year and thereafter, ~~100~~
 294 ~~hours of~~ paid work approved by the district school board, the
 295 administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of
 296 Education for home education program students, which must
 297 include 75 hours of volunteer service, 100 hours of paid work,
 298 or 100 hours of a combination of both. Eligible paid work
 299 completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be included in a
 300 student's total of required paid work hours. The student may

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301 identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that
302 interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her personal
303 involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area.
304 The student must, through papers or other presentations,
305 evaluate and reflect upon his or her volunteer service or paid
306 work experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may
307 include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental
308 internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization,
309 or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The
310 hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in
311 writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the
312 student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the
313 organization for which the student performed the volunteer
314 service or paid work.

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

318 1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and Florida
319 Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards.—The Florida Gold Seal Vocational
320 Scholars award and the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award are
321 created within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to
322 recognize and reward academic achievement and career preparation
323 by high school students who wish to continue their education.

324 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal
325 Vocational Scholars award if he or she meets the general

326 eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures
327 Scholarship Program and:

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

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

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

335 (e) Completes at least 30 hours of volunteer service or,
336 beginning with high school students graduating in the 2022-2023
337 academic year and thereafter, 100 hours of paid work, approved
338 by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic
339 school, or the Department of Education for home education
340 program students, or 100 hours of a combination of both.

341 Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be
342 included in a student's total of required paid work hours. The
343 student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional
344 area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her
345 personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about
346 the area. The student must, through papers or other
347 presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her volunteer
348 service or paid work experience. Such volunteer service or paid
349 work may include, but is not limited to, a business or
350 governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service

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

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

361 (b) Completes at least 30 hours of volunteer service or,
362 beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023
363 academic year and thereafter, 100 hours of paid work, approved
364 by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic
365 school, or the Department of Education for home education
366 program students, or 100 hours of a combination of both.
367 Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be
368 included in a student's total required paid work hours. The
369 student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional
370 area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her
371 personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about
372 the area. The student must, through papers or other
373 presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.
374 Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not
375 limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a

376 nonprofit community service organization, or activities on
 377 behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer
 378 service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the
 379 document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or
 380 guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the
 381 student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

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

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401 applied technology diploma, up to the number of hours required
402 for a specific diploma not to exceed 50 credit hours or
403 equivalent clock hours; for a career and technical certificate,
404 up to the number of hours required for a specific certificate
405 not to exceed 19 credit hours or equivalent clock hours; or for
406 an apprenticeship program, as defined in s. 446.021(6), up to
407 the number of credit hours or equivalent clock hours required
408 for a registered apprenticeship certificate of completion if the
409 student is not exempt from paying tuition and fees, including
410 lab fees, under s. 1009.25, and 100 percent of the tools, books,
411 and materials necessary to complete the apprenticeship program
412 not to exceed \$2,000.

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