

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to higher education; providing a short
3 title; amending s. 1001.706, F.S.; requiring state
4 universities to identify internship opportunities in
5 high-demand fields; revising the Board of Governor's
6 accountability plan to include certain performance
7 agreements; providing requirements for such
8 agreements; requiring the Board of Governors to
9 establish improvement benchmarks for specified
10 purposes; providing requirements for the Office of the
11 Inspector General; requiring the Board of Governors to
12 match certain student information with specified
13 educational and employment records; providing the
14 Board of Governors with access to certain reports
15 maintained by the Department of Economic Opportunity;
16 requiring the Board of Governors to enter into an
17 agreement with the department to ensure the proper use
18 and privacy of certain data; amending s. 1001.7065,
19 F.S.; revising the preeminent state research
20 universities program academic and research excellence
21 standards; revising the amount an emerging preeminent
22 state research university may receive; deleting the
23 authority for such universities to stipulate a special
24 course requirement for incoming students; requiring
25 the Board of Governors to establish certain standards

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

26 | by a specified date; amending s. 1001.92, F.S.;

27 | revising the performance-based metrics for the state

28 | university performance-based incentives; providing

29 | requirements for such metrics and benchmarks used to

30 | evaluate a university; revising provisions relating to

31 | the amount of funding available and the distribution,

32 | withholding, and reinstatement of funds; requiring

33 | legislative approval of performance funding plans

34 | before the distribution of performance funds;

35 | requiring the Board of Governors, in consultation with

36 | the state universities and by a specified date, to

37 | submit a plan for transitioning to a complete

38 | performance-based continuous improvement funding

39 | model; providing plan requirements; amending s.

40 | 1004.28, F.S.; revising the requirements for rules a

41 | state university board of trustees must adopt relating

42 | to the services, activities, and expenses of its

43 | direct-support organizations; prohibiting the transfer

44 | of funds to certain state university direct-support

45 | organizations; prohibiting the use of state funds for

46 | certain purposes; requiring, rather than authorizing

47 | the chair of the board of trustees to appoint certain

48 | members of a state university direct-support

49 | organization; requiring the university board of

50 | trustees to approve all appointments to a state

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

51 university direct-support organization; deleting an
 52 exception to the prohibition against direct-support
 53 organizations donating gifts to a political committee;
 54 requiring the disclosure of certain financial
 55 documents; creating s. 1004.6497, F.S.; establishing
 56 the World Class Faculty and Scholar Program; providing
 57 the purpose and intent; authorizing state university
 58 investments in certain faculty retention, recruitment,
 59 and recognition activities; specifying funding as
 60 provided in the General Appropriations Act; requiring
 61 an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature
 62 by a specified date; creating s. 1004.6498, F.S.;
 63 establishing the State University Professional and
 64 Graduate Degree Excellence Program; providing the
 65 purpose; listing the quality improvement efforts that
 66 may be used to elevate the prominence of state
 67 university medicine, law, and graduate-level business
 68 programs; specifying funding as provided in the
 69 General Appropriations Act; requiring an annual report
 70 to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified
 71 date; amending s. 1006.62, F.S.; providing that a
 72 student who is subject to a disciplinary hearing is
 73 entitled to certain rights; amending s. 1007.23, F.S.;
 74 requiring the statewide articulation agreement to
 75 provide for a reverse transfer agreement; providing

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

76 | for an associate degree to be awarded to certain
 77 | students by Florida College System institutions;
 78 | providing requirements for state universities;
 79 | amending s. 1008.30, F.S.; authorizing a Florida
 80 | College System institution to require the common
 81 | placement test for diagnostic purposes; authorizing
 82 | certain state universities to continue to provide
 83 | developmental education instruction; amending s.
 84 | 1008.46, F.S.; revising the date by which the Board of
 85 | Governors must submit an annual accountability report;
 86 | amending ss. 1009.22 and 1009.23, F.S.; removing the
 87 | prohibition on the inclusion of a technology fee in
 88 | the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program award;
 89 | amending s. 1009.24, F.S.; removing the prohibition on
 90 | the inclusion of a technology fee and a tuition
 91 | differential fee in the Florida Bright Futures
 92 | Scholarship Program award; requiring each state
 93 | university board of trustees to implement a block
 94 | tuition policy for specified undergraduate students
 95 | beginning in a specified academic semester; requiring
 96 | the Chancellor of the State University System to
 97 | submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature by
 98 | a specified date; amending s. 1009.53, F.S.;
 99 | authorizing a student to use Florida Bright Futures
 100 | Scholarship Program awards for summer term enrollment;

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

101 amending s. 1009.534, F.S.; specifying Florida
 102 Academic Scholars award amounts to cover tuition,
 103 fees, textbooks, and other educational expenses;
 104 amending s. 1009.535, F.S.; specifying Florida
 105 Medallion Scholars award amounts to cover specified
 106 tuition and fees; amending s. 1009.701, F.S.; revising
 107 the state-to-private match requirement for
 108 contributions to the First Generation Matching Grant
 109 Program beginning in a specified fiscal year;
 110 providing for the increase in award amounts under
 111 certain circumstances; extending the program to
 112 include Florida College System institution students;
 113 amending s. 1009.893, F.S.; extending coverage of the
 114 Benacquisto Scholarship Program to include tuition and
 115 fees for qualified nonresident students; creating s.
 116 1009.894, F.S.; creating the Florida Farmworker
 117 Student Scholarship Program; providing a purpose;
 118 requiring the Department of Education to administer
 119 the scholarship program; providing student eligibility
 120 criteria; specifying award amounts and distributions;
 121 providing for funding as specified in the General
 122 Appropriations Act; amending s. 1009.98, F.S.;
 123 providing that certain payments from the Florida
 124 Prepaid College Board to a state university on behalf
 125 of a qualified beneficiary may not exceed a specified

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

126 amount; amending s. 1011.90, F.S.; providing
 127 requirements for certain legislative budget requests;
 128 prohibiting certain ratios relating to student
 129 enrollment from growing faster than a specified rate;
 130 providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision
 131 and Information; providing for the future repeal of
 132 ss. 1004.33 and 1004.34, F.S., relating to the
 133 University of South Florida St. Petersburg and
 134 Manatee/Sarasota, respectively; creating s. 1004.335,
 135 F.S.; requiring the University of South Florida to
 136 adopt and submit a plan to phase out the separate
 137 accreditations of the University of South Florida St.
 138 Petersburg and the University of South Florida
 139 Manatee/Sarasota by a specified date; providing
 140 requirements for such plan; providing that certain
 141 students may not be included in specified graduation
 142 and retention rate calculations; amending s. 1004.344;
 143 requiring the University of South Florida's Florida
 144 Center for the Partnership for Arts Integrated
 145 Teaching to be located at a certain branch campus;
 146 providing an effective date.

147
 148 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

149
 150 Section 1. This act shall be cited as the "Florida

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

151 Excellence in Higher Education Act of 2018."

152 Section 2. Paragraphs (b), (c), and (e) of subsection (5)
 153 of section 1001.706, Florida Statutes, are amended and paragraph
 154 (h) is added to subsection (5) to read:

155 1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

156 (5) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO ACCOUNTABILITY.—

157 (b) The Board of Governors shall develop a strategic plan
 158 specifying goals and objectives for the State University System
 159 and each constituent university, including each university's
 160 contribution to overall system goals and objectives. The
 161 strategic plan must:

162 1. Include performance metrics and standards common for
 163 all institutions and metrics and standards unique to
 164 institutions depending on institutional core missions,
 165 including, but not limited to, student admission requirements,
 166 retention, graduation, percentage of graduates who have attained
 167 employment, percentage of graduates enrolled in continued
 168 education, licensure passage, average wages of employed
 169 graduates, average cost per graduate, excess hours, student loan
 170 burden and default rates, faculty awards, total annual research
 171 expenditures, patents, licenses and royalties, intellectual
 172 property, startup companies, annual giving, endowments, and
 173 well-known, highly respected national rankings for institutional
 174 and program achievements.

175 2. Consider reports and recommendations of the Higher

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

176 Education Coordinating Council pursuant to s. 1004.015 and the
 177 Articulation Coordinating Committee pursuant to s. 1007.01.

178 3. Include student enrollment and performance data
 179 delineated by method of instruction, including, but not limited
 180 to, traditional, online, and distance learning instruction.

181 4. Include criteria for designating baccalaureate degree
 182 and master's degree programs at specified universities as high-
 183 demand programs of emphasis. Fifty percent of the criteria for
 184 designation as high-demand programs of emphasis must be based on
 185 achievement of performance outcome thresholds determined by the
 186 Board of Governors, and 50 percent of the criteria must be based
 187 on achievement of performance outcome thresholds specifically
 188 linked to:

189 a. Job placement in employment of 36 hours or more per
 190 week and average full-time wages of graduates of the degree
 191 programs 1 year and 5 years after graduation, based in part on
 192 data provided in the economic security report of employment and
 193 earning outcomes produced annually pursuant to s. 445.07.

194 b. Data-driven gap analyses, conducted by the Board of
 195 Governors, of the state's job market demands and the outlook for
 196 jobs that require a baccalaureate or higher degree. Each state
 197 university must use the gap analyses to identify internship
 198 opportunities for students to benefit from mentorship by
 199 industry experts, earn industry certifications, and become
 200 employed in high-demand fields.

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

201 (c) The Board of Governors shall develop an accountability
 202 plan for the State University System by developing and
 203 implementing a performance agreement with ~~and~~ each constituent
 204 university. The accountability plan must address institutional
 205 and system achievement of goals and objectives specified in the
 206 strategic plan adopted pursuant to paragraph (b) and must be
 207 submitted as part of its legislative budget request. The initial
 208 performance agreement shall, by August 1, 2018, establish
 209 baseline benchmarks for each state university based on the
 210 previous 2-year average performance on each common metric
 211 established pursuant to s. 1001.92. Once institution-specific
 212 baseline benchmarks are established, the Board of Governors must
 213 work with each university to establish and include in the
 214 performance agreement 1-year, 2-year, 3-year, and 4-year
 215 improvement benchmarks for determining eligibility for
 216 performance funding.

217 (e) The Board of Governors shall maintain an effective
 218 information system to provide accurate, timely, and cost-
 219 effective information about each university. The board shall
 220 continue to collect and maintain, at a minimum, management
 221 information as such information existed on June 30, 2002. The
 222 Office of the Inspector General shall annually verify the
 223 accuracy of the data used to implement ss. 1001.7065 and
 224 1001.92.

225 (h) The Board of Governors shall match individual student

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

226 information with information in the files of state and federal
 227 agencies that maintain educational and employment records. The
 228 board must enter into an agreement with the Department of
 229 Economic Opportunity that allows access to the individual
 230 reemployment assistance wage records maintained by the
 231 department. The agreement must protect individual privacy and
 232 provide that student information may be used only for the
 233 purposes of auditing or evaluating higher education programs
 234 offered by state universities.

235 Section 3. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2), paragraph (c)
 236 of subsection (5), and subsections (6) and (8) of section
 237 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

238 1001.7065 Preeminent state research universities program.—

239 (2) ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE STANDARDS.—The
 240 following academic and research excellence standards are
 241 established for the preeminent state research universities
 242 program:

243 (d) A 4-year graduation rate of 60 percent or higher for
 244 full-time, first-time-in-college students, as reported annually
 245 to the IPEDS. However, for the 2018 determination of a state
 246 university's preeminence designation and the related
 247 distribution of the 2018-2019 fiscal year appropriation
 248 associated with preeminence and emerging preeminence, a
 249 university is considered to have satisfied this graduation rate
 250 measure by attaining a 6-year graduation rate of 70 percent or

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

251 higher by October 1, 2017, for full-time, first-time-in-college
 252 students, as reported ~~annually~~ to the IPEDS and confirmed by the
 253 Board of Governors.

254 (5) PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES PROGRAM
 255 SUPPORT.—

256 (c) The award of funds under this subsection is contingent
 257 upon funding provided in the General Appropriations Act to
 258 support the preeminent state research universities program
 259 created under this section. Funding increases appropriated
 260 beyond the amounts funded in the previous fiscal year shall be
 261 distributed as follows:

262 1. Each designated preeminent state research university
 263 that meets the criteria in paragraph (a) shall receive an equal
 264 amount of funding.

265 2. Each designated emerging preeminent state research
 266 university that meets the criteria in paragraph (b) shall,
 267 beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, receive an amount of
 268 funding that is equal to one-fourth ~~one-half~~ of the total
 269 increased amount awarded to each designated preeminent state
 270 research university.

271 ~~(6) PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY SPECIAL COURSE~~
 272 ~~REQUIREMENT AUTHORITY.—In order to provide a jointly shared~~
 273 ~~educational experience, a university that is designated a~~
 274 ~~preeminent state research university may require its incoming~~
 275 ~~first-time-in-college students to take a six-credit set of~~

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

276 | ~~unique courses specifically determined by the university and~~
 277 | ~~published on the university's website. The university may~~
 278 | ~~stipulate that credit for such courses may not be earned through~~
 279 | ~~any acceleration mechanism pursuant to s. 1007.27 or s. 1007.271~~
 280 | ~~or any other transfer credit. All accelerated credits earned up~~
 281 | ~~to the limits specified in ss. 1007.27 and 1007.271 shall be~~
 282 | ~~applied toward graduation at the student's request.~~

283 | (7)~~(8)~~ PROGRAMS OF EXCELLENCE THROUGHOUT THE STATE
 284 | UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.—The Board of Governors shall ~~is encouraged to~~
 285 | establish standards and measures whereby individual
 286 | undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs in
 287 | state universities which ~~that~~ objectively reflect national
 288 | excellence can be identified and make recommendations to the
 289 | Legislature by September 1, 2018, as to how any such programs
 290 | could be enhanced and promoted.

291 | Section 4. Section 1001.92, Florida Statutes, is amended
 292 | to read:

293 | 1001.92 State University System Performance-Based
 294 | Incentive.—

295 | (1) A State University System Performance-Based Incentive
 296 | shall be awarded to state universities using performance-based
 297 | metrics adopted by the Board of Governors of the State
 298 | University System. The performance-based metrics must include:

299 | (a) Four-year graduation rates for full-time, first-time-
 300 | in-college students.

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

301 (b) Two-year graduation rates for full-time 2+2 associate
 302 degree transfer students from Florida College System
 303 institutions.~~†~~

304 (c) Retention rates, with points awarded for students
 305 earning 30, 60, and 90 credits.~~†~~

306 (d) Postgraduation education rates.~~†~~

307 (e) Degree production.~~†~~

308 (f) Affordability.~~†~~

309 (g) Postgraduation employment and salaries, including wage
 310 thresholds that reflect the added value of a baccalaureate
 311 degree.~~†~~

312 (h) Six-year graduation rates for students who are
 313 eligible for a Pell Grant as compared with students who are not
 314 eligible for a Pell Grant, with points deducted for decreases in
 315 the enrollment of students who are eligible for a Pell Grant.

316 (i) The percent of students graduating without excess
 317 hours. ~~access; and~~

318
 319 The Board of Governors may approve other metrics ~~approved by the~~
 320 ~~board~~ in a formally noticed meeting that reflect the unique
 321 mission of each university. The board shall adopt benchmarks to
 322 evaluate each state university's performance on the metrics to
 323 measure the state university's achievement of institutional
 324 ~~excellence or need for~~ improvement and minimum requirements for
 325 eligibility to receive performance funding. Benchmarks and

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

326 metrics must remain in place for 4 years and may not be adjusted
 327 after university performance data has been received by the Board
 328 of Governors.

329 (2) Each fiscal year, the amount of performance funding
 330 ~~funds~~ available for allocation to each ~~the~~ state university
 331 ~~universities~~ based on the performance-based funding model shall
 332 include:

333 (a) The state consist of the state's investment, which
 334 consists of the state appropriation for in performance funding.

335 (b) The plus institutional investment, which consists
 336 ~~investments consisting~~ of funds solely deducted from the base
 337 funding of the ~~each~~ state university ~~in the State University~~
 338 ~~System~~ in an amount provided in the General Appropriations Act.

339 (3) (a) Each state university that meets the benchmarks for
 340 improvement established in its performance agreement pursuant to
 341 s. 1001.706(5) (c) shall be eligible for a share of the state
 342 investment in performance funding.

343 (b) Each state university that meets or exceeds the
 344 baseline performance benchmarks established in its performance
 345 agreement pursuant to s. 1001.706(5) (c) shall have its
 346 institutional investment restored. The Board of Governors shall
 347 ~~establish minimum performance funding eligibility thresholds for~~
 348 ~~the state's investment and the institutional investments. A~~
 349 ~~state university that meets the minimum institutional investment~~
 350 ~~eligibility threshold, but fails to meet the minimum state~~

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

351 ~~investment eligibility threshold, shall have its institutional~~
 352 ~~investment restored but is ineligible for a share of the state's~~
 353 ~~investment in performance funding. The institutional investment~~
 354 ~~shall be restored for each institution eligible for the state's~~
 355 ~~investment under the performance-based funding model.~~

356 (4) ~~(3)~~ (a) Each A state university that fails to maintain or
 357 exceed ~~meet~~ the baseline performance benchmarks established in
 358 its performance agreement pursuant to s. 1001.706(5) (c) Board of
 359 ~~Governors' minimum institutional investment performance funding~~
 360 ~~eligibility threshold~~ shall have its institutional investment
 361 withheld by the board and must submit an improvement plan to the
 362 board that specifies the activities and strategies for improving
 363 the state university's performance. The board must review and
 364 approve the improvement plan and, if the plan is approved, must
 365 monitor the state university's progress in implementing the
 366 activities and strategies specified in the improvement plan. The
 367 state university shall submit monitoring reports to the board by
 368 December 31 and May 31 of each year in which an improvement plan
 369 is in place. ~~The ability of a state university to submit an~~
 370 ~~improvement plan to the board is~~ valid for ~~limited to~~ 1 fiscal
 371 year.

372 (b) The Chancellor of the State University System shall
 373 withhold disbursement of the institutional investment until the
 374 monitoring report is approved by the Board of Governors. A state
 375 university determined by the board to be making satisfactory

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

376 | progress on implementing the improvement plan shall receive no
 377 | more than one-half of the withheld institutional investment in
 378 | January and the balance of the withheld institutional investment
 379 | in June. A state university that fails to make satisfactory
 380 | progress may not have its full institutional investment
 381 | restored. ~~Any institutional investment funds that are not~~
 382 | ~~restored shall be redistributed in accordance with the board's~~
 383 | ~~performance-based metrics.~~

384 | (5)~~(4)~~ Distributions of performance funding, as provided
 385 | in this section, shall be made to each of the state universities
 386 | listed in the Education and General Activities category in the
 387 | General Appropriations Act. Beginning with the 2019-2020 fiscal
 388 | year, funds may only be distributed pursuant to a performance
 389 | funding plan that is approved by the Legislature. In addition to
 390 | the plan submitted by the Board of Governors pursuant to
 391 | subsection (6), the Legislature shall review recommendations
 392 | from an independent entity selected by the Legislature.

393 | (6)~~(5)~~ By January 1, 2019 ~~October 1 of each year~~, the
 394 | Board of Governors, in consultation with the state universities,
 395 | shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and
 396 | the Speaker of the House of Representatives a plan for
 397 | transitioning from the current partial performance-based funding
 398 | model to a complete performance-based continuous improvement
 399 | funding model that focuses on outcomes. The plan must include
 400 | the following:

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

401 (a) A revised method for the equitable distribution of
 402 performance funds that is not based solely on historical funding
 403 distributions. Funding must be distributed in accordance with
 404 the performance agreements adopted pursuant to s.
 405 1001.706(5) (c).

406 (b) A proposed method for transitioning to a complete
 407 performance-based funding formula driven by outcomes ~~report on~~
 408 ~~the previous fiscal year's performance funding allocation which~~
 409 ~~must reflect the rankings and award distributions.~~

410 ~~(7)(6)~~ The Board of Governors shall adopt regulations to
 411 administer this section.

412 Section 5. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (2),
 413 subsections (3) and (4), and paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of
 414 section 1004.28, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph
 415 (d) is added to subsection (2) of that section, to read:

416 1004.28 Direct-support organizations; use of property;
 417 board of directors; activities; audit; facilities.—

418 (2) USE OF PROPERTY.—

419 (b) The board of trustees, in accordance with rules and
 420 guidelines of the Board of Governors, shall prescribe by rule
 421 conditions with which a university direct-support organization
 422 must comply in order to use property, facilities, or personal
 423 services at any state university, including that personal
 424 services must comply with the requirements of s. 1012.976. Such
 425 rules shall provide for budget and audit review and oversight by

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

426 | the board of trustees, including thresholds for approval of
 427 | purchases, acquisitions, projects, and issuance of debt. No
 428 | later than July 1, 2019, the transfer of a state appropriation
 429 | by the board of trustees to any direct-support organization may
 430 | only include funds pledged for debt.

431 | (c) The board of trustees may not transfer any funds to
 432 | and shall not permit the use of property, facilities, or
 433 | personal services at any state university by any university
 434 | direct-support organization that does not provide equal
 435 | employment opportunities to all persons regardless of race,
 436 | color, religion, gender, age, or national origin.

437 | (d) The board of trustees may not permit the use of state
 438 | funds for travel expenses by any university direct-support
 439 | organization.

440 | (3) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—The chair of the university board
 441 | of trustees shall ~~may~~ appoint at least one ~~a~~-representative to
 442 | the board of directors and the executive committee of any
 443 | direct-support organization established under this section. The
 444 | president of the university for which the direct-support
 445 | organization is established, or his or her designee, shall also
 446 | serve on the board of directors and the executive committee of
 447 | any direct-support organization established to benefit that
 448 | university. The university board of trustees shall approve all
 449 | appointments to any direct-support organization not authorized
 450 | by this subsection.

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

451 (4) ACTIVITIES; RESTRICTION.—A university direct-support
 452 organization is prohibited from giving, either directly or
 453 indirectly, any gift to a political committee as defined in s.
 454 106.011 for any purpose ~~other than those certified by a majority~~
 455 ~~roll call vote of the governing board of the direct support~~
 456 ~~organization at a regularly scheduled meeting as being directly~~
 457 ~~related to the educational mission of the university.~~

458 (5) ANNUAL AUDIT; PUBLIC RECORDS EXEMPTION; PUBLIC
 459 MEETINGS EXEMPTION.—

460 (b) All records of the organization other than the
 461 auditor's report, management letter, any records related to the
 462 expenditure of state funds, any records related to the
 463 expenditure of private funds for travel, and any supplemental
 464 data requested by the Board of Governors, the university board
 465 of trustees, the Auditor General, and the Office of Program
 466 Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall be
 467 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1).

468 Section 6. Section 1004.6497, Florida Statutes, is created
 469 to read:

470 1004.6497 World Class Faculty and Scholar Program.—

471 (1) PURPOSE AND LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—The World Class
 472 Faculty and Scholar Program is established to fund and support
 473 the efforts of state universities to recruit and retain
 474 exemplary faculty and research scholars. It is the intent of the
 475 Legislature to elevate the national competitiveness of Florida's

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

476 state universities through faculty and scholar recruitment and
 477 retention.

478 (2) INVESTMENTS.—Retention, recruitment, and recognition
 479 efforts, activities, and investments may include, but are not
 480 limited to, investments in research-centric cluster hires,
 481 faculty research and research commercialization efforts,
 482 instructional and research infrastructure, undergraduate student
 483 participation in research, professional development, awards for
 484 outstanding performance, and postdoctoral fellowships.

485 (3) FUNDING AND USE.—Funding for the program shall be as
 486 provided in the General Appropriations Act. Each state
 487 university shall use the funds only for the purpose and
 488 investments authorized under this section. These funds may not
 489 be used to construct buildings.

490 (4) ACCOUNTABILITY.—By March 15 of each year, the Board of
 491 Governors shall provide to the Governor, the President of the
 492 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report
 493 summarizing information from the universities in the State
 494 University System, including, but not limited to:

495 (a) Specific expenditure information as it relates to the
 496 investments identified in subsection (2).

497 (b) The impact of those investments in elevating the
 498 national competitiveness of the universities, specifically
 499 relating to:

500 1. The success in recruiting research faculty and the

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

501 resulting research funding;

502 2. The 4-year graduation rate for undergraduate students;

503 3. The number of undergraduate courses offered with fewer
 504 than 50 students; and

505 4. The increase in national academic standing of targeted
 506 programs, specifically advancement in ranking among top 50
 507 universities in the targeted programs in well-known and highly
 508 respected national public university rankings, including, but
 509 not limited to, the U.S. News and World Report rankings, which
 510 reflect national preeminence, using the most recent rankings.

511 Section 7. Section 1004.6498, Florida Statutes, is created
 512 to read:

513 1004.6498 State University Professional and Graduate
 514 Degree Excellence Program.—

515 (1) PURPOSE.—The State University Professional and
 516 Graduate Degree Excellence Program is established to fund and
 517 support the efforts of state universities to enhance the quality
 518 and excellence of professional and graduate schools and degree
 519 programs in medicine, law, and business and expand the economic
 520 impact of state universities.

521 (2) INVESTMENTS.—Quality improvement efforts may include,
 522 but are not limited to, targeted investments in faculty,
 523 students, research, infrastructure, and other strategic
 524 endeavors to elevate the national and global prominence of state
 525 university medicine, law, and graduate-level business programs.

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

526 (3) FUNDING AND USE.—Funding for the program shall be as
 527 provided in the General Appropriations Act. Each state
 528 university shall use the funds only for the purpose and
 529 investments authorized under this section. These funds may not
 530 be used to construct buildings.

531 (4) ACCOUNTABILITY.—By March 15 of each year, the Board of
 532 Governors shall provide to the Governor, the President of the
 533 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report
 534 summarizing information from the universities in the State
 535 University System, including, but not limited to:

536 (a) Specific expenditure information as it relates to the
 537 investments identified in subsection (2).

538 (b) The impact of those investments in elevating the
 539 national and global prominence of the state university medicine,
 540 law, and graduate-level business programs, specifically relating
 541 to:

542 1. The first-time pass rate on the United States Medical
 543 Licensing Examination;

544 2. The first-time pass rate on The Florida Bar
 545 Examination;

546 3. The percentage of graduates enrolled or employed at a
 547 wage threshold that reflects the added value of a graduate-level
 548 business degree;

549 4. The advancement in the rankings of the state university
 550 medicine, law, and graduate-level programs in well-known and

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

551 highly respected national graduate-level university rankings,
 552 including, but not limited to, the U.S. News and World Report
 553 rankings, which reflect national preeminence, using the most
 554 recent rankings; and

555 5. The added economic benefit of the universities to the
 556 state.

557 Section 8. Subsection (7) is added to section 1007.23,
 558 Florida Statutes, to read:

559 1007.23 Statewide articulation agreement.—

560 (7) The articulation agreement must specifically provide
 561 for a reverse transfer agreement for Florida College System
 562 associate in arts degree-seeking students who transfer to a
 563 state university prior to earning an associate in arts degree.
 564 Students must be awarded an associate in arts degree by the
 565 Florida College System institution upon completion of degree
 566 requirements at the state university if the student earned a
 567 majority of the credit hours from the Florida College System
 568 institution. State universities must identify students who have
 569 completed requirements for the associate in arts degree and
 570 transfer credits earned at the state university back to the
 571 Florida College System institution so that the associate in arts
 572 degree may be awarded by the Florida College System institution.

573 Section 9. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section
 574 1008.30, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

575 1008.30 Common placement testing for public postsecondary

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

576 education.—

577 (3) ~~By October 31, 2013,~~ The State Board of Education
 578 shall establish by rule the test scores a student must achieve
 579 to demonstrate readiness to perform college-level work, and the
 580 rules must specify the following:

581 (a) A student may ~~who entered 9th grade in a Florida~~
 582 ~~public school in the 2003-2004 school year, or any year~~
 583 ~~thereafter, and earned a Florida standard high school diploma or~~
 584 ~~a student who is serving as an active duty member of any branch~~
 585 ~~of the United States Armed Services shall not be required to~~
 586 take the common placement test unless the Florida College System
 587 institution deems the test necessary as a diagnostic tool to
 588 provide appropriate advising. Regardless of whether the test is
 589 taken, a student may and shall not be required to enroll in
 590 developmental education instruction in a Florida College System
 591 institution. However, a student ~~who is not required to take the~~
 592 ~~common placement test and is not required to enroll in~~
 593 ~~developmental education under this paragraph~~ may opt to be
 594 ~~assessed and to~~ enroll in developmental education instruction,
 595 and the college shall provide such ~~assessment and~~ instruction
 596 upon the student's request.

597 (b) A student who takes the common placement test and
 598 whose score on the test indicates a need for developmental
 599 education must be advised of all the developmental education
 600 options offered at the institution and, after advisement, shall

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

601 | be allowed to enroll in the developmental education option of
 602 | his or her choice.

603 | (c) A student who demonstrates readiness by achieving or
 604 | exceeding the test scores established by the state board and
 605 | enrolls in a Florida College System institution within 2 years
 606 | after achieving such scores shall not be required to retest ~~or~~
 607 | ~~complete developmental education~~ when admitted to any Florida
 608 | College System institution.

609 | (4) ~~By December 31, 2013,~~ The State Board of Education, in
 610 | consultation with the Board of Governors, shall approve a series
 611 | of meta-majors and the academic pathways that identify the
 612 | gateway courses associated with each meta-major. Florida College
 613 | System institutions shall use placement test results to
 614 | determine the extent to which each student demonstrates
 615 | sufficient communication and computation skills to indicate
 616 | readiness for his or her chosen meta-major. Florida College
 617 | System institutions shall counsel students into college credit
 618 | courses as quickly as possible, with developmental education
 619 | limited to that content needed for success in the meta-major.

620 | (5) (a) Each Florida College System institution board of
 621 | trustees shall develop a plan to implement the developmental
 622 | education strategies defined in s. 1008.02 and rules established
 623 | by the State Board of Education. The plan must be submitted to
 624 | the Chancellor of the Florida College System for approval ~~no~~
 625 | ~~later than March 1, 2014, for implementation no later than the~~

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

626 ~~fall semester 2014~~. Each plan must include, at a minimum, local
 627 policies that outline:

628 1. Documented student achievements such as grade point
 629 averages, work history, military experience, participation in
 630 juried competitions, career interests, degree major declaration,
 631 or any combination of such achievements that the institution may
 632 consider, in addition to common placement test scores, for
 633 advising students regarding enrollment options.

634 2. Developmental education strategies available to
 635 students.

636 3. A description of student costs and financial aid
 637 opportunities associated with each option.

638 4. Provisions for the collection of student success data.

639 5. A comprehensive plan for advising students into
 640 appropriate developmental education strategies based on student
 641 success data.

642 (b) ~~Beginning October 31, 2015,~~ Each Florida College
 643 System institution shall annually prepare an accountability
 644 report that includes student success data relating to each
 645 developmental education strategy implemented by the institution.
 646 The report shall be submitted to the Division of Florida
 647 Colleges by October 31 in a format determined by the Chancellor
 648 of the Florida College System. By December 31, the chancellor
 649 shall compile and submit the institutional reports to the
 650 Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

651 of Representatives, and the State Board of Education.

652 (c) A university board of trustees may contract with a
 653 Florida College System institution board of trustees for the
 654 Florida College System institution to provide developmental
 655 education on the state university campus. Any state university
 656 in which the percentage of incoming students requiring
 657 developmental education equals or exceeds the average percentage
 658 of such students for the Florida College System may offer
 659 developmental education without contracting with a Florida
 660 College System institution; however, any state university
 661 offering college-preparatory instruction as of January 1, 1996,
 662 may continue to provide developmental education instruction as
 663 defined in s. 1008.02(1) ~~such services~~.

664 Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
 665 1008.46, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

666 1008.46 State university accountability process.—It is the
 667 intent of the Legislature that an accountability process be
 668 implemented that provides for the systematic, ongoing evaluation
 669 of quality and effectiveness of state universities. It is
 670 further the intent of the Legislature that this accountability
 671 process monitor performance at the system level in each of the
 672 major areas of instruction, research, and public service, while
 673 recognizing the differing missions of each of the state
 674 universities. The accountability process shall provide for the
 675 adoption of systemwide performance standards and performance

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

676 | goals for each standard identified through a collaborative
 677 | effort involving state universities, the Board of Governors, the
 678 | Legislature, and the Governor's Office, consistent with
 679 | requirements specified in s. 1001.706. These standards and goals
 680 | shall be consistent with s. 216.011(1) to maintain congruity
 681 | with the performance-based budgeting process. This process
 682 | requires that university accountability reports reflect measures
 683 | defined through performance-based budgeting. The performance-
 684 | based budgeting measures must also reflect the elements of
 685 | teaching, research, and service inherent in the missions of the
 686 | state universities.

687 | (1) (a) By March 15 ~~December 31~~ of each year, the Board of
 688 | Governors shall submit an annual accountability report providing
 689 | information on the implementation of performance standards,
 690 | actions taken to improve university achievement of performance
 691 | goals, the achievement of performance goals during the prior
 692 | year, and initiatives to be undertaken during the next year. The
 693 | accountability reports shall be designed in consultation with
 694 | the Governor's Office, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and
 695 | Government Accountability, and the Legislature.

696 | Section 11. Subsection (7) of section 1009.22, Florida
 697 | Statutes, is amended to read:

698 | 1009.22 Workforce education postsecondary student fees.—

699 | (7) Each district school board and Florida College System
 700 | institution board of trustees is authorized to establish a

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

701 separate fee for technology, not to exceed 5 percent of tuition
 702 per credit hour or credit-hour equivalent for resident students
 703 and not to exceed 5 percent of tuition and the out-of-state fee
 704 per credit hour or credit-hour equivalent for nonresident
 705 students. Revenues generated from the technology fee shall be
 706 used to enhance instructional technology resources for students
 707 and faculty ~~and shall not be included in any award under the~~
 708 ~~Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.~~ Fifty percent of
 709 technology fee revenues may be pledged by a Florida College
 710 System institution board of trustees as a dedicated revenue
 711 source for the repayment of debt, including lease-purchase
 712 agreements, not to exceed the useful life of the asset being
 713 financed. Revenues generated from the technology fee may not be
 714 bonded.

715 Section 12. Subsection (10) of section 1009.23, Florida
 716 Statutes, is amended to read:

717 1009.23 Florida College System institution student fees.—

718 (10) Each Florida College System institution board of
 719 trustees is authorized to establish a separate fee for
 720 technology, which may not exceed 5 percent of tuition per credit
 721 hour or credit-hour equivalent for resident students and may not
 722 exceed 5 percent of tuition and the out-of-state fee per credit
 723 hour or credit-hour equivalent for nonresident students.

724 Revenues generated from the technology fee shall be used to
 725 enhance instructional technology resources for students and

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

726 faculty. The technology fee may apply to both college credit and
 727 developmental education ~~and shall not be included in any award~~
 728 ~~under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.~~ Fifty
 729 percent of technology fee revenues may be pledged by a Florida
 730 College System institution board of trustees as a dedicated
 731 revenue source for the repayment of debt, including lease-
 732 purchase agreements, not to exceed the useful life of the asset
 733 being financed. Revenues generated from the technology fee may
 734 not be bonded.

735 Section 13. Subsection (13), paragraph (r) of subsection
 736 (14), paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (15), paragraphs (a),
 737 (b), and (e) of subsection (16), and subsection (20) of section
 738 1009.24, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

739 1009.24 State university student fees.—

740 (13) Each university board of trustees may establish a
 741 technology fee of up to 5 percent of the tuition per credit
 742 hour. The revenue from this fee shall be used to enhance
 743 instructional technology resources for students and faculty. ~~The~~
 744 ~~technology fee may not be included in any award under the~~
 745 ~~Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program established pursuant~~
 746 ~~to ss. 1009.53-1009.538.~~

747 (14) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (15), each
 748 university board of trustees is authorized to establish the
 749 following fees:

750 (r) Traffic and parking fines, charges for parking decals,

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

751 and transportation access fees. Only universitywide
 752 transportation access fees may be included in any state
 753 financial assistance award authorized under part III of chapter
 754 1009, as specifically authorized by law or the General
 755 Appropriations Act.

756
 757 With the exception of housing rental rates and except as
 758 otherwise provided, fees assessed pursuant to paragraphs (h)-(s)
 759 shall be based on reasonable costs of services. The Board of
 760 Governors shall adopt regulations and timetables necessary to
 761 implement the fees and fines authorized under this subsection.
 762 The fees assessed under this subsection may be used for debt
 763 only as authorized under s. 1010.62.

764 (15) (a) The Board of Governors may approve:

765 1. A proposal from a university board of trustees to
 766 establish a new student fee that is not specifically authorized
 767 by this section.

768 2. A proposal from a university board of trustees to
 769 increase the current cap for an existing fee authorized pursuant
 770 to paragraphs (14) (a)-(g).

771 3.a. A proposal from a university board of trustees to
 772 implement flexible tuition policies, such as undergraduate or
 773 graduate block tuition, block tuition differential, or market
 774 tuition rates for graduate-level online courses or graduate-
 775 level courses offered through a university's continuing

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

776 education program. A block tuition policy for resident
 777 undergraduate students or undergraduate-level courses must ~~shall~~
 778 be based on the per-credit-hour undergraduate tuition
 779 established under subsection (4). A block tuition policy for
 780 nonresident undergraduate students must ~~shall~~ be based on the
 781 per-credit-hour undergraduate tuition and out-of-state fee
 782 established under subsection (4). Flexible tuition policies,
 783 including block tuition, may not increase the state's fiscal
 784 liability or obligation.

785 b. A block tuition policy, which must be adopted by each
 786 university board of trustees for implementation beginning in the
 787 fall 2019 academic semester. The policy must apply to the
 788 entering freshman class of full-time, first-time-in-college
 789 students and may be extended to include other enrolled students.
 790 The policy must, at a minimum:

791 (I) Include block tuition and any required fees,
 792 including, but not limited to, tuition differential fees,
 793 activity and service fees, financial aid fees, capital
 794 improvement fees, athletic fees, health fees, and technology
 795 fees.

796 (II) Require the university to maximize the application of
 797 appropriate accelerated credits to minimize unnecessary credits
 798 and excess hours.

799 (III) Enable students to have the flexibility to earn at
 800 least 30 credits per academic year in any combination of fall,

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

801 spring, and summer academic terms or semesters for no greater
 802 than the cost of tuition and required fees authorized pursuant
 803 to this section for the 2017-2018 academic year.

804 (b) A proposal developed pursuant to paragraph (a) shall
 805 be submitted in accordance with the public notification
 806 requirements of subsection (20) and guidelines established by
 807 the Board of Governors. Approval by the Board of Governors of
 808 such proposals ~~proposal~~ must be made in accordance with the
 809 ~~provisions of~~ this subsection. By April 1, 2018, each state
 810 university board of trustees must submit to the Board of
 811 Governors its block tuition policy, adopted pursuant to
 812 subparagraph (a)3., along with information on the potential
 813 impact of the policy on students. By August 1, 2018, the
 814 Chancellor of the State University System must submit to the
 815 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
 816 House of Representatives a summary report of such policies, the
 817 status of the board's review and approval of such policies, and
 818 the board's recommendations for improving block tuition and fee
 819 benefits for students.

820 (16) Each university board of trustees may establish a
 821 tuition differential for undergraduate courses upon receipt of
 822 approval from the Board of Governors. However, beginning July 1,
 823 2014, the Board of Governors may only approve the establishment
 824 of or an increase in tuition differential for a state research
 825 university designated as a preeminent state research university

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

826 | pursuant to s. 1001.7065(3). The tuition differential shall
 827 | promote improvements in the quality of undergraduate education
 828 | and shall provide financial aid to undergraduate students who
 829 | exhibit financial need.

830 | (a) Seventy percent of the revenues from the tuition
 831 | differential shall be expended for purposes of undergraduate
 832 | education. Such expenditures may include, but are not limited
 833 | to, increasing course offerings, improving graduation rates,
 834 | increasing the percentage of undergraduate students who are
 835 | taught by faculty, decreasing student-faculty ratios, providing
 836 | salary increases for faculty who have a history of excellent
 837 | teaching in undergraduate courses, improving the efficiency of
 838 | the delivery of undergraduate education through academic
 839 | advisement and counseling, and reducing the percentage of
 840 | students who graduate with excess hours. This expenditure for
 841 | undergraduate education may not be used to pay the salaries of
 842 | graduate teaching assistants. Except as otherwise provided in
 843 | this subsection, the remaining 30 percent of the revenues from
 844 | the tuition differential, or the equivalent amount of revenue
 845 | from private sources, shall be expended to provide financial aid
 846 | to undergraduate students who exhibit financial need, including
 847 | students who are scholarship recipients under s. 1009.984, to
 848 | meet the cost of university attendance. This expenditure for
 849 | need-based financial aid shall not supplant the amount of need-
 850 | based aid provided to undergraduate students in the preceding

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

851 fiscal year from financial aid fee revenues, the direct
 852 appropriation for financial assistance provided to state
 853 universities in the General Appropriations Act, or from private
 854 sources. The total amount of tuition differential waived under
 855 subparagraph (b) 7. ~~(b) 8.~~ may be included in calculating the
 856 expenditures for need-based financial aid to undergraduate
 857 students required by this subsection. If the entire tuition and
 858 fee costs of resident students who have applied for and received
 859 Pell Grant funds have been met and the university has excess
 860 funds remaining from the 30 percent of the revenues from the
 861 tuition differential required to be used to assist students who
 862 exhibit financial need, the university may expend the excess
 863 portion in the same manner as required for the other 70 percent
 864 of the tuition differential revenues.

865 (b) Each tuition differential is subject to the following
 866 conditions:

867 1. The tuition differential may be assessed on one or more
 868 undergraduate courses or on all undergraduate courses at a state
 869 university.

870 2. The tuition differential may vary by course or courses,
 871 by campus or center location, and by institution. Each
 872 university board of trustees shall strive to maintain and
 873 increase enrollment in degree programs related to math, science,
 874 high technology, and other state or regional high-need fields
 875 when establishing tuition differentials by course.

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

876 3. For each state university that is designated as a
 877 preeminent state research university by the Board of Governors,
 878 pursuant to s. 1001.7065, the aggregate sum of tuition and the
 879 tuition differential may be increased by no more than 6 percent
 880 of the total charged for the aggregate sum of these fees in the
 881 preceding fiscal year. The tuition differential may be increased
 882 if the university meets or exceeds performance standard targets
 883 for that university established annually by the Board of
 884 Governors for the following performance standards, amounting to
 885 no more than a 2-percent increase in the tuition differential
 886 for each performance standard:

887 a. An increase in the 4-year ~~6-year~~ graduation rate for
 888 full-time, first-time-in-college students, as reported annually
 889 to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System.

890 b. An increase in the total annual research expenditures.

891 c. An increase in the total patents awarded by the United
 892 States Patent and Trademark Office for the most recent years.

893 4. The aggregate sum of undergraduate tuition and fees per
 894 credit hour, including the tuition differential, may not exceed
 895 the national average of undergraduate tuition and fees at 4-year
 896 degree-granting public postsecondary educational institutions.

897 ~~5. The tuition differential shall not be included in any
 898 award under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
 899 established pursuant to ss. 1009.53-1009.538.~~

900 ~~5.6.~~ Beneficiaries having prepaid tuition contracts

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

901 pursuant to s. 1009.98(2)(b) which were in effect on July 1,
 902 2007, and which remain in effect, are exempt from the payment of
 903 the tuition differential.

904 6.7. The tuition differential may not be charged to any
 905 student who was in attendance at the university before July 1,
 906 2007, and who maintains continuous enrollment.

907 7.8. The tuition differential may be waived by the
 908 university for students who meet the eligibility requirements
 909 for the Florida public student assistance grant established in
 910 s. 1009.50.

911 8.9. Subject to approval by the Board of Governors, the
 912 tuition differential authorized pursuant to this subsection may
 913 take effect with the 2009 fall term.

914 (e) The Board of Governors shall submit a report to the
 915 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
 916 Representatives, and the Governor describing the implementation
 917 of the provisions of this subsection no later than February 1 of
 918 each year. The report shall summarize proposals received by the
 919 board during the preceding fiscal year and actions taken by the
 920 board in response to such proposals. In addition, the report
 921 shall provide the following information for each university that
 922 has been approved by the board to assess a tuition differential:

- 923 1. The course or courses for which the tuition
 924 differential was assessed and the amount assessed.
 925 2. The total revenues generated by the tuition

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

926 differential.

927 3. With respect to waivers authorized under subparagraph
 928 (b)7. ~~(b)8.~~, the number of students eligible for a waiver, the
 929 number of students receiving a waiver, and the value of waivers
 930 provided.

931 4. Detailed expenditures of the revenues generated by the
 932 tuition differential.

933 5. Changes in retention rates, graduation rates, the
 934 percentage of students graduating with more than 110 percent of
 935 the hours required for graduation, pass rates on licensure
 936 examinations, the number of undergraduate course offerings, the
 937 percentage of undergraduate students who are taught by faculty,
 938 student-faculty ratios, and the average salaries of faculty who
 939 teach undergraduate courses.

940 (20) Each state university shall publicly notice and
 941 notify all enrolled students of any proposal to change ~~increase~~
 942 tuition or fees at least 28 days before its consideration at a
 943 board of trustees meeting. The notice must:

944 (a) Include the date and time of the meeting at which the
 945 proposal will be considered.

946 (b) Specifically outline the details of existing tuition
 947 and fees, the rationale for the proposed change ~~increase~~, and
 948 how the funds from the proposed change ~~increase~~ will be used.

949 (c) Be posted on the university's website and issued in a
 950 press release.

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

951 Section 14. Subsection (9) of section 1009.53, Florida
 952 Statutes, is amended to read:

953 1009.53 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.—

954 (9) A student may use a Florida Academic Scholar ~~an~~ award
 955 for summer term enrollment beginning in the 2018 summer term, as
 956 funded in the General Appropriations Act. A student may use
 957 other Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program awards for
 958 summer term enrollment, if funded in the General Appropriations
 959 Act ~~if funds are available.~~

960 Section 15. Subsection (2) of section 1009.534, Florida
 961 Statutes, is amended to read:

962 1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.—

963 (2) A Florida Academic Scholar who is enrolled in a
 964 certificate, diploma, associate, or baccalaureate degree program
 965 at a public or nonpublic postsecondary education institution is
 966 eligible for an award equal to the amount required to pay 100
 967 percent of tuition and fees established under ss. 1009.22(3),
 968 (5), (6), and (7); 1009.23(3), (4), (7), (8), (10), and (11);
 969 and 1009.24(4), (7)-(13), (14)(r), and (16), as applicable, and
 970 is eligible for an additional \$300 each fall and spring academic
 971 semester or the equivalent for textbooks and ~~specified in the~~
 972 ~~General Appropriations Act~~ to assist with the payment of
 973 educational expenses.

974 Section 16. Subsection (2) of section 1009.535, Florida
 975 Statutes, is amended to read:

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

976 | 1009.535 Florida Medallion Scholars award.—

977 | (2) A Florida Medallion Scholar who is enrolled in a
 978 | certificate, diploma, associate, or baccalaureate degree program
 979 | at a public or nonpublic postsecondary education institution is
 980 | eligible, beginning in the fall 2018 semester, for an award
 981 | equal to the amount required to pay 75 percent of tuition and
 982 | fees established under ss. 1009.22(3), (5), (6), and (7);
 983 | 1009.23(3), (4), (7), (8), (10), and (11); and 1009.24(4), (7)-
 984 | (13), (14)(r), and (16), as applicable ~~specified in the General~~
 985 | ~~Appropriations Act~~ to assist with the payment of educational
 986 | expenses.

987 | Section 17. Subsections (1), (2), and (4) and paragraph
 988 | (c) of subsection (5) of section 1009.701, Florida Statutes, are
 989 | amended to read:

990 | 1009.701 First Generation Matching Grant Program.—

991 | (1) The First Generation Matching Grant Program is created
 992 | to enable each state university and Florida College System
 993 | institution to provide donors with a matching grant incentive
 994 | for contributions that will create grant-based student financial
 995 | aid for undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need
 996 | and whose parents, as defined in s. 1009.21(1), have not earned
 997 | a baccalaureate degree. In the case of any individual who
 998 | regularly resided with and received support from only one
 999 | parent, an individual whose only such parent did not complete a
 1000 | baccalaureate degree would also be eligible.

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1001 (2) Funds appropriated by the Legislature for the program
 1002 shall be allocated by the Office of Student Financial Assistance
 1003 to match private contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis;
 1004 however, beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, such funds
 1005 shall be allocated at a ratio of \$2 of state funds to \$1 of
 1006 private contributions to provide additional funding to increase
 1007 the number of eligible students receiving the scholarship. After
 1008 all eligible students have received an award, the remaining
 1009 funds may be used to increase award amounts based on financial
 1010 need. Contributions made to a state university or a Florida
 1011 College System institution and pledged for the purposes of this
 1012 section are eligible for state matching funds appropriated for
 1013 this program and are not eligible for any other state matching
 1014 grant program. Pledged contributions are not eligible for
 1015 matching prior to the actual collection of the total funds. The
 1016 Office of Student Financial Assistance shall reserve a
 1017 proportionate allocation of the total appropriated funds for
 1018 each state university and Florida College System institution on
 1019 the basis of full-time equivalent enrollment. Funds that remain
 1020 unmatched as of December 1 shall be reallocated to state
 1021 universities and colleges that have remaining unmatched private
 1022 contributions for the program on the basis of full-time
 1023 equivalent enrollment.

1024 (4) Each participating state university and Florida
 1025 College System institution shall establish an application

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1026 process, determine student eligibility for initial and renewal
 1027 awards in conformance with subsection (5), identify the amount
 1028 awarded to each recipient, and notify recipients of the amount
 1029 of their awards.

1030 (5) In order to be eligible to receive a grant pursuant to
 1031 this section, an applicant must:

1032 (c) Be accepted at a state university or Florida College
 1033 System institution.

1034 Section 18. Subsections (2), (4), and (5) of section
 1035 1009.893, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1036 1009.893 Benacquisto Scholarship Program.—

1037 (2) The Benacquisto Scholarship Program is created to
 1038 reward a ~~any Florida~~ high school graduate who receives
 1039 recognition as a National Merit Scholar or National Achievement
 1040 Scholar and who initially enrolls in the 2014-2015 academic year
 1041 or, later, in a baccalaureate degree program at an eligible
 1042 Florida public or independent postsecondary educational
 1043 institution.

1044 (4) In order to be eligible for an award under the
 1045 scholarship program, a student must meet the requirements of
 1046 paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).÷

1047 (a) A student who is a resident of the state, ~~Be a state~~
 1048 ~~resident~~ as determined in s. 1009.40 and rules of the State
 1049 Board of Education, must:÷

1050 1. ~~(b)~~ Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1051 equivalent pursuant to s. 1002.3105, s. 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282,
 1052 or s. 1003.435 unless:

1053 ~~a.1.~~ The student completes a home education program
 1054 according to s. 1002.41; or

1055 ~~b.2.~~ The student earns a high school diploma from a non-
 1056 Florida school while living with a parent who is on military or
 1057 public service assignment out of this state;

1058 ~~2.(e)~~ Be accepted by and enroll in a Florida public or
 1059 independent postsecondary educational institution that is
 1060 regionally accredited; and

1061 ~~3.(d)~~ Be enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree
 1062 program at an eligible regionally accredited Florida public or
 1063 independent postsecondary educational institution during the
 1064 fall academic term following high school graduation.

1065 (b) A student who initially enrolls in a baccalaureate
 1066 degree program in the 2018-2019 academic year or later and who
 1067 is not a resident of this state, as determined in s. 1009.40 and
 1068 rules of the State Board of Education, must:

1069 1. Physically reside in this state on or near the campus
 1070 of the postsecondary educational institution in which the
 1071 student is enrolled;

1072 2. Earn a high school diploma from a school outside
 1073 Florida which is comparable to a standard Florida high school
 1074 diploma or its equivalent pursuant to s. 1002.3105, s.
 1075 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282, or s. 1003.435 or must complete a home

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1076 education program in another state; and

1077 3. Be accepted by and enrolled full-time in a
 1078 baccalaureate degree program at an eligible regionally
 1079 accredited Florida public or independent postsecondary
 1080 educational institution during the fall academic term following
 1081 high school graduation.

1082 (5) (a) 1. An eligible student who meets the requirements of
 1083 paragraph (4) (a), who is a National Merit Scholar or National
 1084 Achievement Scholar, and who attends a Florida public
 1085 postsecondary educational institution shall receive a
 1086 scholarship award equal to the institutional cost of attendance
 1087 minus the sum of the student's Florida Bright Futures
 1088 Scholarship and National Merit Scholarship or National
 1089 Achievement Scholarship.

1090 2. An eligible student who meets the requirements under
 1091 paragraph (4) (b), who is a National Merit Scholar, and who
 1092 attends a Florida public postsecondary educational institution
 1093 shall receive a scholarship award equal to the institutional
 1094 cost of attendance for a resident of this state minus the
 1095 student's National Merit Scholarship. Such student is exempt
 1096 from the payment of out-of-state fees.

1097 (b) An eligible student who is a National Merit Scholar or
 1098 National Achievement Scholar and who attends a Florida
 1099 independent postsecondary educational institution shall receive
 1100 a scholarship award equal to the highest cost of attendance for

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1101 a resident of this state enrolled at a Florida public
 1102 university, as reported by the Board of Governors of the State
 1103 University System, minus the sum of the student's Florida Bright
 1104 Futures Scholarship and National Merit Scholarship or National
 1105 Achievement Scholarship.

1106 Section 19. Section 1009.894, Florida Statutes, is created
 1107 to read:

1108 1009.894 Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program.-
 1109 The Legislature recognizes the vital contribution of farmworkers
 1110 to the economy of this state. The Florida Farmworker Student
 1111 Scholarship Program is created to provide scholarships for
 1112 farmworkers, as defined in s. 420.503, and the children of such
 1113 farmworkers.

1114 (1) The Department of Education shall administer the
 1115 Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program according to
 1116 rules and procedures established by the State Board of
 1117 Education. Up to 50 scholarships shall be awarded annually
 1118 according to the criteria established in subsection (2) and
 1119 contingent upon an appropriation in the General Appropriations
 1120 Act.

1121 (2) (a) To be eligible for an initial scholarship, a
 1122 student must, at a minimum:

1123 1. Have a resident status as required by s. 1009.40 and
 1124 rules of the State Board of Education;

1125 2. Earn a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1126 | of 3.5 for all high school courses creditable toward a diploma;
 1127 | 3. Complete a minimum of 30 hours of community service;
 1128 | and
 1129 | 4. Have at least a 90 percent attendance rate and not have
 1130 | had any disciplinary action brought against him or her, as
 1131 | documented on the student's high school transcript.
 1132 |
 1133 | For purposes of this section, students who are undocumented for
 1134 | federal immigration purposes are not eligible for an award.
 1135 | (b) The department shall rank eligible initial applicants
 1136 | for the purposes of awarding scholarships based on need, as
 1137 | determined by the department.
 1138 | (c) To renew a scholarship awarded pursuant to this
 1139 | section, a student must maintain at least a cumulative grade
 1140 | point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale for college
 1141 | coursework.
 1142 | (3) A scholarship recipient must enroll in a minimum of 12
 1143 | credit hours per term, or the equivalent, at a public
 1144 | postsecondary educational institution in this state to receive
 1145 | funding.
 1146 | (4) A scholarship recipient may receive an award for a
 1147 | maximum of 100 percent of the number of credit hours required to
 1148 | complete an associate or baccalaureate degree program or receive
 1149 | an award for a maximum of 100 percent of the credit hours or
 1150 | clock hours required to complete up to 90 credit hours of a

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1151 program that terminates in a career certificate. The scholarship
 1152 recipient is eligible for an award equal to the amount required
 1153 to pay the tuition and fees established under ss. 1009.22(3),
 1154 (5), (6), and (7); 1009.23(3), (4), (7), (8), (10), and (11);
 1155 and 1009.24(4), (7)-(13), (14)(r), and (16), as applicable, at a
 1156 public postsecondary educational institution in this state.
 1157 Renewal scholarship awards must take precedence over new
 1158 scholarship awards in a year in which funds are not sufficient
 1159 to accommodate both initial and renewal awards. The scholarship
 1160 must be prorated for any such year.

1161 (5) Subject to appropriation in the General Appropriations
 1162 Act, the department shall annually issue awards from the
 1163 scholarship program. Before the registration period each
 1164 semester, the department shall transmit payment for each award
 1165 to the president or director of the postsecondary educational
 1166 institution, or his or her representative. However, the
 1167 department may withhold payment if the receiving institution
 1168 fails to submit the following reports or make the following
 1169 refunds to the department:

1170 (a) Each institution shall certify to the department the
 1171 eligibility status of each student to receive a disbursement
 1172 within 30 days before the end of its regular registration
 1173 period, inclusive of a drop and add period. An institution is
 1174 not required to reevaluate the student eligibility after the end
 1175 of the drop and add period.

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1176 (b) An institution that receives funds from the
 1177 scholarship program must certify to the department the amount of
 1178 funds disbursed to each student and remit to the department any
 1179 undisbursed advance within 60 days after the end of the regular
 1180 registration period.

1181 (6) The department shall allocate funds to the appropriate
 1182 institutions and collect and maintain data regarding the
 1183 scholarship program within the student financial assistance
 1184 database as specified in s. 1009.94.

1185 (7) Funding for this program shall be as provided in the
 1186 General Appropriations Act.

1187 Section 20. Present paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection
 1188 (10) of section 1009.98, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 1189 paragraphs (f) and (g), respectively, and a new paragraph (e) is
 1190 added to that subsection, to read:

1191 1009.98 Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid College Program.—

1192 (10) PAYMENTS ON BEHALF OF QUALIFIED BENEFICIARIES.—

1193 (e) Notwithstanding the number of credit hours used by a
 1194 state university to assess the amount for registration fees,
 1195 tuition, tuition differential, or local fees, the amount paid by
 1196 the board to any state university on behalf of a qualified
 1197 beneficiary of an advance payment contract purchased before July
 1198 1, 2024, may not exceed the number of credit hours taken by that
 1199 qualified beneficiary at the state university.

1200 Section 21. Subsection (4) of section 1011.90, Florida

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1201 Statutes, is amended to read:
 1202 1011.90 State university funding.—
 1203 (4) The Board of Governors shall establish and validate a
 1204 cost-estimating system consistent with the requirements of
 1205 subsection (1) and shall report as part of its legislative
 1206 budget request the actual expenditures for the fiscal year
 1207 ending the previous June 30. The legislative budget request must
 1208 also include 5-year trend information on the ratios of student
 1209 enrollment to faculty and administrators at each university. The
 1210 ratio of students to administrators at any state university may
 1211 not grow at a greater rate than the ratio of students to
 1212 faculty. Expenditure analysis, operating budgets, and annual
 1213 financial statements of each university must be prepared using
 1214 the standard financial reporting procedures and formats
 1215 prescribed by the Board of Governors. These formats shall be the
 1216 same as used for the 2000-2001 fiscal year reports. Any
 1217 revisions to these financial and reporting procedures and
 1218 formats must be approved by the Executive Office of the Governor
 1219 and the appropriations committees of the Legislature jointly
 1220 under the provisions of s. 216.023(3). The Board of Governors
 1221 shall continue to collect and maintain at a minimum management
 1222 information existing on June 30, 2002. The expenditure analysis
 1223 report shall include total expenditures from all sources for the
 1224 general operation of the university and shall be in such detail
 1225 as needed to support the legislative budget request.

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1226 Section 22. The Division of Law Revision and Information
 1227 is directed to substitute the term "Effective Access to Student
 1228 Education Grant Program" for "Florida Resident Access Grant
 1229 Program" and the term "Effective Access to Student Education
 1230 grant" for "Florida resident access grant" wherever those terms
 1231 appear in the Florida Statutes.

1232 Section 23. Effective July 1, 2020, sections 1004.33 and
 1233 1004.34, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

1234 Section 24. Section 1004.335, Florida Statutes, is created
 1235 to read:

1236 1004.335 Accreditation consolidation of University of
 1237 South Florida branch campuses.—

1238 (1) No later than January 15, 2019, the Board of Trustees
 1239 of the University of South Florida must adopt and submit to the
 1240 Board of Governors an implementation plan to orderly phase out
 1241 of the separate accreditation of the University of South Florida
 1242 St. Petersburg campus and the University of South Florida
 1243 Sarasota/Manatee campus, which were conferred by the Southern
 1244 Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
 1245 (SACSCOC) pursuant to ss. 1004.33 and 1004.34, respectively.

1246 (2) The implementation plan must:

1247 (a) Detail any necessary steps, and the timeline for such
 1248 steps, to ensure that the separate accreditation for each campus
 1249 is terminated no later than June 30, 2020. The implementation
 1250 plan must also ensure that there is no lapse in institutional

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1251 accreditation for any campus during the phasing-out process.

1252 (b) Be designed and carried out in a manner that, to the
 1253 extent possible, minimizes any disruption to students attending
 1254 any University of South Florida campus, with an emphasis on
 1255 ensuring that each student's opportunity to graduate from the
 1256 university within 4 years of his or her initial first-time-in-
 1257 college enrollment is not impeded as a result of the
 1258 consolidation of SACSCOC accreditation.

1259 (c) Provide that on or before July 1, 2020, the entirety
 1260 of the University of South Florida, including all campuses and
 1261 other component units of the university, shall operate under a
 1262 single institutional accreditation from the SACSCOC.

1263 (d) Provide that on each regularly scheduled submission
 1264 date subsequent to July 1, 2020, the University of South Florida
 1265 shall report consolidated data for all of the university's
 1266 campuses and students to the Integrated Postsecondary Education
 1267 Data System and to the Board of Governors. The Board of
 1268 Governors shall use the consolidated data for purposes of
 1269 determining eligibility for funding pursuant to ss. 1001.7065
 1270 and 1001.92.

1271 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of ss. 1001.7065 and
 1272 1001.92 or any Board of Governors regulation to the contrary
 1273 relating to the calculation of graduation rates and retention
 1274 rates, a student who meets all of the following criteria may not
 1275 be counted by the Board of Governors when calculating or

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1276 | confirming the graduation rate or the retention rate of the
 1277 | University of South Florida under those sections:
 1278 | (a) The student was admitted to and initially enrolled
 1279 | before the spring 2019 semester as a first-time-in-college
 1280 | student at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg or the
 1281 | University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee.
 1282 | (b) The student voluntarily disenrolled from all
 1283 | University of South Florida campuses without graduating before
 1284 | the date of termination of the separate SACSCOC accreditation of
 1285 | his or her admitting campus.
 1286 | (4) This section expires July 1, 2020.
 1287 | Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 1004.344, Florida
 1288 | Statutes, is amended to read:
 1289 | 1004.344 The Florida Center for the Partnerships for Arts
 1290 | Integrated Teaching.—
 1291 | (1) The Florida Center for the Partnerships for Arts
 1292 | Integrated Teaching is created within the University of South
 1293 | Florida and shall be physically headquartered at the University
 1294 | of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee.
 1295 | Section 26. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
 1296 | law.