LEGISLATIVE ACTION House Senate

Appropriations Subcommittee on Education (Stargel) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (18) of section 1001.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.03 Specific powers of State Board of Education.-

(18) PUBLIC EDUCATION CAPITAL OUTLAY.—The State Board of Education shall develop and submit the prioritized list required by s. 1013.64(4). Projects considered for prioritization shall

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11 be chosen from a preliminary selection group which shall include 12 the list of projects maintained pursuant to paragraph (d) and 13 the top two priorities of each Florida College System 14 institution.

- (c) A new construction, remodeling, or renovation project that has not received an appropriation in a previous year shall not be considered for inclusion on the prioritized list required by s. 1013.64(4), unless:
- 1. A plan is provided to reserve funds in an escrow account, specific to the project, into which shall be deposited each year an amount of funds equal to 0.5 percent of the total value of the building for future maintenance;
- 2. There exists are sufficient capacity within the cash and bonding estimate of funds by the Revenue Estimating Conference to accommodate the project excess funds from the allocation provided pursuant to s. 1013.60 within the 3-year Public Education Capital Outlay funding cycle planning period which are not needed to complete the projects listed pursuant to paragraph $\frac{d}{d}$; and
- 3. The project has been recommended pursuant to s. 1013.31. Section 2. Subsections (2), (3), (5), (6), and (7) of section 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 1001.7065 Preeminent state research universities program.-
- (2) ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE STANDARDS.—The following academic and research excellence standards are established for the preeminent state research universities program and must be reported annually in the Board of Governors Accountability Plan:
 - (a) An average weighted grade point average of 4.0 or

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higher on a 4.0 scale and an average SAT score of 1800 or higher on a 2400-point scale or 1200 or higher on a 1600-point scale for fall semester incoming freshmen, as reported annually.

- (b) A top-50 ranking on at least two well-known and highly respected national public university rankings, including, but not limited to, the U.S. News and World Report rankings, reflecting national preeminence, using most recent rankings.
- (c) A freshman retention rate of 90 percent or higher for full-time, first-time-in-college students, as reported annually to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).
- (d) A 4-year graduation rate of 60 percent or higher for full-time, first-time-in-college students, as reported annually to the IPEDS. However, for the 2018 determination of a state university's preeminence designation and the related distribution of the 2018-2019 fiscal year appropriation associated with preeminence and emerging preeminence, a university is considered to have satisfied this graduation rate measure by attaining a 6-year graduation rate of 70 percent or higher by October 1, 2017, for full-time, first-time-in-college students, as reported to the IPEDS and confirmed by the Board of Governors.
- (e) Six or more faculty members at the state university who are members of a national academy, as reported by the Center for Measuring University Performance in the Top American Research Universities (TARU) annual report or the official membership directories maintained by each national academy.
- (f) Total annual research expenditures, including federal research expenditures, of \$200 million or more, as reported annually by the National Science Foundation (NSF).

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- (g) Total annual research expenditures in diversified nonmedical sciences of \$150 million or more, based on data reported annually by the NSF.
- (h) A top-100 university national ranking for research expenditures in five or more science, technology, engineering, or mathematics fields of study, as reported annually by the NSF.
- (i) One hundred or more total patents awarded by the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the most recent 3-year period.
- (j) Four hundred or more doctoral degrees awarded annually, including professional doctoral degrees awarded in medical and health care disciplines, as reported in the Board of Governors Annual Accountability Report.
- (k) Two hundred or more postdoctoral appointees annually, as reported in the TARU annual report.
- (1) An endowment of \$500 million or more, as reported in the Board of Governors Annual Accountability Report.
 - (3) PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY DESIGNATION.
- (a) The Board of Governors shall designate each state university that annually meets at least 11 of the 12 academic and research excellence standards identified in subsection (2) as a "preeminent state research university."
- (b) The Board of Governors shall designate each state university that annually meets at least 6 of the 12 academic and research excellence standards identified in subsection (2) as an "emerging preeminent state research university."
- (5) PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES PROGRAM SUPPORT.-
 - (a) A state university that is designated as a preeminent

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state research university shall submit to the Board of Governors a 5-year benchmark plan with target rankings on key performance metrics for national excellence. Upon approval by the Board of Governors, and upon the university's meeting the benchmark plan goals annually, the Board of Governors shall award the university its proportionate share of any funds provided annually to support the program created under this section.

(b) A state university designated as an emerging preeminent state research university shall submit to the Board of Governors a 5-year benchmark plan with target rankings on key performance metrics for national excellence. Upon approval by the Board of Governors, and upon the university's meeting the benchmark plan goals annually, the Board of Governors shall award the university its proportionate share of any funds provided annually to support the program created under this section.

(c) The award of funds under this subsection is contingent upon funding provided by the Legislature to support the preeminent state research universities program created under this section. Funding increases appropriated beyond the amounts funded in the previous fiscal year shall be distributed equally to as follows:

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

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



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- (6) PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY FLEXIBILITY AUTHORITY.—The Board of Governors is encouraged to identify and grant all reasonable, feasible authority and flexibility to ensure that each designated preeminent state research university and each designated emerging preeminent state research university is free from unnecessary restrictions.
- (7) STATE UNIVERSITIES PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION EXCELLENCE THROUGHOUT THE STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.—The Board of Governors shall establish standards and measures that may be used in identifying state universities that focus on one core competency unique to the State University System and that achieve excellence at the national or state level, meet state workforce needs, and foster an innovation economy that focuses on such areas as health care, security, transportation, and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), including supply chain management. By each January 1, the Board of Governors may submit such programs whereby individual undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs in state universities which objectively reflect national excellence can be identified and make recommendations to the Legislature for funding by September 1, 2018, as to how any such programs could be enhanced and promoted.

Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 1004.085, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.085 Textbook and instructional materials affordability.-

(4) Each Florida College System institution and state university board of trustees is authorized to adopt policies in

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consultation with providers, including bookstores, which allow for the use of innovative pricing techniques and payment options for textbooks and instructional materials. Such policies may include bulk pricing arrangements that enable students to purchase course materials or texts that are delivered digitally; delivered through other technologies that are, or the licenses of which are, required for use within a course; or delivered in a print format. Innovative pricing techniques and payment options must include an opt-in or opt-out provision for students and may be approved only if there is documented evidence that the options reduce the cost of textbooks and instructional materials for students taking a course.

Section 4. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 1004.346, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.346 Florida Industrial and Phosphate Research Institute.-

- (2) PHOSPHATE RESEARCH AND ACTIVITIES BOARD.-The Phosphate Research and Activities Board is created to monitor the expenditure of funds appropriated to the university from the Phosphate Research Trust Fund.
- (c) Members of the board appointed by the Governor shall be appointed to 3-year terms. A board member may continue to serve until a successor is appointed, but not more than 180 days after the expiration of his or her term. A board member is eligible for reappointment to subsequent terms.

Section 5. Section 1009.50, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.50 Florida Public Student Assistance Grant Program; eligibility for grants.-

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- (1) There is hereby created a Florida Public Student Assistance Grant Program. The program shall be administered by the participating institutions in accordance with rules of the state board.
- (2)(a) State student assistance grants through the program may be made only to degree-seeking students who enroll in at least 6 semester hours, or the equivalent per term, and who meet the general requirements for student eligibility as provided in s. 1009.40, except as otherwise provided in this section. The grants shall be awarded annually for the amount of demonstrated unmet need for the cost of education and may not exceed the maximum annual award an amount equal to the average prior academic year cost of tuition fees and other registration fees for 30 credit hours at state universities or such other amount as specified in the General Appropriations Act, to any recipient. A demonstrated unmet need of less than \$200 shall render the applicant ineligible for a state student assistance grant. Recipients of the grants must have been accepted at a state university or Florida College System institution authorized by Florida law. If funds are available, a student who received an award in the fall or spring term may receive a summer term award. A student is eligible for the award for 110 percent of the number of credit hours required to complete the program in which enrolled, except as otherwise provided in s. 1009.40(3).
- (b) A student applying for a Florida public student assistance grant shall be required to apply for the Pell Grant. The Pell Grant entitlement shall be considered when conducting an assessment of the financial resources available to each



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- (c) Priority in the distribution of grant moneys shall be given to students with the lowest total family resources, in accordance with a nationally recognized system of need analysis. Using the system of need analysis, the department shall establish a maximum expected family contribution. An institution may not make a grant from this program to a student whose expected family contribution exceeds one and one-half times the maximum Pell Grant-eligible family contribution level established by the department. An institution may not impose additional criteria to determine a student's eligibility to receive a grant award.
- (d) Each participating institution shall report, to the department by the established date τ the eligible students eligible for the program for to whom grant moneys are disbursed each academic term. Each institution shall also report to the department necessary demographic and eligibility data for such students.
- (3) Based on the unmet financial need of an eligible applicant, the amount of a Florida public student assistance grant must be between \$200 and the weighted average of the cost of tuition and other registration fees for 30 credit hours at state universities per academic year or the amount specified in the General Appropriations Act.
- (4)(a) The funds appropriated for the Florida Public Student Assistance Grant shall be distributed to eliqible institutions in accordance with a formula approved by the State Board of Education. The formula must shall consider at least the prior year's distribution of funds, the number of full-time

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eligible applicants who did not receive awards, the standardization of the expected family contribution, and provisions for unused funds. The formula must account for changes in the number of eligible students across all student assistance grant programs established pursuant to this section and ss. 1009.505, 1009.51, and 1009.52.

- (b) Payment of Florida public student assistance grants shall be transmitted to the president of the state university or Florida College System institution, or to his or her representative, in advance of the registration period. Institutions shall notify students of the amount of their awards.
- (c) The eligibility status of each student to receive a disbursement shall be determined by each institution as of the end of its regular registration period, inclusive of a drop-add period. Institutions shall not be required to reevaluate a student's eligibility status after this date for purposes of changing eligibility determinations previously made.
- (d) Institutions shall certify to the department within 30 days after the end of regular registration each term the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit to the department any undisbursed advances within 60 days after the end of regular registration each spring term any advances by June 1 of each year. An exception to the remittance deadline may be granted if the institution documents to the department how it plans to disburse awards to students for the subsequent summer term. An institution that uses funds for the summer term shall certify to the department the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit to the department any undisbursed

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advances within 30 days after the end of the summer term.

- (e) Each institution that receives moneys through the Florida Public Student Assistance Grant Program shall prepare a biennial report that includes a financial audit, conducted by the Auditor General, of the institution's administration of the program and a complete accounting of moneys allocated to the institution for the program. Such report shall be submitted to the department by March 1 every other year. The department may conduct its own annual or biennial audit of an institution's administration of the program and its allocated funds in lieu of the required biennial report and financial audit report. The department may suspend or revoke an institution's eligibility to receive future moneys for the program or may request a refund of any moneys overpaid to the institution for the program if the department finds that an institution has not complied with this section. Any refund requested pursuant to this paragraph shall be remitted within 60 days after notification by the department.
- (5) Funds appropriated by the Legislature for state student assistance grants may be deposited in the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year which has been allocated to the Florida Public Student Assistance Grant Program shall remain therein and shall be available for carrying out the purposes of this section.
- (6) The State Board of Education shall establish rules necessary to implement this section.

Section 6. Present subsections (5) and (6) of section 1009.505, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6)

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and (7), respectively, a new subsection (5) is added to that section, and subsections (3) and (4) of that section are amended, to read:

1009.505 Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program. -

- (3) (a) Student assistance grants through the program may be made only to certificate-seeking students enrolled at least half-time in a public postsecondary career certificate program who meet the general requirements for student eligibility as provided in s. 1009.40, except as otherwise provided in this section. The grants shall be awarded annually to any recipient for the amount of demonstrated unmet need for the cost of education and may not exceed the average annual cost of tuition and registration fees or such other amount as specified in the General Appropriations Act. A demonstrated unmet need of less than \$200 shall render the applicant ineligible for a grant under this section. Recipients of the grants must have been accepted at a Florida College System institution authorized by Florida law or a career center operated by a district school board under s. 1001.44. If funds are available, a student who received an award in the fall or spring term may receive a summer term award. A student is eligible for the award for 110 percent of the number of clock hours required to complete the program in which enrolled.
- (b) A student applying for a Florida public postsecondary career education student assistance grant shall be required to apply for the Pell Grant. A Pell Grant entitlement shall be considered when conducting an assessment of the financial resources available to each student; however, a Pell Grant

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entitlement shall not be required as a condition of receiving a grant under this section.

- (c) Each participating institution shall report τ to the department by the established date, the eligible students eligible for the program for to whom grant moneys are disbursed each academic term. Each institution shall also report to the department necessary demographic and eligibility data for such students.
- (4)(a) The funds appropriated for the Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program shall be distributed to eligible Florida College System institutions and district school boards in accordance with a formula approved by the department. The formula must account for changes in the number of eligible students across all student assistance grant programs established pursuant to this section and ss. 1009.50, 1009.51, and 1009.52.
- (b) Payment of Florida public postsecondary career education student assistance grants shall be transmitted to the president of the Florida College System institution or to the district school superintendent, or to the designee thereof, in advance of the registration period. Institutions shall notify students of the amount of their awards.
- (c) The eligibility status of each student to receive a disbursement shall be determined by each institution as of the end of its regular registration period, inclusive of a drop-add period. Institutions shall not be required to reevaluate a student's eligibility status after this date for purposes of changing eligibility determinations previously made.
 - (d) Participating institutions shall certify to the

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department within 30 days after the end of regular registration each term the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit to the department any undisbursed advances within 60 days after the end of regular registration each spring term by June 1 of each year. An exception to the remittance deadline may be granted if the institution documents to the department how it plans to disburse awards to students for the subsequent summer term. An institution that uses funds for the summer term shall certify to the department the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit to the department any undisbursed advances within 30 days after the end of the summer term.

- (e) Each institution that receives moneys through the Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program shall prepare a biennial report that includes a financial audit, conducted by the Auditor General, of the institution's administration of the program and a complete accounting of moneys allocated to the institution for the program. Such report shall be submitted to the department by March 1 every other year. The department may conduct its own annual or biennial audit of an institution's administration of the program and its allocated funds in lieu of the required biennial report and financial audit report. The department may suspend or revoke an institution's eligibility to receive future moneys for the program or may request a refund of any moneys overpaid to the institution if the department finds that an institution has not complied with this section. Any refund requested pursuant to this paragraph shall be remitted within 60 days after notification by the department.
 - (5) Funds appropriated by the Legislature for state student

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assistance grants may be deposited in the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund. Notwithstanding s. 216.301, and pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year which has been allocated to the Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program shall remain therein and shall be available for carrying out the purposes of this section.

Section 7. Section 1009.51, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.51 Florida Private Student Assistance Grant Program; eligibility for grants.-

- (1) There is created a Florida Private Student Assistance Grant Program. The program shall be administered by the participating institutions in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education.
- (2)(a) Florida private student assistance grants from the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund may be made only to full-time degree-seeking students who meet the general requirements for student eligibility as provided in s. 1009.40, except as otherwise provided in this section. Such grants shall be awarded for the amount of demonstrated unmet need for tuition and fees and may not exceed the maximum annual award an amount equal to the average tuition and other registration fees for 30 credit hours at state universities plus \$1,000 per academic year, or as specified in the General Appropriations Act, to any applicant. A demonstrated unmet need of less than \$200 shall render the applicant ineligible for a Florida private student assistance grant. Recipients of such grants must have been accepted at a baccalaureate-degree-granting independent

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nonprofit college or university, which is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and which is located in and chartered as a domestic corporation by the state. If funds are available, a student who received an award in the fall or spring term may receive a summer term award. No student may receive an award for more than the equivalent of 9 semesters or 14 quarters of full-time enrollment, except as otherwise provided in s. 1009.40(3).

- (b) A student applying for a Florida private student assistance grant shall be required to apply for the Pell Grant. The Pell Grant entitlement shall be considered when conducting an assessment of the financial resources available to each student.
- (c) Priority in the distribution of grant moneys shall be given to students with the lowest total family resources, in accordance with a nationally recognized system of need analysis. Using the system of need analysis, the department shall establish a maximum expected family contribution. An institution may not make a grant from this program to a student whose expected family contribution exceeds one and one-half times the maximum Pell Grant-eligible family contribution level established by the department. An institution may not impose additional criteria to determine a student's eligibility to receive a grant award.
- (d) Each participating institution shall report, to the department by the established date, the eliqible students eligible for the program for to whom grant moneys are disbursed each academic term. Each institution shall also report to the department necessary demographic and eligibility data for such



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- (3) Based on the unmet financial need of an eliqible applicant, the amount of a Florida private student assistance grant must be between \$200 and the average cost of tuition and other registration fees for 30 credit hours at state universities plus \$1,000 per academic year or the amount specified in the General Appropriations Act.
- (4)(a) The funds appropriated for the Florida Private Student Assistance Grant shall be distributed to eligible institutions in accordance with a formula approved by the State Board of Education. The formula must shall consider at least the prior year's distribution of funds, the number of full-time eligible applicants who did not receive awards, the standardization of the expected family contribution, and provisions for unused funds. The formula must account for changes in the number of eligible students across all student assistance grant programs established pursuant to this section and ss. 1009.50, 1009.505, and 1009.52.
- (b) Payment of Florida private student assistance grants shall be transmitted to the president of the college or university, or to his or her representative, in advance of the registration period. Institutions shall notify students of the amount of their awards.
- (c) The eligibility status of each student to receive a disbursement shall be determined by each institution as of the end of its regular registration period, inclusive of a drop-add period. Institutions shall not be required to reevaluate a student's eliqibility status after this date for purposes of changing eligibility determinations previously made.

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- (d) Institutions shall certify to the department within 30 days after the end of regular registration each term the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit to the department any undisbursed advances within 60 days after the end of regular registration each spring term by June 1 of each year. An exception to the remittance deadline may be granted if the institution documents to the department how it plans to disburse awards to students for the subsequent summer term. An institution that uses funds for the summer term shall certify to the department the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit to the department any undisbursed advances within 30 days after the end of the summer term.
- (e) Each institution that receives moneys through the Florida Private Student Assistance Grant Program shall prepare a biennial report that includes a financial audit, conducted by an independent certified public accountant, of the institution's administration of the program and a complete accounting of moneys in the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund allocated to the institution for the program. Such report shall be submitted to the department by March 1 every other year. The department may conduct its own annual or biennial audit of an institution's administration of the program and its allocated funds in lieu of the required biennial report and financial audit report. The department may suspend or revoke an institution's eligibility to receive future moneys from the trust fund for the program or request a refund of any moneys overpaid to the institution through the trust fund for the program if the department finds that an institution has not complied with the provisions of this section. Any refund

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requested pursuant to this paragraph shall be remitted within 60 days after notification by the department.

- (5) Funds appropriated by the Legislature for Florida private student assistance grants may be deposited in the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year which has been allocated to the Florida Private Student Assistance Grant Program shall remain therein and shall be available for carrying out the purposes of this section and as otherwise provided by law.
- (6) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section.
- Section 8. Section 1009.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1009.52 Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant Program; eligibility for grants.-
- (1) There is created a Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant Program. The program shall be administered by the participating institutions in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education.
- (2)(a) Florida postsecondary student assistance grants through the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund may be made only to full-time degree-seeking students who meet the general requirements for student eligibility as provided in s. 1009.40, except as otherwise provided in this section. Such grants shall be awarded for the amount of demonstrated unmet need for tuition and fees and may not exceed the maximum annual award an amount equal to the average prior academic year cost



tuition and other registration fees for 30 credit hours at state universities plus \$1,000 per academic year, or as specified in the General Appropriations Act, to any applicant. A demonstrated unmet need of less than \$200 shall render the applicant ineligible for a Florida postsecondary student assistance grant. Recipients of such grants must have been accepted at a postsecondary institution that is located in this the state and that is:

- 1. A private nursing diploma school approved by the Florida Board of Nursing; or
- 2. A college or university licensed by the Commission for Independent Education, excluding those institutions the students of which are eligible to receive a Florida private student assistance grant pursuant to s. 1009.51.

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If funds are available, a student who received an award in the fall or spring term may receive a summer term award. No student may receive an award for more than the equivalent of 9 semesters or 14 quarters of full-time enrollment, except as otherwise provided in s. 1009.40(3).

- (b) A student applying for a Florida postsecondary student assistance grant shall be required to apply for the Pell Grant. The Pell Grant entitlement shall be considered when conducting an assessment of the financial resources available to each student.
- (c) Priority in the distribution of grant moneys shall be given to students with the lowest total family resources, in accordance with a nationally recognized system of need analysis. Using the system of need analysis, the department shall

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establish a maximum expected family contribution. An institution may not make a grant from this program to a student whose expected family contribution exceeds one and one-half times the maximum Pell Grant-eligible family contribution level established by the department. An institution may not impose additional criteria to determine a student's eligibility to receive a grant award.

- (d) Each participating institution shall report, to the department by the established date, the $\frac{\text{eligible}}{\text{r}}$ students eligible for the program for to whom grant moneys are disbursed each academic term. Each institution shall also report to the department necessary demographic and eligibility data for such students.
- (3) Based on the unmet financial need of an eligible applicant, the amount of a Florida postsecondary student assistance grant must be between \$200 and the average cost of tuition and other registration fees for 30 credit hours at state universities plus \$1,000 per academic year or the amount specified in the General Appropriations Act.
- (4)(a) The funds appropriated for the Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant shall be distributed to eligible institutions in accordance with a formula approved by the State Board of Education. The formula must shall consider at least the prior year's distribution of funds, the number of full-time eligible applicants who did not receive awards, the standardization of the expected family contribution, and provisions for unused funds. The formula must account for changes in the number of eligible students across all student assistance grant programs established pursuant to this section

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and ss. 1009.50, 1009.505, and 1009.51.

- (b) Payment of Florida postsecondary student assistance grants shall be transmitted to the president of the eligible institution, or to his or her representative, in advance of the registration period. Institutions shall notify students of the amount of their awards.
- (c) The eligibility status of each student to receive a disbursement shall be determined by each institution as of the end of its regular registration period, inclusive of a drop-add period. Institutions shall not be required to reevaluate a student's eligibility status after this date for purposes of changing eligibility determinations previously made.
- (d) Institutions shall certify to the department within 30 days after the end of regular registration each term the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit to the department any undisbursed advances within 60 days after the end of regular registration each spring term by June 1 of each year. An exception to the remittance deadline may be granted if the institution documents to the department how it plans to disburse awards to students for the subsequent summer term. An institution that uses funds for the summer term shall certify to the department the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit to the department any undisbursed advances within 30 days after the end of the summer term.
- (e) Each institution that receives moneys through the Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant Program shall prepare a biennial report that includes a financial audit, conducted by an independent certified public accountant, of the institution's administration of the program and a complete

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accounting of moneys in the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund allocated to the institution for the program. Such report shall be submitted to the department by March 1 every other year. The department may conduct its own annual or biennial audit of an institution's administration of the program and its allocated funds in lieu of the required biennial report and financial audit report. The department may suspend or revoke an institution's eligibility to receive future moneys from the trust fund for the program or request a refund of any moneys overpaid to the institution through the trust fund for the program if the department finds that an institution has not complied with the provisions of this section. Any refund requested pursuant to this paragraph shall be remitted within 60 days after notification by the department.

- (5) Any institution that was eligible to receive state student assistance grants on January 1, 1989, and that is not eligible to receive grants pursuant to s. 1009.51 is eligible to receive grants pursuant to this section.
- (6) Funds appropriated by the Legislature for Florida postsecondary student assistance grants may be deposited in the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year which has been allocated to the Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant Program shall remain therein and shall be available for carrying out the purposes of this section and as otherwise provided by law.
- (7) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

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Section 9. Subsections (2), (4), (5), and (6) of section 1009.893, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1009.893 Benacquisto Scholarship Program.—

- (2) The Benacquisto Scholarship Program is created to reward a high school graduate who receives recognition as a National Merit Scholar or National Achievement Scholar and who initially enrolls in the 2014-2015 academic year or, later, in a baccalaureate degree program at an eligible Florida public or independent postsecondary educational institution.
- (4) In order to be eligible for an initial award under the scholarship program, a student must meet the requirements of paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).
- (a) A student who is a resident of this state, as determined in s. 1009.40 and rules of the State Board of Education, must:
- 1. Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its equivalent pursuant to s. 1002.3105, s. 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282, or s. 1003.435 unless:
- a. The student completes a home education program according to s. 1002.41; or
- b. The student earns a high school diploma from a non-Florida school while living with a parent who is on military or public service assignment out of this state;
- 2. Be accepted by and enroll in a Florida public or independent postsecondary educational institution that is regionally accredited; and
- 3. Be enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree program at an eligible regionally accredited Florida public or independent postsecondary educational institution during the

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fall academic term following high school graduation.

- (b) A student who initially enrolls in a baccalaureate degree program in the 2018-2019 academic year or later and who is not a resident of this state, as determined in s. 1009.40 and rules of the State Board of Education, must:
- 1. Physically reside in this state on or near the campus of the postsecondary educational institution in which the student is enrolled;
- 2. Earn a high school diploma from a school outside Florida which is comparable to a standard Florida high school diploma or its equivalent pursuant to s. 1002.3105, s. 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282, or s. 1003.435 or must complete a home education program in another state; and
- 3. Be accepted by and enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree program at an eligible regionally accredited Florida public or independent postsecondary educational institution during the fall academic term following high school graduation.
- (5)(a)1. An eligible student who meets the requirements of paragraph (4)(a), who is a National Merit Scholar or National Achievement Scholar, and who attends a Florida public postsecondary educational institution shall receive a scholarship award equal to the institutional cost of attendance minus the sum of the student's Florida Bright Futures Scholarship and National Merit Scholarship or National Achievement Scholarship.
- 2. An eligible student who meets the requirements of paragraph (4)(b), who is a National Merit Scholar, and who attends a Florida public postsecondary educational institution shall receive a scholarship award equal to the institutional

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cost of attendance for a resident of this state minus the student's National Merit Scholarship. Such student is exempt from the payment of out-of-state fees.

- (b) An eligible student who is a National Merit Scholar or National Achievement Scholar and who attends a Florida independent postsecondary educational institution shall receive a scholarship award equal to the highest cost of attendance for a resident of this state enrolled at a Florida public university, as reported by the Board of Governors of the State University System, minus the sum of the student's Florida Bright Futures Scholarship and National Merit Scholarship or National Achievement Scholarship.
- (6)(a) To be eligible for a renewal award, a student must be enrolled full time, earn all credits for which he or she was enrolled, and maintain a 3.0 or higher grade point average. An eligible Benacquisto Scholar who has fewer than 12 credits remaining to complete his or her first baccalaureate degree may receive funding for one term in order to complete the degree.
- (b) A student's renewal status is not affected by subsequent changes in the residency status of the student or the residency status of the student's family.
- (c) (b) A student may receive the scholarship award for a maximum of 100 percent of the number of credit hours required to complete a baccalaureate degree program, or until completion of a baccalaureate degree program, whichever comes first.
- (d) A student may receive an award for up to 5 years following high school graduation and may not receive the award for more than 10 semesters.
 - (e) A student who receives an award under this program and

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fails to meet the renewal requirements due to a verifiable illness or other documented emergency may be granted an exception pursuant to s. 1009.40(1)(b)4.

Section 10. Section 1011.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 1011.45 End of year balance of funds.—Unexpended amounts in any fund in a university current year operating budget shall be carried forward and included as the balance forward for that fund in the approved operating budget for the following year.
- (1) Each university shall maintain a minimum carry forward balance of at least 7 percent of its state operating budget. If a university fails to maintain a 7 percent balance in state operating funds, the university shall submit a plan to the Board of Governors to attain the 7 percent balance of state operating funds within the next fiscal year.
- (2) Each university that retains a state operating fund carry forward balance in excess of the 7 percent minimum shall submit a spending plan for its excess carry forward balance. The spending plan shall be submitted to the university's board of trustees for review, approval, or, if necessary, amendment by September 30 \pm , 2020, and each September 30 \pm thereafter. The Board of Governors shall review, approve, and amend, if necessary, each university's carry forward spending plan by November 15 October 1, 2020, and each November 15 October 1 thereafter.
- (3) A university's carry forward spending plan shall include the estimated cost per planned expenditure and a timeline for completion of the expenditure. Authorized expenditures in a carry forward spending plan may include:

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- (a) Commitment of funds to a public education capital outlay project for which an appropriation has previously been provided that requires additional funds for completion and which is included in the list required by s. 1001.706(12)(d);
- (b) Completion of a renovation, repair, or maintenance project that is consistent with the provisions of s. 1013.64(1), up to \$5 million per project, and replacement of a minor facility that does not exceed 10,000 gross square feet in size up to \$2 million;
- (c) Completion of a remodeling or infrastructure project, including a project for a development research school, up to \$10 million per project, if such project is survey recommended pursuant to s. 1013.31;
- (d) Completion of a repair or replacement project necessary due to damage caused by a natural disaster for buildings included in the inventory required pursuant to s. 1013.31;
- (e) Operating expenditures that support the university mission and that are nonrecurring; and
- (f) Any purpose specified by the board or in the General Appropriations Act; and
- (g) A commitment of funds to a contingency reserve to assist in addressing unforeseen circumstances that may arise, including natural disasters and other emergencies.
- (4) Annually, by September 30, the chief financial officer of each university shall certify the unexpended amount of funds appropriated to the university from the General Revenue Fund, the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund, and the Education/General Student and Other Fees Trust Fund as of June 30 of the previous fiscal year.

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(5) A university may spend the minimum carry forward carryforward balance of 7 percent if a demonstrated emergency exists and the plan is approved by the university's board of trustees and the Board of Governors.

Section 11. Subsection (3) of section 1012.976, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.976 Remuneration of state university administrative employees; limitations.-

(3) EXCEPTIONS.—This section does not prohibit any party from providing cash or cash-equivalent compensation from funds that are not appropriated state funds to a state university administrative employee in excess of the limit in subsection (2). If a party is unable or unwilling to fulfill an obligation to provide cash or cash-equivalent compensation to a state university administrative employee as permitted under this subsection, appropriated state funds may not be used to fulfill such obligation. This section does not apply to university teaching faculty or medical school faculty or staff. The Board of Governors shall define in regulation the university faculty and administrative personnel classifications.

Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2), paragraph (b) of subsection (3), and subsection (4) of section 1013.841, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1013.841 End of year balance of Florida College System institution funds.-

(2) (b) Each Florida College System institution with a final FTE less than 15,000 for the prior year that retains a state operating fund carry forward balance in excess of the 5 percent minimum shall submit a spending plan for its excess carry

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forward balance. The spending plan shall include all excess carry forward funds from state operating funds. The spending plan shall be submitted to the Florida College System institution's board of trustees for approval by September 30 1, 2020, and each September 30 1 thereafter. The State Board of Education shall review and publish each Florida College System institution's carry forward spending plan by November 15 October 1, 2020, and each November 15 October 1 thereafter.

- (3) (b) Each Florida College System institution with a final FTE of 15,000 or greater for the prior year that retains a state operating fund carry forward balance in excess of the 7 percent minimum shall submit a spending plan for its excess carry forward balance. The spending plan shall include all excess carry forward funds from state operating funds. The spending plan shall be submitted to the Florida College System institution's board of trustees for approval by September 30 1, 2020, and each September 30 \pm thereafter. The State Board of Education shall review and publish each Florida College System institution's carry forward spending plan by November 15 October 1, 2020, and each November 15 October 1 thereafter.
- (4) A Florida College System institution identified in paragraph (3)(a) must include in its carry forward spending plan the estimated cost per planned expenditure and a timeline for completion of the expenditure. Authorized expenditures in a carry forward spending plan may include:
- (a) Commitment of funds to a public education capital outlay project for which an appropriation was previously provided, which requires additional funds for completion, and which is included in the list required by s. 1001.03(18)(d);



- (b) Completion of a renovation, repair, or maintenance project that is consistent with the provisions of s. 1013.64(1), up to \$5 million per project;
- (c) Completion of a remodeling or infrastructure project, up to \$10 million per project, if such project is survey recommended pursuant to s. 1013.31;
- (d) Completion of a repair or replacement project necessary due to damage caused by a natural disaster for buildings included in the inventory required pursuant to s. 1013.31;
- (e) Operating expenditures that support the Florida College System institution's mission which are nonrecurring; and
- (f) Any purpose approved by the state board or specified in the General Appropriations Act; and
- (g) A commitment of funds to a contingency reserve to assist in addressing unforeseen circumstances that may arise, including natural disasters and other emergencies.

Section 13. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

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======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to postsecondary education; amending s. 1001.03, F.S.; clarifying requirements for new construction, remodeling, or renovation projects; amending s. 1001.7065, F.S.; requiring that certain academic and research excellence standards be reported annually in the accountability plan prepared by the

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Board of Governors; revising the academic and research excellence standards established for the preeminent state research universities program; removing references to the emerging preeminence designation; establishing criteria for identifying state universities of distinction, rather than programs of excellence, throughout the State University System; authorizing the Board of Governors to annually submit, by a specified date, the programs for funding by the Legislature; amending s. 1004.085, F.S.; requiring certain innovative pricing techniques and payment options to contain an opt-out provision for students; amending s. 1004.346, F.S.; deleting a provision related to terms of Phosphate Research and Activities Board members; amending s. 1009.50, F.S.; revising a provision relating to the maximum annual grant amount; providing that students who receive a grant award in the fall or spring term may also receive an award in the summer term, subject to availability of funds; prohibiting institutions from dispensing grants to students whose expected family contribution exceeds a certain amount; requiring that the formula used to distribute funds for the program account for changes in the number of eligible students across all student assistance grant programs; requiring institutions to certify the amount of funds disbursed within a certain timeframe; requiring institutions to remit any undisbursed advances within a specified timeframe; providing an exception; requiring institutions that

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receive moneys through the program to submit to the department by a specified date a biennial report that includes a financial audit conducted by the Auditor General; authorizing the department to conduct its own annual or biennial audit under certain circumstances; authorizing the department to suspend or revoke an institution's eligibility or request a refund of moneys overpaid to the institution under certain circumstances; providing a timeframe for such refunds; amending s. 1009.505, F.S.; requiring that grant awards administered through the Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program not exceed a certain amount; providing that students who receive a grant award in the fall or spring term may also receive an award in the summer term, subject to the availability of funds; requiring the formula used to distribute funds for the program to account for changes in the number of eligible students across all student assistance grant programs; requiring institutions to certify within a certain timeframe the amount of funds disbursed; requiring institutions to remit within a specified timeframe any undisbursed advances; providing an exception; requiring institutions that receive moneys through the program to submit to the department by a specified date a biennial report that includes a financial audit conducted by the Auditor General; authorizing the department to conduct its own annual or biennial audit under certain circumstances; authorizing the

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department to suspend or revoke an institution's eligibility or to request a refund of moneys overpaid to the institution under certain circumstances; authorizing funds appropriated for state student assistance grants to be deposited in a specified trust fund; requiring that any balance in the trust fund at the end of a fiscal year which has been allocated to the Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program remain therein, subject to certain statutory exceptions; amending s. 1009.51, F.S.; requiring that grant awards administered through the Florida Private Student Assistance Grant Program not exceed the maximum annual award amount specified in the General Appropriations Act; providing that students who receive an award in the fall or spring term may also receive an award in the summer term, subject to the availability of funds; prohibiting institutions from dispensing grants to students whose expected family contribution exceeds a certain amount; requiring that the formula used to distribute funds for the program account for changes in the number of eligible students across all student assistance grant programs; requiring institutions to certify within a certain timeframe the amount of funds disbursed; requiring institutions to remit within a specified timeframe any undisbursed advances; providing an exception; revising a requirement for a biennial report; amending s. 1009.52, F.S.; requiring that grants administered through the Florida

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Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant Program not exceed a certain annual award amount; providing that students who receive a grant award in the fall or spring term may also receive an award in the summer term, subject to the availability of funds; prohibiting institutions from dispensing grants to students whose expected family contribution exceeds a certain amount; requiring that the formula used to distribute funds for the program account for changes in the number of eligible students across all student assistance grant programs; requiring institutions to certify within a certain timeframe the amount of funds disbursed; requiring institutions to remit within a specified timeframe any undisbursed advances; providing an exception; revising a requirement for a biennial report; amending s. 1009.893, F.S.; specifying eligibility for initial awards under the Benacquisto Scholarship Program; revising requirements for a student to receive a renewal award; providing a timeframe within which students can receive an award; providing an exception to renewal requirements; amending s. 1011.45, F.S.; revising the date by which a spending plan must be submitted to a university's board of trustees for approval; revising the date by which the Board of Governors must review and approve such spending plan; authorizing certain expenditures in a carry forward spending plan to include a commitment of funds to a contingency reserve for certain purposes; amending s. 1012.976, F.S.;

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requiring the Board of Governors to adopt regulations defining university faculty and administrative personnel classifications; amending s. 1013.841, F.S.; revising the dates by which a spending plan must be submitted to a Florida College System institution's board of trustees for approval; revising the dates by which the State Board of Education shall review and publish such plans; authorizing certain expenditures in a carry forward spending plan to include a commitment of funds to a contingency reserve for certain purposes; providing an effective date.