

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Florida Medical School
 3 Scholarship and Grant Program; amending s. 1009.70,
 4 F.S.; revising the authorized use of funds from the
 5 Florida Education Fund; revising the responsibilities
 6 of the Board of Directors of the Florida Education
 7 Fund; establishing the Florida Medical School
 8 Scholarship and Grant Program within the fund for
 9 specified purposes; requiring the fund to award
 10 scholarships to certain minority students enrolled in
 11 specified schools or programs; providing requirements
 12 for such scholarships; authorizing the fund to provide
 13 grants to certain postsecondary educational
 14 institutions or nonprofit organizations to create and
 15 implement nontraditional mentoring services or support
 16 programs for specified purposes; providing an
 17 appropriation; providing an effective date.

18
 19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

20
 21 Section 1. Subsections (6) and (7) of section 1009.70,
 22 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (7) and (8),
 23 respectively, paragraph (b) of subsection (2), paragraph (c) of
 24 subsection (3), and subsection (5) are amended, and a new
 25 subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

26 | 1009.70 Florida Education Fund.—
 27 | (2)
 28 | (b) The Legislature may appropriate funds to the Florida
 29 | Education Fund to be used for scholarships and grants under
 30 | subsections ~~subsection~~ (5) and (6). Funds appropriated to the
 31 | Florida Education Fund shall be matched on a dollar-for-dollar
 32 | basis by funds contributed from private sources, including, but
 33 | not limited to, income earned from investment returns on the
 34 | Florida Education Fund Endowment, the value of monetary and in-
 35 | kind contributions to the McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Program,
 36 | the value of services provided by McKnight Doctoral Fellows to
 37 | Florida not-for-profit corporations and public and nonpublic
 38 | colleges and universities, and the value of tuition and fees
 39 | paid on behalf of McKnight Doctoral Fellows from funds not
 40 | appropriated to the Florida Education Fund. The Florida
 41 | Education Fund shall certify to the Department of Education's
 42 | Office of Student Financial Assistance the estimated value of
 43 | such matching amounts before ~~prior to~~ the disbursement of the
 44 | appropriation and shall certify to the Legislature the actual
 45 | value of such matching amounts as of June 30 each year. Only new
 46 | donations above the certified prior year base shall be
 47 | calculated for state matching funds. The department shall
 48 | provide the format for which the Florida Education Fund shall
 49 | comply with the reporting requirements of this paragraph.
 50 | (3) The Florida Education Fund shall use the income of the

51 fund to provide for programs which seek to:

52 (c) Increase the representation of minorities in faculty
53 and administrative positions in higher education and medical
54 fields in this state and to provide more highly educated
55 minority leadership in business and professional enterprises in
56 this state.

57 (5) The Board of Directors of the Florida Education Fund
58 shall review and evaluate initial programs created by the
59 McKnight Foundation and continue funding the McKnight Doctoral
60 Fellowship Program and the McKnight Junior Faculty Fellowship
61 Program if the evaluations are positive, shall fund the Florida
62 Medical School Scholarship and Grant Program under subsection
63 (6), and ~~the board~~ shall identify, initiate, and fund new and
64 creative programs and monitor, review, and evaluate those
65 programs. The purpose of this commitment is to broaden the
66 participation and funding potential for further significant
67 support of higher education in this state. In addition, the
68 board shall:

69 (a) Hold such meetings as are necessary to implement this
70 section.

71 (b) Select a chairperson annually.

72 (c) Adopt and use an official seal in the authentication
73 of its acts.

74 (d) Make rules for its own government.

75 (e) Administer this section, including creating a budget

76 for the administration of the Florida Medical School Scholarship
 77 and Grant Program.

78 (f) Appoint an executive director to serve at its pleasure
 79 and perform all duties assigned by the board. The executive
 80 director shall be the chief administrative officer and agent of
 81 the board.

82 (g) Maintain a record of its proceedings.

83 (h) Delegate to the chairperson of the board the
 84 responsibility for signing final orders.

85 (i) Utilize existing higher education organizations,
 86 associations, and agencies to carry out its educational programs
 87 and purposes with minimal staff employment.

88 (j) Be empowered to enter into contracts with the Federal
 89 Government, state agencies, or individuals.

90 (k) Receive bequests, gifts, grants, donations, and other
 91 valued goods and services. Such bequests and gifts shall be used
 92 only for the purpose or purposes stated by the donor.

93 (6) (a) There is established the Florida Medical School
 94 Scholarship and Grant Program to be administered by the Florida
 95 Education Fund to provide scholarships to black and Hispanic
 96 students enrolled in an accredited medical school or an approved
 97 physician assistant program in the state and to create
 98 nontraditional mentoring services or support programs for such
 99 students.

100 (b) The Florida Education Fund shall award scholarships to

101 black and Hispanic students who are United States citizens and
 102 are currently enrolled in an accredited medical school or an
 103 approved physician assistant program in the state that will lead
 104 to licensure under chapter 458 or chapter 459. The scholarship
 105 amount shall be determined by the fund. Priority shall be given
 106 to students who are enrolled in an accredited medical school in
 107 the state and who graduated from a high school in the state in
 108 the last 10 years or graduated from a public or private
 109 postsecondary educational institution in the state in the last 5
 110 years. The fund may establish additional eligibility criteria.

111 (c) The Florida Education Fund may award grants to public
 112 or private postsecondary educational institutions or nonprofit
 113 organizations under s. 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal
 114 Revenue Code to create and implement nontraditional mentoring
 115 services or support programs to assist minority students and
 116 students of underrepresented racial and ethnic groups who are
 117 interested in pursuing careers that require a professional
 118 degree.

119 Section 2. For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, and each fiscal
 120 year thereafter, the sum of \$750,000 in recurring funds is
 121 appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Florida
 122 Education Fund for the purpose of implementing the Florida
 123 Medical School Scholarship and Grant Program.

124 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.