

# Florida Department of **EDUCATION**

**Bill Number:** CS/CS/CS/HB 851  
(CH. 2014-XX, Laws of Florida)- Pending final action by the Governor

**Bill Title:** Postsecondary Education Tuition and Fees

**Bill Sponsor:** Representative Nunez

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2014

**DOE Contact:** Randy Hanna, Chancellor of the Florida College System, (850) 245-0407

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## **Executive Summary:**

The bill extends caps on tuition and fee contract payments from the Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid College Program through 2024. It prohibits the amount assessed for registration fees, the tuition differential fee, local fees, and dormitory fees paid to state universities from exceeding 100 percent of the amount charged by the state university. The bill sets standard tuition rates for career certificates and applied technology diplomas. The bill sets standard tuition rates for advanced and professional, postsecondary vocational, developmental education, and education preparation institute programs at Florida College System (FCS) institutions, and undergraduate tuition for lower-level and upper-level coursework. It amends the tuition waiver for Purple Heart recipients, and waives out-of-state fees for students who meet certain criteria including undocumented students. The bill defines "parent" and revises residency for tuition purposes requirements for certain students.

## **Section 1.**

Amends s. 1009.98, F.S., Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid College Program to:

- Extend caps on tuition and fee contract payments from the Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid College Program through July 1, 2024.
- Prohibit the amount assessed for registration fees, the tuition differential fee, local fees, and dormitory fees paid to state universities from exceeding 100 percent of the amount charged by the state university.

## **Section 2.**

Amends s. 1009.22, F.S., Workforce education postsecondary student fees to:

- Set the standard tuition at \$2.33 per contact hour for residents and \$6.99 per contact hour for nonresidents for programs leading to a career certificate or an applied technology diploma.
- Eliminate the out-of-state fee for adult general education programs.
- Eliminate the statutory rate of inflation increase for workforce education program.

## **Section 3.**

Amends s. 1009.23, F.S., Florida College System institution student fees to:

- Set the standard tuition at \$71.98 per credit hour for residents and \$215.94 per credit hour for nonresidents for advanced and professional, postsecondary vocational, developmental education, and education preparation institute programs at FCS institutions.

# Florida Department of **EDUCATION**

- Eliminate the statutory rate of inflation increase for FCS institutions.

## **Section 4.**

Amends s. 1009.24, F.S., State university student fees to:

- Set the resident undergraduate tuition for lower-level and upper-level coursework at \$105.07 per credit hour.
- Eliminate the statutory rate of inflation increase for state universities.
- Allow the Board of Governors (BOG) to approve the establishment of or an increase in tuition differential for preeminent state research universities.
  - Limit this increase in tuition differential to no more than six percent from the preceding fiscal year.
  - Require universities to meet or exceed performance standard targets in order to raise tuition differential. Meeting or exceeding each target makes the university eligible to increase tuition differential by two percent. The performance standards:
    - An increase in the 6-year graduation rate for full-time, first-time-in-college students, as reported annually to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)
    - An increase in the total annual research expenditures
    - An increase in the total patents awarded by the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the most recent years

## **Section 5.**

Amends s. 1009.26, F.S., Fee waivers to:

- Require career centers operated by school districts, and charter technical career centers to waive tuition for undergraduate college credit programs and career certificate programs for Purple Heart or another combat decoration superior in precedence.
- Require state universities, FCS institutions, career centers operated by school districts, and charter technical career centers to waive out-of-state fees for students, including, but not limited to, students who are undocumented for federal immigration purposes if they:
  - Attended a secondary school in this state for 3 consecutive years immediately before graduating from a high school in this state;
  - Apply for enrollment in an institution of higher education within 24 months after high school graduation; and
  - Submit an official Florida high school transcript as evidence of attendance and graduation.
- Prohibit tuition and fees charged to a student who qualifies for the out-of-state fee waiver to be greater than those charged to a resident student. Stipulates that the waiver is applicable for 110 percent of the required credit hours of the degree or certificate program for which the student is enrolled.
- Require each state university, FCS institution, career center operated by a school district, and career charter technical center to report to the BOG and the State Board of Education (SBOE) respectively, the number and value of all fee waivers granted annually. By October 1 of each year, the BOG and the SBOE shall annually report for the previous year the percentage of resident and nonresident students enrolled systemwide.

# Florida Department of **EDUCATION**

- Require students receiving the out-of-state fee waiver to be reported as nonresident students for the purposes of calculating the systemwide total enrollment of nonresident students as limited by regulation of the BOG.
- Prohibit students receiving the out-of-state fee waiver from being eligible for state financial aid and prohibits reporting as a resident for tuition purposes.
- Require each state university, FCS institution, career center operated by a school district, and career charter technical center to prioritize the enrollment of a veteran who is granted an out-of-state fee waiver pursuant to the C.W. Bill Young Tuition Waiver Act over a student who is granted this out-of-state fee waiver within the nonresident student enrollment systemwide.

## **Section 6.**

Amends s. 1009.21, F.S., Determination of resident status for tuition purposes to:

- Re-define "parent" as either or both parents of a student, any guardian of a student, or any person in a parental relationship to a student.
- For residency purposes, revise the provision for a child to have lived with an adult relative for three years immediately before the child's enrollment in an institution of higher education.
- Prohibit a child who is a US citizen from being denied classification as a resident for tuition purposes based solely upon the immigration status of his or her parent.
- Revise the provision to allow a person who physically resides in this state to be classified as a resident for tuition purposes if he or she marries a person who meets the 12-month residency requirement and is a legal resident of this state.

## **General Implementation Timeline:**

July 1, 2014

The act becomes effective.