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A bill to be entitled An act relating to higher education; amending s. 1001.03, F.S.; requiring the State Board of Education to require Florida College System institutions to conduct an annual assessment related to intellectual freedom and viewpoint diversity at each institution; providing State Board of Education requirements relating to such assessment; amending s. 1001.706, F.S.; requiring the Board of Governors to require state universities to conduct an annual assessment related to intellectual freedom and viewpoint diversity at each university; providing Board of Governors requirements relating to such assessment; requiring selection of a president to be from a specified number of candidates; deleting a requirement that certain boards of trustees comply with specified provisions for the procurement of professional services; amending s. 1001.7065, F.S.; revising standards for the preeminent state research universities program; requiring such standards to be reported annually in a specified plan; repealing the programs of excellence designation within the State University System; creating the "state universities of distinction" designation within the State University System; requiring the Board of Governors to establish

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standards and measures for specific state university competencies; providing requirements for such standards and measures; authorizing the Board of Governors to annually submit such programs to the Legislature for funding by a specified date; amending s. 1001.92, F.S.; revising the performance-based metrics for state universities to include specific data beginning in a certain fiscal year; authorizing the Board of Governors to approve other metrics; prohibiting the adjustment of such metrics and benchmarks once specified data has been received; amending s. 1004.085, F.S.; requiring innovative pricing techniques and payment options to include an opt-out provision; amending s. 1004.346, F.S.; removing a limitation on the length of time a Phosphate Research and Activities Board member may serve after expiration of his or her term; creating s. 1004.6499, F.S.; creating the Florida Institute for Great Citizenship for a specified purpose; providing goals of the institute; amending s. 1009.50, F.S.; requiring that grants administered through the Florida Public Student Assistance Grant Program not exceed a certain amount; authorizing students who receive an award in the fall or spring term to receive an award in the summer term, subject to the availability of

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funds; prohibiting institutions from dispensing grants to students whose expected family contribution exceeds a certain amount; requiring institutions to certify the amount of funds disbursed within a specified timeframe; requiring institutions to remit any undisbursed advances within a specified timeframe; providing an exception; requiring institutions that receive moneys through the program to prepare and 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 grants administered through the Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program to not exceed a certain amount; authorizing students who receive an award in the fall or spring term to receive an award in the summer term, subject to the availability of funds; requiring institutions to certify the amount of funds disbursed within a specified timeframe; requiring

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institutions to remit any undisbursed advances within a specified timeframe; providing an exception; requiring institutions that receive moneys through the program to prepare and 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; 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 any fiscal year which has been allocated to the Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program remain in the trust fund, subject to certain statutory exceptions; amending s. 1009.51, F.S.; requiring that grants administered through the Florida Private Student Assistance Grant Program not exceed a certain amount; authorizing students who receive an award in the fall or spring term to receive an award in the summer term, subject to the availability of funds; prohibiting

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institutions from dispensing grants to students whose expected family contribution exceeds a certain amount; requiring institutions to certify the amount of funds disbursed within a specified timeframe; requiring institutions to remit any undisbursed advances within a specified timeframe; providing an exception; revising a requirement for a biennial report; amending s. 1009.52, F.S.; requiring that grants administered through the Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant Program not exceed a certain amount; authorizing students who receive an award in the fall or spring term to 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 institutions to certify the amount of funds disbursed within a specified timeframe; requiring institutions to remit any undisbursed advances within a specified timeframe; providing an exception; revising a requirement for a biennial report; amending s. 1009.893, F.S.; revising and 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 may receive an award; providing an

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exception to renewal requirements; amending s. 1011.45, F.S.; revising the date by which a university must annually submit a spending plan to the university's board of trustees for approval; revising the date by which the Board of Governors must annually review and approve such 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. 1011.90, F.S.; providing requirements for a specified legislative budget request; requiring the Board of Governors to define specified classifications by regulation and report such definitions in such budget requests; prohibiting the growth rate of administrators at a state university from exceeding the growth rate of faculty at such university; amending s. 1013.45, F.S.; authorizing university boards of trustees to use other factors, including price, for the procurement of professional services; requiring certain procedures to conform to specified requirements; deleting a provision prohibiting boards from modifying specified rules; amending s. 1013.841, F.S.; revising the date by which a Florida College System institution must annually submit a spending plan to the institution's board of trustees for approval; revising the date by

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151	which the State Board of Education must annually
152	review and publish such plans; authorizing certain
153	expenditures in a carry forward spending plan to
154	include a commitment of funds to a contingency reserve
155	for certain purposes; providing effective dates.
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157	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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159	Section 1. Subsection (19) is added to section 1001.03,
160	Florida Statutes, to read:
161	1001.03 Specific powers of State Board of Education
162	(19) INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AND VIEWPOINT DIVERSITY
163	ASSESSMENT.—The State Board of Education shall require each
164	Florida College System institution to conduct an annual
165	assessment of the intellectual freedom and viewpoint diversity
166	at that institution. The State Board of Education shall select
167	or create an objective, nonpartisan, and statistically valid
168	survey to be used by each institution that considers the extent
169	to which competing ideas and perspectives are presented and
170	members of the college community feel free to express their
171	beliefs and viewpoints on campus and in the classroom. The State
172	Board of Education shall annually compile and publish the
173	assessments by September 1 of each year beginning on September
174	<u>1, 2021.</u>
175	Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) and paragraph

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(a) of subsection (7) of section 1001.706, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (k) is added to subsection (3) of that section, to read:

1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.-

(3) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF STATE UNIVERSITIES.—

- (k) The Board of Governors shall require each state university to conduct an annual assessment of the intellectual freedom and viewpoint diversity at that institution. The Board of Governors shall select or create an objective, nonpartisan, and statistically valid survey to be used by each state university that considers the extent to which competing ideas and perspectives are presented and members of the university community feel free to express their beliefs and viewpoints on campus and in the classroom. The Board of Governors shall annually compile and publish the assessments by September 1 of each year beginning on September 1, 2021.
  - (6) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO PERSONNEL.-
- (a) The Board of Governors, or the board's designee, shall establish the personnel program for all employees of a state university. The Board of Governors shall confirm the presidential selection and reappointment by a university board of trustees as a means of acknowledging that system cooperation is expected. The selection of a president by a university board of trustees shall be from among at least three candidates.

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(7) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO PROPERTY.-

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- The Board of Governors shall develop guidelines for university boards of trustees relating to the acquisition of real and personal property and the sale and disposal thereof and the approval and execution of contracts for the purchase, sale, lease, license, or acquisition of commodities, goods, equipment, contractual services, leases of real and personal property, and construction. The acquisition may include purchase by installment or lease-purchase. Such contracts may provide for payment of interest on the unpaid portion of the purchase price. Title to all real property acquired prior to January 7, 2003, and to all real property acquired with funds appropriated by the Legislature shall be vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund and shall be transferred and conveyed by it. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this subsection, each board of trustees shall comply with the provisions of s. 287.055 for the procurement of professional services as defined therein. Any acquisition pursuant to this paragraph is subject to the provisions of s. 1010.62.
- Section 3. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsections (2), (5), 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

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established for the preeminent state research universities program and shall be reported annually in the Board of Governors Accountability Plan:

- (a) An average weighted grade point average of 4.0 or 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 or an average ACT score of 25 or higher on a 36 score scale, using the latest published national concordance table developed jointly by the College Board and ACT, Inc., 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

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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).
- (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 Covernors Annual Accountability Report.
  - (k) Two hundred or more postdoctoral appointees annually,

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276 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.
- (5) PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES PROGRAM SUPPORT.—
- (a) A state university that is designated as a 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.
- (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

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this section. Funding increases appropriated beyond the amounts funded in the previous fiscal year shall be distributed  $\underline{\text{to}}$  as  $\underline{\text{follows:}}$ 

- 1. each designated preeminent state research university that meets the criteria in paragraph (a). Each designated preeminent state research university 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 university.
- THROUGHOUT THE STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.—The Board of Governors shall establish standards and measures whereby state universities that focus on one core competency unique to the State University System that achieves excellence at the national or state level, meets state workforce needs, and fosters an innovation economy that focuses on areas such as health care, security, transportation, and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), including supply chain management, individual undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs in state universities which objectively reflect national excellence can be identified. The Board of Governors

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326	may annually submit such programs, excluding those from
327	preeminent state research universities, and make recommendations
328	to the Legislature by <u>January</u> <del>September</del> 1 for funding, 2018, as
329	to how any such programs could be enhanced and promoted.
330	Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 1001.92, Florida
331	Statutes, is amended to read:
332	1001.92 State University System Performance-Based
333	Incentive
334	(1) A State University System Performance-Based Incentive
335	shall be awarded to state universities using performance-based
336	metrics adopted by the Board of Governors of the State
337	University System. Beginning with the Board of Governors'
338	determination of each university's performance improvement and
339	achievement ratings for 2018, and the related distribution of
340	${ m \underline{annual}}$ ${ m \underline{the}}$ ${ m \underline{2018-2019}}$ fiscal year appropriation, the performance-
341	based metrics must include $\underline{:}$
342	(a) Beginning in fiscal year 2021-2022, a single
343	graduation rate metric comprised of 4-year graduation rates for
344	first-time-in-college students and 2-year graduation rates for
345	Florida College System institution associate in arts transfer
346	students;
347	(b) Retention rates;
348	(c) Postgraduation education rates;
349	(d) Degree production;
350	(e) Affordability;

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351	(f) Postgraduation employment and salaries, including wage
352	thresholds that reflect the added value of a baccalaureate
353	degree;
354	(g) Access rate, based on the percentage of undergraduate
355	students enrolled during the fall term who received a Pell Grant
356	during the fall term; and
357	(h) Beginning in fiscal year 2021-2022, the 6-year
358	graduation rate for students who are awarded a Pell Grant in
359	their first year.
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361	The Board of Governors may approve and other metrics approved by
362	the board in a publicly formally noticed meeting. The board
363	shall adopt benchmarks to evaluate each state university's
364	performance on the metrics to measure the state university's
365	achievement of institutional excellence or need for improvement
366	and minimum requirements for eligibility to receive performance
367	funding. Benchmarks and metrics may not be adjusted after
368	university performance data has been received by the Board of
369	Governors Access rate benchmarks must be differentiated and
370	scored to reflect the varying access rate levels among the state
371	universities; however, the scoring system may not include bonus
372	points.
373	Section 5. Subsection (4) of section 1004.085, Florida
374	Statutes, is amended to read:
375	1004.085 Textbook and instructional materials

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376 affordability.-

- (4) Each Florida College System institution and state university board of trustees is authorized to adopt policies in 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 6. Effective upon this act becoming a law, 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

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401	be appointed to 3-year terms. A board member may continue to
402	serve until a successor is appointed, but not more than 180 days
403	after the expiration of his or her term. A board member is
404	eligible for reappointment to subsequent terms.
405	Section 7. Section 1004.6499, Florida Statutes, is created
406	to read:
407	1004.6499 Florida Institute for Great Citizenship
408	(1) The Florida Institute for Great Citizenship is
409	established at the Florida State University for the purpose of
410	providing Floridians with a bipartisan, world-class institute
411	for intellectual diversity.
412	(2) The goals of the institute are to:
413	(a) Create undergraduate, graduate, post-doctoral, and
414	professional-level fellowship opportunities for advanced study
415	in civic literacy and engagement, political history, public
416	policy, government institutions, debate, and civic discourse.
417	(b) Create regular forums for civic engagement and public
418	policy discussions that are open to all students and the general

public, thereby fostering civil discourse and the development of

(d) Create a curriculum for educating K-12 and

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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and materials.

postsecondary students on how to engage their government and become great advocates for themselves and their community.

(e) Become a national and state resource on polling information and survey methodology.

- (3) The institute shall establish affiliate institutes at the University of Florida with a focus on American ideals and at Florida International University with a focus on free market economics.
- Section 8. Section 1009.50, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1009.50 Florida Public Student Assistance Grant Program; eligibility for grants.—
- (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

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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 an award in the summer term. 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 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 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 eligible institutions in accordance with a formula approved by the State Board of Education. The formula <u>must shall</u> consider at least the prior year's distribution of funds, the number of <u>full-time</u> eligible applicants who did not receive awards, the standardization of the expected family contribution, and provisions for unused funds.
- (b) Payment of Florida public student assistance grants shall be transmitted to the president of the state university or

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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.
- 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. 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 any advances by June 1 of each year.
- (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

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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 9. Subsections (5) and (6) of section 1009.505, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (6) and (7),

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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.—

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- (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 an award in the summer term. 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

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

- (c) Each participating institution shall report, 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.
- (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

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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 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. 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 by June 1 of each year.
- (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.

- student 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 10. 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

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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 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 an award in the summer term. No student may receive an award for more than the equivalent of 9 semesters or 14 quarters of fulltime 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.

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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 the 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 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 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

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institutions in accordance with a formula approved by the State Board of Education. The formula <u>must shall</u> consider at least the prior year's distribution of funds, the number of <del>full-time</del> eligible applicants who did not receive awards, the standardization of the expected family contribution, and provisions for unused funds.

- (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 eligibility status after this date for purposes of changing eligibility determinations previously made.
- 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. 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 by June 1 of each year.

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- 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 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

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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 11. 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.
- 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 of

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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.

If funds are available, a student who received an award in the fall or spring term may receive an award in the summer term. 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
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 the 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 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 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 <u>must shall</u> consider at least the prior year's distribution of funds, the number of <u>full-time</u> eligible applicants who did not receive awards, the standardization of the expected family contribution, and provisions for unused funds.

- (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.
- 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. 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 by June 1 of each year.

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- 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 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

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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.
- Section 12. 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 <u>initial</u> award under the scholarship program, a student must meet the requirements of paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).

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(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 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;

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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 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.

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(b) An eligible student who is a National Merit Scholar <del>or</del>
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.

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(e) A student who receives an award under this program and 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 13. Subsection (2) and paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (3) of section 1011.45, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (g) is added to subsection (3) of that section, 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.
- (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 1, 2020, and each September 30 1 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

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expenditures in a carry forward spending plan may include:

- (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 for expenses incurred as a result of a state of emergency declared by the Governor pursuant to s. 252.36.

Section 14. Subsection (4) of section 1011.90, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.90 State university funding.-

(4) The Board of Governors shall establish and validate a cost-estimating system consistent with the requirements of subsection (1) and shall report as part of its legislative budget request the actual expenditures for the fiscal year ending the previous June 30. The legislative budget request must also include 5-year trend information on the number of faculty and administrators at each university and the proportion of FTE dedicated to instruction and research compared to administration. The Board of Governors, by regulation, shall define faculty and administrator classifications and shall also report the definitions in the legislative budget request. The growth rate of administrators at a state university may not exceed the growth rate of faculty at such university.

Expenditure analysis, operating budgets, and annual financial

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 statements of each university must be prepared using the standard financial reporting procedures and formats prescribed by the Board of Governors. These formats shall be the same as used for the 2000-2001 fiscal year reports. Any revisions to these financial and reporting procedures and formats must be approved by the Executive Office of the Governor and the appropriations committees of the Legislature jointly under the provisions of s. 216.023(3). The Board of Governors shall continue to collect and maintain at a minimum management information existing on June 30, 2002. The expenditure analysis report shall include total expenditures from all sources for the general operation of the university and shall be in such detail as needed to support the legislative budget request.

Section 15. Subsection (4) of section 1013.45, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (f) is added to subsection (1) of that section, to read:

- 1013.45 Educational facilities contracting and construction techniques.—
- (1) Boards may employ procedures to contract for construction of new facilities, or for additions, remodeling, renovation, maintenance, or repairs to existing facilities, that will include, but not be limited to:
- (f) University boards of trustees may use other factors, including price, for the procurement of construction management and program management in accordance with regulations of the

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## Board of Governors.

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Except as otherwise provided in this section and s. 481.229, the services of a registered architect must be used for the development of plans for the erection, enlargement, or alteration of any educational facility. The services of a registered architect are not required for a minor renovation project for which the construction cost is less than \$50,000 or for the placement or hookup of relocatable educational facilities that conform with standards adopted under s. 1013.37. However, boards must provide compliance with building code requirements and ensure that these structures are adequately anchored for wind resistance as required by law. A district school board shall reuse existing construction documents or design criteria packages if such reuse is feasible and practical. If a school district's 5-year educational facilities work plan includes the construction of two or more new schools for students in the same grade group and program, such as elementary, middle, or high school, the district school board shall require that prototype design and construction be used for the construction of these schools. Notwithstanding s. 287.055, a board may purchase the architectural services for the design of educational or ancillary facilities under an existing contract agreement for professional services held by a district school board in the State of Florida, provided that the purchase is to the economic advantage of the purchasing board, the services

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conform to the standards prescribed by rules of the State Board of Education, and such reuse is not without notice to, and permission from, the architect of record whose plans or design criteria are being reused. Plans shall be reviewed for compliance with the State Requirements for Educational Facilities. Rules adopted under this section must establish uniform prequalification, selection, bidding, and negotiation procedures applicable to construction management contracts and the design-build process. This section does not supersede any small, woman-owned or minority-owned business enterprise preference program adopted by a board. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the negotiation procedures applicable to construction management, program management, contracts and the design-build process must conform to the requirements of s. 287.055. A board may not modify any rules regarding construction management contracts or the design-build process.

Section 16. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2), paragraph (b) of subsection (3), and paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (4) of section 1013.841, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (g) is added to subsection (4) of that section, 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

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state operating fund carry forward balance in excess of the 5 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 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 ±, 2020, and each September 30 ± thereafter. The State Board of Education shall review and publish each Florida College System institution's carry forward spending plan by November 15 October ±, 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

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completion of the expenditure. Authorized expenditures in a carry forward spending plan may include:

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- (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 for expenses incurred as a result of a state of emergency declared by the Governor pursuant to s. 252.36.

Section 17. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2020.