

2016 Florida Legislative Changes (Effective Immediately)

HB 793 was passed and signed into law by the Governor Scott on March 24, 2016.

Effective immediately for Home-Educated High School Students who graduate in the 2015-16 academic year, i.e. between September 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016.

The bill amends s. 1009.531, *F.S.*, eliminating the higher test scores for home-educated students to qualify for the Florida Medallion Scholarship. Home-educated students graduating in 2015-16 and thereafter can qualify for a Florida Medallion award by meeting the following requirements:

- Must be registered as a home-educated student in the district where they live for both grades 11 and 12;
- Must submit a completed Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) online during the final year in a home education program (no later than August 31);
- Must earn a minimum 1170 SAT® combined score or earn a minimum 26 ACT® composite score; and
- Complete at least 75 service hours.

Effective immediately for 2012-13 High School Graduates

The bill amends s. 1009.531, *F.S.*, allowing 2012-13 high school graduates and thereafter to defer their Bright Futures scholarship upon completion of a full-time religious or service obligation lasting at least 18 months. For consideration of funding for the 2015-16 academic year students must:

- Complete and submit a [Reinstatement/Restoration Application](#) online;
- Complete and submit to OSFA the [Religious or Service Obligation Reporting Form](#).