MEMORANDUM

TO: Financial Aid Directors at Florida College System Institutions and School District Technical Centers

FROM: Parker Campbell
Director, State Scholarship and Grant Programs

DATE: November 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Florida Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program

The 2022 Florida Legislature passed House Bill (HB) 3 (Chapter 2022-23, Laws of Florida) creating the Florida Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program (LEASP), which was signed by Governor DeSantis to become effective July 1, 2022. Beginning with the 2022-23 academic year, the LEASP will assist in the recruitment of law enforcement officers in Florida by providing financial assistance to eligible trainees who enroll in a law enforcement officer basic recruit training program approved by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (commission) at a Florida College System institution or school district technical center.

The scholarship is to be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis according to the date by which the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) receives each completed application from an eligible institution. Funding for the program is contingent upon an appropriation by the Florida Legislature.

To be eligible for the scholarship award, a trainee must:

- Be enrolled in a commission-approved basic recruit training program at a Florida College System institution or school district technical center for the purposes of meeting the minimum qualifications under section (s.) 943.13(9), Florida Statutes (F.S.), for employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer; and
- Not be sponsored by an employing agency that is already covering the cost of a basic recruit training program.

The award to eligible trainees shall be an amount equal to any costs and fees that are necessary to complete the basic recruit training program, less any state financial aid received by the trainee. The award to trainees shall cover:

Suzanne Pridgeon
Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations
Florida Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program
November 1, 2022
Page Two

- The cost of tuition;
- Any applicable fees required by ss. 1009.22(3), (5), (6), and (7), and 1009.23 (3), (4), (7), (8), (10), and (11), F.S.; however, any award for a nonresident trainee shall not include the out-of-state fee; and
- Up to $1,000 for eligible expenses, including:
  - The officer certification examination fee established pursuant to s. 943.1397, F.S.;
  - Textbooks;
  - Uniforms;
  - Ammunition;
  - Required insurance; and
  - Any other costs or fees for necessary consumable materials required to complete the basic recruit training program.

For your institution to apply to participate in the program, please respond to the following questions via email to Tanesha Bryant, Program Specialist, at Tanesha.Bryant@fldoe.org or call the OSFA Customer Service at 888-827-2004.

1. How many eligible LEASP students does your institution anticipate awarding? 
   __________

2. What is the total anticipated funding required for your institution to make the awards?
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**Note:** Funds will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

PC/tb

cc: Lou Anne Standley, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations
    Kathy Hebda, Chancellor, Division of Florida
    Kevin O’Farrell, Chancellor, Career and Adult Education
    Tanesha Bryant, Program Specialist, OSFA