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Florida Passes Bill Authorizing the Classic Learning Test (CLT) for Bright Futures Scholarships Qualification and Use in All School Districts

Annapolis, Md. – Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed HB 1537 into law on May 9, 2023, making Florida the first state in the nation to fund all school districts to utilize the Classic Learning Test (CLT) for 11th graders. The bill also makes Florida students eligible to earn Bright Futures Scholarships with CLT scores. The change will take effect for rising juniors and seniors in the 2023-2024 academic year.

CLT is a college entrance exam and assessment designed for high school juniors and seniors. The exam assesses reading, grammar, and mathematical skills, providing a comprehensive measure of achievement and aptitude. CLT emphasizes foundational reasoning skills and is accessible to students from a variety of educational backgrounds.

On the heels of the legislation came New College of Florida's announcement that it will be the first public university in Florida to accept the CLT for admissions.

"As New College strives to become a world-class liberal arts educational institution, adding the CLT as an accepted testing option for admissions will ensure we are reaching and welcoming students from all walks of life," said New College interim president Richard Corcoran. "Not only is this a tremendous opportunity for New College, but with the growing popularity of the CLT among Florida homeschoolers and classically educated students, we believe this is an exciting step for educational choice and freedom in our state as well."