

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to education; amending s. 1002.41,
3 F.S.; specifying that a home education program is not
4 a school district program; authorizing a school
5 district to provide exceptional student education-
6 related services to certain home education program
7 students; requiring reporting and funding through the
8 Florida Education Finance Program; authorizing a
9 school district to provide home education program
10 students with access to certain courses and programs
11 offered by the school district; requiring reporting
12 and funding through the Florida Education Finance
13 Program; requiring home education program students be
14 provided access to certain certifications and
15 assessments offered by the school district; providing
16 for a textbook reimbursement for certain home
17 education program students; providing for funding and
18 the disbursement of the reimbursement; requiring that
19 a home education student's enrollment in a dual
20 enrollment course be verified by the postsecondary
21 institution before award of the reimbursement;
22 requiring the reimbursement to be prorated under
23 certain circumstances; prohibiting a school district
24 from taking certain actions against a home education
25 program student's parent unless such action is
26 required for a school district program; amending s.

27 | 1003.27, F.S.; requiring a school and school district
28 | to comply with specified provisions before instituting
29 | criminal prosecution against certain parents relating
30 | to compulsory school attendance; amending s. 1007.271,
31 | F.S.; exempting dual enrollment students from paying
32 | technology fees; prohibiting dual enrollment course
33 | and program limitations for home education students
34 | from exceeding limitations for other students;
35 | providing an exemption from the grade point average
36 | requirement for initial enrollment in a dual
37 | enrollment program for certain home education
38 | students; providing that articulation agreements for
39 | private schools and home education students may not
40 | contain specified payment provisions; requiring each
41 | public postsecondary institution to develop a
42 | comprehensive dual enrollment articulation agreement
43 | for home education students; authorizing certain
44 | postsecondary institutions to enter into an
45 | articulation agreement with certain private schools;
46 | requiring that the articulation agreement be submitted
47 | to the Department of Education; requiring that
48 | specified provisions be included in the agreement;
49 | amending s. 1009.536, F.S.; specifying student
50 | eligibility for the Florida Gold Seal Vocational
51 | Scholars award; providing an appropriation; providing
52 | an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (3) and (9) of section 1002.41, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (10), (11), (12), (13), and (14) are added to that section, to read:

1002.41 Home education programs.—

(3) A home education program is not a school district program and shall be excluded from meeting the requirements of a school day.

(9) ~~Home education program students may receive~~ Testing and evaluation services at diagnostic and resource centers shall be available to home education program students, in accordance with the provisions of s. 1006.03.

(10) A school district may provide exceptional student education-related services, as defined in State Board of Education rule, to a home education program student with a disability who is eligible for the services and who enrolls in a public school solely for the purpose of receiving those related services. The school district providing the services shall report each student as a full-time equivalent student in the class and in a manner prescribed by the Department of Education, and funding shall be provided through the Florida Education Finance Program pursuant to s. 1011.62.

(11) A school district may provide access to career and technical courses and programs for a home education program

79 student who enrolls in a public school solely for the career and
80 technical courses or programs. The school district providing the
81 career and technical courses and programs shall report each
82 student as a full-time equivalent student in the class and in a
83 manner prescribed by the Department of Education, and funding
84 shall be provided through the Florida Education Finance Program
85 pursuant to s. 1011.62.

86 (12) Industry certifications, national assessments, and
87 statewide, standardized assessments offered by the school
88 district shall be available to home education program students.
89 Each school district shall notify home education program
90 students of the available certifications and assessments; the
91 date, time, and locations for the administration of each
92 certification and assessment; and the deadline for notifying the
93 school district of the student's intent to participate and the
94 student's preferred location.

95 (13) Subject to appropriation in the General
96 Appropriations Act, home education program students enrolled in
97 a dual enrollment course shall be provided an annual
98 reimbursement of up to \$80 for instructional materials assigned
99 for use within the course. The reimbursement shall be disbursed
100 by an eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organization, as
101 defined in s. 1002.395, selected by the Department of Education.
102 A student's enrollment in a dual enrollment course must be
103 verified by the postsecondary institution before the
104 reimbursement may be awarded. If the total amount of the

105 reimbursements for all students exceeds the total appropriation
 106 in the General Appropriations Act, each student shall receive a
 107 prorated amount based on the number of students requesting
 108 reimbursement for dual enrollment instructional materials.

109 (14) A school district may not further regulate, exercise
 110 control over, or require documentation from parents of home
 111 education program students beyond the requirements of this
 112 section unless the regulation, control, or documentation is
 113 necessary for participation in a school district program.

114 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 1003.27, Florida
 115 Statutes, is amended to read:

116 1003.27 Court procedure and penalties.—The court procedure
 117 and penalties for the enforcement of the provisions of this
 118 part, relating to compulsory school attendance, shall be as
 119 follows:

120 (2) NONENROLLMENT AND NONATTENDANCE CASES.—

121 (a) In each case of nonenrollment or of nonattendance upon
 122 the part of a student who is required to attend some school,
 123 when no valid reason for such nonenrollment or nonattendance is
 124 found, the district school superintendent shall institute a
 125 criminal prosecution against the student's parent. However,
 126 criminal prosecution may not be instituted against the student's
 127 parent until the school and school district have complied with
 128 s. 1003.26.

129 (b) Each public school principal or the principal's
 130 designee shall notify the district school board of each minor

131 student under its jurisdiction who accumulates 15 unexcused
132 absences in a period of 90 calendar days. ~~Each designee of the~~
133 ~~governing body of each private school, and each parent whose~~
134 ~~child is enrolled in a home education program, may provide the~~
135 ~~Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles with the legal~~
136 ~~name, sex, date of birth, and social security number of each~~
137 ~~minor student under his or her jurisdiction who fails to satisfy~~
138 ~~relevant attendance requirements and who fails to otherwise~~
139 ~~satisfy the requirements of s. 322.091.~~ The district school
140 superintendent must provide the Department of Highway Safety and
141 Motor Vehicles the legal name, sex, date of birth, and social
142 security number of each minor student who has been reported
143 under this paragraph and who fails to otherwise satisfy the
144 requirements of s. 322.091. The Department of Highway Safety and
145 Motor Vehicles may not issue a driver license or learner's
146 driver license to, and shall suspend any previously issued
147 driver license or learner's driver license of, any such minor
148 student, pursuant to the provisions of s. 322.091.

149 (c) Each designee of the governing body of each private
150 school and each parent whose child is enrolled in a home
151 education program may provide the Department of Highway Safety
152 and Motor Vehicles with the legal name, sex, date of birth, and
153 social security number of each minor student under his or her
154 jurisdiction who fails to satisfy relevant attendance
155 requirements and who fails to otherwise satisfy the requirements
156 of s. 322.091. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor

157 Vehicles may not issue a driver license or learner's driver
158 license to, and shall suspend any previously issued driver
159 license or learner's driver license of, any such minor student,
160 pursuant to the provisions of s. 322.091.

161 Section 3. Subsections (22) through (24) are renumbered as
162 subsections (23) through (25), respectively, subsections (2),
163 (10), and (11), paragraph (b) of subsection (13), subsection
164 (16), paragraph (n) of subsection (21), and present subsection
165 (24) of section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, are amended, and a
166 new subsection (22) is added to that section, to read:

167 1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.—

168 (2) For the purpose of this section, an eligible secondary
169 student is a student who is enrolled in any of grades 6 through
170 12 in a Florida public school or in a Florida private school
171 that is in compliance with s. 1002.42(2) and provides a
172 secondary curriculum pursuant to s. 1003.4282. A student
173 ~~Students~~ who is ~~are~~ eligible for dual enrollment pursuant to
174 this section may enroll in dual enrollment courses conducted
175 during school hours, after school hours, and during the summer
176 term. However, if the student is projected to graduate from high
177 school before the scheduled completion date of a postsecondary
178 course, the student may not register for that course through
179 dual enrollment. The student may apply to the postsecondary
180 institution and pay the required registration, tuition, and fees
181 if the student meets the postsecondary institution's admissions
182 requirements under s. 1007.263. Instructional time for dual

183 enrollment may vary from 900 hours; however, the full-time
 184 equivalent student membership value is ~~shall be~~ subject to the
 185 ~~provisions in~~ s. 1011.61(4). A student enrolled as a dual
 186 enrollment student is exempt from the payment of registration,
 187 tuition, technology, and laboratory fees. Applied academics for
 188 adult education instruction, developmental education, and other
 189 forms of precollegiate instruction, as well as physical
 190 education courses that focus on the physical execution of a
 191 skill, rather than the intellectual attributes of the activity,
 192 are ineligible for inclusion in the dual enrollment program.
 193 Recreation and leisure studies courses shall be evaluated
 194 individually in the same manner as physical education courses
 195 for potential inclusion in the program.

196 (10) Early admission is a form of dual enrollment through
 197 which an eligible secondary student enrolls ~~students enroll~~ in a
 198 postsecondary institution on a full-time basis in courses that
 199 are creditable toward the high school diploma and the associate
 200 or baccalaureate degree. A student must enroll in a minimum of
 201 12 college credit hours per semester or the equivalent to
 202 participate in the early admission program; however, a student
 203 may not be required to enroll in more than 15 college credit
 204 hours per semester or the equivalent. A student ~~Students~~
 205 enrolled pursuant to this subsection is ~~are~~ exempt from the
 206 payment of registration, tuition, technology, and laboratory
 207 fees.

208 (11) Career early admission is a form of career dual

209 enrollment through which an eligible secondary student enrolls
 210 ~~students enroll~~ full time in a career center or a Florida
 211 College System institution in postsecondary programs leading to
 212 industry certifications, as listed in the CAPE Postsecondary
 213 Industry Certification Funding List pursuant to s. 1008.44,
 214 which are creditable toward the high school diploma and the
 215 certificate or associate degree. Participation in the career
 216 early admission program is limited to students who have
 217 completed a minimum of 4 semesters of full-time secondary
 218 enrollment, including studies undertaken in ~~the ninth~~ grade 9. A
 219 student ~~Students~~ enrolled pursuant to this section is ~~are~~ exempt
 220 from the payment of registration, tuition, technology, and
 221 laboratory fees.

222 (13)

223 (b) Each postsecondary institution shall enter into a home
 224 education articulation agreement with each home education
 225 student seeking enrollment in a dual enrollment course and the
 226 student's parent. The home education articulation agreement
 227 shall include, at a minimum:

228 1. A delineation of courses and programs available to
 229 dually enrolled home education students. Courses and programs
 230 may be added, revised, or deleted at any time by the
 231 postsecondary institution. Any course or program limitations may
 232 not exceed the limitations for other dually enrolled students.

233 2. The initial and continued eligibility requirements for
 234 home education student participation, not to exceed those

235 required of other dually enrolled students. A high school grade
236 point average may not be required for home education students
237 who meet the minimum score on a common placement test adopted by
238 the State Board of Education which indicates that the student is
239 ready for college-level coursework; however, home education
240 student eligibility requirements for continued enrollment in
241 college credit dual enrollment courses must include the
242 maintenance of the minimum postsecondary grade point average
243 established by the postsecondary institution.

244 3. The student's responsibilities for providing his or her
245 own instructional materials and transportation.

246 4. A copy of the statement on transfer guarantees
247 developed by the Department of Education under subsection (15).

248 (16) Public school, private school, or home education
249 program students who meet the eligibility requirements of this
250 section and who choose to participate in dual enrollment
251 programs are exempt from the payment of registration, tuition,
252 technology, and laboratory fees.

253 (21) Each district school superintendent and each public
254 postsecondary institution president shall develop a
255 comprehensive dual enrollment articulation agreement for the
256 respective school district and postsecondary institution. The
257 superintendent and president shall establish an articulation
258 committee for the purpose of developing the agreement. Each
259 state university president may designate a university
260 representative to participate in the development of a dual

261 enrollment articulation agreement. A dual enrollment
262 articulation agreement shall be completed and submitted annually
263 by the postsecondary institution to the Department of Education
264 on or before August 1. The agreement must include, but is not
265 limited to:

266 (n) A funding provision that delineates costs incurred by
267 each entity.

268 1. School districts shall pay public postsecondary
269 institutions the standard tuition rate per credit hour from
270 funds provided in the Florida Education Finance Program when
271 dual enrollment course instruction takes place on the
272 postsecondary institution's campus and the course is taken
273 during the fall or spring term. When dual enrollment is provided
274 on the high school site by postsecondary institution faculty,
275 the school district shall reimburse the costs associated with
276 the postsecondary institution's proportion of salary and
277 benefits to provide the instruction. When dual enrollment course
278 instruction is provided on the high school site by school
279 district faculty, the school district is not responsible for
280 payment to the postsecondary institution. A postsecondary
281 institution may enter into an agreement with the school district
282 to authorize teachers to teach dual enrollment courses at the
283 high school site or the postsecondary institution. A school
284 district may not deny a student access to dual enrollment unless
285 the student is ineligible to participate in the program subject
286 to provisions specifically outlined in this section.

287 2. Subject to annual appropriation in the General
288 Appropriations Act, a public postsecondary institution shall
289 receive an amount of funding equivalent to the standard tuition
290 rate per credit hour for each dual enrollment course taken by a
291 student during the summer term.

292 3. The payment provisions of this paragraph do not apply
293 to an articulation agreement with a private school or a home
294 education student.

295 (22) Each public postsecondary institution shall develop a
296 comprehensive dual enrollment articulation agreement for home
297 education students and the postsecondary institution.

298 ~~(25)-(24)~~ A postsecondary institution eligible to
299 participate in the dual enrollment program pursuant to s.
300 1011.62(1)(i) may enter into a private school articulation
301 agreement with a private school that is in compliance with s.
302 1002.42(2) and provides a secondary curriculum pursuant to s.
303 1003.4282. The postsecondary institution shall complete and
304 submit the private school articulation agreement to the
305 Department of Education. The articulation agreement must include
306 a provision expressing that a private school or student may not
307 be required to pay costs associated with tuition and fees,
308 including technology, registration, and laboratory fees
309 ~~Postsecondary institutions may enter into dual enrollment~~
310 ~~articulation agreements with private secondary schools pursuant~~
311 ~~to subsection (2).~~

312 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 1009.536, Florida

313 Statutes, is amended to read:

314 1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award.—The
315 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award is created within
316 the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to recognize and
317 reward academic achievement and career preparation by high
318 school students who wish to continue their education.

319 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal
320 Vocational Scholars award if the student meets the general
321 eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures
322 Scholarship Program and the student:

323 (a) Completes the secondary school portion of a sequential
324 program of studies that requires at least three secondary school
325 career credits and earns a minimum unweighted grade point
326 average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale for secondary school career
327 courses comprising the career program. On-the-job training may
328 not be substituted for any of the three required career credits.

329 (b) Demonstrates readiness for postsecondary education by
330 earning a passing score on the Florida College Entry Level
331 Placement Test or its equivalent as identified by the Department
332 of Education.

333 (c) Earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point
334 average of 3.0, as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, on all
335 subjects required for a standard high school diploma, excluding
336 elective courses, or has attended a home education program
337 pursuant to s. 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12.

338 ~~(d) Earns a minimum unweighted grade point average of 3.5~~

339 | ~~on a 4.0 scale for secondary career courses comprising the~~
340 | ~~career program.~~

341 | (d)~~(e)~~ Beginning with high school students graduating in
342 | the 2011-2012 academic year and thereafter, completes a program
343 | of community service work approved by the district school board,
344 | the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of
345 | Education for home education program students, which shall
346 | include a minimum of 30 hours of service work, and identifies a
347 | social problem that interests him or her, develops a plan for
348 | his or her personal involvement in addressing the problem, and,
349 | through papers or other presentations, evaluates and reflects
350 | upon his or her experience.

351 | Section 5. For the 2016-2017 fiscal year, the sum of \$1
352 | million in recurring funds is appropriated from the General
353 | Revenue Fund to the Department of Education for the purpose of
354 | implementing s. 1002.41(13), Florida Statutes.

355 | Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.