



1 release in order to assist in reducing the return of juveniles  
2 to the system.

3 (b) It is further the finding of the Legislature that  
4 the mission of a juvenile educational/technical and vocational  
5 work-related work program is, in order of priority:

6 1. To provide a joint effort between the department,  
7 the juvenile work programs, and educational/technical and  
8 ~~other~~ vocational training programs to reinforce relevant  
9 education, training, and postrelease job placement, and help  
10 reduce recommitment.

11 2. To serve the security goals of the state through  
12 the reduction of idleness of juveniles and the provision of an  
13 incentive for good behavior in residential commitment  
14 facilities.

15 3. To teach youth in juvenile justice programs  
16 relevant job skills and the fundamentals of a trade in order  
17 to prepare them for placement in the workforce.

18 (c) It is further the finding of the Legislature that  
19 a program which duplicates as closely as possible free-work  
20 production and service operations in order to aid juveniles in  
21 adjustment after release and to prepare juveniles for gainful  
22 employment is in the best interest of the state, juveniles,  
23 and the general public.

24 (2)(a) The department is strongly encouraged to ~~may~~  
25 require juveniles placed in a high-risk residential,  
26 maximum-risk residential, or a serious/habitual offender  
27 program to participate in an educational/technical or a  
28 vocational work-related work program 5 hours per day, 5 days  
29 per week. All policies developed by the department relating  
30 to this requirement must be consistent with applicable  
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1 federal, state, and local labor laws and standards, including  
2 all laws relating to child labor.

3 (b) Nothing in this subsection is intended to restore,  
4 in whole or in part, the civil rights of any juvenile. No  
5 juvenile compensated under this subsection shall be considered  
6 as an employee of the state or the department, nor shall such  
7 juvenile come within any other provision of the Workers'  
8 Compensation Law.

9 (3) In adopting or modifying master plans for juvenile  
10 work programs and educational/technical and vocational  
11 training programs, and in the administration of the Department  
12 of Juvenile Justice, it shall be the objective of the  
13 department to develop:

14 (a) Attitudes favorable to work, the work situation,  
15 and a law-abiding life in each juvenile employed in the  
16 juvenile work program.

17 (b) Education and training opportunities that are  
18 reasonably broad, but which develop specific work skills.

19 (c) Programs that motivate juveniles to use their  
20 abilities. ~~Juveniles who do not adjust to these programs shall~~  
21 ~~be reassigned.~~

22 (d) Education and training programs that will be of  
23 mutual benefit to all governmental jurisdictions of the state  
24 by reducing the costs of government to the taxpayers and which  
25 integrate all instructional programs into a unified curriculum  
26 suitable for all juveniles, but taking account of the  
27 different abilities of each juvenile.

28 (e) A logical sequence of educational/technical or  
29 vocational training, employment by the juvenile ~~vocational~~  
30 work programs, and postrelease job placement for juveniles  
31 participating in juvenile work programs.

1           (4)(a) The Department of Juvenile Justice shall  
2 establish guidelines for the operation of juvenile  
3 educational/technical and vocational work-related work  
4 programs, which shall include the following procedures:

5           1. Participation in the educational/technical and  
6 vocational work-related programs shall be on a 5-day-per-week,  
7 5-hour-per-day basis.

8           ~~2.1.~~ The education, training, work experience,  
9 emotional and mental abilities, and physical capabilities of  
10 the juvenile and the duration of the term of placement imposed  
11 on the juvenile are to be analyzed before assignment of the  
12 juvenile inmate into the various processes best suited for  
13 educational/technical or vocational training.

14           ~~3.2.~~ When feasible, the department shall attempt to  
15 obtain education or training credit for a juvenile seeking  
16 apprenticeship status or a high school diploma or its  
17 equivalent.

18           ~~4.3.~~ The juvenile may begin in a general education and  
19 work skills program and progress to a specific work skills  
20 training program, depending upon the ability, desire, and  
21 education and work record of the juvenile.

22           ~~5.4.~~ Modernization and upgrading of equipment and  
23 facilities should include greater automation and improved  
24 production techniques to expose juveniles to the latest  
25 technological procedures to facilitate their adjustment to  
26 real work situations.

27           (b) Evaluations of juvenile educational/technical and  
28 vocational work-related work programs shall be conducted  
29 according to the following guidelines:

30           1. Systematic evaluations and quality assurance  
31 monitoring shall be implemented, in accordance with ss.

1 985.401(4) and 985.412(1), to determine whether the ~~juvenile~~  
2 ~~vocational work~~ programs are related to successful postrelease  
3 adjustments.

4 2. Operations and policies of the work programs shall  
5 be reevaluated to determine if they are consistent with their  
6 primary objectives.

7 (c) The department shall seek the advice of private  
8 labor and management to:

9 1. Assist its work programs in the development of  
10 statewide policies aimed at innovation and organizational  
11 change.

12 2. Obtain technical and practical assistance,  
13 information, and guidance.

14 3. Encourage the cooperation and involvement of the  
15 private sector.

16 4. Assist in the placement of youth into meaningful  
17 jobs upon release from the residential program.

18 (d) The department and providers are strongly  
19 encouraged to work in partnership with local businesses and  
20 trade groups in the development and operation of  
21 educational/technical and vocational programs.

22 (6) The Juvenile Justice Accountability Board shall  
23 conduct a study regarding the types of effective juvenile  
24 vocational and work programs in operation across the country,  
25 relevant research on what makes programs effective, the key  
26 ingredients of effective juvenile vocational and work  
27 programs, and the status of such programs in juvenile  
28 facilities across the state. The board shall report their  
29 findings and make recommendations on how to expand and improve  
30 these programs no later than January 31, 2000, to the Speaker  
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1 of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate,  
2 and the Secretary of Juvenile Justice.

3 (7) The department, working with providers, shall  
4 inventory juvenile vocational and work training programs in  
5 use in commitment programs across the state. The inventory  
6 shall list the commitment program, the type of vocational or  
7 work program offered, the relevant job skills provided, and  
8 which programs work with the trades industry to place youth in  
9 jobs upon release.

10 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 1999.

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