



1 certain funding sources to provide state  
2 matching funds; providing criteria for a school  
3 district's eligibility to participate in the  
4 program; providing for the disposition of  
5 private donations if a project is terminated;  
6 requiring the State Board of Education annually  
7 to submit to the Legislature a list of eligible  
8 projects and a budget request that includes the  
9 recommended completion schedule for each  
10 project; providing prerequisites for  
11 eligibility; providing for the disposition of  
12 unexpended project funds; providing that  
13 certain elements of the project are the  
14 property of the school district; allowing a  
15 facility to be named for a donor; creating pt.  
16 VI of ch. 1011, F.S., consisting of ss.  
17 1011.96, 1011.97, and 1011.98, F.S.; creating  
18 the SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Crucial Professionals  
19 Program; providing purposes; requiring the  
20 department to issue requests for proposals and  
21 to establish application procedures,  
22 guidelines, accountability measures, and  
23 timelines; providing requirements for the  
24 contents of a grant proposal; providing  
25 requirements for participants; requiring grant  
26 recipients to report to the department;  
27 requiring the State Board of Education to  
28 monitor compliance with the accountability  
29 requirements; creating the SUCCEED, FLORIDA!  
30 Career Paths Program; providing purposes;  
31 providing application procedures; requiring

1 that curriculum and content developed in a  
2 career and professional academy be made  
3 available to all school districts; creating the  
4 SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Critical Jobs Program;  
5 providing purposes; providing criteria for  
6 distributing funds; requiring the department to  
7 issue requests for proposals and to establish  
8 application procedures, guidelines,  
9 accountability measures, and timelines;  
10 providing requirements for the contents of a  
11 grant proposal; requiring the department to  
12 review the proposals and determine the funding  
13 to be provided and to prioritize recipients as  
14 specified; providing an effective date.

15  
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17  
18 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "SUCCEED,  
19 FLORIDA! Initiative."

20 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 1007.23, Florida  
21 Statutes, is amended to read:

22 1007.23 Statewide articulation agreement.--

23 (3) The articulation agreement must guarantee the  
24 statewide articulation of appropriate workforce education  
25 ~~development~~ programs and courses between school districts and  
26 community colleges and specifically provide that every applied  
27 technology diploma graduate must be granted the same amount of  
28 credit upon admission to an associate in science degree or  
29 associate in applied science degree program unless it is a  
30 limited access program. Preference for admission must be given  
31 to graduates who are residents of Florida. By July 1, 2006,

1 and annually as necessary thereafter, the department shall  
2 identify appropriate school district and community college  
3 workforce education courses and programs for statewide  
4 articulation and shall propose an agreement for those  
5 programs.

6 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
7 1009.50, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

8 1009.50 Florida Public Student Assistance Grant  
9 Program; eligibility for grants.--

10 (2)(a) State student assistance grants through the  
11 program may be made only to degree-seeking students who enroll  
12 in at least 6 semester hours, or the equivalent per term, or  
13 to students who are enrolled in a postsecondary career  
14 certificate program of at least 450 hours, and who meet the  
15 general requirements for student eligibility as provided in s.  
16 1009.40, except as otherwise provided in this section. The  
17 grants shall be awarded annually for the amount of  
18 demonstrated unmet need for the cost of education and may not  
19 exceed an amount equal to the average prior academic year cost  
20 of tuition fees and other registration fees for 30 credit  
21 hours at state universities or such other amount as specified  
22 in the General Appropriations Act, to any recipient. A  
23 demonstrated unmet need of less than \$200 shall render the  
24 applicant ineligible for a state student assistance grant.  
25 Recipients of the grants must have been accepted at a state  
26 university, school district technical center, or community  
27 college authorized by Florida law. A student is eligible for  
28 the award for 110 percent of the number of credit hours  
29 required to complete the program in which enrolled, except as  
30 otherwise provided in s. 1009.40(3).

31

1           Section 4. Section 1009.521, Florida Statutes, is  
2 created to read:

3           1009.521 GED Success Scholarship.--

4           (1) The Legislature finds that students who  
5 successfully complete a GED program, receive a high school  
6 diploma, and enroll in postsecondary workforce education have  
7 a greater earning potential than students who do not enroll in  
8 postsecondary education. In order to encourage these students  
9 to attend a regionally or nationally accredited public or  
10 private technical center or community college program that  
11 trains for high-demand, high-skill, or high-wage careers,  
12 there is established a GED Success Scholarship to be  
13 administered by the department pursuant to the requirements of  
14 this section and rules of the State Board of Education.

15           (2) The Legislature may appropriate funds annually to  
16 the GED Success Scholarship Program. The department shall  
17 allocate any funds appropriated each year to eligible students  
18 in increments of one \$500 scholarship per eligible student.  
19 Receipt of a GED Success Scholarship is not an entitlement and  
20 is contingent on the appropriation of funds each year to  
21 provide such scholarships. The department must award the  
22 scholarships to eligible recipients on a first-come,  
23 first-served basis until all funds that the Legislature has  
24 specifically designated for the GED Success Scholarship for  
25 that fiscal year have been allocated.

26           (3) In order to be eligible to receive a scholarship  
27 under this section, an applicant must:

28           (a) Be a Florida resident for tuition purposes  
29 pursuant to s. 1009.21.

1           (b) Have successfully completed all sections of the  
2 GED tests which result in the award of a State of Florida high  
3 school diploma.

4           (c) Be enrolled in an accredited public or private  
5 technical center or community college in a program that  
6 provides a career path to, or trains for, high-demand,  
7 high-wage, or high-skill occupations or other occupations  
8 identified each year by Enterprise Florida or Workforce  
9 Florida, Inc., as critical or targeted occupations in the  
10 state.

11           (d) Submit a scholarship application using the Florida  
12 Financial Aid Application. The application period begins  
13 December 1 for the following school year and closes October 1  
14 of the year in which funding is requested.

15           (4)(a) Payment of a GED Success Scholarship shall be  
16 transmitted to the director or president of the eligible  
17 institution, or his or her representative, in advance of the  
18 registration period. The institution shall notify students of  
19 the amount of their respective awards.

20           (b) Each participating institution shall report to the  
21 department by the established date the number of eligible  
22 students to whom scholarship moneys were disbursed each  
23 academic term and any necessary demographic and eligibility  
24 data for such students.

25           (c) Each nationally or regionally accredited private  
26 institution that receives moneys through the GED Success  
27 Scholarship Program shall prepare an annual report that  
28 includes a financial audit, conducted by an independent  
29 certified public accountant, of the institution's  
30 administration of the program and a complete accounting of the  
31 moneys allocated to the institution for the program. The

1 report must be submitted to the department no later than March  
2 1 of each year.

3 (5) The State Board of Education may adopt rules  
4 relating to the administration of this scholarship program,  
5 pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54.

6 Section 5. Section 1011.802, Florida Statutes, is  
7 created to read:

8 1011.802 School District Career Center Facility  
9 Enhancement Challenge Grant Program.--

10 (1) The Legislature recognizes that state-of-the-art,  
11 well-equipped school district career centers enable students  
12 to complete their education better prepared to meet the  
13 current demands of the workforce. It further recognizes that  
14 business and industry partnerships that provide facilities and  
15 equipment strengthen and enhance career centers and the  
16 education that students who are enrolled in those centers  
17 receive. The Legislature further recognizes that students in  
18 school district career centers could benefit from facility  
19 expansions and enhancements in addition to those currently  
20 available from existing revenue sources. The Legislature also  
21 recognizes that there are sources of private support that, if  
22 matched with state and local support, can assist in  
23 constructing and equipping facilities that will further  
24 strengthen the commitment of business and industry in  
25 promoting excellence at each career center. Therefore, it is  
26 the intent of the Legislature to establish a program to  
27 provide the opportunity for each school district career  
28 center, through a direct-support organization, to receive and  
29 match challenge grants for instructional capital facilities  
30 within the career center.

1           (2) There is established the School District Career  
2 Center Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program for the  
3 purpose of assisting career centers in building high-priority  
4 instructional and community-related capital facilities  
5 consistent with s. 1001.44, including common areas connecting  
6 such facilities. The direct-support organizations that serve  
7 the school districts may solicit from private sources gifts  
8 that are eligible for state matching funds for capital  
9 facilities. For purposes of this section, private sources of  
10 funds may not include any federal or state government funds  
11 that a school district receives.

12           (3) The School District Career Center Facilities  
13 Enhancement Challenge Grant Program shall provide funds to  
14 match private contributions for the development of  
15 high-priority instructional and community-related capital  
16 facilities, including common areas connecting such facilities,  
17 within the career centers.

18           (4) Within the direct-support organization of each  
19 school district there must be established a separate career  
20 center capital facilities matching account for the purpose of  
21 providing matching funds from the direct-support  
22 organization's unrestricted donations or other private  
23 contributions for the development of high-priority  
24 instructional and community-related capital facilities,  
25 including common areas connecting such facilities. The  
26 Legislature shall appropriate funds for distribution to a  
27 school district after the direct-support organization and the  
28 school district have certified matching funds to the  
29 department. The Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt  
30 Service Trust Fund may not be used as the source of the state  
31 match for private contributions.



1           (5) A project may not be initiated unless all private  
2 funds for planning, constructing, and equipping the facility  
3 have been received and deposited in the direct-support  
4 organization's matching account and the state's share for the  
5 minimum amount of funds needed to begin the project has been  
6 appropriated by the Legislature. The Legislature may  
7 appropriate the state's matching funds in one or more fiscal  
8 years for planning, constructing, and equipping an eligible  
9 facility. However, these requirements do not preclude the  
10 school district or direct-support organization from expending  
11 available funds from private sources to develop a prospectus,  
12 including preliminary architectural schematics or models, for  
13 use in its efforts to raise private funds for a facility.  
14 Additionally, any private sources of funds expended for this  
15 purpose are eligible for state matching funds if the project  
16 is awarded grant funds under this section.

17           (6) To be eligible to participate in the School  
18 District Career Center Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant  
19 Program, a school district, through its direct-support  
20 organization, must raise a contribution equal to one-third of  
21 the total cost of a facility construction project from private  
22 sources, which must be matched by a state appropriation equal  
23 to the amount raised for a facility construction project,  
24 subject to the General Appropriations Act. Another one-third  
25 of the total cost must be provided from the school district's  
26 local capital funds.

27           (7) If the state's share of the required match is  
28 insufficient to meet the requirements of subsection (6), the  
29 school district must renegotiate the terms of the contribution  
30 with the donors. If the project is terminated, each private  
31 donation, plus accrued interest, shall revert to the

1 direct-support organization for remittance to the donor at the  
2 donor's discretion.

3 (8) By September 1 of each year, the State Board of  
4 Education shall transmit to the Legislature, in the capital  
5 outlay budget request, a list of projects that meet all  
6 criteria for eligibility to participate in the School District  
7 Career Center Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program and  
8 a budget request that includes the recommended schedule  
9 necessary to complete each project.

10 (9) In order for a project to be eligible under this  
11 program, it must be recommended in an educational plant survey  
12 prepared under s. 1013.31 and included in the school  
13 district's 5-year capital improvement plan, and it must  
14 receive prior approval from the State Board of Education.

15 (10) Any project funds that are unexpended after a  
16 project is completed shall revert to the school district's  
17 direct-support organization capital facilities matching  
18 account. Fifty percent of the unexpended funds shall be  
19 reserved for the school district career center that originally  
20 received the private contribution for the purpose of providing  
21 private matching funds for future facility construction  
22 projects as provided in this section. The balance of such  
23 unexpended funds shall be returned to the General Revenue  
24 Fund.

25 (11) The surveys, architectural plans, facility, and  
26 equipment shall be the property of the participating school  
27 district. A facility constructed under this section may be  
28 named in honor of a donor at the discretion of the local  
29 school board.

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1           Section 6. Part VI of chapter 1011, Florida Statutes,  
2 consisting of sections 1011.96, 1011.97, and 1011.98, Florida  
3 Statutes, is created to read:

4                           PART VI

5                                   SUCCEED, FLORIDA!

6           1011.96 SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Crucial Professionals  
7 Program.--

8           (1) The SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Crucial Professionals  
9 Program is established to award funds to nationally or  
10 regionally accredited public and private postsecondary  
11 educational institutions in the state on a competitive basis  
12 to offer programs that meet the critical workforce needs of  
13 the state and to maximize the number of diplomas,  
14 certificates, and degrees that are awarded to postsecondary  
15 education students in fields vital to the residents of the  
16 state. The Legislature shall annually determine in the General  
17 Appropriations Act the programs that are eligible for this  
18 funding.

19           (2) Funds appropriated by the Legislature to the  
20 department for the SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Crucial Professionals  
21 Program shall be distributed as provided in this section.

22           (3) The department shall develop and annually issue a  
23 request for proposals. The department shall establish  
24 application procedures, guidelines, accountability measures,  
25 and timelines for implementing the grant program.

26           (4) A proposal for a grant authorized pursuant to this  
27 section must:

28           (a) Indicate the number of students to be served, the  
29 length of the proposed program, and the total projected cost  
30 to students and the state. Funds for a grant provided pursuant  
31

1 to this section must be used to support new students and not  
2 to supplant current funding of students.

3 (b) Document the workforce need to be addressed.

4 (c) Demonstrate a pool of qualified applicants.

5 (d) Include a plan to increase the graduation rate of  
6 minorities and the presence of minorities in the workforce.

7 (e) Be submitted by an accredited public postsecondary  
8 educational institution in the state which provides  
9 postsecondary instruction in a field specified in the priority  
10 list established pursuant to subsection (1).

11 (5) For purposes of this section, postsecondary  
12 educational institutions include school district career  
13 centers that offer postsecondary programs.

14 (6) Grant recipients must enter into a contract with  
15 the state to produce a specific number of graduates in the  
16 designated program within a specific time period. Grant  
17 recipients must submit to the department periodic reports that  
18 document compliance with the accountability measures  
19 established by the department. The State Board of Education  
20 shall monitor compliance with the accountability requirements.

21 1011.97 SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Career Paths Program.--

22 (1) The SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Career Paths Program is  
23 established as a grant program within the Department of  
24 Education to provide startup grants to offset the  
25 implementation costs of partnerships between a district school  
26 board or the Florida Virtual School and one or more  
27 businesses, industries, or postsecondary educational  
28 institutions to operate a career and professional academy  
29 pursuant to s. 1014.21.

30 (2) A district school board or the Florida Virtual  
31 School may apply to the department for a grant, which must be

1 provided through a competitive process and may be used only  
2 for a career and professional academy.

3 (3) A high school that currently has a career academy,  
4 career institute, industry-certified program, or  
5 pre-apprenticeship program, as well as a charter technical  
6 career center, is eligible to apply for a grant to redesign  
7 its programs to meet the rigorous and relevant academic  
8 standards of a career and professional academy.

9 (4) Curriculum and content developed in a career and  
10 professional academy as a result of a startup grant must be  
11 made available to all school districts.

12 1011.98 SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Critical Jobs Program.--

13 (1) The SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Critical Jobs Program is  
14 established to award funds to public postsecondary educational  
15 institutions in the state on a competitive basis to produce  
16 more qualified and trained graduates to enter high-demand,  
17 high-skill, high-wage occupations or other occupations  
18 identified each year by Enterprise Florida or Workforce  
19 Florida, Inc., each year as critical in the state. For  
20 purposes of this section, postsecondary educational  
21 institutions include school district career centers that offer  
22 postsecondary programs.

23 (2) Funds appropriated by the Legislature to the  
24 department for the SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Critical Jobs Program  
25 must be distributed as set forth in this section.

26 (3) The department shall develop and annually issue a  
27 request for proposals. The department shall establish  
28 application procedures, guidelines, accountability measures,  
29 and timelines for implementation of the grant program.

30 (4) Proposals for a grant authorized pursuant to this  
31 section must:

1       (a) Indicate the number of students to be served, the  
2 length of the proposed program, and the total projected cost  
3 to students and the state. Funds for a grant provided under  
4 this section must be used to support new students and not to  
5 supplant current funding for students.

6       (b) Document the workforce need to be addressed using  
7 the Enterprise Florida Sectors and the Statewide Demand List  
8 produced by the Workforce Estimating Conference.

9       (c) Demonstrate a pool of qualified applicants.

10       (d) Be submitted by a public postsecondary educational  
11 institution in the state which provides postsecondary  
12 instruction in a field that produces graduates prepared to  
13 enter an occupation identified in the priority list  
14 established pursuant to subsection (1).

15       (e) Indicate the number of postsecondary diplomas,  
16 certificates, or degrees that the institution will award using  
17 funds received pursuant to this section and the fields in  
18 which the diplomas, certificates, or degrees will be awarded.

19       (f) Indicate how the funds received will leverage  
20 private industry contributions, grants, or scholarships and  
21 how the funds will be used to offset costs to the state for  
22 program startup or expansion or to offset student tuition  
23 costs.

24       (5) The department must review proposals and determine  
25 funding to be provided based on the requirements set forth in  
26 subsection (4) and shall give high priority to proposals that  
27 appear likely to produce the greatest number of students  
28 completing the program.

29       Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.  
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SENATE SUMMARY

Relates to career education. Creates the "SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Initiative" act. In s. 1007.23, F.S., relating to statewide articulation, replaces the phrase "workforce development" with the phrase "workforce education." Requires the Department of Education annually to identify workforce education program courses and programs for statewide articulation and to propose an articulation agreement. Allows students who are enrolled in a postsecondary career certificate program that comprises at least 450 hours to qualify for the Florida Public Student Assistance Grant Program.

Creates the GED Success Scholarship Program. Prescribes the amount of a scholarship. Provides procedures. Provides requirements for eligibility. Requires reports to the department. Requires a financial audit of each institution's administration of the program. Allows the State Board of Education to adopt rules.

Creates the School District Career Center Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program. Provides legislative intent and findings. Provides purposes of the program. Provides for direct-support organizations to solicit private funds. Provides for state matching funds. Requires the establishment of a separate career center capital facilities matching account. Prohibits the use of certain funding sources to provide state matching funds. Provides criteria for a school district's eligibility to participate in the program. Provides for the disposition of private donations if a project is terminated. Requires the State Board of Education annually to submit to the Legislature a list of eligible projects and a budget request that includes the recommended completion schedule for each project. Provides prerequisites for eligibility. Provides for the disposition of unexpended project funds. Provides that certain elements of the project are the property of the school district. Allows a facility to be named for a donor.

Creates pt. VI of ch. 1011, F.S., consisting of ss. 1011.96, 1011.97, and 1011.98, F.S. Creates the SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Crucial Professionals Program. Provides purposes. Requires the department to issue requests for proposals and to establish application procedures, guidelines, accountability measures, and timelines. Provides requirements for the contents of a grant proposal. Provides requirements for participants. Requires grant recipients to report to the department. Requires the State Board of Education to monitor compliance with the accountability requirements. Creates the SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Career Paths Program. Provides purposes. Provides application procedures. Requires that curriculum and content developed in a career and professional academy be made available to all school districts. Creates the SUCCEED, FLORIDA! Critical Jobs Program. Provides purposes. Provides criteria for distributing funds. Requires the department to issue requests for proposals and to establish application procedures, guidelines, accountability measures, and timelines. Provides requirements for the contents of a

1 | grant proposal. Requires the department to review the  
2 | proposals and determine the funding to be provided and to  
3 | prioritize recipients as specified.  
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