

By Senator Lynn

7-03543-08

20082418__

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to articulation and acceleration; amending
3 s. 1007.01, F.S.; providing legislative intent with
4 respect to the articulation and integration of the pre-K
5 through 20 education system; requiring certain
6 collaborative efforts by the State Board of Education and
7 the Board of Governors; requiring the Commissioner of
8 Education to establish an Articulation Coordinating
9 Committee; specifying duties of the committee; amending s.
10 1007.235, F.S.; requiring that the district
11 interinstitutional articulation agreement identify the
12 responsibilities of postsecondary institutions for
13 assigning letter grades for dual enrollment courses;
14 amending s. 1007.271, F.S.; redefining the term "dual
15 enrollment" as "early college enrollment"; defining the
16 term "accelerated career and technical enrollment";
17 revising the requirements for calculating full-time
18 equivalent membership and funding credits; providing
19 criteria for students who enroll in such programs;
20 providing for calculating the GPE of dual enrollment
21 courses for purposes of admission to a state university;
22 amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising the requirements for
23 calculating full-time equivalent membership and funding
24 credits; providing an effective date.

25
26 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

27
28 Section 1. Section 1007.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to
29 read:

7-03543-08

20082418__

30 1007.01 Articulation; legislative intent; purpose; role of
31 the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors.--

32 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to facilitate
33 articulation and seamless integration of the pre-K through 20 ~~K-~~
34 ~~20~~ education system by building, ~~and~~ sustaining, and
35 strengthening relationships among pre-K through 20 ~~K-20~~ public
36 organizations, between public and private organizations, and
37 between the education system as a whole and Florida's
38 communities. The purpose of building and sustaining these
39 relationships is to provide for the efficient and effective
40 progression and transfer of students within the education system
41 and to allow students to proceed toward their educational
42 objectives as rapidly as their circumstances permit. The
43 Legislature further intends that articulation policies and budget
44 action be implemented consistently in the practices of
45 postsecondary institutions and the Department of Education and
46 expressed in the collaborative policy efforts of the State Board
47 of Education and the Board of Governors.

48 (2) To improve and facilitate articulation within the pre-K
49 through 20 education system ~~systemwide~~, the State Board of
50 Education and the Board of Governors shall collaboratively
51 establish ~~recommend~~ policies and guidelines to the Legislature
52 with input from statewide pre-K through 20 ~~K-20~~ advisory groups
53 established by the Commissioner of Education and the Chancellor
54 of the State University System relating to:

55 (a) The alignment between the exit requirements of one
56 system and the admissions requirements of another system into
57 which students typically transfer.

7-03543-08

20082418__

58 (b) The identification of common courses, the level of
59 courses, institutional participation in a statewide course
60 numbering system, and the transferability of credits among such
61 institutions.

62 (c) Identification of courses that meet general education
63 or common baccalaureate degree program prerequisite requirements
64 at public postsecondary educational institutions.

65 (d) Dual enrollment course equivalencies and other
66 accelerated credit mechanisms.

67 (e) Articulation agreements.

68 (3) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
69 Chancellor of the State University System, shall establish an
70 Articulation Coordinating Committee that reports to the
71 commissioner. The committee shall be a pre-K through 20 advisory
72 group that consists of members representing the State University
73 System, the Community College System, public career and technical
74 education, public pre-K through 12 education, and nonpublic
75 education, and at least one member representing students. The
76 commissioner shall appoint a chair from the membership. The
77 committee shall:

78 (a) Propose monitoring, compliance, and reporting systems
79 to facilitate and ensure institutional compliance with state
80 articulation policies.

81 (b) Propose guidelines for interinstitutional agreements
82 between and among public schools, career and technical education
83 centers, community colleges, and universities.

84 (c) Establish groups of public and nonpublic institutional
85 representatives to facilitate articulation.

7-03543-08

20082418__

86 (d) Conduct a continuing review of statewide articulation
87 statutes, rules, and agreements and make recommendations to the
88 State Board of Education and the Board of Governors for
89 revisions.

90 (e) Review the application of requirements for transferring
91 credit from public and nonpublic institutions participating in
92 the statewide course numbering system, including, but not limited
93 to, instances of difficulties in student transfers and
94 admissions.

95 (f) Examine statewide data regarding articulation,
96 recommend resolutions for issues, and propose programmatic and
97 budget policies and procedures to improve articulation throughout
98 the pre-K through 20 education system.

99 (g) Recommend roles and responsibilities of public
100 education entities in interfacing with the single statewide
101 student advising system created by s. 1007.28, including, but not
102 limited to, functionality requirements, data needs, and
103 appropriate reporting timelines.

104 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
105 1007.235, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106 1007.235 District interinstitutional articulation
107 agreements.--

108 (2) The district interinstitutional articulation agreement
109 for each school year must be completed before high school
110 registration for the fall term of the following school year. The
111 agreement must include, but is not limited to, the following
112 components:

113 (b)1. A delineation of courses and programs available to
114 students eligible to participate in dual enrollment. This

7-03543-08

20082418__

115 delineation must include a plan for the community college to
116 provide guidance services to participating students on the
117 selection of courses in the dual enrollment program. The process
118 of community college guidance should make maximum use of the
119 automated advisement system for community colleges. The plan must
120 assure that each dual enrollment student is encouraged to
121 identify a postsecondary education objective with which to guide
122 the course selection. At a minimum, each student's plan should
123 include a list of courses that will result in an Applied
124 Technology Diploma, an Associate in Science degree, or an
125 Associate in Arts degree. If the student identifies a
126 baccalaureate degree as the objective, the plan must include
127 courses that will meet the general education requirements and any
128 prerequisite requirements for entrance into a selected
129 baccalaureate degree program.

130 2. A delineation of the process by which students and their
131 parents are informed about opportunities to participate in
132 articulated acceleration programs.

133 3. A delineation of the process by which students and their
134 parents exercise their option to participate in an articulated
135 acceleration program.

136 4. A delineation of high school credits earned for
137 completion of each dual enrollment course.

138 5. Provision for postsecondary courses that meet the
139 criteria for inclusion in a district articulated acceleration
140 program to be counted toward meeting the graduation requirements
141 of s. 1003.43.

142 6. An identification of eligibility criteria for student
143 participation in dual enrollment courses and programs.

7-03543-08

20082418__

144 7. A delineation of institutional responsibilities
145 regarding student screening prior to enrollment and monitoring
146 student performance subsequent to enrollment in dual enrollment
147 courses and programs.

148 8. An identification of the criteria by which the quality
149 of dual enrollment courses and programs are to be judged and a
150 delineation of institutional responsibilities for the maintenance
151 of instructional quality.

152 9. A delineation of institutional responsibilities for
153 assuming the cost of dual enrollment courses and programs that
154 includes such responsibilities for student instructional
155 materials.

156 10. An identification of responsibility for providing
157 student transportation if the dual enrollment instruction is
158 conducted at a facility other than the high school campus.

159 11. A delineation of the process for converting college
160 credit hours earned through dual enrollment and early admission
161 programs to high school credit based on mastery of course
162 outcomes as determined by the Department of Education in
163 accordance with s. 1007.271(6).

164 12. An identification of the responsibility of the
165 postsecondary institution for assigning letter grades for dual
166 enrollment courses. School districts must post dual enrollment
167 course grades to the high school transcript as assigned by the
168 postsecondary institution awarding the credit.

169 Section 3. Section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, is amended
170 to read:

171 1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.--

7-03543-08

20082418__

172 (1) The term "early college dual enrollment" means ~~program~~
173 ~~is~~ the dual enrollment of an eligible secondary student or home
174 education student in a postsecondary course creditable toward
175 high school completion and ~~a career certificate or an associate~~
176 or baccalaureate degree. The term "accelerated career and
177 technical enrollment" means the dual enrollment of an eligible
178 secondary student or home education student in a postsecondary
179 course or program creditable toward high school completion and a
180 career and technical certificate.

181 (2) For the purpose of this section, an eligible secondary
182 student is a student who is enrolled in a Florida public
183 secondary school or in a Florida private secondary school which
184 is in compliance with s. 1002.42(2) and conducts a secondary
185 curriculum pursuant to s. 1003.43. Students enrolled in
186 postsecondary instruction that is not creditable toward the high
187 school diploma shall not be classified as dual enrollments.
188 Students who are eligible for dual enrollment pursuant to this
189 section shall be permitted to enroll in dual enrollment courses
190 conducted during school hours, after school hours, and during the
191 summer term. Instructional time for such enrollment may vary from
192 900 hours; however, the school district may only report the
193 student for a maximum of 1.0 FTE, as provided in s. 1011.61(4).
194 For the purposes of calculating FTE, each semester of instruction
195 that is eligible for high school and postsecondary credit shall
196 be funded in an amount equal to the hours of instruction that
197 would be necessary to earn the FTE and the funding for an
198 equivalent course if it were taught in the school district
199 ~~reported by school districts as 75 membership hours for purposes~~
200 ~~of FTE calculation.~~ Any student so enrolled is exempt from the

7-03543-08

20082418__

201 | payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory fees.
202 | Vocational-preparatory instruction, college-preparatory
203 | instruction and other forms of precollegiate instruction, as well
204 | as physical education courses that focus on the physical
205 | execution of a skill rather than the intellectual attributes of
206 | the activity, are ineligible for inclusion in the dual enrollment
207 | program. Recreation and leisure studies courses shall be
208 | evaluated individually in the same manner as physical education
209 | courses for potential inclusion in the program.

210 | (3) The Department of Education shall adopt guidelines
211 | designed to achieve comparability across school districts of both
212 | student qualifications and teacher qualifications for dual
213 | enrollment courses. Student qualifications must demonstrate
214 | readiness for college-level coursework if the student is to be
215 | enrolled in college courses. Student qualifications must
216 | demonstrate readiness for career-level coursework if the student
217 | is to be enrolled in career courses. In addition to meeting
218 | state-required scores on the common placement examination,
219 | student qualifications for enrollment in early college ~~credit~~
220 | ~~dua~~ enrollment courses must include a 3.0 unweighted grade point
221 | average, ~~and~~ Student qualifications for enrollment in
222 | accelerated career and technical ~~certificate dual~~ enrollment
223 | courses must include a 2.0 unweighted grade point average and
224 | mastery of basic skills on the Tests of Adult Basic Education
225 | (TABE) pursuant to s. 1004.91 or other proven indicators or
226 | predictors of career education performance as determined by board
227 | policy of the postsecondary institution. Exceptions to the
228 | required grade point averages may be granted if the educational
229 | entities agree and the terms of the agreement are contained

7-03543-08

20082418__

230 | within the dual enrollment interinstitutional articulation
231 | agreement between school districts and colleges or universities,
232 | or pursuant to school district policy regarding the enrollment of
233 | secondary students in postsecondary career and technical
234 | certificate programs at district technical centers. Community
235 | college boards of trustees may establish additional admissions
236 | criteria, which shall be included in the district
237 | interinstitutional articulation agreement developed according to
238 | s. 1007.235, to ensure student readiness for postsecondary
239 | instruction. Additional requirements included in the agreement
240 | shall not arbitrarily prohibit students who have demonstrated the
241 | ability to master advanced courses from participating in dual
242 | enrollment courses. District school boards may not refuse to
243 | enter into an agreement with a local community college if that
244 | community college has the capacity to offer dual enrollment
245 | courses.

246 | (4) Accelerated career and technical ~~dual~~ enrollment shall
247 | be provided as a curricular option for secondary students to
248 | pursue in order to earn a series of elective credits toward the
249 | high school diploma. Accelerated career and technical ~~dual~~
250 | enrollment shall be available for secondary students seeking a
251 | ~~degree or~~ certificate from a complete career-preparatory program,
252 | and shall not be used to enroll students in isolated career
253 | courses. It is the intent of the Legislature that accelerated
254 | career and technical ~~dual~~ enrollment provide a comprehensive
255 | academic and career dual enrollment program within the career
256 | center or community college.

257 | (5) Each district school board shall inform all secondary
258 | students of dual enrollment as an educational option and

7-03543-08

20082418__

259 mechanism for acceleration. Students shall be informed of
260 eligibility criteria, the option for taking dual enrollment
261 courses beyond the regular school year, and the minimum academic
262 credits required for graduation. District school boards shall
263 annually assess the demand for dual enrollment and other advanced
264 courses, and the district school board shall consider strategies
265 and programs to meet that demand and include access to dual
266 enrollment on the high school campus whenever possible.
267 Alternative grade calculation, weighting systems, or information
268 regarding student education options which discriminates against
269 dual enrollment courses is prohibited.

270 (6) The Commissioner of Education shall appoint faculty
271 committees representing public school, community college, and
272 university faculties to identify postsecondary courses that meet
273 the high school graduation requirements of s. 1003.43, and to
274 establish the number of postsecondary semester credit hours of
275 instruction and equivalent high school credits earned through
276 dual enrollment pursuant to this section that are necessary to
277 meet high school graduation requirements. Such equivalencies
278 shall be determined solely on comparable course content and not
279 on seat time traditionally allocated to such courses in high
280 school. The Commissioner of Education shall recommend to the
281 State Board of Education those postsecondary courses identified
282 to meet high school graduation requirements, based on mastery of
283 course outcomes, by their course numbers, and all high schools
284 shall accept these postsecondary education courses toward meeting
285 the requirements of s. 1003.43.

286 (7) Early admission shall be a form of early college ~~dual~~
287 enrollment through which eligible secondary students enroll in a

7-03543-08

20082418__

288 postsecondary institution on a full-time basis in courses that
289 are creditable toward the high school diploma and the associate
290 or baccalaureate degree. Students enrolled pursuant to this
291 subsection shall be exempt from the payment of registration,
292 tuition, and laboratory fees.

293 (8) Career and technical early admission is a form of
294 accelerated career and technical ~~dual~~ enrollment through which
295 eligible secondary students enroll full time in a career center
296 or a community college in courses that are creditable toward the
297 high school diploma and a career and technical ~~the certificate or~~
298 ~~associate degree~~. Participation in the career early admission
299 program shall be limited to students who have completed a minimum
300 of 6 semesters of full-time secondary enrollment, including
301 studies undertaken in the ninth grade. Students enrolled pursuant
302 to this section are exempt from the payment of registration,
303 tuition, and laboratory fees.

304 (9) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for any
305 dual enrollment programs involving requirements for high school
306 graduation.

307 (10) (a) The dual enrollment program for home education
308 students consists of the enrollment of an eligible home education
309 secondary student in a postsecondary course creditable toward an
310 associate degree, a career certificate, or a baccalaureate
311 degree. To participate in the dual enrollment program, an
312 eligible home education secondary student must:

313 1. Provide proof of enrollment in a home education program
314 pursuant to s. 1002.41.

315 2. Be responsible for his or her own instructional
316 materials and transportation unless provided for otherwise.

7-03543-08

20082418__

317 (b) Each career center, community college, and state
318 university shall:

319 1. Delineate courses and programs for dually enrolled home
320 education students. Courses and programs may be added, revised,
321 or deleted at any time.

322 2. Identify eligibility criteria for home education student
323 participation, not to exceed those required of other dually
324 enrolled students.

325 (11) The Department of Education shall approve any course
326 for inclusion in the dual enrollment program that is contained
327 within the statewide course numbering system. However, college-
328 preparatory and other forms of precollegiate instruction, and
329 physical education and other courses that focus on the physical
330 execution of a skill rather than the intellectual attributes of
331 the activity, may not be so approved, but must be evaluated
332 individually for potential inclusion in the dual enrollment
333 program. This subsection shall not be construed to mean that an
334 independent postsecondary institution eligible for inclusion in a
335 dual enrollment or early admission program pursuant to s. 1011.62
336 must participate in the statewide course numbering system
337 developed pursuant to s. 1007.24 to participate in a dual
338 enrollment program.

339 (12) The Department of Education shall develop a statement
340 on transfer guarantees which will inform students, prior to
341 enrollment in a dual enrollment course, of the potential for the
342 dual enrollment course to articulate as an elective or a general
343 education course into a postsecondary education certificate or
344 degree program. The statement shall be provided to each district
345 school superintendent, who shall include the statement in the

7-03543-08

20082418__

346 information provided to all secondary students as required
347 pursuant to this subsection. The statement may also include
348 additional information, including, but not limited to, dual
349 enrollment options, guarantees, privileges, and responsibilities.

350 (13) Students who meet the eligibility requirements of this
351 section and who choose to participate in dual enrollment programs
352 are exempt from the payment of registration, tuition, and
353 laboratory fees.

354 (14) Instructional materials assigned for use within dual
355 enrollment courses shall be made available to dual enrollment
356 students from Florida public high schools free of charge. This
357 subsection shall not be construed to prohibit a community college
358 from providing instructional materials at no cost to a home
359 education student or student from a private school. Students
360 enrolled in postsecondary instruction not creditable toward a
361 high school diploma shall not be considered dual enrollments and
362 shall be required to assume the cost of instructional materials
363 necessary for such instruction.

364 (15) Instructional materials purchased by a district school
365 board or community college board of trustees on behalf of dual
366 enrollment students shall be the property of the board against
367 which the purchase is charged.

368 (16) Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2006-
369 2007 school year, school districts and community colleges must
370 weigh dual enrollment courses the same as advanced placement,
371 International Baccalaureate, and Advanced International
372 Certificate of Education courses when grade point averages are
373 calculated. For purposes of calculating GPA for admission to a
374 state university, dual enrollment courses that meet core

7-03543-08

20082418__

375 requirements for admission to a state university shall receive
376 the same weighting as advanced placement, International
377 Baccalaureate, and Advanced International Certificate of
378 Education courses. Alternative grade calculation or weighting
379 systems that discriminate against dual enrollment courses are
380 prohibited.

381 (17) The Commissioner of Education may approve dual
382 enrollment agreements for limited course offerings that have
383 statewide appeal. Such programs shall be limited to a single site
384 with multiple county participation.

385 Section 4. Paragraph (i) of subsection (1) of section
386 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

387 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.--If the annual
388 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each
389 district for operation of schools is not determined in the annual
390 appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing the
391 annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as follows:

392 (1) COMPUTATION OF THE BASIC AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED FOR
393 OPERATION.--The following procedure shall be followed in
394 determining the annual allocation to each district for operation:

395 (i) Calculation of full-time equivalent membership with
396 respect to dual enrollment instruction.--Students enrolled in
397 dual enrollment instruction pursuant to s. 1007.271 may be
398 included in calculations of full-time equivalent student
399 memberships for basic programs for grades 9 through 12 by a
400 district school board. For purposes of calculating FTE, each
401 semester of instruction that is eligible for high school and
402 postsecondary credit shall be funded in an amount equal to the
403 hours of instruction that would be necessary to earn the FTE and

7-03543-08

20082418__

404 the funding for an equivalent course if it were taught in the
405 school district ~~reported by school districts as 75 membership~~
406 ~~hours for purposes of FTE calculation.~~ Such students may also be
407 calculated as the proportional shares of full-time equivalent
408 enrollments they generate for a community college or university
409 conducting the dual enrollment instruction. Early admission
410 students shall be considered dual enrollments for funding
411 purposes and 15 or more college credit hours per semester shall
412 be reported as 0.5 FTE. Students may be enrolled in dual
413 enrollment instruction provided by an eligible independent
414 college or university and may be included in calculations of
415 full-time equivalent student memberships for basic programs for
416 grades 9 through 12 by a district school board. However, those
417 provisions of law which exempt dual enrolled and early admission
418 students from payment of instructional materials and tuition and
419 fees, including laboratory fees, shall not apply to students who
420 select the option of enrolling in an eligible independent
421 institution. An independent college or university which is
422 located and chartered in Florida, is not for profit, is
423 accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern
424 Association of Colleges and Schools or the Accrediting Council
425 for Independent Colleges and Schools, and which confers degrees
426 as defined in s. 1005.02 shall be eligible for inclusion in the
427 dual enrollment or early admission program. Students enrolled in
428 dual enrollment instruction shall be exempt from the payment of
429 tuition and fees, including laboratory fees. No student enrolled
430 in college credit mathematics or English dual enrollment
431 instruction shall be funded as a dual enrollment unless the

7-03543-08

20082418__

432 student has successfully completed the relevant section of the
433 entry-level examination required pursuant to s. 1008.30.

434 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.