

By Senator Bean

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to apprenticeships; amending s.  
3           446.021, F.S.; revising definitions; amending ss.  
4           446.032 and 446.091, F.S.; conforming provisions to  
5           changes made by the act; amending s. 446.092, F.S.;  
6           revising the characteristics of apprenticeable  
7           occupations; deleting provisions that limit  
8           apprenticeable occupations; amending s. 1001.65, F.S.;  
9           requiring Florida College System institution  
10          presidents to develop and implement articulation  
11          agreements with certain apprenticeship programs;  
12          providing articulation agreement requirements;  
13          amending s. 1009.25, F.S.; providing that students  
14          enrolled in certain apprenticeship programs are exempt  
15          from tuition and fees associated with certain courses;  
16          creating s. 1011.802, F.S.; creating the Florida  
17          Apprenticeship Grant Program within the Department of  
18          Education to provide grants to Florida College System  
19          institutions for the creation of new apprenticeship  
20          programs or the expansion of existing apprenticeship  
21          programs; requiring the Division of Career and Adult  
22          Education to administer the program; providing  
23          requirements related to applications, program  
24          priority, use of grant funds, and quarterly reports;  
25          creating s. 1011.803, F.S.; creating the Rapid  
26          Response Grant Program; providing for the purpose and  
27          application requirements of the program; requiring  
28          Florida College System institutions that receive  
29          grants to provide quarterly reports to the department;  
30          providing uses for grant funds; requiring the  
31          department to administer and conduct an annual  
32          analysis of the program; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 446.021, Florida Statutes, is reordered and amended to read:

446.021 Definitions of terms used in ss. 446.011-446.092.—  
As used in ss. 446.011-446.092, the term:

(8)~~(1)~~ "Preapprentice" means any person 16 years of age or over engaged in any course of instruction in the public school system or elsewhere, which course is registered as a preapprenticeship program with the department.

(1)~~(2)~~ "Apprentice" means a person at least 16 years of age who is engaged in learning a recognized skilled trade through actual work experience under the supervision of journeyworker ~~journeymen~~ craftsmen, which training should be combined with properly coordinated studies of related technical and supplementary subjects, and who has entered into a written agreement, which may be cited as an apprentice agreement, with a registered apprenticeship sponsor who may be either an employer, an association of employers, or a local joint apprenticeship committee.

(11)~~(3)~~ "Trainee" means a person at least 16 years of age who is engaged in learning a specific skill, trade, or occupation within a formalized, on-the-job training program.

(5)~~(4)~~ "Journeyworker ~~Journeyman~~" means a person working in an apprenticeable occupation who has successfully completed a registered apprenticeship program or who has worked the number of years required by established industry practices for the particular trade or occupation. The term includes a mentor,

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62 technician, specialist, or other skilled worker who has  
63 documented sufficient skills and knowledge of an occupation,  
64 either through formal apprenticeship or through practical on-  
65 the-job experience and formal training.

66 (9)~~(5)~~ "Preapprenticeship program" means an organized  
67 course of instruction in the public school system or elsewhere,  
68 which course is designed to prepare a person 16 years of age or  
69 older to become an apprentice and which course is approved by  
70 and registered with the department and sponsored by a registered  
71 apprenticeship program.

72 (2)~~(6)~~ "Apprenticeship program" means an organized course  
73 of instruction, registered and approved by the department, which  
74 course shall:

75 (a) Contain all terms and conditions for the  
76 qualifications, recruitment, selection, employment, and training  
77 of apprentices including such matters as the requirements for a  
78 written apprenticeship agreement.

79 (b) Enable learning that may include online courses and  
80 remote platforms for distributing training content.

81 (c) Award credit for existing skills and knowledge  
82 demonstrated by prior learning assessments, as determined by  
83 institution policy on credit for prior learning pursuant to s.  
84 1001.64.

85 (7) "On-the-job training program" means a formalized system  
86 of job processes which may be augmented by related instruction  
87 that provides the experience and knowledge necessary to meet the  
88 training objective of learning a specific skill, trade, or  
89 occupation. The training program must be at least 6 months and  
90 not more than 2 years in duration and must be registered with

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91 the department.

92 (12)~~(8)~~ "Uniform minimum preapprenticeship standards" means  
93 the minimum requirements established uniformly for each craft  
94 under which a preapprenticeship program is administered and  
95 includes standards of admission, training goals, training  
96 objectives, curriculum outlines, objective standards to measure  
97 successful completion of the preapprenticeship program, and the  
98 percentage of credit which may be given to preapprenticeship  
99 graduates upon acceptance into the apprenticeship program.

100 (10)~~(9)~~ "Related instruction" means an organized and  
101 systematic form of instruction designed to provide the  
102 apprentice with knowledge of the theoretical subjects related to  
103 a specific trade or occupation.

104 (3)~~(10)~~ "Cancellation" means the deregistration of an  
105 apprenticeship program or the termination of an apprenticeship  
106 agreement.

107 (6)~~(11)~~ "Jurisdiction" means the specific geographical area  
108 for which a particular program is registered.

109 (4)~~(12)~~ "Department" means the Department of Education.

110 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 446.032, Florida  
111 Statutes, is amended to read:

112 446.032 General duties of the department for apprenticeship  
113 training.—The department shall:

114 (1) Establish uniform minimum standards and policies  
115 governing apprentice programs and agreements. The standards and  
116 policies shall govern the terms and conditions of the  
117 apprentice's employment and training, including the quality  
118 training of the apprentice for, but not limited to, such matters  
119 as ratios of apprentices to journeyworkers ~~journeymen~~, safety,

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120 related instruction, and on-the-job training; but these  
121 standards and policies may not include rules, standards, or  
122 guidelines that require the use of apprentices and job trainees  
123 on state, county, or municipal contracts. The department may  
124 adopt rules necessary to administer the standards and policies.

125 Section 3. Section 446.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
126 read:

127 446.091 On-the-job training program.—All provisions of ss.  
128 446.011-446.092 relating to apprenticeship and  
129 preapprenticeship, including, but not limited to, programs,  
130 agreements, standards, administration, procedures, definitions,  
131 expenditures, local committees, powers and duties, limitations,  
132 grievances, and ratios of apprentices and job trainees to  
133 journeyworkers ~~journeymen~~ on state, county, and municipal  
134 contracts, shall be appropriately adapted and made applicable to  
135 a program of on-the-job training authorized under those  
136 provisions for persons other than apprentices.

137 Section 4. Section 446.092, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
138 read:

139 446.092 Criteria for apprenticeship occupations.—An  
140 apprenticeable occupation is a skilled trade which possesses all  
141 of the following characteristics:

142 (1) It is customarily learned ~~in a practical way~~ through a  
143 structured, systematic program of on-the-job, supervised  
144 training.

145 (2) It is commonly recognized throughout the industry or  
146 recognized with a positive view towards emerging and evolving  
147 ~~changing~~ technology.

148 (3) It typically involves manual, mechanical, or technical

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149 skills and knowledge which require a minimum of 2,000 hours of  
150 work and training, which hours are excluded from the time spent  
151 at related instruction.

152 (4) It requires related instruction to supplement on-the-  
153 job training and online training. Such instruction may be given  
154 in a classroom or through correspondence courses.

155 (5) It involves the development of skill sufficiently broad  
156 to be applicable in like occupations throughout an industry,  
157 rather than of restricted application to the products or  
158 services of any one company.

159 ~~(6) It does not fall into any of the following categories:~~

160 ~~(a) Selling, retailing, or similar occupations in the~~  
161 ~~distributive field.~~

162 ~~(b) Managerial occupations.~~

163 ~~(c) Professional and scientific vocations for which~~  
164 ~~entrance requirements customarily require an academic degree.~~

165 Section 5. Subsections (22) through (25) of section  
166 1001.65, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (23)  
167 through (26), respectively, and a new subsection (22) is added  
168 to that section, to read:

169 1001.65 Florida College System institution presidents;  
170 powers and duties.—The president is the chief executive officer  
171 of the Florida College System institution, shall be corporate  
172 secretary of the Florida College System institution board of  
173 trustees, and is responsible for the operation and  
174 administration of the Florida College System institution. Each  
175 Florida College System institution president shall:

176 (22) Develop and implement jointly with apprenticeship  
177 programs registered with the Department of Education in

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178 accordance with chapter 446 an articulation agreement for the  
179 students enrolled in the respective apprenticeship programs.  
180 Such articulation agreement must provide for at least two  
181 general education courses offered by the institution to be  
182 included in the apprenticeship program, for the award of college  
183 credit upon satisfactory completion of the courses as defined by  
184 the institution pursuant to s. 1001.64, and for enrollment into  
185 a degree program at the institution upon completion of the  
186 apprenticeship program.

187 Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
188 1009.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

189 1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

190 (1) The following students are exempt from the payment of  
191 tuition and fees, including lab fees, at a school district that  
192 provides workforce education programs, Florida College System  
193 institution, or state university:

194 (b) A student enrolled in an approved apprenticeship  
195 program, as defined in s. 446.021, including tuition and fees,  
196 including lab fees, associated with a course taken at a Florida  
197 College System institution through an articulation agreement  
198 with the student's apprenticeship program.

199 Section 7. Section 1011.802, Florida Statutes, is created  
200 to read:

201 1011.802 Florida Apprenticeship Grant (FLAG) Program.—

202 (1) The Florida Apprenticeship Grant Program is created to  
203 provide grants, in an amount provided in the General  
204 Appropriations Act, to Florida College System institutions on a  
205 competitive basis to establish new apprenticeship programs and  
206 expand existing apprenticeship programs. The Division of Career

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207 and Adult Education within the Department of Education shall  
208 administer the grant program.

209 (2) Applications from Florida College System institutions  
210 must contain projected enrollment and projected costs for the  
211 new or expanded apprenticeship programs.

212 (3) The department shall give priority to apprenticeship  
213 programs in the areas of information technology, health, and  
214 machining and manufacturing. Grant funds may be used for  
215 instructional equipment, supplies, personnel, student services,  
216 and other expenses associated with the creation or expansion of  
217 an apprenticeship program. Grant funds may not be used for  
218 recurring instructional costs or for an institution's indirect  
219 costs. Grant recipients must submit quarterly reports in a  
220 format prescribed by the department.

221 Section 8. Section 1011.803, Florida Statutes, is created  
222 to read:

223 1011.803 Rapid Response Grant Program.—

224 (1) The Rapid Response Grant Program is established to  
225 award grants on a competitive basis, in an amount provided in  
226 the General Appropriations Act, for the expansion or  
227 implementation of high-demand postsecondary programs at Florida  
228 College System institutions, as defined in s. 1000.21.

229 (2) Each Florida College System institution applying for a  
230 grant must submit an application to the Department of Education  
231 in the format prescribed by the department. The application must  
232 include, but is not limited to, program expansion or development  
233 details, projected enrollment, and projected costs.

234 (3) Each Florida College System institution that is awarded  
235 a grant under this section shall submit quarterly reports to the



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236 department in the format prescribed by the department. Grant  
237 funds may not be used to replace current funds and must be used  
238 to expand enrollment in existing postsecondary programs or  
239 develop new postsecondary programs.

240 (4) The Department of Education shall administer the  
241 program and shall conduct an annual analysis and assessment of  
242 the effectiveness of the postsecondary programs funded under  
243 this section in meeting labor market demand.

244 Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.