

By the Committee on Higher Education; and 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. 1003.4282, F.S.; providing that a student  
14          who completes a certain apprenticeship may be awarded  
15          specified credits toward a standard high school  
16          diploma under certain circumstances; amending s.  
17          1009.25, F.S.; providing that students enrolled in  
18          certain apprenticeship programs are exempt from  
19          tuition and fees associated with certain courses;  
20          creating s. 1011.802, F.S.; creating the Florida  
21          Apprenticeship Grant Program within the Department of  
22          Education to provide grants to Florida College System  
23          institutions for the creation of new apprenticeship  
24          programs or the expansion of existing apprenticeship  
25          programs; requiring the Division of Career and Adult  
26          Education to administer the program; providing  
27          requirements related to applications, program  
28          priority, use of grant funds, and quarterly reports;  
29          creating s. 1011.803, F.S.; creating the Rapid  
30          Response Grant Program; providing for the purpose and  
31          application requirements of the program; requiring  
32          Florida College System institutions that receive

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33 grants to provide quarterly reports to the department;  
34 providing uses for grant funds; requiring the  
35 department to administer and conduct an annual  
36 analysis of the program; providing an effective date.  
37

38 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
39

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

42 446.021 Definitions of terms used in ss. 446.011-446.092.—  
43 As used in ss. 446.011-446.092, the term:

44 (8)~~(1)~~ "Preapprentice" means any person 16 years of age or  
45 over engaged in any course of instruction in the public school  
46 system or elsewhere, which course is registered as a  
47 preapprenticeship program with the department.

48 (1)~~(2)~~ "Apprentice" means a person at least 16 years of age  
49 who is engaged in learning a recognized skilled trade through  
50 actual work experience under the supervision of journeyworker  
51 ~~journeymen~~ craftsmen, which training should be combined with  
52 properly coordinated studies of related technical and  
53 supplementary subjects, and who has entered into a written  
54 agreement, which may be cited as an apprentice agreement, with a  
55 registered apprenticeship sponsor who may be either an employer,  
56 an association of employers, or a local joint apprenticeship  
57 committee.

58 (11)~~(3)~~ "Trainee" means a person at least 16 years of age  
59 who is engaged in learning a specific skill, trade, or  
60 occupation within a formalized, on-the-job training program.

61 (5)~~(4)~~ "Journeyworker ~~Journeyman~~" means a person working in

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62 an apprenticeable occupation who has successfully completed a  
63 registered apprenticeship program or who has worked the number  
64 of years required by established industry practices for the  
65 particular trade or occupation. The term includes a mentor,  
66 technician, specialist, or other skilled worker who has  
67 documented sufficient skills and knowledge of an occupation,  
68 either through formal apprenticeship or through practical on-  
69 the-job experience and formal training.

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

76 (2)~~(6)~~ "Apprenticeship program" means an organized course  
77 of instruction, registered and approved by the department, which  
78 course shall:

79 (a) Contain all terms and conditions for the  
80 qualifications, recruitment, selection, employment, and training  
81 of apprentices including such matters as the requirements for a  
82 written apprenticeship agreement.

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

85 (c) Award credit for existing skills and knowledge  
86 demonstrated by prior learning assessments, as determined by  
87 institution policy on credit for prior learning pursuant to s.  
88 1001.64.

89 (7) "On-the-job training program" means a formalized system  
90 of job processes which may be augmented by related instruction

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91 that provides the experience and knowledge necessary to meet the  
92 training objective of learning a specific skill, trade, or  
93 occupation. The training program must be at least 6 months and  
94 not more than 2 years in duration and must be registered with  
95 the department.

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

104 (10)~~(9)~~ "Related instruction" means an organized and  
105 systematic form of instruction designed to provide the  
106 apprentice with knowledge of the theoretical subjects related to  
107 a specific trade or occupation.

108 (3)~~(10)~~ "Cancellation" means the deregistration of an  
109 apprenticeship program or the termination of an apprenticeship  
110 agreement.

111 (6)~~(11)~~ "Jurisdiction" means the specific geographical area  
112 for which a particular program is registered.

113 (4)~~(12)~~ "Department" means the Department of Education.

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

116 446.032 General duties of the department for apprenticeship  
117 training.—The department shall:

118 (1) Establish uniform minimum standards and policies  
119 governing apprentice programs and agreements. The standards and

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120 policies shall govern the terms and conditions of the  
121 apprentice's employment and training, including the quality  
122 training of the apprentice for, but not limited to, such matters  
123 as ratios of apprentices to journeyworkers ~~journeymen~~, safety,  
124 related instruction, and on-the-job training; but these  
125 standards and policies may not include rules, standards, or  
126 guidelines that require the use of apprentices and job trainees  
127 on state, county, or municipal contracts. The department may  
128 adopt rules necessary to administer the standards and policies.

129 Section 3. Section 446.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
130 read:

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

141 Section 4. Section 446.092, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
142 read:

143 446.092 Criteria for apprenticeship occupations.—An  
144 apprenticeable occupation is a skilled trade which possesses all  
145 of the following characteristics:

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

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149 (2) It is commonly recognized throughout the industry or  
150 recognized with a positive view towards emerging and evolving  
151 ~~changing~~ technology.

152 (3) It typically involves manual, mechanical, or technical  
153 skills and knowledge which require a minimum of 2,000 hours of  
154 work and training, which hours are excluded from the time spent  
155 at related instruction.

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

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

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

164 ~~(a) Selling, retailing, or similar occupations in the~~  
165 ~~distributive field.~~

166 ~~(b) Managerial occupations.~~

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

169 Section 5. Subsections (22) through (25) of section  
170 1001.65, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (23)  
171 through (26), respectively, and a new subsection (22) is added  
172 to that section, to read:

173 1001.65 Florida College System institution presidents;  
174 powers and duties.—The president is the chief executive officer  
175 of the Florida College System institution, shall be corporate  
176 secretary of the Florida College System institution board of  
177 trustees, and is responsible for the operation and

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178 administration of the Florida College System institution. Each  
179 Florida College System institution president shall:

180 (22) Develop and implement jointly with apprenticeship  
181 programs registered with the Department of Education in  
182 accordance with chapter 446 an articulation agreement for the  
183 students enrolled in the respective apprenticeship programs.  
184 Such articulation agreement must provide for at least two  
185 general education courses offered by the institution to be  
186 included in the apprenticeship program, for the award of college  
187 credit upon satisfactory completion of the courses as defined by  
188 the institution pursuant to s. 1001.64, and for enrollment into  
189 a degree program at the institution upon completion of the  
190 apprenticeship program.

191 Section 6. Present paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of  
192 section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as  
193 paragraph (d), and a new paragraph (c) is added to that  
194 subsection, to read:

195 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.—

196 (6) AWARD OF A STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.—

197 (c) A student who participates in an apprenticeship with a  
198 certified trade association that is registered with the  
199 department in accordance with chapter 446 shall be awarded  
200 credits towards a standard high school diploma if the student  
201 meets the requirements of this section. The credits awarded upon  
202 completion of the apprenticeship may be used to satisfy the  
203 requirements of paragraphs (3) (e), (f), and (g).

204 Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
205 1009.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

206 1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

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

211 (b) A student enrolled in an approved apprenticeship  
212 program, as defined in s. 446.021, including tuition and fees,  
213 including lab fees, associated with a course taken at a Florida  
214 College System institution through an articulation agreement  
215 with the student's apprenticeship program.

216 Section 8. Section 1011.802, Florida Statutes, is created  
217 to read:

218 1011.802 Florida Apprenticeship Grant (FLAG) Program.—

219 (1) The Florida Apprenticeship Grant Program is created to  
220 provide grants, in an amount provided in the General  
221 Appropriations Act, to Florida College System institutions on a  
222 competitive basis to establish new apprenticeship programs and  
223 expand existing apprenticeship programs. The Division of Career  
224 and Adult Education within the Department of Education shall  
225 administer the grant program.

226 (2) Applications from Florida College System institutions  
227 must contain projected enrollment and projected costs for the  
228 new or expanded apprenticeship programs.

229 (3) The department shall give priority to apprenticeship  
230 programs in the areas of information technology, health, and  
231 machining and manufacturing. Grant funds may be used for  
232 instructional equipment, supplies, personnel, student services,  
233 and other expenses associated with the creation or expansion of  
234 an apprenticeship program. Grant funds may not be used for  
235 recurring instructional costs or for an institution's indirect



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236 costs. Grant recipients must submit quarterly reports in a  
237 format prescribed by the department.

238 Section 9. Section 1011.803, Florida Statutes, is created  
239 to read:

240 1011.803 Rapid Response Grant Program.—

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

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

251 (3) Each Florida College System institution that is awarded  
252 a grant under this section shall submit quarterly reports to the  
253 department in the format prescribed by the department. Grant  
254 funds may not be used to replace current funds and must be used  
255 to expand enrollment in existing postsecondary programs or  
256 develop new postsecondary programs.

257 (4) The Department of Education shall administer the  
258 program and shall conduct an annual analysis and assessment of  
259 the effectiveness of the postsecondary programs funded under  
260 this section in meeting labor market demand.

261 Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.