

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to requirements for a standard high
 3 school diploma; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; deleting
 4 a requirement that at least one course required for
 5 receipt of a standard high school diploma be completed
 6 through online learning; amending ss. 1002.3105,
 7 1002.321, 1003.01, 1003.499, and 1003.5716, F.S.;
 8 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;
 9 providing an effective date.

10
 11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12
 13 Section 1. Subsection (4) and paragraphs (c) and (d) of
 14 subsection (9) of section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, are
 15 amended to read:

16 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school
 17 diploma.—

18 ~~(4) ONLINE COURSE REQUIREMENT. At least one course within~~
 19 ~~the 24 credits required under this section must be completed~~
 20 ~~through online learning.~~

21 ~~(a) An online course taken in grade 6, grade 7, or grade 8~~
 22 ~~fulfills the requirements of this subsection. The requirement is~~
 23 ~~met through an online course offered by the Florida Virtual~~
 24 ~~School, a virtual education provider approved by the State Board~~
 25 ~~of Education, a high school, or an online dual enrollment~~

26 | ~~course. A student who is enrolled in a full-time or part-time~~
27 | ~~virtual instruction program under s. 1002.45 meets the~~
28 | ~~requirement.~~

29 | ~~(b) A district school board or a charter school governing~~
30 | ~~board, as applicable, may allow a student to satisfy the online~~
31 | ~~course requirements of this subsection by completing a blended~~
32 | ~~learning course or a course in which the student earns a~~
33 | ~~nationally recognized industry certification in information~~
34 | ~~technology that is identified on the CAPE Industry Certification~~
35 | ~~Funding List pursuant to s. 1008.44 or passing the information~~
36 | ~~technology certification examination without enrolling in or~~
37 | ~~completing the corresponding course or courses, as applicable.~~

38 |
39 | ~~For purposes of this subsection, a school district may not~~
40 | ~~require a student to take the online or blended learning course~~
41 | ~~outside the school day or in addition to a student's courses for~~
42 | ~~a given semester. This subsection does not apply to a student~~
43 | ~~who has an individual education plan under s. 1003.57 which~~
44 | ~~indicates that an online or blended learning course would be~~
45 | ~~inappropriate or to an out-of-state transfer student who is~~
46 | ~~enrolled in a Florida high school and has 1 academic year or~~
47 | ~~less remaining in high school.~~

48 | (8)~~(9)~~ COHORT TRANSITION TO NEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.-
49 | The requirements of this section, in addition to applying to
50 | students entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year and

51 thereafter, shall also apply to students entering grade 9 before
52 the 2013-2014 school year, except as otherwise provided in this
53 subsection.

54 (c) A student entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school
55 year must earn:

56 1. Four credits in English/ELA. A student must pass the
57 statewide, standardized grade 10 Reading assessment, or earn a
58 concordant score, in order to graduate with a standard high
59 school diploma.

60 2. Four credits in mathematics, which must include Algebra
61 I and Geometry. A student who takes Algebra I after the 2010-
62 2011 school year must pass the statewide, standardized Algebra I
63 EOC assessment, or earn a comparative score, in order to earn a
64 standard high school diploma. A student who takes Algebra I or
65 Geometry after the 2010-2011 school year must take the
66 statewide, standardized EOC assessment but is not required to
67 pass the Algebra I or Geometry EOC assessment in order to earn
68 course credit. A student's performance on the Algebra I or
69 Geometry EOC assessment is not required to constitute 30 percent
70 of the student's final course grade. A student who earns an
71 industry certification for which there is a statewide college
72 credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of
73 Education may substitute the certification for one mathematics
74 credit. Substitution may occur for up to two mathematics
75 credits, except for Algebra I and Geometry.

76 3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a
77 laboratory component. One of the science credits must be Biology
78 I. A student who takes Biology I after the 2010-2011 school year
79 must take the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC assessment
80 but is not required to pass the assessment in order to earn
81 course credit. A student's performance on the assessment is not
82 required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course
83 grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which
84 there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement
85 approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the
86 certification for one science credit, except for Biology I.

87 4. Three credits in social studies of which one credit in
88 World History, one credit in United States History, one-half
89 credit in United States Government, and one-half credit in
90 economics are required. A student who takes United States
91 History after the 2011-2012 school year must take the statewide,
92 standardized United States History EOC assessment, but the
93 student's performance on the assessment is not required to
94 constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade.

95 5. One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and
96 debate, or practical arts as provided in paragraph (3) (e).

97 6. One credit in physical education as provided in
98 paragraph (3) (f).

99 7. Eight credits in electives.

100 ~~8. One online course as provided in subsection (4).~~

101 (d) A student entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school
102 year must earn:

103 1. Four credits in English/ELA. A student must pass the
104 statewide, standardized grade 10 Reading assessment, or earn a
105 concordant score, in order to graduate with a standard high
106 school diploma.

107 2. Four credits in mathematics, which must include Algebra
108 I and Geometry. A student who takes Algebra I after the 2010-
109 2011 school year must pass the statewide, standardized Algebra I
110 EOC assessment, or earn a comparative score, in order to earn a
111 standard high school diploma. A student who takes Geometry after
112 the 2010-2011 school year must take the statewide, standardized
113 Geometry EOC assessment. A student is not required to pass the
114 statewide, standardized EOC assessment in Algebra I or Geometry
115 in order to earn course credit. A student's performance on the
116 Algebra I or Geometry EOC assessment is not required to
117 constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A
118 student who earns an industry certification for which there is a
119 statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the
120 State Board of Education may substitute the certification for
121 one mathematics credit. Substitution may occur for up to two
122 mathematics credits, except for Algebra I and Geometry.

123 3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a
124 laboratory component. One of the science credits must be Biology
125 I. A student who takes Biology I after the 2010-2011 school year

126 must take the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC assessment
 127 but is not required to pass the assessment to earn course
 128 credit. A student's performance on the assessment is not
 129 required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course
 130 grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which
 131 there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement
 132 approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the
 133 certification for one science credit, except for Biology I.

134 4. Three credits in social studies of which one credit in
 135 World History, one credit in United States History, one-half
 136 credit in United States Government, and one-half credit in
 137 economics are required. The statewide, standardized United
 138 States History EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the
 139 student's final course grade.

140 5. One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and
 141 debate, or practical arts as provided in paragraph (3) (e).

142 6. One credit in physical education as provided in
 143 paragraph (3) (f).

144 7. Eight credits in electives.

145 ~~8. One online course as provided in subsection (4).~~

146 Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 1002.3105, Florida
 147 Statutes, is amended to read:

148 1002.3105 Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance
 149 Learning (ACCEL) options.—

150 (5) AWARD OF A STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.—A student who

151 meets the applicable grade 9 cohort graduation requirements of
152 s. 1003.4282 (3) (a)-(e) or s. 1003.4282 (8) (a)1.-5., (b)1.-5.,
153 (c)1.-5., or (d)1.-5. ~~s. 1003.4282 (9) (a)1.-5., (b)1.-5., (c)1.-~~
154 ~~5., or (d)1.-5.,~~ earns three credits in electives, and earns a
155 cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale shall
156 be awarded a standard high school diploma in a form prescribed
157 by the State Board of Education.

158 Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 1002.321, Florida
159 Statutes, is amended to read:

160 1002.321 Digital learning.—

161 ~~(3) DIGITAL PREPARATION. As required under s. 1003.4282, a~~
162 ~~student entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year and~~
163 ~~thereafter who seeks a high school diploma must take at least~~
164 ~~one online course.~~

165 Section 4. Subsection (14) of section 1003.01, Florida
166 Statutes, is amended to read:

167 1003.01 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

168 (14) "Core-curricula courses" means:

169 (a) Courses in language arts/reading, mathematics, social
170 studies, and science in prekindergarten through grade 3,
171 excluding extracurricular courses pursuant to subsection (15);

172 (b) Courses in grades 4 through 8 in subjects that are
173 measured by state assessment at any grade level and courses
174 required for middle school promotion, excluding extracurricular
175 courses pursuant to subsection (15);

176 (c) Courses in grades 9 through 12 in subjects that are
177 measured by state assessment at any grade level and courses that
178 are specifically identified by name in statute as required for
179 high school graduation and that are not measured by state
180 assessment, excluding extracurricular courses pursuant to
181 subsection (15);

182 (d) Exceptional student education courses; and

183 (e) English for Speakers of Other Languages courses.
184

185 The term is limited in meaning and used for the sole purpose of
186 designating classes that are subject to the maximum class size
187 requirements established in s. 1, Art. IX of the State
188 Constitution. This term does not include courses offered under
189 ss. 1002.321(3)(e) ~~ss. 1002.321(4)(e)~~, 1002.33(7)(a)2.b.,
190 1002.37, 1002.45, and 1003.499.

191 Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 1003.499, Florida
192 Statutes, is amended to read:

193 1003.499 Florida Approved Courses and Tests (FACT)
194 Initiative.—

195 (2) FLORIDA APPROVED COURSES.—The Department of Education
196 shall annually publish online a list of providers approved to
197 offer Florida approved courses which shall be listed in the
198 online catalog pursuant to s. 1002.321(5) ~~s. 1002.321(6)~~.

199 (a) As used in this section, the term "Florida approved
200 courses" means online courses provided by individuals which

201 include, but are not limited to, massive open online courses or
202 remedial education associated with the courses that are measured
203 pursuant to s. 1008.22. Massive open online courses may be
204 authorized in the following subject areas: Algebra I, biology,
205 geometry, and civics. Courses may be applied toward requirements
206 for promotion or graduation in whole, in subparts, or in a
207 combination of whole and subparts. A student may not be required
208 to repeat subparts that are satisfactorily completed.

209 (b) A Florida approved course must be annually identified,
210 approved, published, and shared for consideration by interested
211 students and school districts. The Commissioner of Education
212 shall approve each Florida approved course for application in K-
213 12 public schools in accordance with rules of the State Board of
214 Education.

215 Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
216 1003.5716, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

217 1003.5716 Transition to postsecondary education and career
218 opportunities.—All students with disabilities who are 3 years of
219 age to 21 years of age have the right to a free, appropriate
220 public education. As used in this section, the term "IEP" means
221 individual education plan.

222 (2) Beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect
223 when the student attains the age of 16, or younger if determined
224 appropriate by the parent and the IEP team, the IEP must include
225 the following statements that must be updated annually:

226 (b) A statement of intent to receive a standard high
227 school diploma before the student attains the age of 22 and a
228 description of how the student will fully meet the requirements
229 in s. 1003.4282, including, but not limited to, a portfolio
230 pursuant to s. 1003.4282(9)(b) ~~s. 1003.4282(10)(b)~~ which meets
231 the criteria specified in State Board of Education rule. The IEP
232 must also specify the outcomes and additional benefits expected
233 by the parent and the IEP team at the time of the student's
234 graduation.

235 Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.