

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to alternative high school graduation
 3 requirements; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; providing
 4 that, as of a specified school year, certain students
 5 are eligible for an alternative pathway to a standard
 6 high school diploma through the Career and Technical
 7 Education (CTE) pathway option; providing requirements
 8 for the CTE pathway option; requiring that each
 9 principal or his or her designee, who must be an
 10 academic advisor, inform parents and students of the
 11 CTE pathway option and establish certain processes
 12 relating to the pathway; requiring district school
 13 boards to incorporate certain information in the
 14 student progression plan; providing an effective date.

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

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 18 Section 1. Present subsection (11) of section 1003.4282,
 19 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (12), and a new
 20 subsection (11) is added to that section, to read:

21 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school
 22 diploma.—

23 (11) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION GRADUATION PATHWAY
 24 OPTION.—Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, a student is
 25 eligible to complete an alternative pathway to earning a

26 | standard high school diploma through the Career and Technical
27 | Education (CTE) pathway option. Receipt of a standard high
28 | school diploma awarded through the CTE pathway option requires
29 | the student's successful completion of at least 18 credits. A
30 | student completing the CTE pathway option must earn at least a
31 | cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

32 | (a) In order for a student to satisfy the requirements of
33 | the CTE pathway option, a student must:

34 | 1. Complete three credits in English Language Arts. The
35 | three credits must be in ELA I, II, and III; however, a student
36 | may substitute up to three credits in ELA honors, AP, AICE, IB,
37 | or dual enrollment courses for the required ELA credits. A
38 | student also must pass the statewide, standardized grade 10
39 | Reading assessment or, when implemented, the grade 10 ELA
40 | assessment, or earn a concordant score, in order to earn a
41 | standard high school diploma;

42 | 2. Complete three credits in mathematics. A student must
43 | earn one credit in Algebra I and one credit in Geometry. A
44 | student's performance on the statewide, standardized Algebra I
45 | end-of-course (EOC) assessment constitutes 30 percent of the
46 | student's final course grade. A student also must pass the
47 | statewide, standardized Algebra I EOC assessment, or earn a
48 | comparative score, in order to earn a standard high school
49 | diploma. A student's performance on the statewide, standardized
50 | Geometry EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's

51 final course grade. A student who earns an industry
52 certification for which there is a statewide college credit
53 articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education
54 may substitute the certification for one mathematics credit.
55 Substitution may occur for up to one mathematics credit, except
56 for Algebra I and Geometry;

57 3. Complete three credits in science. Two of the three
58 required credits must have a laboratory component. A student
59 must earn one credit in Biology I and two credits in equally
60 rigorous courses. The statewide, standardized Biology I EOC
61 assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course
62 grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which
63 there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement
64 approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the
65 certification for two science credits, except for Biology I;

66 4. Complete three and one-half credits in social studies.
67 A student must earn one credit in United States History; one
68 credit in World History; one-half credit in economics; one-half
69 credit in financial literacy; and one-half credit in United
70 States Government. The United States History EOC assessment
71 constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade;

72 5. Complete three credits in career and technical
73 education. The courses must result in a program completion and
74 an industry certification;

75 6. Complete two and one-half credits in work-based

76 learning programs. A student must earn two and one-half credits
77 through work-based learning program courses. A student may
78 substitute up to two and one-half credits of electives for work-
79 based learning program courses to fulfill this requirement; and

80 7. Sit for the statewide, standardized Geometry EOC
81 assessment, Biology I EOC assessment, and United States History
82 EOC assessment.

83 (b) Upon completion of the requirements specified in
84 paragraph (a), a student shall be awarded a standard high school
85 diploma in a form prescribed by the State Board of Education.

86 (c) Each principal or his or her faculty designee, who
87 must be designated as an academic advisor, shall:

88 1. Inform parents and students of the CTE pathway option
89 available at the school and the graduation requirements for the
90 CTE pathway option established pursuant to paragraph (a);

91 2. Establish a process by which a parent may request
92 student participation in the CTE pathway option. The student
93 must be provided the opportunity to participate in the CTE
94 pathway option;

95 3. Establish a process to verify a student's progress and
96 completion of the CTE pathway option; and

97 4. Meet with any student who has a cumulative grade point
98 average that falls below 2.0 during the first semester in which
99 his or her grade point average falls below 2.0, and any
100 subsequent semester in which his or her grade point average

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101 remains below 2.0, to discuss CTE pathway options.

102 (d) Each district school board shall incorporate the CTE
103 pathway option to graduation in the student progression plan
104 required under s. 1008.25.

105 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.