

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Education

BILL: SB 130

INTRODUCER: Senator Hutson

SUBJECT: Florida Job Growth Grant Fund

DATE: November 8, 2019

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Reeve</u>	<u>McKay</u>	<u>CM</u>	Favorable
2.	<u>Dew</u>	<u>Sikes</u>	<u>ED</u>	Pre-meeting
3.	_____	_____	<u>AP</u>	_____

I. Summary:

SB 130 authorizes charter schools that exclusively offer the Career and Technical Education graduation pathway option to apply for workforce training grants through the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. The bill also authorizes the Governor to approve workforce training grants from the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund for charter schools that exclusively offer this pathway.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.

II. Present Situation:

Florida Job Growth Grant Fund

The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund (fund) was created in 2017 to promote economic opportunity by improving public infrastructure and enhancing workforce training. The fund is housed within the Department of Economic Opportunity (department) and may not be used for the exclusive benefit of any single company, corporation, or business entity.¹

Section 288.101, F.S., provides that the department and Enterprise Florida, Inc., a nonprofit corporation acting as the state's economic development organization, may identify projects, solicit proposals, and make funding recommendations to the Governor. The Governor is authorized to approve:

¹ Section 15, ch. 2017-233, L.O.F.

- State or local public infrastructure projects² to promote economic recovery in specific regions of the state, economic diversification, or economic enhancement in a targeted industry;³
- Infrastructure funding to accelerate the rehabilitation of the Herbert Hoover Dike;⁴ and
- Workforce training grants to support programs at state colleges and state technical centers that provide participants with transferable, sustainable workforce skills applicable to more than a single employer, and for equipment with these programs.

Eligible entities must submit an application that provides a description of how a proposed project will promote economic opportunity and a breakdown of its estimated costs. There are currently no statutory limits on the amount of funds that can be requested per project, the number of projects that may be approved, the number of approved projects that must promote public infrastructure versus workforce training, or the time period for which an approved project may receive funds.⁵

During the 2018-2019 fiscal year the fund was appropriated \$85 million,⁶ and 15 infrastructure projects and eight workforce training projects were approved.⁷

The fund was appropriated \$40 million for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.⁸

Career and Technical Education

Career and technical education is organized into programs that prepare students for occupations important to Florida's economic development. These programs include the academic and technical skills required to be successful in occupations such as agriculture, food, and natural resources; engineering and technology education; health sciences; hospitality and tourism; information technology; and transportation, distribution, and logistics.⁹

² Section 288.101(3)(b), F.S., defines public infrastructure as infrastructure that is owned by the public, and is for public use or predominately benefits the public.

³ Section 288.101(3)(c), F.S., defines targeted industry as any industry identified in the most recent list provided to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of representatives in accordance with s. 288.106(2)(q), F.S.

⁴ Section 288.101(3)(a), F.S., defines infrastructure as any fixed capital expenditure or fixed capital costs associated with the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of facilities that have a left expectancy of five or more years and any land acquisition, land improvement, design, and engineering costs related thereto.

⁵ Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, *Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Frequently Asked Questions*, <http://floridajobs.org/docs/default-source/communicationsfiles/florida-job-growth-grant-fund-faq--08092019.pdf?sfvrsn=8> (last visited Oct. 15, 2019).

⁶ Section 6, ch. 2018-9, L.O.F.

⁷ Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, *Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Awarded Proposals 2018-2019*, <http://www.floridajobs.org/jobgrowth/2018-19-awarded-proposals> (last visited Oct. 15, 2019).

⁸ Section 6, ch. 2019-115, L.O.F. An award of \$2.86 million from this fund was announced October 10, 2019 to fund the construction of two new connecting roads and associated underground utilities in Panama City. Email, Department of Economic Opportunity, Florida Job Growth Grant Fund (Oct. 24, 2019).

⁹ Florida Department of Education, *Career & Technical Education*, <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-tech-edu/> (last visited Oct. 15, 2019).

Graduation Requirements

A student in a Florida public high school¹⁰ may earn a standard high school diploma through successful completion of one of the following:

- 24 credits, including:
 - Four credits in English Language Arts (ELA);
 - Four credits in mathematics;
 - Three credits in science;
 - Three credits in social studies;
 - One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts;
 - One credit in physical education; and
 - Eight credits in electives.¹¹
- An International Baccalaureate curriculum.¹²
- An Advanced International Certificate of Education curriculum.¹³
- 18 credits of Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL),¹⁴ including:
 - Four credits in ELA;
 - Four credits in mathematics;
 - Three credits in science;
 - Three credits in social studies;
 - One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts; and
 - Three credits in electives.
- At least 18 credits through the Career and Technical Education graduation pathway,¹⁵ including:
 - Four credits in ELA;
 - Four credits in mathematics;
 - Three credits in science;
 - Three credits in social studies;
 - Two credits in career and technical education; and
 - Two credits in work-based learning programs.¹⁶

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) graduation pathway was established in 2019¹⁷ as an alternative pathway to earning a standard high school diploma. A student completing the CTE pathway option must earn at least a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale

¹⁰ Public schools in Florida include charter schools, which are established by written contractual agreement for the purposes of improving student learning and academic achievement, increasing learning opportunities for all students, encouraging the use of innovative learning methods, and requiring the measurement of learning outcomes. Section 1002.33, F.S.

¹¹ Section 1003.4282(3), F.S. Electives must include opportunities for students to earn college credit, including industry-certified career education programs or series of career-themed courses that result in industry certification or articulate into the award of college credit, or career education courses for which there is a statewide or local articulation agreement and which lead to college credit.

¹² Section 1003.4282(a), F.S.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ Section 1002.3105, F.S.

¹⁵ Section 1003.4282(11), F.S.

¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ Section 14, ch. 2019-119, L.O.F.

and fulfill the requirements of the statewide, standardized assessment requirements to receive a standard high school diploma.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 288.101, F.S., to authorize the Governor to approve workforce training grants funded through the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund to support programs at charter schools that exclusively offer the Career and Technical Education graduation pathway.

Section 2 amends s. 1002.33, F.S., to authorize charter schools that exclusively offer the Career and Technical Education graduation pathway to apply for workforce training grants through the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund.

Section 3 provides an effective date of July 1, 2020.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 288.101 and 1002.33

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.