

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1033 Certificate of Completion

SPONSOR(S): Borrero, Valdes and others

TIED BILLS: None. **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 1394

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Secondary Education & Career Development Subcommittee	16 Y, 0 N	Sleap	Sanchez
2) Education & Employment Committee			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The bill provides a student who is awarded a Florida high school certificate of completion, eligibility to enroll in programs offered at a school district career center and charter technical career center.

The bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2021.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

Florida High School Diploma

Requirements

Florida law establishes academic requirements for earning a standard high school diploma to include five options:

- successful completion of 24 credits;¹
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway option;²
- an International Baccalaureate curriculum;³
- an Advanced International Certificate of Education curriculum;⁴ or
- the Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) option.⁵

The 24 credits required for a standard high school diploma include:

- 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.⁶

Within the 24 credits, at least one course must be completed through online learning.⁷ In addition to successful completion of the required courses a student must earn a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale⁸ and must pass the following required statewide standardized assessments:

- grade 10 ELA assessment or earn a concordant score on the SAT or ACT;⁹ and
- Algebra I end-of-course (EOC) assessment or, beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2018-19 school year, earn a comparative score on the Math section of the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), the SAT, the ACT or the Geometry EOC assessment.¹⁰

Certificate of Completion

A student who earns the required 24 credits, or the required 18 credits through the ACCEL options graduation pathway, but fails to pass the required statewide assessments or achieve a 2.0 GPA must be awarded a certificate of completion in a form prescribed by the State Board of Education (SBE).¹¹ However, a student who is otherwise entitled to a certificate of completion may elect to remain in high

¹ Section 1003.4281(1)(a), F.S.

² Section 1003.4282(11), F.S.

³ Section 1003.4282(1)(a), F.S.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Section 1002.3105(5), F.S.

⁶ Section 1003.4282(3)(a)-(g), F.S.

⁷ Section 1003.4282(4), F.S.

⁸ Section 1003.4282(3) and s. 1003.4282(6)(a), F.S.

⁹ Section 1003.4282(3)(a) and (9)(d)1., F.S.; Rule 6A-1.09422(8)(a)2., F.A.C.

¹⁰ Section 1003.4282(3)(b)1. and (9)(d)2., F.S.; Rule 6A-1.09422(8)(b)2., F.A.C.

¹¹ Section 1003.4282(6)(c), F.S.

school either as a full-time student or a part-time student for up to one additional year and receive special instruction designed to remedy his or her identified deficiencies.¹²

Certificate of Completion- Admission to Postsecondary Education

Current law requires a student who has been awarded a certificate of completion to be eligible to enroll in certificate career education programs at a Florida College System (FCS) institution.¹³ A certificate career education program is defined as a course of study that leads to at least one occupational completion point.¹⁴ The program may also confer credit that may articulate with a diploma or career degree education program, if authorized by rules of the SBE.¹⁵

Career Centers

Current law allows a district school board to operate a career center as part of the district school system.¹⁶ A career center is an educational institution which offers terminal courses of a technical nature, as well as courses for adults and out-of-school youth.¹⁷ A center operates under the control of the district school board where it is located and each center is directed by a director who is responsible to the district school superintendent.¹⁸ Currently, there are 48 career centers operating in 31 school districts in Florida.¹⁹

In addition to career centers, current law allows for the operation of charter technical centers. Charter technical career centers are publicly-funded schools or technical centers operated under a charter granted by a district school board, Florida College System board of trustees or a consortium comprised of one or more of each.²⁰ A sponsoring consortium must include the school district in which the facility is located.²¹ There is only one charter technical center operating in the state, Lake Technical College, sponsored by the Lake County school board.²²

Current law does not expressly state that a student who has been awarded a certificate of completion is eligible to enroll in programs at a district career center or charter technical center. Although not expressly provided in law, most centers allow a student who has been awarded a certificate of completion to be eligible to enroll in programs at the institution.²³

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill provides a student who is awarded a Florida high school certificate of completion, eligibility to enroll in programs offered at a school district career center and charter technical career center.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

¹² *Id.*

¹³ Section 1007.263(4), F.S.

¹⁴ Section 1004.02(20), F.S. *See also* Section 1004.02(21), F.S. An occupational completion point means the occupational competencies that qualify a person to enter an occupation that is linked to a career and technical program.

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ Section 1001.44(1), F.S.

¹⁷ Section 1001.44(3)(a), F.S.

¹⁸ Section 1001.44(3)(a), F.S.

¹⁹ Florida Department of Education, Career and Adult Education, *District Postsecondary Institutions Map* (Sept. 25, 2019), available at, <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5398/urlt/DistPSInstMap.pdf>. Lake Technical College operates as the only charter technical career center, authorized under s. 1002.34, F.S. and is sponsored by the Lake County School Board. *See* Florida Department of Education, Career & Adult Education, *Charter Technical Center Annual Report 2019-20*, at 5, available at <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/9904/urlt/charterreview20.pdf>.

²⁰ Section 1002.34(3)(a)-(b), F.S.

²¹ Section 1002.34(3)(a) and (11), F.S.

²² Florida Department of Education, *Charter Technical Centers Annual Report (2019-2020)*, at 5, available at <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/9904/urlt/charterreview20.pdf>.

²³ Email, Florida Association for Career and Technical Education (Jan. 26, 2021). Admission to a program may be limited to a student with a high school diploma or equivalent to meet program licensure requirements or training partner specified requirements.

STORAGE NAME: h1033a.SEC

DATE: 3/23/2021

Section 1: Amending s. 1001.44, F.S.; specifying that students who have been awarded a certificate of completion are eligible to enroll in certain programs.

Section 2: Amending s. 1002.34, F.S.; specifying that students who have been awarded a certificate of completion are eligible to enroll in certain programs.

Section 3: Provides an effective date of July 1, 2021.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill allows students earning a certificate of completion to enroll in programs offered in career centers to continue their education and expand employment opportunities.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

None. This bill does not appear to affect county or municipal governments.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

None.