

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to postsecondary education; amending
3 s. 1004.6495, F.S.; revising specifications for
4 Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program
5 grants; removing a cap on such grant awards; amending
6 s. 1007.273, F.S.; renaming collegiate high school
7 programs as early college programs; defining the term
8 "early college program"; requiring early college
9 programs to prioritize certain courses; deleting
10 obsolete language; conforming provisions to changes
11 made by the act; authorizing charter schools to
12 execute contracts with certain institutions to
13 establish an early college program; amending s.
14 1009.25, F.S.; clarifying fee exemptions for the
15 Department of Children and Families; creating s.
16 1009.30, F.S.; providing legislative findings;
17 establishing the Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program;
18 providing for the administration of the program;
19 providing for the reimbursement of tuition and costs
20 to eligible postsecondary institutions; requiring
21 students participating in dual enrollment programs to
22 meet specified minimum eligibility requirements in
23 order for institutions to receive reimbursements;
24 requiring participating institutions to annually
25 report specified information to the Department of

26 Education by certain dates; providing a reimbursement
27 schedule for tuition and instructional materials
28 costs; requiring the Department of Education to
29 reimburse institutions by specified dates; providing
30 that reimbursement for dual enrollment courses is
31 contingent upon appropriations; providing for the
32 prorating of reimbursements under certain
33 circumstances; requiring the State Board of Education
34 to adopt rules; creating s. 1012.978, F.S.;

35 authorizing state university boards of trustees to
36 implement a bonus scheme for state university system
37 employees based on awards for work performance or
38 employee recruitment and retention; requiring a board
39 of trustees to submit the bonus scheme to the Board of
40 Governors; requiring the Board of Governors to approve
41 such bonus scheme before its implementation; amending
42 ss. 1002.20 and 1003.4282, F.S.; conforming provisions
43 to changes made by the act; amending s. 1012.98, F.S.;

44 authorizing certain colleges and universities to
45 develop professional development systems; providing an
46 effective date.

47
48 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

49
50 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section

51 1004.6495, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

52 1004.6495 Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition
 53 Program and Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities.—

54 (5) CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Florida Center for
 55 Students with Unique Abilities is established within the
 56 University of Central Florida. At a minimum, the center shall:

57 (b) Coordinate, facilitate, and oversee the statewide
 58 implementation of this section. At a minimum, the director
 59 shall:

60 1. Consult and collaborate with the National Center and
 61 the Coordinating Center, as identified in 20 U.S.C. s. 1140q,
 62 regarding guidelines established by the center for the effective
 63 implementation of the programs for students with disabilities
 64 and for students with intellectual disabilities which align with
 65 the federal requirements and with standards, quality indicators,
 66 and benchmarks identified by the National Center and the
 67 Coordinating Center.

68 2. Consult and collaborate with the Florida Talent
 69 Development Council to identify meaningful credentials for
 70 FPCTPs and to engage businesses and stakeholders to promote
 71 experiential training and employment opportunities for students
 72 with intellectual disabilities.

73 3. Establish requirements and timelines for the:

74 a. Submission and review of an application.

75 b. Approval or disapproval of an initial or renewal

76 application.

77 c. Implementation of an FPCTP, which must begin no later
 78 than the academic year immediately following the academic year
 79 during which the approval is granted.

80 4. Administer scholarship funds.

81 5. Administer FPCTP ~~start-up and enhancement~~ grants. From
 82 funds appropriated in the 2016-2017 fiscal year for the FPCTP,
 83 \$3 million shall be used for such grants. Thereafter, funds
 84 appropriated for the FPCTP may only be used for such grants as
 85 ~~if~~ specifically authorized in the General Appropriations Act.
 86 ~~The maximum annual start-up and enhancement grant award shall be~~
 87 ~~\$300,000 per institution.~~

88 6. Report on the implementation and administration of this
 89 section by planning, advising, and evaluating approved degree,
 90 certificate, and nondegree programs and the performance of
 91 students and programs pursuant to subsection (8).

92 Section 2. Section 1007.273, Florida Statutes, is amended
 93 to read:

94 1007.273 Early college ~~Collegiate high school~~ program.—

95 (1) Each Florida College System institution shall work
 96 with each district school board in its designated service area
 97 to establish one or more early college ~~collegiate high school~~
 98 programs. As used in this section, the term "early college
 99 program" means a structured high school acceleration program in
 100 which a cohort of students is enrolled full time in

101 postsecondary courses toward an associate degree. The early
102 college program must prioritize courses applicable as general
103 education core courses under s. 1007.25 for an associate degree
104 or a baccalaureate degree.

105 ~~(2) At a minimum, collegiate high school programs must~~
106 ~~include an option for public school students in grade 11 or~~
107 ~~grade 12 participating in the program, for at least 1 full~~
108 ~~school year, to earn CAPE industry certifications pursuant to s.~~
109 ~~1008.44 and to successfully complete 30 credit hours through the~~
110 ~~dual enrollment program under s. 1007.271 toward the first year~~
111 ~~of college for an associate degree or baccalaureate degree while~~
112 ~~enrolled in the program.~~

113 ~~(3)~~ Each district school board and its local Florida
114 College System institution shall execute a contract to establish
115 one or more early college ~~collegiate high school~~ programs at a
116 mutually agreed upon location or locations. ~~Beginning with the~~
117 ~~2015-2016 school year,~~ If the institution does not establish a
118 program with a district school board in its designated service
119 area, another Florida College System institution may execute a
120 contract with that district school board to establish the
121 program. The contract must be executed by January 1 of each
122 school year for implementation of the program during the next
123 school year. The contract must:

124 (a) Identify the grade levels to be included in the early
125 college ~~collegiate high school~~ program which must, ~~at a minimum,~~

126 ~~include grade 12.~~

127 (b) Describe the early college ~~collegiate high school~~
128 program, including the delineation of courses ~~and industry~~
129 ~~certifications~~ offered, including online course availability;
130 the high school and college credits earned for each
131 postsecondary course completed ~~and industry certification~~
132 ~~earned~~; student eligibility criteria; and the enrollment process
133 and relevant deadlines.

134 (c) Describe the methods, medium, and process by which
135 students and their parents are annually informed about the
136 availability of the early college ~~collegiate high school~~
137 program, the return on investment associated with participation
138 in the program, and the information described in paragraphs (a)
139 and (b).

140 (d) Identify the delivery methods for instruction and the
141 instructors for all courses.

142 (e) Identify student advising services and progress
143 monitoring mechanisms.

144 (f) Establish a program review and reporting mechanism
145 regarding student performance outcomes.

146 (g) Describe the terms of funding arrangements to
147 implement the early college ~~collegiate high school~~ program.

148 ~~(3)-(4)~~ Each student participating in an early college a
149 ~~collegiate high school~~ program must enter into a student
150 performance contract which must be signed by the student, the

151 parent, and a representative of the school district and the
 152 applicable Florida College System institution, state university,
 153 or other institution participating pursuant to subsection (4)
 154 ~~(5)~~. The performance contract must include the schedule of
 155 courses, by semester, ~~and industry certifications to be taken by~~
 156 ~~the student~~, student attendance requirements, and course grade
 157 requirements.

158 (4) ~~(5)~~ In addition to executing a contract with the local
 159 Florida College System institution under this section, a
 160 district school board may execute a contract to establish an
 161 early college ~~a collegiate high school~~ program with a state
 162 university or an institution that is eligible to participate in
 163 the William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education
 164 Grant Program, that is a nonprofit independent college or
 165 university located and chartered in this state, and that is
 166 accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern
 167 Association of Colleges and Schools to grant baccalaureate
 168 degrees. Such university or institution must meet the
 169 requirements specified under subsections (2) and (3) ~~(3)~~ ~~and~~
 170 ~~(4)~~.

171 (5) A charter school may execute a contract directly with
 172 the local Florida College System institution or another
 173 institution as authorized under this section to establish an
 174 early college program at a mutually agreed upon location.

175 (6) The early college ~~collegiate high school~~ program must

176 ~~shall~~ be funded pursuant to ss. 1007.271 and 1011.62. The State
177 Board of Education shall enforce compliance with this section by
178 withholding the transfer of funds for the school districts and
179 the Florida College System institutions in accordance with s.
180 1008.32.

181 Section 3. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (1) of
182 section 1009.25, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

183 1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

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

188 (c) A student who is, or was at the time he or she reached
189 18 years of age, in the custody of the Department of Children
190 and Families or who, after spending at least 6 months in the
191 custody of the department after reaching 16 years of age, was
192 placed in a guardianship by the court. Such exemption includes
193 fees associated with enrollment in applied academics for adult
194 education instruction. The exemption remains valid until the
195 student reaches 28 years of age.

196 (d) A student who is, or was at the time he or she reached
197 18 years of age, in the custody of a relative or nonrelative
198 under s. 39.5085 or s. 39.6225 or who was adopted from the
199 Department of Children and Families after May 5, 1997. Such
200 exemption includes fees associated with enrollment in applied

201 academics for adult education instruction. The exemption remains
202 valid until the student reaches 28 years of age.

203 Section 4. Section 1009.30, Florida Statutes, is created
204 to read:

205 1009.30 Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program.—

206 (1) The Legislature finds and declares that dual
207 enrollment is an integral part of the education system in this
208 state and should be available for all eligible secondary
209 students without cost to the student. There is established the
210 Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program to support postsecondary
211 institutions in providing dual enrollment.

212 (2) The Department of Education shall administer the Dual
213 Enrollment Scholarship Program in accordance with rules adopted
214 by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (9).

215 (3) (a) Beginning in the 2021 fall term, the program shall
216 reimburse eligible postsecondary institutions for tuition and
217 related instructional materials costs for dual enrollment
218 courses taken by private school or home education program
219 secondary students during the fall or spring terms.

220 (b) Beginning in the 2022 summer term, the program shall
221 reimburse institutions for tuition and related instructional
222 materials costs for dual enrollment courses taken by public
223 school, private school, or home education program secondary
224 students during the summer term.

225 (4) A student participating in a dual enrollment program

226 must meet the minimum eligibility requirements specified in s.
227 1007.271 in order for the institution to receive a
228 reimbursement.

229 (5) Annually, by March 15, each participating institution
230 must report to the department any eligible secondary students
231 from private schools or home education programs who were
232 enrolled during the previous fall or spring terms. Annually, by
233 July 15, each participating institution must report to the
234 department any eligible public school, private school, or home
235 education program students who were enrolled during the summer
236 term. For each dual enrollment course in which the student is
237 enrolled, the report must include a unique student identifier,
238 the postsecondary institution name, the postsecondary course
239 number, and the postsecondary course name.

240 (6) (a) School district career centers shall be reimbursed
241 at the in-state resident tuition rate established in s.
242 1009.22 (3) (c).

243 (b) Florida College System institutions shall be
244 reimbursed at the in-state resident tuition rate established in
245 s. 1009.23 (3) (a).

246 (c) State University System institutions and independent
247 postsecondary institutions shall be reimbursed at the standard
248 tuition rate established in s. 1009.24 (4) (a).

249 (d) Institutions shall be reimbursed for instructional
250 materials costs based on a rate specified in the General

251 Appropriations Act.

252 (7) For dual enrollment courses taken during the fall and
253 spring terms, the department must reimburse institutions by
254 April 15 of the same year. For dual enrollment courses taken
255 during the summer term, the department must reimburse
256 institutions by August 15 of the same year, before the beginning
257 of the next academic year.

258 (8) Reimbursement for dual enrollment courses is
259 contingent upon an appropriation in the General Appropriations
260 Act each year. If the statewide reimbursement amount is greater
261 than the appropriation, the institutional reimbursement amounts
262 specified in subsection (6) shall be prorated among the
263 institutions that have reported eligible students to the
264 department by the deadlines specified in subsection (5).

265 (9) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to
266 implement this section.

267 Section 5. Section 1012.978, Florida Statutes, is created
268 to read:

269 1012.978 Bonuses for state university system employees.—
270 Notwithstanding s. 215.425(3), a university board of trustees
271 may implement a bonus scheme based on awards for work
272 performance or employee recruitment and retention. The board of
273 trustees must submit to the Board of Governors the bonus scheme,
274 including the evaluation criteria by which a bonus will be
275 awarded. The Board of Governors must approve any bonus scheme

276 created under this section before its implementation.

277 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section
278 1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

279 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public
280 school students must receive accurate and timely information
281 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed
282 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12
283 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory
284 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

285 (6) EDUCATIONAL CHOICE.—

286 (a) Public educational school choices.—Parents of public
287 school students may seek any public educational school choice
288 options that are applicable and available to students throughout
289 the state. These options may include controlled open enrollment,
290 single-gender programs, lab schools, virtual instruction
291 programs, charter schools, charter technical career centers,
292 magnet schools, alternative schools, special programs, auditory-
293 oral education programs, advanced placement, dual enrollment,
294 International Baccalaureate, International General Certificate
295 of Secondary Education (pre-AICE), CAPE digital tools, CAPE
296 industry certifications, early college ~~collegiate high school~~
297 programs, Advanced International Certificate of Education, early
298 admissions, credit by examination or demonstration of
299 competency, the New World School of the Arts, the Florida School
300 for the Deaf and the Blind, and the Florida Virtual School.

301 These options may also include the public educational choice
 302 options of the Opportunity Scholarship Program and the McKay
 303 Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program.

304 Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (10) of section
 305 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

306 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school
 307 diploma.—

308 (10) STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.—Beginning with students
 309 entering grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year, this subsection
 310 applies to a student with a disability.

311 (c) A student with a disability who meets the standard
 312 high school diploma requirements in this section may defer the
 313 receipt of a standard high school diploma if the student:

314 1. Has an individual education plan that prescribes
 315 special education, transition planning, transition services, or
 316 related services through age 21; and

317 2. Is enrolled in accelerated college credit instruction
 318 pursuant to s. 1007.27, industry certification courses that lead
 319 to college credit, an early college ~~a collegiate high school~~
 320 program, courses necessary to satisfy the Scholar designation
 321 requirements, or a structured work-study, internship, or
 322 preapprenticeship program.

323
 324 The State Board of Education shall adopt rules under ss.
 325 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this subsection, including

326 rules that establish the minimum requirements for students
327 described in this subsection to earn a standard high school
328 diploma. The State Board of Education shall adopt emergency
329 rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54.

330 Section 8. Subsection (6) of section 1012.98, Florida
331 Statutes, is amended to read:

332 1012.98 School Community Professional Development Act.—

333 (6) An organization of private schools or consortium of
334 charter schools which has no fewer than 10 member schools in
335 this state, which publishes and files with the Department of
336 Education copies of its standards, and the member schools of
337 which comply with the provisions of part II of chapter 1003,
338 relating to compulsory school attendance, or a public or private
339 college or university with a teacher preparation program
340 approved pursuant to s. 1004.04, may also develop a professional
341 development system that includes a master plan for inservice
342 activities. The system and inservice plan must be submitted to
343 the commissioner for approval pursuant to state board rules.

344 Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.