

By Senator Simon

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to career planning opportunities for  
3           students; amending s. 446.0915, F.S.; requiring work-  
4           based learning opportunities to be scheduled at times  
5           and locations to maximize student access and  
6           participation; amending s. 1001.43, F.S.; providing  
7           that a high school's annual career fair must provide  
8           certain students the opportunity to meet and interview  
9           with certain employers; amending s. 1003.4156, F.S.;  
10          requiring a student's personalized academic and career  
11          plan to be reviewed annually for a certain period of  
12          time and signed by certain persons; requiring such  
13          plan to be revised as necessary; creating s.  
14          1004.0982, F.S.; providing definitions; requiring the  
15          Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to  
16          adopt regulations and rules, respectively, to enable  
17          certain students to earn postsecondary credit and  
18          career education clock hours for certain training and  
19          education acquired while an apprentice or a  
20          preapprentice; providing requirements for such  
21          regulations and rules; requiring the Articulation  
22          Coordinating Committee to convene a workshop by a date  
23          certain to develop a certain process; requiring a  
24          specified office to provide administrative support to  
25          the workgroup; providing for workgroup membership;  
26          requiring the workgroup to provide certain  
27          recommendations to the Board of Governors and the  
28          State Board of Education by a date certain; requiring  
29          such committee to review apprenticeship and

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30 preapprenticeship programs and, annually, approve a  
31 prioritized list of postsecondary course equivalencies  
32 and the minimum postsecondary credit or career  
33 education clock hours that must be awarded for certain  
34 programs; requiring certain information to be included  
35 in the statewide articulation agreement; requiring  
36 state universities, Florida College System  
37 institutions, and career centers to award  
38 postsecondary credit or career education clock hours  
39 for certain programs under certain circumstances;  
40 providing that postsecondary credit and career  
41 education clock hours are guaranteed to transfer to  
42 other state universities, Florida College System  
43 institutions, and career centers; providing an  
44 effective date.

45  
46 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

47  
48 Section 1. Present paragraphs (g), (h), and (i) of  
49 subsection (2) of section 446.0915, Florida Statutes, are  
50 redesignated as paragraphs (h), (i), and (j), respectively, and  
51 a new paragraph (g) is added to that subsection, to read:

52 446.0915 Work-based learning opportunities.—

53 (2) A work-based learning opportunity must meet all of the  
54 following criteria:

55 (g) Be scheduled at such times and locations to maximize  
56 student access and participation.

57  
58 A work-based learning opportunity should prioritize paid

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59 experiences, such as apprenticeship, preapprenticeship, and  
60 diversified education programs.

61 Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (14) of section  
62 1001.43, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

63 1001.43 Supplemental powers and duties of district school  
64 board.—The district school board may exercise the following  
65 supplemental powers and duties as authorized by this code or  
66 State Board of Education rule.

67 (14) RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC AND CAREER ACHIEVEMENT.—

68 (c) ~~Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year,~~ Each district  
69 school board shall require each high school within its  
70 jurisdiction to host an annual career fair during the school  
71 year and establish a process to provide students 16 years of age  
72 or older ~~in grades 11 and 12~~ the opportunity to meet or  
73 interview during the career fair with potential employers that  
74 offer paid work experiences for students, including registered  
75 preapprenticeship and apprenticeship programs ~~during the career~~  
76 ~~fair~~. The career fair must be held on the campus of the high  
77 school, except that a group of high schools in the district or a  
78 group of districts may hold a joint career fair at an  
79 alternative location to satisfy the requirement in this  
80 paragraph. A joint career fair must be held at a location  
81 located within reasonable driving distance for students at all  
82 participating schools. The career fair must be held during the  
83 school day and may use Florida's online career planning and  
84 work-based learning system as part of the career fair  
85 activities. Alternatively, district school boards may consult  
86 with local workforce development boards, advisory committees,  
87 and business groups to determine free or cost-effective methods

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88 to provide other career and industry networking opportunities  
89 during the school day for secondary students and exposure for  
90 elementary and secondary students to a representative variety of  
91 industries, businesses, and careers.

92

93 District school board policies and procedures may include  
94 conducting assemblies or other appropriate public events in  
95 which students sign actual or ceremonial documents accepting  
96 scholarships or enrollment. The district school board may  
97 encourage holding such events in an assembly or gathering of the  
98 entire student body as a means of making academic and career  
99 success and recognition visible to all students.

100 Section 3. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section  
101 1003.4156, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102 1003.4156 General requirements for middle grades  
103 promotion.—

104 (1) In order for a student to be promoted to high school  
105 from a school that includes middle grades 6, 7, and 8, the  
106 student must successfully complete the following courses:

107 (e)1. One course in career and education planning to be  
108 completed in grades 6, 7, or 8, which may be taught by any  
109 member of the instructional staff. The course must be Internet-  
110 based, customizable to each student, and include research-based  
111 assessments to assist students in determining educational and  
112 career options and goals. In addition, the course must result in  
113 a completed personalized academic and career plan for the  
114 student, which must use, when available, Florida's online career  
115 planning and work-based learning coordination system. The course  
116 must teach each student how to access and update the plan and

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117 encourage the student to access and update the plan at least  
118 annually as the student progresses through middle school ~~and~~  
119 ~~high school~~. The personalized academic and career plan must  
120 emphasize the importance of entrepreneurship and employability  
121 skills and must include information from the Department of  
122 Commerce's economic security report under s. 445.07 and other  
123 state career planning resources. The required personalized  
124 academic and career plan must inform students of high school  
125 graduation requirements, including a detailed explanation of the  
126 requirements for earning a high school diploma designation under  
127 s. 1003.4285 and the career and technical education pathway to  
128 earn a standard high school diploma under s. 1003.4282(10); the  
129 requirements for each scholarship in the Florida Bright Futures  
130 Scholarship Program; state university and Florida College System  
131 institution admission requirements; available opportunities to  
132 earn college credit in high school, including Advanced Placement  
133 courses; the International Baccalaureate Program; the Advanced  
134 International Certificate of Education Program; dual enrollment,  
135 including career dual enrollment; work-based learning  
136 opportunities, including internships and preapprenticeship and  
137 apprenticeship programs; and career education courses, including  
138 career-themed courses and course sequences that lead to industry  
139 certification pursuant to s. 1003.492 or s. 1008.44. The course  
140 may be implemented as a stand-alone course or integrated into  
141 another course or courses.

142 2. Beginning when a student enters high school, the  
143 student's personalized academic and career plan must be reviewed  
144 annually until the student graduates. The student's personalized  
145 academic and career plan must be revised as necessary to

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146 identify courses the student needs to take each year until the  
147 student has completed all required core courses for his or her  
148 plan. After completion of the annual review, the personalized  
149 academic and career plan must be signed by the student; the  
150 student's parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco  
151 parentis to the student; and a school counselor.

152 Section 4. Section 1004.0982, Florida Statutes, is created  
153 to read:

154 1004.0982 Postsecondary credit and career education clock  
155 hours for apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs.-

156 (1) As used in this section, the term:

157 (a) "Apprentice" has the same meaning as in s. 446.021(2).

158 (b) "Apprenticeship program" has the same meaning as in s.  
159 446.021(6).

160 (c) "Preapprentice" has the same meaning as in s.  
161 446.021(1).

162 (d) "Preapprenticeship program" has the same meaning as in  
163 s. 446.021(5).

164 (2) The Board of Governors shall adopt regulations and the  
165 State Board of Education shall adopt rules that enable students  
166 pursuing nontraditional pathways to earn a bachelor's degree or  
167 certificate through uniform postsecondary credit and career  
168 education clock hours across all Florida public postsecondary  
169 educational institutions for college-level training and  
170 education acquired while an apprentice or a preapprentice. The  
171 regulations and rules must include procedures for credential  
172 evaluation and the uniform award of postsecondary credit or  
173 career education clock hours, including, but not limited to,  
174 equivalency and alignment of apprenticeship and

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175 preapprenticeship programs with appropriate postsecondary  
176 courses and course descriptions.

177 (3) (a) The Articulation Coordinating Committee shall  
178 convene a workgroup by September 1, 2025, to develop a process  
179 for prioritizing and determining postsecondary course  
180 equivalencies and the minimum postsecondary credit or career  
181 education clock hours that must be awarded for apprenticeship or  
182 preapprenticeship programs.

183 (b) The Office of K-20 Articulation shall provide  
184 administrative support to the workgroup.

185 (4) The workgroup shall be composed of the following  
186 members:

187 (a) The chair of the Articulation Coordinating Committee,  
188 or his or her designee, who shall serve as the chair of the  
189 workgroup.

190 (b) Four members representing academic affairs  
191 administrators and faculty from state universities, appointed by  
192 the chair of the Board of Governors.

193 (c) Four members representing academic affairs  
194 administrators and faculty from Florida College System  
195 institutions, appointed by the chair of the State Board of  
196 Education.

197 (d) Four members representing faculty from career centers,  
198 appointed by the chair of the State Board of Education.

199 (e) One member representing an apprenticeship sponsor, as  
200 described in s. 446.071, appointed by the President of the  
201 Senate.

202 (f) One member representing an apprenticeship sponsor, as  
203 described in s. 446.071, appointed by the Speaker of the House

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204 of Representatives.

205 (g) The director of the State Apprenticeship Advisory  
206 Council.

207 (5) The workgroup shall provide recommendations to the  
208 Board of Governors and the State Board of Education by March 1,  
209 2026, for approval at the next meeting of each board to allow  
210 for adequate public notice.

211 (6) Upon approval of the workgroup's recommendations by the  
212 Board of Governors and the State Board of Education, the  
213 Articulation Coordinating Committee shall review the  
214 apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs to determine  
215 postsecondary course equivalencies and the minimum postsecondary  
216 credit or career education clock hours that must be awarded for  
217 such programs in accordance with the approved process.

218 (7) Within 1 year after the approval of the workgroup's  
219 recommendations under subsection (5), the Articulation  
220 Coordinating Committee shall approve a prioritized list of  
221 postsecondary course equivalencies and the minimum postsecondary  
222 credit or career education clock hours that must be awarded for  
223 apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs. The Board of  
224 Governors and the State Board of Education shall timely adopt  
225 the list approved by the Articulation Coordinating Committee at  
226 the next meeting of each board to allow for adequate public  
227 notice. The Articulation Coordinating Committee must update the  
228 list annually. For the purpose of statewide application,  
229 postsecondary course equivalencies and the minimum postsecondary  
230 credit or career education clock hours that must be awarded for  
231 apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs must be delineated  
232 by the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education in



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233 the statewide articulation agreement required under s.  
234 1007.23(1).

235 (8) State universities, Florida College System  
236 institutions, and career centers must award postsecondary credit  
237 or career education clock hours for apprenticeship and  
238 preapprenticeship programs based on the list adopted by the  
239 Board of Governors and the State Board of Education under  
240 subsection (7) if the postsecondary credit or career education  
241 clock hours are applicable toward the student's degree or  
242 certificate. State universities, Florida College System  
243 institutions, and career centers may award additional  
244 postsecondary credit or career education clock hours if  
245 appropriate. Postsecondary credit or career education clock  
246 hours awarded in accordance with minimum postsecondary credit  
247 and career education clock hour requirements, respectively, are  
248 guaranteed to transfer to other state universities, Florida  
249 College System institutions, and career centers.

250 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.