

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to exceptional student education;
 3 creating s. 1003.5717, F.S.; requiring the Department
 4 of Education to develop and implement a workforce
 5 micro-credential program for students with
 6 disabilities by a specified date; providing the
 7 purpose of the program; providing requirements for the
 8 program; requiring the department to work with the
 9 Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities and
 10 collaborate with the Occupational Safety and Health
 11 Administration for specified purposes; providing
 12 requirements for the award of micro-credentials;
 13 requiring the department to prepare an annual report
 14 during a specified timeframe; providing requirements
 15 for the report; providing an effective date.

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

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 19 **Section 1. Section 1003.5717, Florida Statutes, is created**
 20 **to read:**

21 1003.5717 Workforce micro-credential program for students
 22 with disabilities.—The Department of Education shall develop and
 23 implement by January 31, 2026, a workforce micro-credential
 24 program for students with disabilities that leverages existing
 25 career and technical education curriculum frameworks. The

26 purpose of the program is to signify to potential employers that
27 the students have demonstrated specific career ready practices
28 or career and technical education standards.

29 (1) Each course within a career and technical education
30 curriculum framework for students with disabilities must have at
31 least one associated micro-credential signifying that the
32 student has demonstrated at least five discrete specified career
33 ready practices or career and technical education standards,
34 including an understanding of workplace safety.

35 (a) The department shall work with the Florida Center for
36 Students with Unique Abilities established under s. 1004.6495
37 for the development and implementation of the workforce micro-
38 credential program and each micro-credential.

39 (b) The department shall collaborate with the Occupational
40 Safety and Health Administration to develop the specified career
41 ready practices or career and technical education standards
42 related to workplace safety.

43 (2) Upon completion of each such course, the student's
44 demonstration of the required career ready practices or career
45 and technical education standards must be validated by a member
46 of the instructional staff who specializes in exceptional
47 student education and a member of the student's individualized
48 education plan team prior to the award of the associated micro-
49 credential.

50 (3) Beginning with the 2026 calendar year through the 2030

51 calendar year, the department shall prepare an annual report by
52 January 31 of the following year detailing the operations of the
53 program. At a minimum, the report must include the workforce
54 micro-credentials offered by the program, data on postgraduation
55 student employment, data on student participation rates in the
56 program, and any other outcome data deemed necessary by the
57 department to be included.

58 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.