

CS/CS/CS/HB 1081

2026

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to cybersecurity experiential learning; amending s. 1004.444, F.S.; requiring, subject to legislative appropriation, the Florida Center for Cybersecurity (Cyber Florida) to develop the Cybersecurity Experiential Learning Program; providing requirements for the program; providing reporting requirements for Cyber Florida related to participation in and improvement of the program; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 1004.444, Florida Statutes, to read:

1004.444 Florida Center for Cybersecurity.-

(4) Subject to appropriation, the center shall assist in the expansion of experiential learning opportunities for students at state universities, Florida College System institutions, and private postsecondary educational institutions by:

(a) Developing a Cybersecurity Experiential Learning Program. The center shall:

1. Identify specific internship and experiential learning opportunities that the United States Department of Commerce's

26 National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has
27 identified as the most impactful on a student's job placement in
28 high-demand cybersecurity roles.

29 2. Consult with employers in this state with openings or
30 anticipated openings in cybersecurity roles or other industries
31 that perform work that require a security clearance.

32 3. Review best practices for cybersecurity experiential
33 learning opportunities in place at other National Security
34 Agency National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity-
35 designated institutions within and outside of the state that can
36 be replicated at institutions across the state, including those
37 that NIST has identified as the most impactful on a student's
38 job placement in high-demand cybersecurity roles.

39 4. Establish the minimum qualifications that a student
40 should possess or meet before enrolling in the Cybersecurity
41 Experiential Learning Program.

42 5. Identify the state universities, Florida College System
43 institutions, and private postsecondary educational institutions
44 seeking to participate in the program and the projected number
45 of students to be served at each participating institution
46 during the fiscal year.

47 (b) Publishing on its website, by July 1, 2028, and on
48 July 1 of each year thereafter, a report on the Cybersecurity
49 Experiential Program that contains, by institution, the number
50 of students participating in the program, the number of program

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51 completers, the passage rate of any certification examinations,
52 the placement rate of program completers in cybersecurity
53 positions, and recommendations for program improvements,
54 including potential integration with other state workforce
55 initiatives.

56 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.