

FOR CONSIDERATION By the Committee on Education Postsecondary

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to education; amending s. 251.001, F.S.; requiring each Florida College System institution and state university to waive tuition and fees for members of the Florida State Guard if certain conditions are met; creating s. 413.0114, F.S.; requiring entities that offer fee-based services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired to disclose in writing whether the service may be obtained elsewhere at no cost; providing requirements for the disclosure; authorizing the Department of Education to adopt rules; amending s. 413.208, F.S.; requiring certain service providers to apply to, rather than register with, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; requiring the division to establish minimum qualifications for service providers; requiring the division to establish an annual application period; authorizing the division to approve or deny any service provider application; providing that, as of a specified date, only certain service providers may participate in the vocational rehabilitation program; requiring the division to develop and make publicly available a certain annual report; requiring service providers to meet certain standards to maintain approved status; requiring that the rates for vocational rehabilitation services meet certain criteria; amending s. 1003.437, F.S.; requiring the State Board of Education to establish a uniform weighted grading system for specified courses

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and articulated acceleration mechanisms; requiring district school boards to use such system for a specified purpose; amending s. 1005.06, F.S.; revising the list of institutions that are not under the jurisdiction of the Commission for Independent Education; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; revising the timeframe for Florida College System institutions and state universities to submit comments in response to a specified notice of intent; amending s. 1007.271, F.S.; revising the list of postsecondary institutions that are eligible to participate in a dual enrollment program; amending s. 1008.30, F.S.; deleting a requirement for the State Board of Education to adopt rules; authorizing school district career centers to use alternative methods adopted by the board in lieu of common placement tests to assess students in basic communication and computation skills; authorizing Florida College System institutions to request approval of institution-specific alternative methods; making conforming changes; amending s. 1008.44, F.S.; deleting a provision limiting how supplemental funding may be earned for the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.; providing that a person may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes due to incarceration; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; providing that a fee waiver only applies to a full-time undergraduate student, beginning with a specified academic year; revising requirements for a fee waiver; amending s. 1009.30,

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F.S.; requiring that certain postsecondary institutions be reimbursed for public school students under the Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program; amending s. 1009.536, F.S.; revising student eligibility requirements for the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards; authorizing a student to apply for the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award within a specified timeframe; amending s. 1009.893, F.S.; authorizing a student to defer an award under the Benacquisto Scholarship Program; amending s. 1009.983, F.S.; authorizing a specified designee with certain credentials to serve as director of the direct-support organization for the Florida Prepaid College Foundation, Inc.; amending s. 1009.986, F.S.; revising the membership of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising the academic acceleration options supplement in the Florida Education Finance Program to include a method for calculating additional full-time equivalent membership based on a specified course and test score; providing specified bonuses; amending s. 1011.84, F.S.; revising the components to be considered by the Legislature in determining an apportionment of state funds to a Florida College System institution; deleting obsolete provisions; amending s. 1013.841, F.S.; requiring all Florida College System institutions, rather than only certain institutions, to maintain a specified carry forward balance;

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88 providing that a Florida College System institution
89 may retain an annual reserve amount exceeding the
90 carry forward balance; deleting obsolete provisions;
91 authorizing the inclusion in a carry forward spending
92 plan of the retention of a carry forward balance as a
93 reserve fund for a specified use; providing an
94 effective date.

95
96 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

97
98 Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 251.001, Florida
99 Statutes, is amended to read:

100 251.001 Florida State Guard Act.—

101 (9) REIMBURSEMENT, BENEFIT, AND COMPENSATION.—

102 (a) The division shall reimburse members of the Florida
103 State Guard for per diem and travel expenses incurred to attend
104 required training or in the course of active service as provided
105 in s. 112.061.

106 (b) Members of the Florida State Guard may be compensated
107 for time spent training or in the course of active service at
108 rates established by the director, subject to appropriation.

109 (c) A member of the Florida State Guard may not make any
110 purchase or enter into any contract or agreement for purchases
111 or services as a charge against the state without the authority
112 of the director.

113 (d) As a benefit to the active members of the Florida State
114 Guard, subject to approval by the director of the Division of
115 the State Guard, each Florida College System institution and
116 state university shall waive tuition and fees for active members

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of the Florida State Guard to enroll for up to 6 credit hours of
courses per term on a space-available basis.

Section 2. Section 413.0114, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

413.0114 Consumer disclosure for blind-related services.—

(1) An individual, business, nonprofit, or other entity
offering fee-based services to individuals who are blind or
visually impaired shall, before entering into a contract or
accepting payment, disclose in writing whether equivalent or
substantially similar services may be available at no cost
through the Division of Blind Services or another public agency.

(2) The written disclosure must:

(a) Be provided in plain language and, upon request, in an
accessible format, such as braille, large print, or audio.

(b) Include contact information for the Division of Blind
Services.

(c) Be signed or electronically acknowledged by the
consumer or his or her representative.

(3) A violation of this section constitutes an unfair or
deceptive trade practice under part II of chapter 501 and is
subject to penalties and enforcement as provided therein.

(4) The Department of Education may adopt rules to
implement this section.

Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 413.208, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

413.208 Service providers; quality assurance; fitness for
responsibilities; background screening.—

(1) Service providers must apply to ~~register with~~ the
division. To qualify for approval, a ~~registration~~, ~~the division~~

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146 ~~must ensure that the service provider must maintain~~ maintains an
147 internal system of quality assurance, have ~~has~~ proven functional
148 systems, meet the minimum qualifications, and be ~~is~~ subject to a
149 due-diligence inquiry as to its fitness to undertake service
150 responsibilities.

151 (a) The division shall establish minimum qualifications for
152 service providers. The division shall establish an annual
153 application period for service providers to submit applications.
154 The division may approve or deny any service provider
155 application. Beginning January 1, 2027, only service providers
156 that meet the minimum qualifications established by the division
157 and that have been approved to provide employment-related
158 services to individuals with disabilities may participate in the
159 vocational rehabilitation program.

160 (b) The division shall develop and make publicly available
161 an annual report of service provider effectiveness which
162 includes an evaluation system measuring the effectiveness of all
163 service providers that are approved by the division to provide
164 employment-related services to individuals with disabilities.

165 (c) In order to maintain approved status with the division,
166 service providers must meet minimum standards of effectiveness
167 in the provision of vocational rehabilitation services,
168 including placement of individuals in competitive and integrated
169 employment.

170 (d) Rates for vocational rehabilitation services must be
171 allocable, reasonable, and necessary, as determined by the
172 division.

173 Section 4. Section 1003.437, Florida Statutes, is amended
174 to read:

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1003.437 Middle and high school grading system.—The grading system and interpretation of letter grades used to measure student success in grade 6 through grade 12 courses for students in public schools shall be as follows:

(1) Grade "A" equals 90 percent through 100 percent, has a grade point average value of 4, and is defined as "outstanding progress."

(2) Grade "B" equals 80 percent through 89 percent, has a grade point average value of 3, and is defined as "above average progress."

(3) Grade "C" equals 70 percent through 79 percent, has a grade point average value of 2, and is defined as "average progress."

(4) Grade "D" equals 60 percent through 69 percent, has a grade point average value of 1, and is defined as "lowest acceptable progress."

(5) Grade "F" equals zero percent through 59 percent, has a grade point average value of zero, and is defined as "failure."

(6) Grade "I" equals zero percent, has a grade point average value of zero, and is defined as "incomplete."

The State Board of Education must establish a statewide uniform weighted grading system for honors courses and articulated acceleration mechanisms identified in s. 1007.27. ~~For the purposes of class ranking,~~ District school boards shall use the ~~may exercise a~~ weighted grading system to calculate weighted high school grade point averages pursuant to s. 1007.271.

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 1005.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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1005.06 Institutions not under the jurisdiction or purview of the commission.—

(1) Except as otherwise provided in law, the following institutions are not under the jurisdiction or purview of the commission and are not required to obtain licensure:

(b) Any college or, school, ~~or course~~ licensed or approved, as an institution, for establishment and operation by another state agency. A college or school, or any of its programs or courses, does not qualify for exemption from the commission's jurisdiction under this paragraph solely because another state agency licenses or approves one or more of its programs or courses for establishment and operation under part I of chapter 464, chapter 466, or chapter 475, or any other chapter of the Florida Statutes requiring licensing or approval as defined in this chapter.

Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (9) of section 1007.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites; other degree requirements.—

(9)

(b) An associate in arts specialized transfer degree must include 36 semester hours of general education coursework and require 60 semester hours or more of college credit. Specialized transfer degrees are designed for Florida College System institution students who need supplemental lower-level coursework in preparation for transfer to another institution. The State Board of Education shall establish criteria for the review and approval of new specialized transfer degrees. The approval process must require:

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233 1. A Florida College System institution to submit a notice
234 of its intent to propose a new associate in arts specialized
235 degree program to the Division of Florida Colleges. The notice
236 must include the recommended credit hours, the rationale for the
237 specialization, the demand for students entering the field, and
238 the coursework being proposed to be included beyond the 60
239 semester hours required for the general transfer degree, if
240 applicable. Notices of intent may be submitted by a Florida
241 College System institution at any time.

242 2. The Division of Florida Colleges to forward the notice
243 of intent within 10 business days after receipt to all Florida
244 College System institutions and to the Chancellor of the State
245 University System, who shall forward the notice to all state
246 universities. State universities and Florida College System
247 institutions shall have 30 ~~60~~ days after receipt of the notice
248 to submit comments to the proposed associate in arts specialized
249 transfer degree.

250 3. After the submission of comments pursuant to
251 subparagraph 2., the requesting Florida College System
252 institution to submit a proposal that, at a minimum, includes:

253 a. Evidence that the coursework for the associate in arts
254 specialized transfer degree includes demonstration of competency
255 in a foreign language pursuant to s. 1007.262 and demonstration
256 of civic literacy competency as provided in subsection (5).

257 b. Demonstration that all required coursework will count
258 toward the associate in arts degree or the baccalaureate degree.

259 c. An analysis of demand and unmet need for students
260 entering the specialized field of study at the baccalaureate
261 level.

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d. Justification for the program length if it exceeds 60 credit hours, including references to the common prerequisite manual or other requirements for the baccalaureate degree. This includes documentation of alignment between the exit requirements of a Florida College System institution and the admissions requirements of a baccalaureate program at a state university to which students would typically transfer.

e. Articulation agreements for graduates of the associate in arts specialized transfer degree.

f. Responses to the comments received under subparagraph 2.

Section 7. Subsections (1) and (16) of section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.—

(1) The dual enrollment program is the enrollment of an eligible secondary student in this state or home education student in this state in a postsecondary course creditable toward high school completion and a career certificate or an associate or baccalaureate degree. Postsecondary institutions that are eligible to participate in the dual enrollment program are Florida public postsecondary institutions and eligible not-for-profit independent colleges and universities pursuant to s. 1011.62(1)(i). A student ~~who is~~ enrolled in postsecondary instruction that is not creditable toward a high school diploma may not be classified as a dual enrollment student.

(16) Students who ~~meet the eligibility requirements of this section and who choose to~~ participate in dual enrollment programs are exempt from the payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory fees.

Section 8. Subsections (2) and (3) and paragraphs (a) and

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(b) of subsection (4) of section 1008.30, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1008.30 Assessing college-level communication and computation skills for public postsecondary education.—

(2) ~~By January 31, 2022, the State Board of Education shall adopt rules to develop and implement alternative methods for assessing the basic communication and computation skills of students who intend to enter a degree program at a Florida College System institution.~~ Florida College System institutions and school district career centers may use ~~these~~ alternative methods adopted by the State Board of Education for assessing the basic communication and computation skills of students who intend to enter a degree program at a Florida College System institution or school district career center in lieu of the common placement tests under subsection (1) to assess student readiness for college-level work in communication and computation. Florida College System institutions may request approval of institution-specific alternative methods in accordance with State Board of Education rules.

(3) The rules adopted under subsection (2) must specify the following:

(a) A student who ~~entered 9th grade in a Florida public school in the 2003-2004 school year, or any year thereafter, and~~ earned a Florida standard high school diploma and who demonstrated readiness for college-level communication and computation skills by any of the approved common placement tests or alternative methods pursuant to this section or a student who is serving as an active duty member of any branch of the United States Armed Services is not required to be assessed for

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320 readiness for college-level work in communication and
321 computation and is not required to enroll in developmental
322 education instruction in a Florida College System institution or
323 a school district career center. However, a student who is not
324 required to be assessed for readiness for college-level work in
325 communication and computation and is not required to enroll in
326 developmental education under this paragraph may opt to be
327 assessed and to enroll in developmental education instruction,
328 and the college or school district career center shall provide
329 such assessment and instruction upon the student's request.

330 (b) A student who earned a Florida standard high school
331 diploma and has not demonstrated readiness for college-level
332 courses pursuant to subsection (1) or subsection (2) must be
333 offered the opportunity to be ~~is~~ assessed for readiness for
334 college-level communication and computation and, if the
335 student's ~~whose~~ assessment results indicate a need for
336 developmental education, he or she must be advised of ~~all~~ the
337 developmental education options offered at the institution. ~~and,~~
338 After advisement, the student may enroll in the developmental
339 education option of his or her choice.

340 (c) A student who demonstrates readiness by achieving or
341 exceeding the test scores established under subsection (1) by
342 the state board and enrolls in a Florida College System
343 institution or a school district career center within 2 years
344 after achieving such scores may ~~shall~~ not be required to retest
345 or complete developmental education when admitted to any Florida
346 College System institution or school district career center.

347 (4)(a) Each Florida College System institution and school
348 district career center shall implement the developmental

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education strategies defined in s. 1008.02 and rules established by the State Board of Education.

(b) Each Florida College System institution and school district career center shall use placement test results or alternative methods as established by the State Board of Education to determine the extent to which each student demonstrates sufficient communication and computation skills to indicate readiness for his or her chosen meta-major. Florida College System institutions and school district career centers shall counsel students into college credit courses as quickly as possible, with developmental education limited to that content needed for success in the meta-major.

Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 1008.44, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.44 CAPE Industry Certification Funding List.—

(1) The State Board of Education shall adopt, at least annually, based upon recommendations by the Commissioner of Education, the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List that assigns categories of certificates and certifications as provided for in s. 1003.4203 to certifications identified in the Master Credentials List under s. 445.004(4) which meet a statewide, regional, or local demand. ~~Supplemental funding for regional and local demand certifications may only be earned in those areas with regional or local demand as identified by the Credentials Review Committee.~~

Section 10. Present subsections (4) through (13) of section 1009.21, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5) through (14), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

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1009.21 Determination of resident status for tuition purposes.—Students shall be classified as residents or nonresidents for the purpose of assessing tuition in postsecondary educational programs offered by charter technical career centers or career centers operated by school districts, in Florida College System institutions, and in state universities.

(4) An individual may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes solely by reason of incarceration in a state or federal correctional facility in this state.

Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (20) of section 1009.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.26 Fee waivers.—

(20) (a) Beginning with the 2026-2027 ~~2022-2023~~ academic year, a state university shall waive the out-of-state fee for a full-time undergraduate student who:

1. Has a grandparent who is a legal resident as defined in s. 1009.21(1). For purposes of this subsection, the term “grandparent” means a person who has a legal relationship to a student’s parent as the natural or adoptive parent or legal guardian of the student’s parent.

2. Earns a high school diploma comparable to a Florida standard high school diploma, or its equivalent, or completes a home education program.

3.a. Achieves an SAT combined score no lower than the 89th national percentile on the SAT; or

b. Achieves an ACT score concordant to the required SAT score in sub-subparagraph a., using the latest published national concordance table developed jointly by the College

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Board and ACT, Inc.; ~~or~~

~~e. If a state university accepts the Classic Learning Test (CLT) for admission purposes, achieves a CLT score concordant to the required SAT score specified in sub-subparagraph a., using the latest published scoring comparison developed by Classic Learning Initiatives.~~

4. Beginning with students who initially enroll in the 2022 fall academic term and thereafter, enrolls as a full-time undergraduate student at a state university in the fall academic term immediately following high school graduation.

Section 12. Subsection (3) of section 1009.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.30 Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program.—

(3)(a) The program shall reimburse eligible postsecondary institutions for tuition and related instructional materials costs for dual enrollment courses taken during the fall or spring terms by eligible students, consisting of:

1. Private school students who take dual enrollment courses pursuant to s. 1007.271(24)(b);

2. Home education program secondary students; or

3. Personalized education program secondary students.

(b) The program shall reimburse eligible independent postsecondary institutions for tuition and related instructional materials costs for dual enrollment courses taken by public school students during the fall or spring terms.

(c) The program shall reimburse institutions for tuition and related instructional materials costs for dual enrollment courses taken by public school, private school, home education program, or personalized education program secondary students

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during the summer term.

Section 13. Subsection (2) of section 1009.536, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards.—The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award and the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award are created within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to recognize and reward academic achievement and career preparation by high school students who wish to continue their education.

(2) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award if he or she meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, and the student:

(a) Earns a minimum of 3 5 postsecondary credits ~~credit hours~~ through CAPE industry certifications approved pursuant to s. 1008.44 which articulate for college credit; ~~and~~

(b) Earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average of 2.5, as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, on all subjects required for a standard high school diploma, excluding elective courses; and

(c) Completes at least 30 hours of volunteer service, or 75 hours of volunteer service for students entering grade 9 in the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter, or 100 hours of paid work, approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home education program students, or 100 hours of a combination of both. The student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that interests him or her and develop a plan

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for his or her personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area. The student must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

(6) Before or within 3 months after completion of the GATE Program as provided in s. 1004.933, a student may apply for the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award.

Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 1009.893, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.893 Benacquisto Scholarship Program.—

(4) In order to be eligible for an initial award under the scholarship program, a student must meet the requirements of paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).

(a) A student who is a resident of this state, as determined in s. 1009.40 and rules of the State Board of Education, must:

1. Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its equivalent pursuant to s. 1002.3105, s. 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282, or s. 1003.435 unless:

a. The student completes a home education program according to s. 1002.41; or

b. The student earns a high school diploma from a non-

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Florida school while living with a parent who is on military or public service assignment out of this state;

2. Be accepted by and enroll in a Florida public or independent postsecondary educational institution that is regionally accredited; and

3. Be enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree program at an eligible regionally accredited Florida public or independent postsecondary educational institution during the fall academic term following high school graduation. A student may defer the initial scholarship award for up to 1 year.

Section 15. Subsection (5) of section 1009.983, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.983 Direct-support organization; authority.—

(5) The chair of the board or a designee who possesses knowledge, skill, and experience in the areas of accounting, risk management, or investment management shall serve as a director of the direct-support organization. The chair and the executive director of the board shall jointly name, at a minimum, four other individuals to serve as directors of the organization.

Section 16. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 1009.986, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.986 Florida ABLE program.—

(3) DIRECT-SUPPORT ORGANIZATION; FLORIDA ABLE, INC.—

(d)1. The board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc., shall consist of:

a. The chair of the Florida Prepaid College Board, ~~or a his or her~~ designee who possesses knowledge, skill, and experience in the areas of accounting, risk management, or investment

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523 management.

524 b. Up to three individuals who possess knowledge, skill,
525 and experience in the areas of accounting, risk management, or
526 investment management, one of whom may be a current member of
527 the Florida Prepaid College Board, who shall be appointed by the
528 Florida Prepaid College Board.

529 c. One individual who possesses knowledge, skill, and
530 experience in the areas of accounting, risk management, or
531 investment management, who shall be appointed by the Governor.

532 d. Two individuals who are advocates of persons with
533 disabilities, one of whom shall be appointed by the President of
534 the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of
535 the House of Representatives. At least one of the individuals
536 appointed under this sub-subparagraph must be an advocate of
537 persons with developmental disabilities, as that term is defined
538 in s. 393.063.

539 2.a. The term of the appointees under sub-subparagraph 1.b.
540 shall be up to 3 years as determined by the Florida Prepaid
541 College Board. Such appointees may be reappointed.

542 b. The term of the appointees under sub-subparagraphs 1.c.
543 and d. shall be 3 years. Such appointees may be reappointed.

544 3. Unless authorized by the board of directors of Florida
545 ABLE, Inc., an individual director has no authority to control
546 or direct the operations of Florida ABLE, Inc., or the actions
547 of its officers and employees.

548 4. The board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.:

549 a. Shall meet at least quarterly and at other times upon
550 the call of the chair.

551 b. May use any method of telecommunications to conduct, or

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552 establish a quorum at, its meetings or the meetings of a
553 subcommittee or other subdivision if the public is given proper
554 notice of the telecommunications meeting and provided reasonable
555 access to observe and, if appropriate, to participate.

556 c. Shall annually elect a board member to serve as chair.

557 5. A majority of the total current membership of the board
558 of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc., constitutes a quorum of the
559 board.

560 6. Members of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.,
561 and the board's subcommittees or other subdivisions shall serve
562 without compensation; however, the members may be reimbursed for
563 reasonable, necessary, and actual travel expenses pursuant to s.
564 112.061.

565 Section 17. Present paragraphs (h) and (i) of subsection
566 (17) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
567 paragraphs (i) and (j), respectively, and a new paragraph (h) is
568 added to that subsection, to read:

569 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual
570 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each
571 district for operation of schools is not determined in the
572 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing
573 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as
574 follows:

575 (17) ACADEMIC ACCELERATION OPTIONS SUPPLEMENT.—The academic
576 acceleration options supplement is created to assist school
577 districts in providing academic acceleration options, career-
578 themed courses, and courses that lead to digital tool
579 certificates and industry certifications for prekindergarten
580 through grade 12 students and shall be allocated annually in the

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581 General Appropriations Act.

582 (h) Calculation of additional full-time equivalent
583 membership based on the Florida Advanced Courses and Tests
584 (FACT) College Algebra course and test score of students.—A
585 value of 0.16 full-time equivalent student membership shall be
586 calculated for each student in the Florida Advanced Courses and
587 Tests (FACT) College Algebra course who achieves a minimum score
588 on an assessment identified by the Department of Education
589 pursuant to s. 1007.27(2) and added to the total full-time
590 equivalent student membership in basic programs for grades 9
591 through 12 in the subsequent fiscal year. Each district shall
592 allocate at least 80 percent of the funds provided to the
593 district for the FACT College Algebra course instruction, in
594 accordance with this paragraph, to the high school that
595 generates the funds. The school district shall distribute to
596 each classroom teacher who provided the FACT College Algebra
597 course instruction:

598 1. A bonus in the amount of \$50 for each student taught by
599 the FACT College Algebra course teacher in each FACT College
600 Algebra course who achieves a minimum score on an assessment
601 identified by the Department of Education pursuant to s.
602 1007.27(2).

603 2. An additional bonus of \$500 to each FACT College Algebra
604 course teacher in a school designated with a grade of "D" or "F"
605 who has at least one student who achieves a minimum score on an
606 assessment identified by the Department of Education pursuant to
607 s. 1007.27(2), regardless of the number of classes taught or of
608 the number of students who achieve a minimum score on an
609 assessment identified by the Department of Education pursuant to

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s. 1007.27(2).

Section 18. Paragraphs (b) and (e) of subsection (3) of section 1011.84, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1011.84 Procedure for determining state financial support and annual apportionment of state funds to each Florida College System institution district.—The procedure for determining state financial support and the annual apportionment to each Florida College System institution district authorized to operate a Florida College System institution under the provisions of s. 1001.61 shall be as follows:

(3) DETERMINING THE APPORTIONMENT FROM STATE FUNDS.—

(b) The apportionment to each Florida College System institution from the Florida College System Program Fund shall be determined annually in the General Appropriations Act. In determining each college's apportionment, the Legislature shall consider the following components:

1. Base budget, which includes the state appropriation to the Florida College System Program Fund in the current year plus the related student tuition and out-of-state fees assigned in the current General Appropriations Act.

2. The cost-to-continue allocation, which consists of incremental changes to the base budget, including salaries, price levels, and other related costs allocated through a funding model developed by the Florida College System presidents in consultation with the Department of Education and approved by the Legislature. The model must ~~which may~~ recognize a minimum level of funding per FTE and differing economic factors arising from the individual educational approaches of the various Florida College System institutions, including, but not limited

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to:

a. Program offerings, weighting workforce FTE to account for priorities and costs ~~Direct Instructional Funding, including class size, faculty productivity factors, average faculty salary, ratio of full-time to part-time faculty, costs of programs, and enrollment factors.~~

b. Completion of credentials, including certificates, certifications, and degrees ~~Academic Support, including small colleges factor, multicampus factor, and enrollment factor.~~

c. Size of the college ~~Student Services Support, including headcount of students as well as FTE count and enrollment factors.~~

d. Economies of scale ~~Library Support, including volume and other materials/audiovisual requirements.~~

e. Regional cost differentials ~~Special Projects.~~

f. ~~Operations and Maintenance of Plant, including square footage and utilization factors.~~

g. ~~Comparable wage factor.~~

3. Students enrolled in a recreation and leisure program and students enrolled in a lifelong learning program who may not be counted as full-time equivalent enrollments for purposes of enrollment workload adjustments.

4. ~~Operating costs of new facilities adjustments, which shall be provided, from funds available, for each new facility that is owned by the college and is recommended in accordance with s. 1013.31.~~

5. ~~New and improved program enhancements, which shall be determined by the Legislature.~~

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~~Student fees in the base budget plus student fee revenues generated by increases in fee rates shall be deducted from the sum of the components determined in subparagraphs 1.-5. The amount remaining shall be the net annual state apportionment to each college.~~

(e) If at any time the unencumbered balance in the general fund of the Florida College System institution board of trustees approved operating budget goes below 7 5 percent for a Florida College System institution ~~with a final FTE less than 15,000 for the prior year, or below 7 percent for a Florida College System institution with a final FTE of 15,000 or greater for the prior year~~, the president must ~~shall~~ provide written notification to the State Board of Education. By September 30 of each year, the chief financial officer of each Florida College System institution shall certify the unexpended amount of state funds remaining in the general fund of an institution as of June 30 of the previous fiscal year.

Section 19. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) of section 1013.841, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1013.841 End of year balance of Florida College System institution funds.—

(2)(a) Each Florida College System institution ~~with a final FTE less than 15,000 for the prior year~~ shall maintain a minimum carry forward balance of at least 7 5 percent of its state operating budget; however, a Florida College System institution may retain and report to the State Board of Education an annual reserve balance exceeding that amount. If a Florida College System institution fails to maintain a 7 5 percent balance in state operating funds, the president must ~~shall~~ provide written

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notification to the State Board of Education.

(b) Each Florida College System institution ~~with a final FTE less than 15,000 for the prior year~~ that retains a state operating fund carry forward balance in excess of the 7 5 percent minimum shall submit a spending plan for its excess carry forward balance. The spending plan must ~~shall~~ include all excess carry forward funds from state operating funds. The spending plan must ~~shall~~ be submitted to the Florida College System institution's board of trustees for approval by September 30 of each year, 2020, and each September 30 thereafter. The State Board of Education shall review and publish each Florida College System institution's carry forward spending plan by November 15 of each year, 2020, and each November 15 thereafter.

(3)(a) ~~Each Florida College System institution with a final FTE of 15,000 or greater for the prior year shall maintain a minimum carry forward balance of at least 7 percent of its state operating budget. If a Florida College System institution fails to maintain a 7 percent balance in state operating funds, the institution shall submit a plan to the State Board of Education to attain the minimum balance.~~

~~(b) Each Florida College System institution with a final FTE of 15,000 or greater for the prior year that retains a state operating fund carry forward balance in excess of the 7 percent minimum shall submit a spending plan for its excess carry forward balance. The spending plan shall include all excess carry forward funds from state operating funds. The spending plan shall be submitted to the Florida College System institution's board of trustees for approval by September 30, 2020, and each September 30 thereafter. The State Board of~~

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~~Education shall review and publish each Florida College System institution's carry forward spending plan by November 15, 2020, and each November 15 thereafter.~~

~~(4)~~ A Florida College System institution identified in paragraph (2) (b) ~~(3) (b)~~ must include in its carry forward spending plan the estimated cost per planned expenditure and a timeline for completion of the expenditure. A carry forward spending plan may include retention of the carry forward balance as a reserve fund to be used for authorized expenses in subsequent years. Authorized expenditures in a carry forward spending plan may include:

(a) Commitment of funds to a public education capital outlay project for which an appropriation was previously provided, which requires additional funds for completion, and which is included in the list required by s. 1001.03(18) (d);

(b) Completion of a renovation, repair, or maintenance project that is consistent with s. 1013.64(1) or replacement of a minor facility;

(c) Completion of a remodeling or infrastructure project, if such project is survey recommended pursuant to s. 1013.31;

(d) Completion of a repair or replacement project necessary due to damage caused by a natural disaster for buildings included in the inventory required pursuant to s. 1013.31;

(e) Operating expenditures that support the Florida College System institution's mission;

(f) Any purpose approved by the state board or specified in the General Appropriations Act; and

(g) A commitment of funds to a contingency reserve for expenses incurred as a result of a state of emergency declared

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755 by the Governor pursuant to s. 252.36.

756 Section 20. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.