CHAPTER 2013-35

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1096

An act relating to the repeal of education provisions; amending s. 403.7032, F.S.; removing a requirement that each K-12 public school annually report to the county on recycled materials; repealing s. 1001.26(3), F.S.; removing duplicative, redundant, or unused rulemaking authority; repealing s. 1001.435, F.S., relating to a K-12 foreign language curriculum plan; repealing s. 1002.23(4), (6), and (9), F.S., relating to a parent-response center, submission of family involvement and empowerment rules by district school boards, and State Board of Education compliance review and enforcement under the Family and School Partnership for Student Achievement Act; repealing s. 1002.32(10), F.S.; removing duplicative, redundant, or unused rulemaking authority; repealing s. 1002.361, F.S., relating to a direct-support organization for the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind; repealing s. 1002.375, F.S., relating to a pilot project to award alternative credit for high school courses; repealing s. 1003.4285(1), F.S., relating to a standard high school diploma designation that indicates a student’s major area of interest; repealing s. 1003.43, F.S., relating to general requirements for high school graduation; repealing s. 1003.433(5), F.S.; removing duplicative, redundant, or unused rulemaking authority; repealing s. 1003.453(2), F.S., relating to information on school wellness and physical education policies posted on Department of Education and school district websites; repealing s. 1003.496, F.S., relating to the High School to Business Career Enhancement Program; repealing s. 1004.05, F.S., relating to substance abuse training programs for specified public school personnel; amending s. 1004.435, F.S.; removing duplicative, redundant, or unused rulemaking authority; amending s. 1004.45, F.S.; removing unnecessary rulemaking authority; repealing s. 1004.62, F.S., relating to incentives for state university student internships to study urban or socially and economically disadvantaged areas; repealing s. 1004.77, F.S., relating to centers of technology innovation; repealing s. 1006.02, F.S., relating to provision of information to students and parents regarding school-to-work transition; repealing s. 1006.035, F.S., relating to a dropout reentry and mentor project; repealing s. 1006.051, F.S., relating to the Sunshine Workforce Solutions Grant Program; repealing s. 1006.09(1)(d), F.S., relating to duties of school principals with respect to annual reporting and analysis of student suspensions and expulsions; repealing ss. 1006.17 and 1006.70, F.S., relating to sponsorship of athletic activities similar to those for which scholarships are offered; repealing s. 1006.65, F.S., relating to safety issues in courses offered by public postsecondary educational institutions; repealing s. 1007.21, F.S., relating to readiness for postsecondary education and the workplace; repealing s. 1007.35(10), F.S.; removing duplicative, redundant, or unused rulemaking authority; repealing s. 1008.31(3)(d) and (e), F.S., relating to review and reporting duties of the Commissioner of Education with respect to consolidating paperwork under Florida’s K-20 education performance

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accountability system; repealing s. 1009.68, F.S., relating to the Florida Minority Medical Education Program; amending s. 1009.85, F.S.; removing duplicative, redundant, or unused rulemaking authority; repealing s. 1012.58, F.S., relating to the Transition to Teaching Program; repealing s. 1012.71(6), F.S., relating to a pilot program for establishing an electronic management system for the Florida Teachers Lead Program; repealing s. 1013.231, F.S., relating to Florida College System institution and state university energy consumption reduction; repealing s. 1013.32, F.S., relating to exceptions to recommendations in educational plant surveys; repealing ss. 1013.42 and 1013.72, F.S., relating to the School Infrastructure Thrift (SIT) Program; repealing ss. 1013.502 and 1013.721, F.S., relating to A Business-Community (ABC) School Program; repealing s. 1013.64(7), F.S., relating to exceptions from Special Facility Construction Account requirements; repealing s. 1013.73, F.S., relating to effort index grants for school district facilities; amending ss. 120.81, 250.115, 409.1451, 1001.11, 1002.20, 1002.33, 1002.34, 1002.45, 1003.03, 1003.429, 1003.438, 1003.49, 1004.70, 1004.71, 1006.025, 1006.15, 1007.263, 1007.271, 1008.22, 1008.23, 1009.40, 1009.531, 1009.94, 1011.61, 1013.35, 1013.356, 1013.41, 1013.64, 1013.69, and 1013.738, F.S.; conforming provisions; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 403.7032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.7032 Recycling.—

(3) Each state agency, K-12 public school, public institution of higher learning, community college, and state university, including all buildings that are occupied by municipal, county, or state employees and entities occupying buildings managed by the Department of Management Services, must, at a minimum, annually report all recycled materials to the county using the department's designated reporting format. Private businesses, other than certified recovered materials dealers, that recycle paper, metals, glass, plastics, textiles, rubber materials, and mulch, are encouraged to report the amount of materials they recycle to the county annually beginning January 1, 2011, using the department’s designated reporting format. Using the information provided, the department shall recognize those private businesses that demonstrate outstanding recycling efforts. Notwithstanding any other provision of state or county law, private businesses, other than certified recovered materials dealers, shall not be required to report recycling rates. Cities with less than a population of 2,500 and per capita taxable value less than $48,000 and cities with a per capita taxable value less than $30,000 are exempt from the reporting requirement specified in this subsection.

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 1001.26, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 3. Section 1001.435, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

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Section 4. Subsections (4), (6), and (9) of section 1002.23, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 5. Subsection (10) of section 1002.32, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 6. Section 1002.361, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 7. Section 1002.375, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 1003.4285, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 9. Section 1003.43, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 10. Subsection (5) of section 1003.433, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 11. Subsection (2) of section 1003.453, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 12. Section 1003.496, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 13. Section 1004.05, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 14. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (5) of section 1004.435, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1004.435 Cancer control and research.—


(c) The Board of Governors or the State Surgeon General, after consultation with the council, may adopt rules necessary for the implementation of this section.

(c)(d) The State Surgeon General, after consultation with the council, shall make rules specifying to what extent and on what terms and conditions cancer patients of the state may receive financial aid for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer in any hospital or clinic selected. The department may furnish to citizens of this state who are afflicted with cancer financial aid to the extent of the appropriation provided for that purpose in a manner which in its opinion will afford the greatest benefit to those afflicted and may make arrangements with hospitals, laboratories, or clinics to afford proper care and treatment for cancer patients in this state.

Section 15. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section 1004.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.45 Ringling Center for Cultural Arts.—

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(g) The university, in consultation with the direct-support organization, shall establish policies and may adopt rules for the sale or exchange of works of art.

Section 16.  Section 1004.62, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 17.  Section 1004.77, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 18.  Section 1006.02, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 19.  Section 1006.035, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 20.  Section 1006.051, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 21.  Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 1006.09, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 22.  Sections 1006.17 and 1006.70, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 23.  Section 1006.65, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 24.  Section 1007.21, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 25.  Subsection (10) of section 1007.35, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 26.  Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (3) of section 1008.31, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 27.  Section 1009.68, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 28.  Section 1009.85, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.85 Participation in guaranteed student loan program.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules necessary for participation in the guaranteed student loan program, as provided by the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. ss. 1071 et seq.), as amended or as may be amended. The intent of this act is to authorize student loans when this state, through the Department of Education, has become an eligible lender under the provisions of the applicable federal laws providing for the guarantee of loans to students and the partial payment of interest on such loans by the United States Government.

Section 29.  Section 1012.58, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 30.  Subsection (6) of section 1012.71, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 31.  Section 1013.231, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

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Section 32. Section 1013.32, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 33. Sections 1013.42 and 1013.72, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 34. Sections 1013.502 and 1013.721, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 35. Effective July 1, 2013, subsection (7) of section 1013.64, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 36. Section 1013.73, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 37. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 120.81, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

120.81 Exceptions and special requirements; general areas.—

(1) EDUCATIONAL UNITS.—

(c) Notwithstanding s. 120.52(16), any tests, test scoring criteria, or testing procedures relating to student assessment which are developed or administered by the Department of Education pursuant to s. 1003.428, s. 1003.429, s. 1003.438, s. 1008.22, or s. 1008.25, or any other statewide educational tests required by law, are not rules.

Section 38. Subsection (5) of section 250.115, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

250.115 Department of Military Affairs direct-support organization.—

(5) ACTIVITIES; RESTRICTIONS.—Any transaction or agreement between the direct-support organization organized pursuant to this section and another direct-support organization or center of technology innovation designated under s. 1004.77 must be approved by the Department of Military Affairs.

Section 39. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 409.1451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.1451 Independent living transition services.—

(5) SERVICES FOR YOUNG ADULTS FORMERLY IN FOSTER CARE. Based on the availability of funds, the department shall provide or arrange for the following services to young adults formerly in foster care who meet the prescribed conditions and are determined eligible by the department. The department, or a community-based care lead agency when the agency is under contract with the department to provide the services described under this subsection, shall develop a plan to implement those services. A plan shall be developed for each community-based care service area in the state. Each plan that is developed by a community-based care lead agency shall be submitted to the department. Each plan shall include the number of young adults to be served each month of the fiscal year and specify the number of
young adults who will reach 18 years of age who will be eligible for the plan and the number of young adults who will reach 23 years of age and will be ineligible for the plan or who are otherwise ineligible during each month of the fiscal year; staffing requirements and all related costs to administer the services and program; expenditures to or on behalf of the eligible recipients; costs of services provided to young adults through an approved plan for housing, transportation, and employment; reconciliation of these expenses and any additional related costs with the funds allocated for these services; and an explanation of and a plan to resolve any shortages or surpluses in order to end the fiscal year with a balanced budget. The categories of services available to assist a young adult formerly in foster care to achieve independence are:

(b) Road-to-Independence Program.—

1. The Road-to-Independence Program is intended to help eligible students who are former foster children in this state to receive the educational and vocational training needed to achieve independence. The amount of the award shall be based on the living and educational needs of the young adult and may be up to, but may not exceed, the amount of earnings that the student would have been eligible to earn working a 40-hour-a-week federal minimum wage job.

2. A young adult who has earned a standard high school diploma or its equivalent as described in s. 1003.428, s. 1003.429, 1003.43 or s. 1003.435, has earned a special diploma or special certificate of completion as described in s. 1003.438, or has reached 18 years of age but is not yet 21 years of age is eligible for the initial award, and a young adult under 23 years of age is eligible for renewal awards, if he or she:

   a. Was a dependent child, under chapter 39, and was living in licensed foster care or in subsidized independent living at the time of his or her 18th birthday or is currently living in licensed foster care or subsidized independent living, or, after reaching the age of 16, was adopted from foster care or placed with a court-approved dependency guardian and has spent a minimum of 6 months in foster care immediately preceding such placement or adoption;

   b. Spent at least 6 months living in foster care before reaching his or her 18th birthday;

   c. Is a resident of this state as defined in s. 1009.40; and

   d. Meets one of the following qualifications:

      (I) Has earned a standard high school diploma or its equivalent as described in s. 1003.428, s. 1003.429, 1003.43 or s. 1003.435, or has earned a special diploma or special certificate of completion as described in s. 1003.438, and has been admitted for full-time enrollment in an eligible postsecondary education institution as defined in s. 1009.533;
(II) Is enrolled full time in an accredited high school; or

(III) Is enrolled full time in an accredited adult education program designed to provide the student with a high school diploma or its equivalent.

3. A young adult applying for the Road-to-Independence Program must apply for any other grants and scholarships for which he or she may qualify. The department shall assist the young adult in the application process and may use the federal financial aid grant process to determine the funding needs of the young adult.

4. An award shall be available to a young adult who is considered a full-time student or its equivalent by the educational institution in which he or she is enrolled, unless that young adult has a recognized disability preventing full-time attendance. The amount of the award, whether it is being used by a young adult working toward completion of a high school diploma or its equivalent or working toward completion of a postsecondary education program, shall be determined based on an assessment of the funding needs of the young adult. This assessment must consider the young adult’s living and educational costs and other grants, scholarships, waivers, earnings, and other income to be received by the young adult. An award shall be available only to the extent that other grants and scholarships are not sufficient to meet the living and educational needs of the young adult, but an award may not be less than $25 in order to maintain Medicaid eligibility for the young adult as provided in s. 409.903.

5. The amount of the award may be disregarded for purposes of determining the eligibility for, or the amount of, any other federal or federally supported assistance.

6.a. The department must advertise the criteria, application procedures, and availability of the program to:

(I) Children and young adults in, leaving, or formerly in foster care.

(II) Case managers.

(III) Guidance and family services counselors.

(IV) Principals or other relevant school administrators.

(V) Guardians ad litem.

(VI) Foster parents.

b. The department shall issue awards from the program for each young adult who meets all the requirements of the program to the extent funding is available.

c. An award shall be issued at the time the eligible student reaches 18 years of age.

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d. A young adult who is eligible for the Road-to-Independence Program, transitional support services, or aftercare services and who so desires shall be allowed to reside with the licensed foster family or group care provider with whom he or she was residing at the time of attaining his or her 18th birthday or to reside in another licensed foster home or with a group care provider arranged by the department.

e. If the award recipient transfers from one eligible institution to another and continues to meet eligibility requirements, the award must be transferred with the recipient.

f. Funds awarded to any eligible young adult under this program are in addition to any other services or funds provided to the young adult by the department through transitional support services or aftercare services.

g. The department shall provide information concerning young adults receiving funding through the Road-to-Independence Program to the Department of Education for inclusion in the student financial assistance database, as provided in s. 1009.94.

h. Funds are intended to help eligible young adults who are former foster children in this state to receive the educational and vocational training needed to become independent and self-supporting. The funds shall be terminated when the young adult has attained one of four postsecondary goals under subsection (3) or reaches 23 years of age, whichever occurs earlier. In order to initiate postsecondary education, to allow for a change in career goal, or to obtain additional skills in the same educational or vocational area, a young adult may earn no more than two diplomas, certificates, or credentials. A young adult attaining an associate of arts or associate of science degree shall be permitted to work toward completion of a bachelor of arts or a bachelor of science degree or an equivalent undergraduate degree. Road-to-Independence Program funds may not be used for education or training after a young adult has attained a bachelor of arts or a bachelor of science degree or an equivalent undergraduate degree.

i. The department shall evaluate and renew each award annually during the 90-day period before the young adult’s birthday. In order to be eligible for a renewal award for the subsequent year, the young adult must:

   (I) Complete the number of hours, or the equivalent considered full time by the educational institution, unless that young adult has a recognized disability preventing full-time attendance, in the last academic year in which the young adult earned an award, except for a young adult who meets the requirements of s. 1009.41.

   (II) Maintain appropriate progress as required by the educational institution, except that, if the young adult’s progress is insufficient to renew the award at any time during the eligibility period, the young adult may restore eligibility by improving his or her progress to the required level.
j. Funds may be terminated during the interim between an award and the evaluation for a renewal award if the department determines that the award recipient is no longer enrolled in an educational institution as defined in sub-subparagraph 2.d., or is no longer a state resident. The department shall notify a recipient who is terminated and inform the recipient of his or her right to appeal.

k. An award recipient who does not qualify for a renewal award or who chooses not to renew the award may subsequently apply for reinstatement. An application for reinstatement must be made before the young adult reaches 23 years of age, and a student may not apply for reinstatement more than once. In order to be eligible for reinstatement, the young adult must meet the eligibility criteria and the criteria for award renewal for the program.

Section 40. Subsection (7) of section 1001.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.11 Commissioner of Education; other duties.—

(7) The commissioner shall make prominently available on the department’s website the following: links to the Internet-based clearinghouse for professional development regarding physical education; the school wellness and physical education policies and other resources required under s. 1003.453(1) and (2); and other Internet sites that provide professional development for elementary teachers of physical education as defined in s. 1003.01(16). These links must provide elementary teachers with information concerning current physical education and nutrition philosophy and best practices that result in student participation in physical activities that promote lifelong physical and mental well-being.

Section 41. Paragraph (f) of subsection (3) and subsection (8) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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

(3) HEALTH ISSUES.—

(f) Career education courses involving hazardous substances.—High school students must be given plano safety glasses or devices in career education courses involving the use of hazardous substances likely to cause eye injury, in accordance with the provisions of s. 1006.65.

(8) STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.—Parents of public school students with disabilities and parents of public school students in residential care facilities are entitled to notice and due process in accordance with the provisions of ss. 1003.57 and 1003.58. Public school students with disabilities...
must be provided the opportunity to meet the graduation requirements for a standard high school diploma in accordance with the provisions of s. 1003.428(3) 1003.43(4). Certain public school students with disabilities may be awarded a special diploma upon high school graduation.

Section 42. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.33 Charter schools.—

(7) CHARTER.—The major issues involving the operation of a charter school shall be considered in advance and written into the charter. The charter shall be signed by the governing board of the charter school and the sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input.

(a) The charter shall address and criteria for approval of the charter shall be based on:

1. The school’s mission, the students to be served, and the ages and grades to be included.

2. The focus of the curriculum, the instructional methods to be used, any distinctive instructional techniques to be employed, and identification and acquisition of appropriate technologies needed to improve educational and administrative performance which include a means for promoting safe, ethical, and appropriate uses of technology which comply with legal and professional standards.

a. The charter shall ensure that reading is a primary focus of the curriculum and that resources are provided to identify and provide specialized instruction for students who are reading below grade level. The curriculum and instructional strategies for reading must be consistent with the Sunshine State Standards and grounded in scientifically based reading research.

b. In order to provide students with access to diverse instructional delivery models, to facilitate the integration of technology within traditional classroom instruction, and to provide students with the skills they need to compete in the 21st century economy, the Legislature encourages instructional methods for blended learning courses consisting of both traditional classroom and online instructional techniques. Charter schools may implement blended learning courses which combine traditional classroom instruction and virtual instruction. Students in a blended learning course must be full-time students of the charter school and receive the online instruction in a classroom setting at the charter school. Instructional personnel certified pursuant to s. 1012.55 who provide virtual instruction for blended learning courses may be employees of the charter school or may be under contract to provide instructional services to charter school students. At a minimum, such instructional personnel must hold an active state or school district adjunct certification under s. 1012.57 for the subject area of the blended
learning course. The funding and performance accountability requirements for blended learning courses are the same as those for traditional courses.

3. The current incoming baseline standard of student academic achievement, the outcomes to be achieved, and the method of measurement that will be used. The criteria listed in this subparagraph shall include a detailed description of:

   a. How the baseline student academic achievement levels and prior rates of academic progress will be established.

   b. How these baseline rates will be compared to rates of academic progress achieved by these same students while attending the charter school.

   c. To the extent possible, how these rates of progress will be evaluated and compared with rates of progress of other closely comparable student populations.

The district school board is required to provide academic student performance data to charter schools for each of their students coming from the district school system, as well as rates of academic progress of comparable student populations in the district school system.

4. The methods used to identify the educational strengths and needs of students and how well educational goals and performance standards are met by students attending the charter school. The methods shall provide a means for the charter school to ensure accountability to its constituents by analyzing student performance data and by evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of its major educational programs. Students in charter schools shall, at a minimum, participate in the statewide assessment program created under s. 1008.22.

5. In secondary charter schools, a method for determining that a student has satisfied the requirements for graduation in s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429, or s. 1003.43.

6. A method for resolving conflicts between the governing board of the charter school and the sponsor.

7. The admissions procedures and dismissal procedures, including the school’s code of student conduct.

8. The ways by which the school will achieve a racial/ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves or within the racial/ethnic range of other public schools in the same school district.

9. The financial and administrative management of the school, including a reasonable demonstration of the professional experience or competence of those individuals or organizations applying to operate the charter school or those hired or retained to perform such professional services and the description of clearly delineated responsibilities and the policies and
practices needed to effectively manage the charter school. A description of internal audit procedures and establishment of controls to ensure that financial resources are properly managed must be included. Both public sector and private sector professional experience shall be equally valid in such a consideration.

10. The asset and liability projections required in the application which are incorporated into the charter and shall be compared with information provided in the annual report of the charter school.

11. A description of procedures that identify various risks and provide for a comprehensive approach to reduce the impact of losses; plans to ensure the safety and security of students and staff; plans to identify, minimize, and protect others from violent or disruptive student behavior; and the manner in which the school will be insured, including whether or not the school will be required to have liability insurance, and, if so, the terms and conditions thereof and the amounts of coverage.

12. The term of the charter which shall provide for cancellation of the charter if insufficient progress has been made in attaining the student achievement objectives of the charter and if it is not likely that such objectives can be achieved before expiration of the charter. The initial term of a charter shall be for 4 or 5 years. In order to facilitate access to long-term financial resources for charter school construction, charter schools that are operated by a municipality or other public entity as provided by law are eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the district school board. A charter lab school is eligible for a charter for a term of up to 15 years. In addition, to facilitate access to long-term financial resources for charter school construction, charter schools that are operated by a private, not-for-profit, s. 501(c)(3) status corporation are eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the district school board. Such long-term charters remain subject to annual review and may be terminated during the term of the charter, but only according to the provisions set forth in subsection (8).

13. The facilities to be used and their location.

14. The qualifications to be required of the teachers and the potential strategies used to recruit, hire, train, and retain qualified staff to achieve best value.

15. The governance structure of the school, including the status of the charter school as a public or private employer as required in paragraph (12)(i).

16. A timetable for implementing the charter which addresses the implementation of each element thereof and the date by which the charter shall be awarded in order to meet this timetable.

17. In the case of an existing public school that is being converted to charter status, alternative arrangements for current students who choose
not to attend the charter school and for current teachers who choose not to teach in the charter school after conversion in accordance with the existing collective bargaining agreement or district school board rule in the absence of a collective bargaining agreement. However, alternative arrangements shall not be required for current teachers who choose not to teach in a charter lab school, except as authorized by the employment policies of the state university which grants the charter to the lab school.

18. Full disclosure of the identity of all relatives employed by the charter school who are related to the charter school owner, president, chairperson of the governing board of directors, superintendent, governing board member, principal, assistant principal, or any other person employed by the charter school who has equivalent decisionmaking authority. For the purpose of this subparagraph, the term “relative” means father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister.

19. Implementation of the activities authorized under s. 1002.331 by the charter school when it satisfies the eligibility requirements for a high-performing charter school. A high-performing charter school shall notify its sponsor in writing by March 1 if it intends to increase enrollment or expand grade levels the following school year. The written notice shall specify the amount of the enrollment increase and the grade levels that will be added, as applicable.

Section 43. Paragraph (g) of subsection (4) of section 1002.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.34 Charter technical career centers.—

(4) CHARTER.—A sponsor may designate centers as provided in this section. An application to establish a center may be submitted by a sponsor or another organization that is determined, by rule of the State Board of Education, to be appropriate. However, an independent school is not eligible for status as a center. The charter must be signed by the governing body of the center and the sponsor and must be approved by the district school board and Florida College System institution board of trustees in whose geographic region the facility is located. If a charter technical career center is established by the conversion to charter status of a public technical center formerly governed by a district school board, the charter status of that center takes precedence in any question of governance. The governance of the center or of any program within the center remains with its board of directors unless the board agrees to a change in governance or its charter is revoked as provided in subsection (15). Such a conversion charter technical career center is not affected by a change in the governance of public technical centers or of programs within other centers that are or have been governed by district school boards. A charter technical career center, or any program within such a center, that was governed by a district school board and transferred to a
Florida College System institution prior to the effective date of this act is not affected by this provision. An applicant who wishes to establish a center must submit to the district school board or Florida College System institution board of trustees, or a consortium of one or more of each, an application on a form developed by the Department of Education which includes:

(g) A method for determining whether a student has satisfied the requirements for graduation specified in s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429 and for completion of a postsecondary certificate or degree.

Students at a center must meet the same testing and academic performance standards as those established by law and rule for students at public schools and public technical centers. The students must also meet any additional assessment indicators that are included within the charter approved by the district school board or Florida College System institution board of trustees.

Section 44. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 1002.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.45 Virtual instruction programs.—

(4) CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.—Each contract with an approved provider must at minimum:

(b) Provide a method for determining that a student has satisfied the requirements for graduation in s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429, or s. 1003.43 if the contract is for the provision of a full-time virtual instruction program to students in grades 9 through 12.

Section 45. Paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section 1003.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.03 Maximum class size.—

(3) IMPLEMENTATION OPTIONS.—District school boards must consider, but are not limited to, implementing the following items in order to meet the constitutional class size maximums described in subsection (1):

(e) Use innovative methods to reduce the cost of school construction by using prototype school designs, using SMART Schools designs, participating in the School Infrastructure Thrift Program, or any other method not prohibited by law.

Section 46. Subsection (1), paragraph (c) of subsection (7), and subsection (8) of section 1003.429, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.429 Accelerated high school graduation options.—

(1) Students who enter grade 9 in the 2006-2007 school year and thereafter may select, upon receipt of each consent required by this section, one of the following three high school graduation options:

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
(a) Completion of the general requirements for high school graduation pursuant to s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.43, as applicable;

(b) Completion of a 3-year standard college preparatory program requiring successful completion of a minimum of 18 academic credits in grades 9 through 12. At least 6 of the 18 credits required for completion of this program must be received in classes that are offered pursuant to the International Baccalaureate Program, the Advanced Placement Program, dual enrollment, Advanced International Certificate of Education, or specifically listed or identified by the Department of Education as rigorous pursuant to s. 1009.531(3). The 18 credits required for completion of this program shall be primary requirements and shall be distributed as follows:

1. Four credits in English, with major concentration in composition and literature;

2. Three credits and, beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, four credits in mathematics at the Algebra I level or higher from the list of courses that qualify for state university admission. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, in addition to the Algebra I credit requirement, one of the four credits in mathematics must be geometry or a series of courses equivalent to geometry as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in Algebra I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in geometry. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school year, in addition to the Algebra I and geometry credit requirements, one of the four credits in mathematics must be Algebra II or a series of courses equivalent to Algebra II as approved by the State Board of Education;

3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a laboratory component. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, one of the three credits in science must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(II) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in Biology I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year, one of the three credits must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education, one credit must be chemistry or physics or a series of courses equivalent to chemistry or physics as approved by the State Board of Education, and one credit must be an equally rigorous course, as approved by the State Board of Education;
4. Three credits in social sciences, which must include one credit in United States history, one credit in world history, one-half credit in United States government, and one-half credit in economics;

5. Two credits in the same second language unless the student is a native speaker of or can otherwise demonstrate competency in a language other than English. If the student demonstrates competency in another language, the student may replace the language requirement with two credits in other academic courses; and

6. Three credits in electives and, beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, two credits in electives; or

(c) Completion of a 3-year career preparatory program requiring successful completion of a minimum of 18 academic credits in grades 9 through 12. The 18 credits shall be primary requirements and shall be distributed as follows:

1. Four credits in English, with major concentration in composition and literature;

2. Three credits and, beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, four credits in mathematics, one of which must be Algebra I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, in addition to the Algebra I credit requirement, one of the four credits in mathematics must be geometry or a series of courses equivalent to geometry as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in Algebra I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in geometry. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school year, in addition to the Algebra I and geometry credit requirements, one of the four credits in mathematics must be Algebra II or a series of courses equivalent to Algebra II as approved by the State Board of Education;

3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a laboratory component. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, one of the three credits in science must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(II) must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit in Biology I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year, one of the three credits must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education, one credit must be chemistry or physics or a series of courses equivalent to chemistry or physics as approved by the State Board of Education, and the final credit must be a laboratory science course approved by the State Board of Education.
by the State Board of Education, and one credit must be an equally rigorous course, as approved by the State Board of Education;

4. Three credits in social sciences, which must include one credit in United States history, one credit in world history, one-half credit in United States government, and one-half credit in economics;

5. Three credits in a single vocational or career education program, three credits in career and technical certificate dual enrollment courses, or five credits in vocational or career education courses; and

6. Two credits and, beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, one credit in electives unless five credits are earned pursuant to subparagraph 5.

Any student who selected an accelerated graduation program before July 1, 2004, may continue that program, and all statutory program requirements that were applicable when the student made the program choice shall remain applicable to the student as long as the student continues that program.

(7) If, at the end of each grade, a student is not on track to meet the credit, assessment, or grade-point-average requirements of the accelerated graduation option selected, the school shall notify the student and parent of the following:

(c) The right of the student to change to the 4-year program set forth in s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.43, as applicable.

(8) A student who selected one of the accelerated 3-year graduation options shall automatically move to the 4-year program set forth in s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.43, if applicable, if the student:

(a) Exercises his or her right to change to the 4-year program;

(b) Fails to earn 5 credits by the end of grade 9 or fails to earn 11 credits by the end of grade 10;

(c) Does not achieve a score of 3 or higher on the grade 10 FCAT Writing assessment; or

(d) By the end of grade 11 does not meet the requirements of subsections (1) and (6).

Section 47. Section 1003.438, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.438 Special high school graduation requirements for certain exceptional students.—A student who has been identified, in accordance with rules established by the State Board of Education, as a student with disabilities who has an intellectual disability; an autism spectrum disorder; a language impairment; an orthopedic impairment; an other health impairment; a traumatic brain injury; an emotional or behavioral disability; a
specific learning disability, including, but not limited to, dyslexia, dyscalculia, or developmental aphasia; or students who are deaf or hard of hearing or dual sensory impaired shall not be required to meet all requirements of §§ 1003.43 or s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429 and shall, upon meeting all applicable requirements prescribed by the district school board pursuant to s. 1008.25, be awarded a special diploma in a form prescribed by the commissioner; however, such special graduation requirements prescribed by the district school board must include minimum graduation requirements as prescribed by the commissioner. Any such student who meets all special requirements of the district school board, but is unable to meet the appropriate special state minimum requirements, shall be awarded a special certificate of completion in a form prescribed by the commissioner. However, this section does not limit or restrict the right of an exceptional student solely to a special diploma or special certificate of completion. Any such student shall, upon proper request, be afforded the opportunity to fully meet all requirements of §§ 1003.43 or s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429 through the standard procedures established therein and thereby to qualify for a standard diploma upon graduation.

Section 48. Subsection (1) of section 1003.49, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.49 Graduation and promotion requirements for publicly operated schools.—

(1) Each state or local public agency, including the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Corrections, the boards of trustees of universities and Florida College System institutions, and the Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, which agency is authorized to operate educational programs for students at any level of grades kindergarten through 12 shall be subject to all applicable requirements of ss. 1003.428, 1003.429, 1003.43, 1008.23, and 1008.25. Within the content of these cited statutes each such state or local public agency or entity shall be considered a “district school board.”

Section 49. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 1004.70, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.70 Florida College System institution direct-support organizations.

(4) ACTIVITIES; RESTRICTIONS.—

(c) Any transaction or agreement between one direct-support organization and another direct-support organization or between a direct-support organization and a center of technology innovation designated under s. 1004.77 must be approved by the board of trustees.

Section 50. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 1004.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
1004.71 Statewide Florida College System institution direct-support organizations.—

(4) RESTRICTIONS.—

(b) Any transaction or agreement between a statewide, direct-support organization and any other direct-support organization or between a statewide, direct support organization and a center of technology innovation designated under s. 1004.77 must be approved by the State Board of Education.

Section 51. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section 1006.025, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (f) and present paragraph (f) of that subsection is amended, to read:

1006.025 Guidance services.—

(2) The guidance report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(f) Actions taken to provide information to students for the school-to-work transition pursuant to s. 1006.02.

Section 52. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1006.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.15 Student standards for participation in interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular student activities; regulation.—

(3)(a) To be eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular student activities, a student must:

1. Maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the previous semester or a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429.

2. Execute and fulfill the requirements of an academic performance contract between the student, the district school board, the appropriate governing association, and the student’s parents, if the student’s cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0, or its equivalent, on a 4.0 scale in the courses required by s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429 or, for students who entered the 9th grade prior to the 1997-1998 school year, if the student’s cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1003.43(1) which are taken after July 1, 1997. At a minimum, the contract must require that the student attend summer school, or its graded equivalent, between grades 9 and 10 or grades 10 and 11, as necessary.

3. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429 during his or her junior or senior year.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
4. Maintain satisfactory conduct, including adherence to appropriate
dress and other codes of student conduct policies described in s. 1006.07(2). If
a student is convicted of, or is found to have committed, a felony or a
delinquent act that would have been a felony if committed by an adult,
regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, the student’s participation in
interscholastic extracurricular activities is contingent upon established and
published district school board policy.

Section 53. Subsection (4) of section 1007.263, Florida Statutes, is
amended to read:

1007.263 Florida College System institutions; admissions of students.
Each Florida College System institution board of trustees is authorized to
adopt rules governing admissions of students subject to this section and rules
of the State Board of Education. These rules shall include the following:

(4) A student who has been awarded a special diploma as defined in s.
1003.438 or a certificate of completion as defined in s. 1003.428(7)(b) is eligible to enroll in certificate career education programs.

Each board of trustees shall establish policies that notify students about, and
place students into, adult basic education, adult secondary education, or
other instructional programs that provide students with alternatives to
traditional college-preparatory instruction, including private provider in-
struction. A student is prohibited from enrolling in additional college-level
courses until the student scores above the cut-score on all sections of the
common placement test.

Section 54. Subsections (2) and (9) of section 1007.271, Florida Statutes,
are amended to read:

1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.—

(2) For the purpose of this section, an eligible secondary student is a
student who is enrolled in a Florida public secondary school or in a Florida
private secondary school which is in compliance with s. 1002.42(2) and
provides a secondary curriculum pursuant to s. 1003.428 or, s. 1003.429, or s.
1003.43. Students who are eligible for dual enrollment pursuant to this
section may enroll in dual enrollment courses conducted during school hours,
after school hours, and during the summer term. However, if the student is
projected to graduate from high school before the scheduled completion date
of a postsecondary course, the student may not register for that course
through dual enrollment. The student may apply to the postsecondary
institution and pay the required registration, tuition, and fees if the student
meets the postsecondary institution’s admissions requirements under s.
1007.263. Instructional time for dual enrollment may vary from 900 hours;
however, the school district may only report the student for a maximum of 1.0
FTE, as provided in s. 1011.61(4). Any student enrolled as a dual enrollment
student is exempt from the payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory
fees. Vocational-preparatory instruction, college-preparatory instruction,
and other forms of precollegiate instruction, as well as physical education courses that focus on the physical execution of a skill rather than the intellectual attributes of the activity, are ineligible for inclusion in the dual enrollment program. Recreation and leisure studies courses shall be evaluated individually in the same manner as physical education courses for potential inclusion in the program.

(9) The Commissioner of Education shall appoint faculty committees representing public school, Florida College System institution, and university faculties to identify postsecondary courses that meet the high school graduation requirements of s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429, or s. 1003.43 and to establish the number of postsecondary semester credit hours of instruction and equivalent high school credits earned through dual enrollment pursuant to this section that are necessary to meet high school graduation requirements. Such equivalencies shall be determined solely on comparable course content and not on seat time traditionally allocated to such courses in high school. The Commissioner of Education shall recommend to the State Board of Education those postsecondary courses identified to meet high school graduation requirements, based on mastery of course outcomes, by their course numbers, and all high schools shall accept these postsecondary education courses toward meeting the requirements of s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429, or s. 1003.43.

Section 55. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.22 Student assessment program for public schools.—

(3) STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.—The commissioner shall design and implement a statewide program of educational assessment that provides information for the improvement of the operation and management of the public schools, including schools operating for the purpose of providing educational services to youth in Department of Juvenile Justice programs. The commissioner may enter into contracts for the continued administration of the assessment programs authorized and funded by the Legislature. Contracts may be initiated in 1 fiscal year and continue into the next and may be paid from the appropriations of either or both fiscal years. The commissioner is authorized to negotiate for the sale or lease of tests, scoring protocols, test scoring services, and related materials developed pursuant to law. Pursuant to the statewide assessment program, the commissioner shall:

(c) Develop and implement a student achievement assessment program as follows:

1. The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) measures a student’s content knowledge and skills in reading, writing, science, and mathematics. The content knowledge and skills assessed by the FCAT must be aligned to the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. FCAT Reading and FCAT Mathematics shall be administered annually in grades 3 through 10 except, beginning with the
2010-2011 school year, the administration of grade 9 FCAT Mathematics shall be discontinued, and beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the administration of grade 10 FCAT Mathematics shall be discontinued, except as required for students who have not attained minimum performance expectations for graduation as provided in paragraph (9)(c). FCAT Writing and FCAT Science shall be administered at least once at the elementary, middle, and high school levels except, beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the administration of FCAT Science at the high school level shall be discontinued. Students enrolled in an Algebra I, geometry, or Biology I course or an equivalent course with a statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment are not required to take the corresponding grade-level FCAT assessment.

2.a. End-of-course assessments must be rigorous, statewide, standardized, and developed or approved by the department. The content knowledge and skills assessed by end-of-course assessments must be aligned to the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

(I) Statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments in mathematics shall be administered according to this sub-sub-subparagraph. Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, all students enrolled in Algebra I or an equivalent course must take the Algebra I end-of-course assessment. For students entering grade 9 during the 2010-2011 school year and who are enrolled in Algebra I or an equivalent, each student’s performance on the end-of-course assessment in Algebra I shall constitute 30 percent of the student’s final course grade. Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, the end-of-course assessment in Algebra I shall be administered four times annually. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, a student who is enrolled in Algebra I or an equivalent must earn a passing score on the end-of-course assessment in Algebra I or attain an equivalent score as described in subsection (11) in order to earn course credit. Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, all students enrolled in geometry or an equivalent course must take the geometry end-of-course assessment. For students entering grade 9 during the 2011-2012 school year, each student’s performance on the end-of-course assessment in geometry shall constitute 30 percent of the student’s final course grade. Beginning with students entering grade 9 during the 2012-2013 school year, a student must earn a passing score on the end-of-course assessment in geometry or attain an equivalent score as described in subsection (11) in order to earn course credit.

(II) Statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments in science shall be administered according to this sub-sub-subparagraph. Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, all students enrolled in Biology I or an equivalent course must take the Biology I end-of-course assessment. For the 2011-2012 school year, each student’s performance on the end-of-course assessment in Biology I shall constitute 30 percent of the student’s final course grade. Beginning with students entering grade 9 during the 2012-2013 school year,
a student must earn a passing score on the end-of-course assessment in Biology I in order to earn course credit.

b. During the 2012-2013 school year, an end-of-course assessment in civics education shall be administered as a field test at the middle school level. During the 2013-2014 school year, each student’s performance on the statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment in civics education shall constitute 30 percent of the student’s final course grade. Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, a student must earn a passing score on the end-of-course assessment in civics education in order to pass the course and be promoted from the middle grades. The school principal of a middle school shall determine, in accordance with State Board of Education rule, whether a student who transfers to the middle school and who has successfully completed a civics education course at the student’s previous school must take an end-of-course assessment in civics education.

c. The commissioner may select one or more nationally developed comprehensive examinations, which may include, but need not be limited to, examinations for a College Board Advanced Placement course, International Baccalaureate course, or Advanced International Certificate of Education course, or industry-approved examinations to earn national industry certifications identified in the Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education, for use as end-of-course assessments under this paragraph, if the commissioner determines that the content knowledge and skills assessed by the examinations meet or exceed the grade level expectations for the core curricular content established for the course in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. The commissioner may collaborate with the American Diploma Project in the adoption or development of rigorous end-of-course assessments that are aligned to the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

d. Contingent upon funding provided in the General Appropriations Act, including the appropriation of funds received through federal grants, the Commissioner of Education shall establish an implementation schedule for the development and administration of additional statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments in English/Language Arts II, Algebra II, chemistry, physics, earth/space science, United States history, and world history. Priority shall be given to the development of end-of-course assessments in English/Language Arts II. The Commissioner of Education shall evaluate the feasibility and effect of transitioning from the grade 9 and grade 10 FCAT Reading and high school level FCAT Writing to an end-of-course assessment in English/Language Arts II. The commissioner shall report the results of the evaluation to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than July 1, 2011.

3. The assessment program shall measure student content knowledge and skills adopted by the State Board of Education as specified in paragraph (a) and measure and report student performance levels of all students assessed in reading, writing, mathematics, and science. The commissioner shall provide for the tests to be developed or obtained, as appropriate,
through contracts and project agreements with private vendors, public vendors, public agencies, postsecondary educational institutions, or school districts. The commissioner shall obtain input with respect to the design and implementation of the assessment program from state educators, assistive technology experts, and the public.

4. The assessment program shall be composed of criterion-referenced tests that shall, to the extent determined by the commissioner, include test items that require the student to produce information or perform tasks in such a way that the core content knowledge and skills he or she uses can be measured.

5. FCAT Reading, Mathematics, and Science and all statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments shall measure the content knowledge and skills a student has attained on the assessment by the use of scaled scores and achievement levels. Achievement levels shall range from 1 through 5, with level 1 being the lowest achievement level, level 5 being the highest achievement level, and level 3 indicating satisfactory performance on an assessment. For purposes of FCAT Writing, student achievement shall be scored using a scale of 1 through 6 and the score earned shall be used in calculating school grades. A score shall be designated for each subject area tested, below which score a student’s performance is deemed inadequate. The school districts shall provide appropriate remedial instruction to students who score below these levels.

6. The State Board of Education shall, by rule, designate a passing score for each part of the grade 10 assessment test and end-of-course assessments. Any rule that has the effect of raising the required passing scores may apply only to students taking the assessment for the first time after the rule is adopted by the State Board of Education. Except as otherwise provided in this subparagraph and as provided in s. 1003.428(8)(b) or s. 1003.43(11)(b), students must earn a passing score on grade 10 FCAT Reading and grade 10 FCAT Mathematics or attain concordant scores as described in subsection (10) in order to qualify for a standard high school diploma.

7. In addition to designating a passing score under subparagraph 6., the State Board of Education shall also designate, by rule, a score for each statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment which indicates that a student is high achieving and has the potential to meet college-readiness standards by the time the student graduates from high school.

8. Participation in the assessment program is mandatory for all students attending public school, including students served in Department of Juvenile Justice programs, except as otherwise prescribed by the commissioner. A student who has not earned passing scores on the grade 10 FCAT as provided in subparagraph 6. must participate in each retake of the assessment until the student earns passing scores or achieves scores on a standardized assessment which are concordant with passing scores pursuant to subsection (10). If a student does not participate in the statewide assessment, the district must notify the student’s parent and provide the parent with...
information regarding the implications of such nonparticipation. A parent must provide signed consent for a student to receive classroom instructional accommodations that would not be available or permitted on the statewide assessments and must acknowledge in writing that he or she understands the implications of such instructional accommodations. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules, based upon recommendations of the commissioner, for the provision of test accommodations for students in exceptional education programs and for students who have limited English proficiency. Accommodations that negate the validity of a statewide assessment are not allowable in the administration of the FCAT or an end-of-course assessment. However, instructional accommodations are allowable in the classroom if included in a student's individual education plan. Students using instructional accommodations in the classroom that are not allowable as accommodations on the FCAT or an end-of-course assessment may have the FCAT or an end-of-course assessment requirement waived pursuant to the requirements of s. 1003.428(8)(b) or s. 1003.43(11)(b).

9. A student seeking an adult high school diploma must meet the same testing requirements that a regular high school student must meet.

10. District school boards must provide instruction to prepare students in the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards adopted under s. 1003.41, including the core content knowledge and skills necessary for successful grade-to-grade progression and high school graduation. If a student is provided with instructional accommodations in the classroom that are not allowable as accommodations in the statewide assessment program, as described in the test manuals, the district must inform the parent in writing and must provide the parent with information regarding the impact on the student's ability to meet expected performance levels in reading, writing, mathematics, and science. The commissioner shall conduct studies as necessary to verify that the required core curricular content is part of the district instructional programs.

11. District school boards must provide opportunities for students to demonstrate an acceptable performance level on an alternative standardized assessment approved by the State Board of Education following enrollment in summer academies.

12. The Department of Education must develop, or select, and implement a common battery of assessment tools that will be used in all juvenile justice programs in the state. These tools must accurately measure the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

13. For students seeking a special diploma pursuant to s. 1003.438, the Department of Education must develop or select and implement an alternate assessment tool that accurately measures the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for students with disabilities under s. 1003.438.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
14. The Commissioner of Education shall establish schedules for the administration of statewide assessments and the reporting of student test results. When establishing the schedules for the administration of statewide assessments, the commissioner shall consider the observance of religious and school holidays. The commissioner shall, by August 1 of each year, notify each school district in writing and publish on the department’s Internet website the testing and reporting schedules for, at a minimum, the school year following the upcoming school year. The testing and reporting schedules shall require that:

a. There is the latest possible administration of statewide assessments and the earliest possible reporting to the school districts of student test results which is feasible within available technology and specific appropriations; however, test results for the FCAT must be made available no later than the week of June 8. Student results for end-of-course assessments must be provided no later than 1 week after the school district completes testing for each course. The commissioner may extend the reporting schedule under exigent circumstances.

b. FCAT Writing may not be administered earlier than the week of March 1, and a comprehensive statewide assessment of any other subject may not be administered earlier than the week of April 15.

c. A statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment is administered at the end of the course. The commissioner shall select an administration period for assessments that meets the intent of end-of-course assessments and provides student results prior to the end of the course. School districts shall administer tests in accordance with the schedule determined by the commissioner. For an end-of-course assessment administered at the end of the first semester, the commissioner shall determine the most appropriate testing dates based on a review of each school district’s academic calendar.

The commissioner may, based on collaboration and input from school districts, design and implement student testing programs, for any grade level and subject area, necessary to effectively monitor educational achievement in the state, including the measurement of educational achievement of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for students with disabilities. Development and refinement of assessments shall include universal design principles and accessibility standards that will prevent any unintended obstacles for students with disabilities while ensuring the validity and reliability of the test. These principles should be applicable to all technology platforms and assistive devices available for the assessments. The field testing process and psychometric analyses for the statewide assessment program must include an appropriate percentage of students with disabilities and an evaluation or determination of the effect of test items on such students.

Section 56. Section 1008.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
1008.23 Confidentiality of assessment instruments.—All examination and assessment instruments, including developmental materials and workpapers directly related thereto, which are prepared, prescribed, or administered pursuant to ss. 1003.43, 1008.22, and 1008.25 shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and from s. 1001.52. Provisions governing access, maintenance, and destruction of such instruments and related materials shall be prescribed by rules of the State Board of Education.

Section 57. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 1009.40, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.40 General requirements for student eligibility for state financial aid awards and tuition assistance grants.—

(1)(a) The general requirements for eligibility of students for state financial aid awards and tuition assistance grants consist of the following:

1. Achievement of the academic requirements of and acceptance at a state university or Florida College System institution; a nursing diploma school approved by the Florida Board of Nursing; a Florida college or university which is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of Education; any Florida institution the credits of which are acceptable for transfer to state universities; any career center; or any private career institution accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of Education.

2. Residency in this state for no less than 1 year preceding the award of aid or a tuition assistance grant for a program established pursuant to s. 1009.50, s. 1009.505, s. 1009.51, s. 1009.52, s. 1009.53, s. 1009.56, s. 1009.60, s. 1009.62, s. 1009.68, s. 1009.72, s. 1009.73, s. 1009.77, s. 1009.89, or s. 1009.891. Residency in this state must be for purposes other than to obtain an education. Resident status for purposes of receiving state financial aid awards shall be determined in the same manner as resident status for tuition purposes pursuant to s. 1009.21.

3. Submission of certification attesting to the accuracy, completeness, and correctness of information provided to demonstrate a student’s eligibility to receive state financial aid awards or tuition assistance grants. Falsification of such information shall result in the denial of any pending application and revocation of any award or grant currently held to the extent that no further payments shall be made. Additionally, students who knowingly make false statements in order to receive state financial aid awards or tuition assistance grants commit a misdemeanor of the second degree subject to the provisions of s. 837.06 and shall be required to return all state financial aid awards or tuition assistance grants wrongfully obtained.

Section 58. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 1009.531, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
Effective January 1, 2008, in order to be eligible for an initial award from any of the three types of scholarships under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, a student must:

(b) Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its equivalent pursuant to s. 1003.428, s. 1003.4281, s. 1003.429, s. 1003.43, or s. 1003.435 unless:

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

2. The student earns a high school diploma from a non-Florida school while living with a parent or guardian who is on military or public service assignment away from Florida.

Section 59. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 1009.94, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.94 Student financial assistance database.—

(2) For purposes of this section, financial assistance includes:

(c) Any financial assistance provided under s. 1009.50, s. 1009.505, s. 1009.51, s. 1009.52, s. 1009.53, s. 1009.55, s. 1009.56, s. 1009.60, s. 1009.62, s. 1009.68, s. 1009.70, s. 1009.701, s. 1009.72, s. 1009.73, s. 1009.74, s. 1009.77, s. 1009.89, or s. 1009.891.

Section 60. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 1011.61, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.61 Definitions.—Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 1000.21, the following terms are defined as follows for the purposes of the Florida Education Finance Program:

(1) A “full-time equivalent student” in each program of the district is defined in terms of full-time students and part-time students as follows:

(c) A “full-time equivalent student” is:

a. A full-time student in any one of the programs listed in s. 1011.62(1)(c); or

b. A combination of full-time or part-time students in any one of the programs listed in s. 1011.62(1)(c) which is the equivalent of one full-time student based on the following calculations:

(I) A full-time student in a combination of programs listed in s. 1011.62(1)(c) shall be a fraction of a full-time equivalent membership in each program equal to the number of net hours per school year for which he
or she is a member, divided by the appropriate number of hours set forth in subparagraph (a)1. or subparagraph (a)2. The sum of the fractions for each program may not exceed the maximum value set forth in subsection (4).

(II) A prekindergarten student with a disability shall meet the requirements specified for kindergarten students.

(III) A full-time equivalent student for students in kindergarten through grade 12 in a full-time virtual instruction program under s. 1002.45 or a virtual charter school under s. 1002.33 shall consist of six full-credit completions or the prescribed level of content that counts toward promotion to the next grade in programs listed in s. 1011.62(1)(c). Credit completions may be a combination of full-credit courses or half-credit courses. Beginning in the 2014-2015 fiscal year, when s. 1008.22(3)(g) is implemented, the reported full-time equivalent students and associated funding of students enrolled in courses requiring passage of an end-of-course assessment shall be adjusted after the student completes the end-of-course assessment.

(IV) A full-time equivalent student for students in kindergarten through grade 12 in a part-time virtual instruction program under s. 1002.45 shall consist of six full-credit completions in programs listed in s. 1011.62(1)(c)1. and 3. Credit completions may be a combination of full-credit courses or half-credit courses. Beginning in the 2014-2015 fiscal year, when s. 1008.22(3)(g) is implemented, the reported full-time equivalent students and associated funding of students enrolled in courses requiring passage of an end-of-course assessment shall be adjusted after the student completes the end-of-course assessment.

(V) A Florida Virtual School full-time equivalent student shall consist of six full-credit completions or the prescribed level of content that counts toward promotion to the next grade in the programs listed in s. 1011.62(1)(c)1. and 3. for students participating in kindergarten through grade 12 part-time virtual instruction and the programs listed in s. 1011.62(1)(c) for students participating in kindergarten through grade 12 full-time virtual instruction. Credit completions may be a combination of full-credit courses or half-credit courses. Beginning in the 2014-2015 fiscal year, when s. 1008.22(3)(g) is implemented, the reported full-time equivalent students and associated funding of students enrolled in courses requiring passage of an end-of-course assessment shall be adjusted after the student completes the end-of-course assessment.

(VI) Each successfully completed full-credit course earned through an online course delivered by a district other than the one in which the student resides shall be calculated as 1/6 FTE.

(VII) Each successfully completed credit earned under the alternative high school course credit requirements authorized in s. 1002.375, which is not reported as a portion of the 900 net hours of instruction pursuant to subparagraph (1)(a)1., shall be calculated as 1/6 FTE.
(VII)(VIII)(A) A full-time equivalent student for courses requiring a statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment pursuant to s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a. shall be defined and reported based on the number of instructional hours as provided in this subsection for the first 3 years of administering the end-of-course assessment. Beginning in the fourth year of administering the end-of-course assessment, the FTE shall be credit-based and each course shall be equal to ½ FTE. The reported FTE shall be adjusted after the student successfully completes the end-of-course assessment pursuant to s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.

(B) For students enrolled in a school district as a full-time student, the district may report ½ FTE for each student who passes a statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment without being enrolled in the corresponding course.

(C) The FTE earned under this sub-sub-subparagraph and any FTE for courses or programs listed in s. 1011.62(1)(c) that do not require passing a statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment are subject to the requirements in subsection (4).

2. A student in membership in a program scheduled for more or less than 180 school days or the equivalent on an hourly basis as specified by rules of the State Board of Education is a fraction of a full-time equivalent membership equal to the number of instructional hours in membership divided by the appropriate number of hours set forth in subparagraph (a)1.; however, for the purposes of this subparagraph, membership in programs scheduled for more than 180 days is limited to students enrolled in juvenile justice education programs and the Florida Virtual School.

The department shall determine and implement an equitable method of equivalent funding for experimental schools and for schools operating under emergency conditions, which schools have been approved by the department to operate for less than the minimum school day.

Section 61. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 1013.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1013.35 School district educational facilities plan; definitions; preparation, adoption, and amendment; long-term work programs.—

(2) PREPARATION OF TENTATIVE DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES PLAN.—

(b) The plan must also include a financially feasible district facilities work program for a 5-year period. The work program must include:

1. A schedule of major repair and renovation projects necessary to maintain the educational facilities and ancillary facilities of the district.
2. A schedule of capital outlay projects necessary to ensure the availability of satisfactory student stations for the projected student enrollment in K-12 programs. This schedule shall consider:

   a. The locations, capacities, and planned utilization rates of current educational facilities of the district. The capacity of existing satisfactory facilities, as reported in the Florida Inventory of School Houses must be compared to the capital outlay full-time-equivalent student enrollment as determined by the department, including all enrollment used in the calculation of the distribution formula in s. 1013.64.

   b. The proposed locations of planned facilities, whether those locations are consistent with the comprehensive plans of all affected local governments, and recommendations for infrastructure and other improvements to land adjacent to existing facilities. The provisions of ss. 1013.33(6), (7), and (8) and 1013.36 must be addressed for new facilities planned within the first 3 years of the work plan, as appropriate.

   c. Plans for the use and location of relocatable facilities, leased facilities, and charter school facilities.

   d. Plans for multitrack scheduling, grade level organization, block scheduling, or other alternatives that reduce the need for additional permanent student stations.

   e. Information concerning average class size and utilization rate by grade level within the district which will result if the tentative district facilities work program is fully implemented.

   f. The number and percentage of district students planned to be educated in relocatable facilities during each year of the tentative district facilities work program. For determining future needs, student capacity may not be assigned to any relocatable classroom that is scheduled for elimination or replacement with a permanent educational facility in the current year of the adopted district educational facilities plan and in the district facilities work program adopted under this section. Those relocatable classrooms clearly identified and scheduled for replacement in a school-board-adopted, financially feasible, 5-year district facilities work program shall be counted at zero capacity at the time the work program is adopted and approved by the school board. However, if the district facilities work program is changed and the relocatable classrooms are not replaced as scheduled in the work program, the classrooms must be reentered into the system and be counted at actual capacity. Relocatable classrooms may not be perpetually added to the work program or continually extended for purposes of circumventing this section. All relocatable classrooms not identified and scheduled for replacement, including those owned, lease-purchased, or leased by the school district, must be counted at actual student capacity. The district educational facilities plan must identify the number of relocatable student stations scheduled for replacement during the 5-year survey period and the total dollar amount needed for that replacement.

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g. Plans for the closure of any school, including plans for disposition of the facility or usage of facility space, and anticipated revenues.

h. Projects for which capital outlay and debt service funds accruing under s. 9(d), Art. XII of the State Constitution are to be used shall be identified separately in priority order on a project priority list within the district facilities work program.

3. The projected cost for each project identified in the district facilities work program. For proposed projects for new student stations, a schedule shall be prepared comparing the planned cost and square footage for each new student station, by elementary, middle, and high school levels, to the low, average, and high cost of facilities constructed throughout the state during the most recent fiscal year for which data is available from the Department of Education.

4. A schedule of estimated capital outlay revenues from each currently approved source which is estimated to be available for expenditure on the projects included in the district facilities work program.

5. A schedule indicating which projects included in the district facilities work program will be funded from current revenues projected in subparagraph 4.

6. A schedule of options for the generation of additional revenues by the district for expenditure on projects identified in the district facilities work program which are not funded under subparagraph 5. Additional anticipated revenues may include effort index grants, SIT Program awards, and Classrooms First funds.

Section 62. Subsection (2) of section 1013.356, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1013.356 Local funding for educational facilities benefit districts or community development districts.—Upon confirmation by a district school board of the commitment of revenues by an educational facilities benefit district or community development district necessary to construct and maintain an educational facility contained within an individual district facilities work program or proposed by an approved charter school or a charter school applicant, the following funds shall be provided to the educational facilities benefit district or community development district annually, beginning with the next fiscal year after confirmation until the district’s financial obligations are completed:

(2) For construction and capital maintenance costs not covered by the funds provided under subsection (1), an annual amount contributed by the district school board equal to one-half of the remaining costs of construction and capital maintenance of the educational facility. Any construction costs above the cost-per-student criteria established in s. 1013.64(6)(b)1. for the SIT Program in s. 1013.72(2) shall be funded exclusively by the educational

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facilities benefit district or the community development district. Funds contributed by a district school board shall not be used to fund operational costs.

Educational facilities funded pursuant to this act may be constructed on land that is owned by any person after the district school board has acquired from the owner of the land a long-term lease for the use of this land for a period of not less than 40 years or the life expectancy of the permanent facilities constructed thereon, whichever is longer. All interlocal agreements entered into pursuant to this act shall provide for ownership of educational facilities funded pursuant to this act to revert to the district school board if such facilities cease to be used for public educational purposes prior to 40 years after construction or prior to the end of the life expectancy of the educational facilities, whichever is longer.

Section 63. Subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section 1013.41, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1013.41 SMART schools; Classrooms First; legislative purpose.—

(4) OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.—It is the purpose of the Legislature to require the Office of Educational Facilities to assist school districts in building SMART schools utilizing functional and frugal practices. The Office of Educational Facilities must review district facilities work programs and projects and identify districts qualified for incentive funding available through School Infrastructure Thrift Program awards; identify opportunities to maximize design and construction savings; develop school district facilities work program performance standards; and provide for review and recommendations to the Governor, the Legislature, and the State Board of Education.

(5) EFFORT INDEX GRANTS.—It is the purpose of the Legislature to create s. 1013.73, in order to provide grants from state funds to assist school districts that have provided a specified level of local effort funding.

(6) SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE THRIFT (SIT) PROGRAM AWARDS. It is the purpose of the Legislature to convert the SIT Program established in ss. 1013.42 and 1013.72 to an incentive award program to encourage functional, frugal facilities and practices.

Section 64. Paragraph (b) of subsection (6) of section 1013.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1013.64 Funds for comprehensive educational plant needs; construction cost maximums for school district capital projects.—Allocations from the Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund to the various boards for capital outlay projects shall be determined as follows:

(6) CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
(b)1. A district school board must not use funds from the following sources: Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund; School District and Community College District Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund; Classrooms First Program funds provided in s. 1013.68; effort index grant funds provided in s. 1013.73; nonvoted 1.5-mill levy of ad valorem property taxes provided in s. 1011.71(2); Classrooms for Kids Program funds provided in s. 1013.735; District Effort Recognition Program funds provided in s. 1013.736; or High Growth District Capital Outlay Assistance Grant Program funds provided in s. 1013.738 for any new construction of educational plant space with a total cost per student station, including change orders, that equals more than:

a. $17,952 for an elementary school,

b. $19,386 for a middle school, or

c. $25,181 for a high school,

(January 2006) as adjusted annually to reflect increases or decreases in the Consumer Price Index.

2. A district school board must not use funds from the Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund or the School District and Community College District Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund for any new construction of an ancillary plant that exceeds 70 percent of the average cost per square foot of new construction for all schools.

Section 65. Section 1013.69, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1013.69 Full bonding required to participate in programs.—Any district with unused bonding capacity in its Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund allocation that certifies in its district educational facilities plan that it will not be able to meet all of its need for new student stations within existing revenues must fully bond its Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund allocation before it may participate in Classrooms First, the School Infrastructure Thrift (SIT) Program, or the Effort Index Grants Program.

Section 66. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 1013.738, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1013.738 High Growth District Capital Outlay Assistance Grant Program.—

(2) In order to qualify for a grant, a school district must meet the following criteria:

(b) Fifty percent of the revenue derived from the 2-mill nonvoted discretionary capital outlay millage for the past 4 fiscal years, when divided by the district’s growth in capital outlay FTE students over this period, produces a value that is less than the average cost per student station calculated pursuant to s. 1013.64(6)(b)1, 1013.72(2), and weighted by

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statewide growth in capital outlay FTE students in elementary, middle, and high schools for the past 4 fiscal years.

Section 67. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor April 29, 2013.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 29, 2013.