

CHAPTER 2024-51

House Bill No. 523

An act relating to the Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program; creating s. 1003.4321, F.S.; establishing the Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program within the Department of Education; providing the purpose of the program; specifying eligibility requirements for the seal; defining the term “work of art”; authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt additional criteria for the award of a seal; requiring the Commissioner of Education and school districts to perform specified duties to administer the program; prohibiting a school district or the Department of Education from charging a fee for the seal; requiring the state board to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 1003.4321, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1003.4321 Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program for high school graduates.

(1) The Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program is established within the Department of Education to recognize high school graduates who have met exemplary benchmarks in fine arts coursework.

(2) The purpose of the Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program is to encourage students to develop an exemplary level of proficiency in the performing or visual arts.

(3)(a) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, the Seal of Fine Arts shall be awarded to a high school student who has earned a standard high school diploma; successfully completed at least three year-long courses in dance, music, theatre, or the visual arts with a grade of “A” or higher in each course or earned three sequential course credits in such courses with a grade of “A” or higher in each course; and meets a minimum of two of the following requirements:

1. Successfully completes a fine arts International Baccalaureate, advanced placement, dual enrollment, or honors course in the subjects listed in this paragraph with a grade of “B” or higher.

2. Participates in a district or statewide organization’s juried event as a selected student participant for 2 or more years.

3. Records at least 25 volunteer hours of arts-related community service in his or her community and presents a comprehensive presentation on his or her experiences.

4. Meets the requirements of a portfolio-based program identifying the student as an exemplary practitioner of the fine arts.

5. Receives district, state, or national recognition for the creation and submission of an original work of art. For purposes of this paragraph, the term “work of art” means a musical or theatrical composition, visual artwork, or choreographed routine or performance.

(b) The State Board of Education may establish additional criteria for the award of the Seal of Fine Arts.

(4) The Commissioner of Education shall:

(a) Prepare for and provide to each school district an appropriate seal to be affixed to a student’s diploma indicating that the student has been awarded the Seal of Fine Arts.

(b) Provide appropriate benchmarks in rubric form which are necessary for a school district to successfully implement the program.

(5) Each school district shall:

(a) Maintain appropriate records to identify a student who has met the requirements to receive a Seal of Fine Arts.

(b) Provide the Commissioner of Education with the number of students who have met the requirements to receive a Seal of Fine Arts.

(c) Affix the appropriate insignia to the student’s diploma and indicate on the student’s transcript that he or she has earned a Seal of Fine Arts.

(6) A school district or the department may not charge a fee for a Seal of Fine Arts.

(7) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to administer this section, including, but not limited to:

(a) A process created in rubric form to confirm a student’s successful completion of the requirements in subsection (3).

(b) Any additional requirements a student must meet to be awarded the Seal of Fine Arts.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor April 2, 2024.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 2, 2024.