

## CHAPTER 2024-125

### Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 917

An act relating to career and technical education; amending s. 14.36, F.S.; revising the duties of the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help; requiring the office, in coordination with specified entities, to publish and disseminate specified career and technical education information and specified needs for the state's health care workforce by specified dates; amending s. 446.021, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "journeyworker"; amending s. 450.061, F.S.; providing an exemption for minors to work in specified conditions; amending ss. 489.1455 and 489.5335, F.S.; authorizing counties and municipalities to recognize certain persons as journeymen for specified occupations if such persons meet specified criteria; deleting provisions authorizing a local government to charge a specified registration fee; requiring counties and municipalities to recognize certain licensed persons as journeymen for specified occupation; amending s. 1001.43, F.S.; providing an alternative to career fairs through other career and industry networking opportunities; amending s. 1003.41, F.S.; revising a list of individuals who are required to review and comment on certain revisions to the state academic standards; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; revising conditions under which a student may use certain credits to satisfy specific high school graduation requirements; requiring the Department of Education to convene a workgroup by a specified date for specified purposes; repealing s. 1004.015, F.S., relating to the Florida Talent Development Council; amending s. 1004.91, F.S.; authorizing certain students to be exempt from completing an entry-level examination; amending ss. 1001.02, 1001.706, 1004.6495, and 1009.8962, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (j) and (k) of subsection (3) of section 14.36, Florida Statutes, are amended, and a new paragraph (k) and paragraph (l) are added to that subsection, to read:

14.36 Reimagining Education and Career Help Act.—The Reimagining Education and Career Help Act is created to address the evolving needs of Florida's economy by increasing the level of collaboration and cooperation among state businesses and education communities while improving training within and equity and access to a more integrated workforce and education system for all Floridians.

(3) The duties of the office are to:

(j) ~~Direct the objectives of the Talent Development Council established in s. 1004.015.~~

~~(k)~~ Facilitate coordination among the Department of Economic Opportunity, the Department of Education, and CareerSource Florida, Inc., to develop and expand apprenticeship, preapprenticeship, and other work-based learning models and streamline efforts to recruit and onboard new apprentices, preapprentices, students, and employers interested in work-based learning opportunities. Such coordination must include, but need not be limited to, conducting outreach with business leaders, local governments, and education providers.

(k) Coordinate with the Department of Education, the Department of Commerce, and CareerSource Florida, Inc., to publish and disseminate, by March 1, 2025, a statewide asset map of career and technical education to inform workforce and industry partners of opportunities to partner and expand career and technical education in the state. The information must be disseminated in a user-friendly form and must:

1. List secondary career and technical education courses offered by each school district in the state, categorized by career cluster, school, grade level, and the number of students enrolled.

2. Identify the total amount of funding provided for the secondary career and technical education programs offered by each school district in the state.

3. Compare existing secondary career and technical education program offerings, funding, and outcomes, including credential attainment, to data on in-demand careers and the state's economic needs to identify industry opportunities in which increased program offerings would support state and local needs.

4. Compare alignment and funding of existing secondary career and technical education program offerings and outcomes, including credential attainment, to data on in-demand careers and the state's economic needs to identify opportunities to better align funding of programs to industry demand and statewide economic needs. Funding alignment may consider the use of virtual reality and other workforce education technologies for secondary career and technical education program offerings and outcomes, including credential attainment.

5. List career dual enrollment programs offered in each school district in the state categorized by program type, offering location, and the number of students enrolled. The list must indicate the credential earned upon completion of the program and if the credential is part of a sequence as identified by the Credentials Review Committee pursuant to s. 445.004(4).

(l) Coordinate, facilitate, and communicate statewide efforts to meet supply and demand needs for the state's health care workforce. Annually, by December 1, the office shall report on the implementation of this paragraph and any other relevant information on the Department of Education's website. To support the efforts of the office, the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education shall:

1. Provide 10-year trend information on nursing education programs subject to s. 464.019. The Department of Health, the Board of Governors, the State Board of Education, the Commission for Independent Education, the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, the Florida Center for Nursing, and postsecondary institutions participating in a state grant, fund, or performance-based incentive program under s. 1009.89, s. 1009.8962, or s. 1009.897 shall provide data, by institution and program, on:

- a. The number of student slots available.
- b. The number of student applications submitted, the number of qualified student applicants, the number of students accepted, and the number of students enrolled.
- c. The number of program graduates.
- d. Program retention rates of students tracked from program entry to graduation.
- e. Graduate passage rates, as defined in s. 464.003, for, and the number of times each graduate took, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination.
- f. The number of graduates who become employed as practical or professional nurses in this state.
- g. The educational advancement of nurses through career pathways for the preceding 10 years by comparing their initial degree to the highest degree they obtained.
- h. The outcomes of students enrolled at institutions participating in the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund under s. 1009.8962 or the Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE) Fund under s. 1009.897.
- i. The outcomes of graduates who have received a nursing student loan forgiveness repayment under s. 1009.66. Such data must include, for the previous 4 fiscal years, the number of graduates who have received a repayment, the amount repaid on behalf of each graduate, each graduate's employer of record for each repayment and the length of employment at each employer, and the level or levels of nursing licensure earned by each graduate.

2. Develop definitions for data elements and a uniform survey for use by the Department of Health, the Commission for Independent Education, the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, and postsecondary institutions participating in a state loan forgiveness program, grant, fund, or performance-based incentive program under s. 1009.66, s. 1009.89, s. 1009.8962, or s. 1009.897 to collect data required under subparagraph 1. The survey must include, but is not limited to, a student's age, gender, race,

ethnicity, veteran status, wage, employer information, loan debt, and retirement expectations.

Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 446.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

446.021 Definitions of terms used in ss. 446.011-446.092.—As used in ss. 446.011-446.092, the term:

(4) “Journeyworker” means a person working in an apprenticeable occupation who has successfully completed a registered and state-approved apprenticeship program or who has worked the number of years required by established industry practices for the particular trade or occupation and, if required for the specific industry, has passed the appropriate state-approved industry test.

Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 450.061, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

450.061 Hazardous occupations prohibited; exemptions.—

(2) ~~A~~ no minor under 18 years of age, regardless of whether such person’s disabilities of nonage have been removed, ~~may not shall~~ be employed or permitted or suffered to work in any of the following places of employment or in any of the following occupations, provided that ~~the provisions of~~ paragraphs (b), (e), (g), (h), (j), (m), (o), and (q) ~~do shall~~ not apply to the employment of student learners under the conditions prescribed in s. 450.161:

(a) In or around explosive or radioactive materials.

(b) On any scaffolding, roof, superstructure, residential or nonresidential building construction, or ladder above 6 feet. A minor 16 or 17 years of age may be employed on any residential building construction if:

1. The minor 16 or 17 years of age has earned his or her Occupational Safety and Health Administration 10 certification and is under the direct supervision of a person who:

a. Has earned his or her Occupational Safety and Health Administration 10 certification.

b. Is 21 years of age or older.

c. Has at least 2 years of work experience related to the work he or she is supervising.

2. The minor 16 or 17 years of age is not working on any scaffolding, roof, superstructure, or ladder above 6 feet.

3. The work being performed by the minor 16 or 17 years of age is not in violation of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, any Occupational

Safety and Health Administration rule, or federal law related to minors in the workplace.

- (c) In or around toxic substances or corrosives, including pesticides or herbicides, unless proper field entry time allowances have been followed.
- (d) Any mining occupation.
- (e) In the operation of power-driven woodworking machines.
- (f) In the operation of power-driven hoisting apparatus.
- (g) In the operation of power-driven metal forming, punching, or shearing machines.
- (h) Slaughtering, meat packing, processing, or rendering, except as provided in 29 C.F.R. s. 570.61(c).
- (i) In the operation of power-driven bakery machinery.
- (j) In the operation of power-driven paper products and printing machines.
- (k) Manufacturing brick, tile, and like products.
- (l) Wrecking or demolition.
- (m) Excavation operations.
- (n) Logging or sawmilling.
- (o) Working on electric apparatus or wiring.
- (p) Firefighting.
- (q) Operating or assisting to operate, including starting, stopping, connecting or disconnecting, feeding, or any other activity involving physical contact associated with operating, a tractor over 20 PTO horsepower, any trencher or earthmoving equipment, fork lift, or any harvesting, planting, or plowing machinery, or any moving machinery.

Section 4. Section 489.1455, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.1455 Journeyman; reciprocity; standards.—

(1) Counties and municipalities are authorized to issue journeyman licenses in the plumbing, pipe fitting, mechanical, or HVAC trades to an individual who:-

~~(2) An individual who holds a valid, active journeyman license in the plumbing, pipe fitting, mechanical, or HVAC trades issued by any county or municipality in this state may work as a journeyman in the trade in which he~~

~~or she is licensed in any county or municipality of this state without taking an additional examination or paying an additional license fee, if he or she:~~

(a) Has scored at least 70 percent, or after October 1, 1997, at least 75 percent, on a proctored journeyman Block and Associates examination or other proctored examination approved by the board for the trade in which he or she is licensed;

(b) ~~Has completed a registered and state-approved an apprenticeship program as defined in s. 446.021(6) or has at least 12,000 hours of on-the-job training in his or her specific trade registered with a registration agency defined in 29 C.F.R. s. 29.2 and demonstrates 4 years' verifiable practical experience in the trade for which he or she is licensed, or demonstrates 6 years' verifiable practical experience in the trade for which he or she is licensed; and~~

(c) Has satisfactorily completed specialized and advanced module coursework approved by the Florida Building Commission, as part of the building code training program established in s. 553.841, specific to the discipline or, pursuant to authorization by the certifying authority, provides proof of completion of such coursework within 6 months after such certification.; and

(2) Counties and municipalities must recognize a person as a journeyman in the plumbing, pipe fitting, mechanical, or HVAC trades if the person was issued a journeyman license in such trade by a county or municipality in the state.

~~(d) Has not had a license suspended or revoked within the last 5 years.~~

~~(3) A local government may charge a registration fee for reciprocity, not to exceed \$25.~~

Section 5. Section 489.5335, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.5335 Journeyman; reciprocity; standards.—

(1) Counties and municipalities are authorized to issue journeyman licenses in the electrical and alarm system trades to an individual who:

~~(2) An individual who holds a valid, active journeyman license in the electrical or alarm system trade issued by any county or municipality in this state may work as a journeyman in the trade in which he or she is licensed in any other county or municipality of this state without taking an additional examination or paying an additional license fee, if he or she:~~

(a) Has scored at least 70 percent, or after October 1, 1997, at least 75 percent, on a proctored journeyman Block and Associates examination or other proctored examination approved by the board for the trade in which he or she is licensed;

(b) ~~Has completed a registered and state-approved an apprenticeship program as defined in s. 446.021(6) or has at least 12,000 hours of on-the-job training in his or her specific trade registered with a registration agency defined in 29 C.F.R. s. 29.2 and demonstrates 4 years' verifiable practical experience in the trade for which he or she is licensed, or demonstrates 6 years' verifiable practical experience in the trade for which he or she is licensed; and~~

(c) Has satisfactorily completed specialized and advanced module coursework approved by the Florida Building Commission, as part of the building code training program established in s. 553.841, specific to the discipline or, pursuant to authorization by the certifying authority, provides proof of completion of such curriculum or coursework within 6 months after such certification,~~;~~ and

(2) Counties and municipalities must recognize a person as a journeyman in the electrical and alarm system trades if the person was issued a journeyman license in such trade by a county or municipality in the state.

~~(d) Has not had a license suspended or revoked within the last 5 years.~~

~~(3) A local government may charge a registration fee for reciprocity, not to exceed \$25.~~

Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (14) of section 1001.43, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.43 Supplemental powers and duties of district school board.—The district school board may exercise the following supplemental powers and duties as authorized by this code or State Board of Education rule.

(14) RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC AND CAREER ACHIEVEMENT.

(c) Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, each district school board shall require each high school within its jurisdiction to host an annual career fair during the school year and establish a process to provide students in grades 11 and 12 the opportunity to meet or interview with potential employers during the career fair. The career fair must be held on the campus of the high school, except that a group of high schools in the district or a group of districts may hold a joint career fair at an alternative location to satisfy the requirement in this paragraph. A joint career fair must be held at a location located within reasonable driving distance for students at all participating schools. The career fair must be held during the school day and may use Florida's online career planning and work-based learning system as part of the career fair activities. Alternatively, district school boards may consult with local workforce development boards, advisory committees, and business groups to determine free or cost-effective methods to provide other career and industry networking opportunities during the school day for secondary students and exposure for elementary and secondary students to a representative variety of industries, businesses, and careers.

District school board policies and procedures may include conducting assemblies or other appropriate public events in which students sign actual or ceremonial documents accepting scholarships or enrollment. The district school board may encourage holding such events in an assembly or gathering of the entire student body as a means of making academic and career success and recognition visible to all students.

Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 1003.41, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.41 State academic standards.—

(3) The Commissioner of Education ~~shall~~, as deemed necessary ~~needed~~, ~~shall~~ develop and submit proposed revisions to the standards for review and comment by Florida educators, school administrators, representatives of the Florida College System institutions and state universities who have expertise in the content knowledge and skills necessary to prepare a student for postsecondary education and careers, a representative from the Department of Commerce, business and industry leaders for in-demand careers, and the public. The commissioner, after considering reviews and comments, shall submit the proposed revisions to the State Board of Education for adoption.

Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) and subsection (10) of section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.—

(7) CAREER EDUCATION COURSES THAT SATISFY HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT REQUIREMENTS.—

(a) Participation in career education courses engages students in their high school education, increases academic achievement, enhances employability, and increases postsecondary success. The department shall develop, for approval by the State Board of Education, multiple, additional career education courses or a series of courses that meet the requirements set forth in s. 1003.493(2), (4), and (5) and this subsection and allow students to earn credit in both the career education course and courses required for high school graduation under this section and s. 1003.4281.

1. The state board must determine at least biennially ~~whether~~ if sufficient academic standards are covered to warrant the award of academic credit, including satisfaction of graduation, assessment, and state university admissions requirements under this section.

2. Career education courses must:

a. Include workforce and digital literacy skills.

b. Integrate required course content with practical applications and designated rigorous coursework that results in one or more industry



certifications or clearly articulated credit or advanced standing in a 2-year or 4-year certificate or degree program, which may include high school junior and senior year work-related internships or apprenticeships. The department shall negotiate state licenses for material and testing for industry certifications.

The instructional methodology used in these courses must comprise authentic projects, problems, and activities for contextual academic learning and emphasize workplace skills identified under s. 445.06.

3. A student who earns credit upon completion of 1 year of related technical instruction for an apprenticeship program registered with the Department of Education under chapter 446 or preapprenticeship program registered with the Department of Education under chapter 446 may use such credit to satisfy the high school graduation credit requirements in paragraph (3)(e) or paragraph (3)(g). The state board shall approve and identify in the Course Code Directory the apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs from which earned credit may be used pursuant to this subparagraph.

4. The State Board of Education shall, by rule, establish a process that enables a student to receive work-based learning credit or credit in electives for completing a threshold level of demonstrable participation in extracurricular activities associated with career and technical student organizations. Work-based learning credit or credit in electives for extracurricular activities or supervised agricultural experiences may not be limited by grade level.

(10) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CREDIT.—The Department of Education shall convene a workgroup, no later than December 1, 2024, to:

(a) Identify best practices in career and technical education pathways from middle school to high school to aid middle school students in career planning and facilitate their transition to high school programs. The career pathway must be linked to postsecondary programs.

(b) Establish three mathematics pathways for students enrolled in secondary grades by aligning mathematics courses to programs, postsecondary education, and careers. The workgroup shall collaborate to identify the three mathematics pathways and the mathematics course sequence within each pathway which align to the mathematics skills needed for success in the corresponding academic programs, postsecondary education, and careers.

Section 9. Section 1004.015, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1004.91, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.91 Requirements for career education program basic skills.—

(3)(a) The following students may be exempted from this section:

1. ~~An adult student with a disability may be exempted from this section.~~

2. A student who possesses a high school diploma from a private school that is in compliance with s. 1002.42, or, for a student in a home education program or a personalized education program, a signed affidavit submitted by the student's parent or legal guardian attesting that the student has completed a home education program pursuant to the requirements of s. 1002.41 or a personalized education program pursuant to the requirements of s. 1002.395.

Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1001.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.02 General powers of State Board of Education.—

(3)(a) The State Board of Education shall adopt a strategic plan that specifies goals and objectives for the state's public schools and Florida College System institutions. The plan shall be formulated in conjunction with plans of the Board of Governors in order to provide for the roles of the universities and Florida College System institutions to be coordinated to best meet state needs and reflect cost-effective use of state resources. The strategic plan must clarify the mission statements of each Florida College System institution and the system as a whole and identify degree programs, including baccalaureate degree programs, to be offered at each Florida College System institution in accordance with the objectives provided in this subsection and the coordinated 5-year plan pursuant to paragraph (2)(v). The strategic plan must cover a period of 5 years, with modification of the program lists after 2 years. Development of each 5-year plan must be coordinated with and initiated after completion of the master plan. The strategic plans must specifically include programs and procedures for responding to the educational needs of teachers and students in the public schools of this state and consider reports and recommendations of the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help ~~Florida Talent Development Council pursuant to s. 1004.015~~ and the Articulation Coordinating Committee pursuant to s. 1007.01. The state board shall submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives upon modification of the plan and as part of its legislative budget request.

Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1001.706, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

(5) **POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO ACCOUNTABILITY.—**

(b) The Board of Governors shall develop a strategic plan specifying goals and objectives for the State University System and each constituent university, including each university's contribution to overall system goals and objectives. The strategic plan must:

1. Include performance metrics and standards common for all institutions and metrics and standards unique to institutions depending on institutional core missions, including, but not limited to, student admission requirements, retention, graduation, percentage of graduates who have attained employment, percentage of graduates enrolled in continued education, licensure passage, nondegree credential attainment, average wages of employed graduates, average cost per graduate, excess hours, student loan burden and default rates, faculty awards, total annual research expenditures, patents, licenses and royalties, intellectual property, startup companies, annual giving, endowments, and well-known, highly respected national rankings for institutional and program achievements.

2. Consider reports and recommendations of Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help ~~the Florida Talent Development Council under s. 1004.015~~ and the Articulation Coordinating Committee under s. 1007.01, and the information provided by the Labor Market Statistics Center within the Department of Economic Opportunity and the Labor Market Estimating Conference.

3. Include student enrollment and performance data delineated by method of instruction, including, but not limited to, traditional, online, and distance learning instruction.

4. Include criteria for designating baccalaureate degree and master's degree programs at specified universities as high-demand programs of emphasis. Once the criteria are available and applicable to baccalaureate degrees and graduate degrees, the Board of Governors shall adopt the criteria to determine value for and prioritization of degree credentials and degree programs established by the Credentials Review Committee under s. 445.004 for designating high-demand programs of emphasis. The Board of Governors must review designated programs of emphasis, at a minimum, every 3 years to ensure alignment with the prioritization of degree credentials and degree programs identified by the Credentials Review Committee.

5. Include criteria for nondegree credentials.

Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1004.6495, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.6495 Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program and Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities.—

(5) CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities is established within the University of Central Florida. At a minimum, the center shall:

(b) Coordinate, facilitate, and oversee the statewide implementation of this section. At a minimum, the director shall:

1. Consult and collaborate with the National Center and the Coordinating Center, as identified in 20 U.S.C. s. 1140q, regarding guidelines established by the center for the effective implementation of the programs for students with disabilities and for students with intellectual disabilities which align with the federal requirements and with standards, quality indicators, and benchmarks identified by the National Center and the Coordinating Center.

2. Consult and collaborate with the Florida Talent Development Council to identify meaningful credentials for FPCTPs and to engage businesses and stakeholders to promote experiential training and employment opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities.

3. Establish requirements and timelines for the:

- a. Submission and review of an application.
- b. Approval or disapproval of an initial or renewal application.
- c. Implementation of an FPCTP, which must begin no later than the academic year immediately following the academic year during which the approval is granted.

4. Administer scholarship funds.

5. Administer FPCTP grants. From funds appropriated in the 2016-2017 fiscal year for the FPCTP, \$3 million shall be used for such grants. Thereafter, funds appropriated for the FPCTP may only be used for such grants as specifically authorized in the General Appropriations Act.

6. Report on the implementation and administration of this section by planning, advising, and evaluating approved degree, certificate, and non-degree programs and the performance of students and programs pursuant to subsection (8).

Section 14. Paragraph (b) of subsection (9) of section 1009.8962, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.8962 Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund.—

(9)

(b) Annually, by February 1, each institution awarded grant funds in the previous fiscal year shall submit a report to the Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, that demonstrates the expansion as outlined in the proposal and the use of funds. At minimum, the report must include, by program level, the number of additional nursing education students enrolled; if scholarships were awarded using grant funds, the number of students who received scholarships and the average award amount; and the outcomes of students as reported by the Office of

Reimagining Education and Career Help pursuant to s. 14.36(3)(1) Florida Talent Development Council pursuant to s. 1004.015(6).

Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor April 26, 2024.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 26, 2024.