

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to apprenticeships; amending s.  
3           446.021, F.S.; revising definitions; amending ss.  
4           446.032 and 446.091, F.S.; conforming provisions to  
5           changes made by the act; amending s. 446.092, F.S.;  
6           revising the characteristics of apprenticeable  
7           occupations; deleting provisions that limit  
8           apprenticeable occupations; amending s. 1001.65, F.S.;  
9           requiring Florida College System institution  
10          presidents to develop and implement articulation  
11          agreements with certain apprenticeship programs;  
12          providing articulation agreement requirements;  
13          amending s. 1009.25, F.S.; providing that students  
14          enrolled in certain apprenticeship programs are exempt  
15          from tuition and fees associated with certain courses;  
16          creating s. 1011.802, F.S.; creating the Florida  
17          Apprenticeship Grant Program within the Department of  
18          Education to provide grants to Florida College System  
19          institutions for the creation of new apprenticeship  
20          programs or the expansion of existing apprenticeship  
21          programs; requiring the Division of Career and Adult  
22          Education to administer the program; providing  
23          requirements related to applications, program  
24          priority, use of grant funds, and quarterly reports;  
25          creating s. 1011.803, F.S.; creating the Rapid  
26          Response Grant Program; providing for the purpose and

27 application requirements of the program; requiring  
 28 Florida College System institutions that receive  
 29 grants to provide quarterly reports to the department;  
 30 providing uses for grant funds; requiring the  
 31 department to administer and conduct an annual  
 32 analysis of the program; providing an effective date.  
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34 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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36 Section 1. Section 446.021, Florida Statutes, is reordered  
 37 and amended to read:

38 446.021 Definitions of terms used in ss. 446.011-446.092.-  
 39 As used in ss. 446.011-446.092, the term:

40 (1)~~(2)~~ "Apprentice" means a person at least 16 years of  
 41 age who is engaged in learning a recognized skilled trade  
 42 through actual work experience under the supervision of  
 43 journeyworker ~~journeymen~~ craftsmen, which training should be  
 44 combined with properly coordinated studies of related technical  
 45 and supplementary subjects, and who has entered into a written  
 46 agreement, which may be cited as an apprentice agreement, with a  
 47 registered apprenticeship sponsor who may be either an employer,  
 48 an association of employers, or a local joint apprenticeship  
 49 committee.

50 (2)~~(6)~~ "Apprenticeship program" means an organized course  
 51 of instruction, registered and approved by the department, which  
 52 course shall:

53        (a) Contain all terms and conditions for the  
 54        qualifications, recruitment, selection, employment, and training  
 55        of apprentices including such matters as the requirements for a  
 56        written apprenticeship agreement.

57        (b) Enable learning that may include online courses and  
 58        remote platforms for distributing training content.

59        (c) Award credit for existing skills and knowledge  
 60        demonstrated by prior learning assessments, as determined by  
 61        institution policy on credit for prior learning pursuant to s.  
 62        1001.64.

63        (3)~~(10)~~ "Cancellation" means the deregistration of an  
 64        apprenticeship program or the termination of an apprenticeship  
 65        agreement.

66        (4)~~(12)~~ "Department" means the Department of Education.

67        (5)~~(4)~~ "Journeyworker ~~Journeyman~~" means a person working  
 68        in an apprenticeable occupation who has successfully completed a  
 69        registered apprenticeship program or who has worked the number  
 70        of years required by established industry practices for the  
 71        particular trade or occupation. The term includes a mentor,  
 72        technician, specialist, or other skilled worker who has  
 73        documented sufficient skills and knowledge of an occupation,  
 74        either through formal apprenticeship or through practical on-  
 75        the-job experience and formal training.

76        (6)~~(11)~~ "Jurisdiction" means the specific geographical  
 77        area for which a particular program is registered.

78        (7) "On-the-job training program" means a formalized

79 | system of job processes which may be augmented by related  
80 | instruction that provides the experience and knowledge necessary  
81 | to meet the training objective of learning a specific skill,  
82 | trade, or occupation. The training program must be at least 6  
83 | months and not more than 2 years in duration and must be  
84 | registered with the department.

85 |     ~~(8)-(1)~~ "Preapprentice" means any person 16 years of age or  
86 | over engaged in any course of instruction in the public school  
87 | system or elsewhere, which course is registered as a  
88 | preapprenticeship program with the department.

89 |     ~~(9)-(5)~~ "Preapprenticeship program" means an organized  
90 | course of instruction in the public school system or elsewhere,  
91 | which course is designed to prepare a person 16 years of age or  
92 | older to become an apprentice and which course is approved by  
93 | and registered with the department and sponsored by a registered  
94 | apprenticeship program.

95 |     ~~(10)-(9)~~ "Related instruction" means an organized and  
96 | systematic form of instruction designed to provide the  
97 | apprentice with knowledge of the theoretical subjects related to  
98 | a specific trade or occupation.

99 |     ~~(11)-(3)~~ "Trainee" means a person at least 16 years of age  
100 | who is engaged in learning a specific skill, trade, or  
101 | occupation within a formalized, on-the-job training program.

102 |     ~~(12)-(8)~~ "Uniform minimum preapprenticeship standards"  
103 | means the minimum requirements established uniformly for each  
104 | craft under which a preapprenticeship program is administered

105 and includes standards of admission, training goals, training  
 106 objectives, curriculum outlines, objective standards to measure  
 107 successful completion of the preapprenticeship program, and the  
 108 percentage of credit which may be given to preapprenticeship  
 109 graduates upon acceptance into the apprenticeship program.

110 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 446.032, Florida  
 111 Statutes, is amended to read:

112 446.032 General duties of the department for  
 113 apprenticeship training.—The department shall:

114 (1) Establish uniform minimum standards and policies  
 115 governing apprentice programs and agreements. The standards and  
 116 policies shall govern the terms and conditions of the  
 117 apprentice's employment and training, including the quality  
 118 training of the apprentice for, but not limited to, such matters  
 119 as ratios of apprentices to journeyworkers ~~journeymen~~, safety,  
 120 related instruction, and on-the-job training; but these  
 121 standards and policies may not include rules, standards, or  
 122 guidelines that require the use of apprentices and job trainees  
 123 on state, county, or municipal contracts. The department may  
 124 adopt rules necessary to administer the standards and policies.

125 Section 3. Section 446.091, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 126 to read:

127 446.091 On-the-job training program.—All provisions of ss.  
 128 446.011-446.092 relating to apprenticeship and  
 129 preapprenticeship, including, but not limited to, programs,  
 130 agreements, standards, administration, procedures, definitions,

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131 expenditures, local committees, powers and duties, limitations,  
132 grievances, and ratios of apprentices and job trainees to  
133 journeyworkers ~~journeymen~~ on state, county, and municipal  
134 contracts, shall be appropriately adapted and made applicable to  
135 a program of on-the-job training authorized under those  
136 provisions for persons other than apprentices.

137 Section 4. Section 446.092, Florida Statutes, is amended  
138 to read:

139 446.092 Criteria for apprenticeship occupations.—An  
140 apprenticeable occupation is a skilled trade which possesses all  
141 of the following characteristics:

142 (1) It is customarily learned ~~in a practical way~~ through a  
143 structured, systematic program of on-the-job, supervised  
144 training.

145 (2) It is commonly recognized throughout the industry or  
146 recognized with a positive view towards emerging and evolving  
147 ~~changing~~ technology.

148 (3) It typically involves manual, mechanical, or technical  
149 skills and knowledge which require a minimum of 2,000 hours of  
150 work and training, which hours are excluded from the time spent  
151 at related instruction.

152 (4) It requires related instruction to supplement on-the-  
153 job training and online training. Such instruction may be given  
154 in a classroom or through correspondence courses.

155 (5) It involves the development of skill sufficiently  
156 broad to be applicable in like occupations throughout an

157 industry, rather than of restricted application to the products  
 158 or services of any one company.

159 ~~(6) It does not fall into any of the following categories:~~

160 ~~(a) Selling, retailing, or similar occupations in the~~  
 161 ~~distributive field.~~

162 ~~(b) Managerial occupations.~~

163 ~~(c) Professional and scientific vocations for which~~  
 164 ~~entrance requirements customarily require an academic degree.~~

165 Section 5. Subsections (22) through (25) of section  
 166 1001.65, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (23)  
 167 through (26), respectively, and a new subsection (22) is added  
 168 to that section, to read:

169 1001.65 Florida College System institution presidents;  
 170 powers and duties.—The president is the chief executive officer  
 171 of the Florida College System institution, shall be corporate  
 172 secretary of the Florida College System institution board of  
 173 trustees, and is responsible for the operation and  
 174 administration of the Florida College System institution. Each  
 175 Florida College System institution president shall:

176 (22) Develop and implement jointly with apprenticeship  
 177 programs registered with the Department of Education in  
 178 accordance with chapter 446 an articulation agreement for the  
 179 students enrolled in the respective apprenticeship programs.  
 180 Such articulation agreement must provide for at least two  
 181 general education courses offered by the institution to be  
 182 included in the apprenticeship program, for the award of college

183 credit upon satisfactory completion of the courses as defined by  
 184 the institution pursuant to s. 1001.64, and for enrollment into  
 185 a degree program at the institution upon completion of the  
 186 apprenticeship program.

187 Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
 188 1009.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

189 1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

190 (1) The following students are exempt from the payment of  
 191 tuition and fees, including lab fees, at a school district that  
 192 provides workforce education programs, Florida College System  
 193 institution, or state university:

194 (b) A student enrolled in an approved apprenticeship  
 195 program, as defined in s. 446.021, including tuition and fees,  
 196 including lab fees, associated with a course taken at a Florida  
 197 College System institution through an articulation agreement  
 198 with the student's apprenticeship program.

199 Section 7. Section 1011.802, Florida Statutes, is created  
 200 to read:

201 1011.802 Florida Apprenticeship Grant (FLAG) Program.—

202 (1) The Florida Apprenticeship Grant Program is created to  
 203 provide grants, in an amount provided in the General  
 204 Appropriations Act, to Florida College System institutions on a  
 205 competitive basis to establish new apprenticeship programs and  
 206 expand existing apprenticeship programs. The Division of Career  
 207 and Adult Education within the Department of Education shall  
 208 administer the grant program.

209       (2) Applications from Florida College System institutions  
 210 must contain projected enrollment and projected costs for the  
 211 new or expanded apprenticeship programs.

212       (3) The department shall give priority to apprenticeship  
 213 programs in the areas of information technology, health, and  
 214 machining and manufacturing. Grant funds may be used for  
 215 instructional equipment, supplies, personnel, student services,  
 216 and other expenses associated with the creation or expansion of  
 217 an apprenticeship program. Grant funds may not be used for  
 218 recurring instructional costs or for an institution's indirect  
 219 costs. Grant recipients must submit quarterly reports in a  
 220 format prescribed by the department.

221       Section 8. Section 1011.803, Florida Statutes, is created  
 222 to read:

223       1011.803 Rapid Response Grant Program.—

224       (1) The Rapid Response Grant Program is established to  
 225 award grants on a competitive basis, in an amount provided in  
 226 the General Appropriations Act, for the expansion or  
 227 implementation of high-demand postsecondary programs at Florida  
 228 College System institutions, as defined in s. 1000.21.

229       (2) Each Florida College System institution applying for a  
 230 grant must submit an application to the Department of Education  
 231 in the format prescribed by the department. The application must  
 232 include, but is not limited to, program expansion or development  
 233 details, projected enrollment, and projected costs.

234       (3) Each Florida College System institution that is

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235 awarded a grant under this section shall submit quarterly  
236 reports to the department in the format prescribed by the  
237 department. Grant funds may not be used to replace current funds  
238 and must be used to expand enrollment in existing postsecondary  
239 programs or develop new postsecondary programs.

240 (4) The Department of Education shall administer the  
241 program and shall conduct an annual analysis and assessment of  
242 the effectiveness of the postsecondary programs funded under  
243 this section in meeting labor market demand.

244 Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.