

By Senator Hutson

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to alternative high school graduation  
 3           requirements; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; providing  
 4           that, as of a specified school year, certain students  
 5           are eligible for an alternative pathway to a standard  
 6           high school diploma through the Career and Technical  
 7           Education (CTE) pathway option; providing requirements  
 8           for the CTE pathway option; requiring that each  
 9           principal or his or her designee, who must be an  
 10          academic advisor, inform parents and students of the  
 11          CTE pathway option and establish certain processes  
 12          relating to the pathway; requiring district school  
 13          boards to incorporate certain information in the  
 14          student progression plan; providing an effective date.

15  
 16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17  
 18           Section 1. Present subsection (11) of section 1003.4282,  
 19           Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (12), and a new  
 20           subsection (11) is added to that section, to read:

21           1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.-  
 22           (11) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION GRADUATION PATHWAY  
 23           OPTION.-Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, a student is  
 24           eligible to complete an alternative pathway to earning a  
 25           standard high school diploma through the Career and Technical  
 26           Education (CTE) pathway option. Receipt of a standard high  
 27           school diploma awarded through the CTE pathway option requires  
 28           the student's successful completion of at least 18 credits. A  
 29           student completing the CTE pathway option must earn at least a

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30 cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

31 (a) In order for a student to satisfy the requirements of  
32 the CTE pathway option, a student must:

33 1. Complete three credits in English Language Arts. The  
34 three credits must be in ELA I, II, and III; however, a student  
35 may substitute up to three credits in ELA honors, AP, AICE, IB,  
36 or dual enrollment courses for the required ELA credits. A  
37 student also must pass the statewide, standardized grade 10  
38 Reading assessment or, when implemented, the grade 10 ELA  
39 assessment, or earn a concordant score, in order to earn a  
40 standard high school diploma;

41 2. Complete three credits in mathematics. A student must  
42 earn one credit in Algebra I and one credit in Geometry. A  
43 student's performance on the statewide, standardized Algebra I  
44 end-of-course (EOC) assessment constitutes 30 percent of the  
45 student's final course grade. A student also must pass the  
46 statewide, standardized Algebra I EOC assessment, or earn a  
47 comparative score, in order to earn a standard high school  
48 diploma. A student's performance on the statewide, standardized  
49 Geometry EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's  
50 final course grade. A student who earns an industry  
51 certification for which there is a statewide college credit  
52 articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education  
53 may substitute the certification for one mathematics credit.  
54 Substitution may occur for up to one mathematics credit, except  
55 for Algebra I and Geometry;

56 3. Complete three credits in science. Two of the three  
57 required credits must have a laboratory component. A student  
58 must earn one credit in Biology I and two credits in equally

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59 rigorous courses. The statewide, standardized Biology I EOC  
60 assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course  
61 grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which  
62 there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement  
63 approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the  
64 certification for two science credits, except for Biology I;

65 4. Complete three and one-half credits in social studies. A  
66 student must earn one credit in United States History; one  
67 credit in World History; one-half credit in economics; one-half  
68 credit in financial literacy; and one-half credit in United  
69 States Government. The United States History EOC assessment  
70 constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade;

71 5. Complete three credits in career and technical  
72 education. The courses must result in a program completion and  
73 an industry certification;

74 6. Complete two and one-half credits in work-based learning  
75 programs. A student must earn two and one-half credits through  
76 work-based learning program courses. A student may substitute up  
77 to two and one-half credits of electives for work-based learning  
78 program courses to fulfill this requirement; and

79 7. Sit for the statewide, standardized Geometry EOC  
80 assessment, Biology I EOC assessment, and United States History  
81 EOC assessment.

82 (b) Upon completion of the requirements specified in  
83 paragraph (a), a student shall be awarded a standard high school  
84 diploma in a form prescribed by the State Board of Education.

85 (c) Each principal or his or her faculty designee, who must  
86 be designated as an academic advisor, shall:

87 1. Inform parents and students of the CTE pathway option

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88 available at the school and the graduation requirements for the  
89 CTE pathway option established pursuant to paragraph (a);

90 2. Establish a process by which a parent may request  
91 student participation in the CTE pathway option. The student  
92 must be provided the opportunity to participate in the CTE  
93 pathway option;

94 3. Establish a process to verify a student's progress and  
95 completion of the CTE pathway option; and

96 4. Meet with any student who has a cumulative grade point  
97 average that falls below 2.0 during the first semester in which  
98 his or her grade point average falls below 2.0, and any  
99 subsequent semester in which his or her grade point average  
100 remains below 2.0, to discuss CTE pathway options.

101 (d) Each district school board shall incorporate the CTE  
102 pathway option to graduation in the student progression plan  
103 required under s. 1008.25.

104 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.