

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to workforce and postsecondary  
3           education; amending s. 445.06, F.S.; renaming the  
4           Florida Ready to Work Certification Program as the  
5           Florida Ready to Work Credential Program; providing  
6           locations for conducting program training; providing  
7           the components of the program; requiring the  
8           Department of Economic Opportunity to adopt rules for  
9           the program; amending s. 1007.23, F.S.; requiring the  
10          statewide articulation agreement to establish three  
11          mathematics pathways for students by aligning  
12          mathematics courses to programs, meta-majors, and  
13          careers; requiring a representative committee composed  
14          of certain entities to identify such pathways and the  
15          mathematics course sequence within each pathway which  
16          align to the mathematics skills needed for success;  
17          amending s. 1007.263, F.S.; requiring admissions  
18          counseling to use certain tests to measure achievement  
19          of college-level communication and computation  
20          competencies by students entering college programs;  
21          requiring that such counseling measure achievement of  
22          certain basic skills; revising requirements for  
23          admission to associate degree programs; amending s.  
24          1007.271, F.S.; revising eligibility requirements for  
25          initial enrollment in college credit dual enrollment

26 | courses; revising requirements for home education  
27 | students seeking dual enrollment in certain  
28 | postsecondary institutions; amending s. 1008.30, F.S.;  
29 | requiring the State Board of Education to adopt, by a  
30 | specified date, rules establishing alternative methods  
31 | for assessing specified skills of certain students;  
32 | authorizing Florida College System institutions to use  
33 | such alternative methods in lieu of the common  
34 | placement test to assess a student's readiness to  
35 | perform college-level work in communication and  
36 | computation; providing that certain students do not  
37 | need to be assessed; deleting obsolete provisions;  
38 | requiring Florida College System institutions to  
39 | determine the extent to which certain students  
40 | demonstrate specific skills to indicate readiness for  
41 | their meta-major; requiring Florida College System  
42 | institutions to counsel and place certain students in  
43 | specified college courses; providing that students'  
44 | developmental education must include only that content  
45 | needed for success in their meta-major; conforming  
46 | provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.  
47 | 1009.25, F.S.; authorizing the State Board of  
48 | Education to adopt specified rules and the Board of  
49 | Governors to adopt specified regulations; amending s.  
50 | 1009.52, F.S.; revising the eligibility requirements

51 for Florida postsecondary student assistance grants;  
52 providing an effective date.

53

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

55

56 Section 1. Section 445.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
57 read:

58 445.06 Florida Ready to Work Credential Certification  
59 Program.—

60 (1) There is created the Florida Ready to Work Credential  
61 Certification Program to enhance the employability workplace  
62 skills of Floridians and to better prepare them for successful  
63 employment ~~in specific occupations~~.

64 (2) Training required to be eligible for a credential  
65 under the Florida Ready to Work Certification program may be  
66 conducted in public middle and high schools, Florida College  
67 System institutions, technical centers, one-stop career centers,  
68 vocational rehabilitation centers, Department of Corrections  
69 facilities, and Department of Juvenile Justice educational  
70 facilities. Such training may also be made available at ~~The~~  
71 ~~program may be made available to~~ other entities that provide job  
72 training. The Department of Economic Opportunity, in  
73 coordination with the Department of Education, shall establish  
74 institutional readiness criteria for program implementation.

75 (3) The ~~Florida Ready to Work Certification~~ program shall

76 | be composed of:

77 |       (a) A comprehensive identification by the Department of  
 78 | Economic Opportunity and the Department of Education of  
 79 | employability skills currently in demand by employers,  
 80 | including, but not limited to, professionalism, time management,  
 81 | communication, problem-solving, collaboration, resilience,  
 82 | digital literacy skills, and academic skills such as mathematics  
 83 | and reading ~~of workplace skills for each occupation identified~~  
 84 | ~~for inclusion in the program by the Department of Economic~~  
 85 | ~~Opportunity and the Department of Education.~~

86 |       (b) A preinstructional assessment that delineates an  
 87 | individual's mastery level ~~for~~ on the employability on the  
 88 | specific workplace skills identified under paragraph (a) ~~for~~  
 89 | ~~that occupation.~~

90 |       (c) An ~~A~~ targeted instructional program targeting the  
 91 | ~~limited to those~~ identified employability ~~workplace~~ skills in  
 92 | which the individual is not proficient as measured by the  
 93 | preinstructional assessment. Instruction must utilize a web-  
 94 | based program and be customizable ~~customized~~ to meet identified  
 95 | specific needs of ~~local~~ employers.

96 |       (d) An employability ~~A Florida Ready to Work Credential~~  
 97 | ~~and portfolio~~ to be awarded to individuals upon successful  
 98 | completion of the instruction. Each portfolio must delineate the  
 99 | skills demonstrated by the individual as evidence of the  
 100 | individual's preparation for employment.

101           (4) An employability ~~A Florida Ready to Work~~ credential  
102 shall be awarded to an individual who successfully passes  
103 assessments which measure the skills identified in paragraph  
104 (3) (a) in Reading for Information, Applied Mathematics, and  
105 ~~Locating Information or any other assessments of comparable~~  
106 ~~rigor. Each assessment shall be scored on a scale of 3 to 7. The~~  
107 ~~level of the credential each individual receives is based on the~~  
108 ~~following:~~

109           ~~(a) A bronze-level credential requires a minimum score of~~  
110 ~~3 or above on each of the assessments.~~

111           ~~(b) A silver-level credential requires a minimum score of~~  
112 ~~4 or above on each of the assessments.~~

113           ~~(c) A gold-level credential requires a minimum score of 5~~  
114 ~~or above on each of the assessments.~~

115           (5) The Department of Economic Opportunity, in  
116 consultation with the Department of Education, shall ~~may~~ adopt  
117 rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the  
118 provisions of this section.

119           Section 2. Subsections (3) through (8) of section 1007.23,  
120 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4) through (9),  
121 respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section,  
122 to read:

123           1007.23 Statewide articulation agreement.—

124           (3) To facilitate seamless transfer of credits, reduce  
125 excess credit hours, and ensure students are taking the courses

126 needed for their future career, the articulation agreement must  
127 establish three mathematics pathways for students by aligning  
128 mathematics courses to programs, meta-majors, and careers. A  
129 representative committee consisting of State University System  
130 faculty, faculty of career centers established under s. 1001.44,  
131 and Florida College System faculty will collaborate to identify  
132 the three mathematics pathways and the mathematics course  
133 sequence within each pathway which align to the mathematics  
134 skills needed for success in the corresponding academic programs  
135 and careers.

136 Section 3. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection  
137 (2) of section 1007.263, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

138 1007.263 Florida College System institutions; admissions  
139 of students.—Each Florida College System institution board of  
140 trustees is authorized to adopt rules governing admissions of  
141 students subject to this section and rules of the State Board of  
142 Education. These rules shall include the following:

143 (1) Admissions counseling shall be provided to all  
144 students entering college or career credit programs. For  
145 students who are not otherwise exempt from testing under s.  
146 1008.30, counseling must use the tests or alternative methods  
147 established by the State Board of Education under s. 1008.30 to  
148 measure achievement of college-level communication and  
149 computation competencies by students entering college credit  
150 programs ~~or tests to measure achievement of basic skills for~~

151 ~~career education programs as prescribed in s. 1004.91.~~  
152 Counseling must measure achievement of basic skills for career  
153 education programs under s. 1004.91. Counseling includes  
154 providing developmental education options for students whose  
155 ~~assessment~~ results, determined under s. 1008.30, indicate that  
156 they need to improve communication or computation skills that  
157 are essential to perform college-level work.

158 (2) Admission to associate degree programs is subject to  
159 minimum standards adopted by the State Board of Education and  
160 shall require:

161 (a) A standard high school diploma; a State of Florida  
162 high school equivalency diploma awarded under s. 1003.435(2); a  
163 high school equivalency diploma issued by another state which is  
164 recognized as equivalent by State Board of Education rule and is  
165 based on an assessment recognized by the United States  
166 Department of Education; ~~as prescribed in s. 1003.435,~~  
167 previously demonstrated competency in college credit  
168 postsecondary coursework; or, in the case of a student who is  
169 home educated, a signed affidavit submitted by the student's  
170 parent or legal guardian attesting that the student has  
171 completed a home education program pursuant to the requirements  
172 of s. 1002.41. Students who are enrolled in a dual enrollment or  
173 early admission program pursuant to s. 1007.271 are exempt from  
174 this requirement.

175

176 Each board of trustees shall establish policies that notify  
177 students about developmental education options for improving  
178 their communication or computation skills that are essential to  
179 performing college-level work, including tutoring, extended time  
180 in gateway courses, free online courses, adult basic education,  
181 adult secondary education, or private provider instruction.

182 Section 4. Subsection (3) and paragraph (b) of subsection  
183 (13) of section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

184 1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.—

185 (3) Student eligibility requirements for initial  
186 enrollment in college credit dual enrollment courses must  
187 include a 3.0 unweighted high school grade point average and a  
188 demonstrated level of achievement of college-level communication  
189 and computation skills as provided under s. 1008.30(1) or (2)  
190 ~~the minimum score on a common placement test adopted by the~~  
191 ~~State Board of Education which indicates that the student is~~  
192 ~~ready for college-level coursework.~~ Student eligibility  
193 requirements for continued enrollment in college credit dual  
194 enrollment courses must include the maintenance of a 3.0  
195 unweighted high school grade point average and the minimum  
196 postsecondary grade point average established by the  
197 postsecondary institution. Regardless of meeting student  
198 eligibility requirements for continued enrollment, a student may  
199 lose the opportunity to participate in a dual enrollment course  
200 if the student is disruptive to the learning process such that



201 the progress of other students or the efficient administration  
202 of the course is hindered. Student eligibility requirements for  
203 initial and continued enrollment in career certificate dual  
204 enrollment courses must include a 2.0 unweighted high school  
205 grade point average. Exceptions to the required grade point  
206 averages may be granted on an individual student basis if the  
207 educational entities agree and the terms of the agreement are  
208 contained within the dual enrollment articulation agreement  
209 established under ~~pursuant to~~ subsection (21). Florida College  
210 System institution boards of trustees may establish additional  
211 initial student eligibility requirements, which shall be  
212 included in the dual enrollment articulation agreement, to  
213 ensure student readiness for postsecondary instruction.  
214 Additional requirements included in the agreement may not  
215 arbitrarily prohibit students who have demonstrated the ability  
216 to master advanced courses from participating in dual enrollment  
217 courses or limit the number of dual enrollment courses in which  
218 a student may enroll based solely upon enrollment by the student  
219 at an independent postsecondary institution.

220 (13)

221 (b) Each public postsecondary institution eligible to  
222 participate in the dual enrollment program under ~~pursuant to~~ s.  
223 1011.62(1)(i) must enter into a home education articulation  
224 agreement with each home education student seeking enrollment in  
225 a dual enrollment course and the student's parent. By August 1

226 of each year, the eligible postsecondary institution shall  
227 complete and submit the home education articulation agreement to  
228 the Department of Education. The home education articulation  
229 agreement must include, at a minimum:

230 1. A delineation of courses and programs available to  
231 dually enrolled home education students. Courses and programs  
232 may be added, revised, or deleted at any time by the  
233 postsecondary institution. Any course or program limitations may  
234 not exceed the limitations for other dually enrolled students.

235 2. The initial and continued eligibility requirements for  
236 home education student participation, not to exceed those  
237 required of other dually enrolled students. A high school grade  
238 point average may not be required for home education students  
239 who demonstrate achievement of college-level communication and  
240 computation skills as provided under s. 1008.30(1) or (2) meet  
241 ~~the minimum score on a common placement test adopted by the~~  
242 ~~State Board of Education which indicates that the student is~~  
243 ~~ready for college-level coursework~~; however, home education  
244 student eligibility requirements for continued enrollment in  
245 dual enrollment courses must include the maintenance of the  
246 minimum postsecondary grade point average established by the  
247 postsecondary institution.

248 3. The student's responsibilities for providing his or her  
249 own transportation.

250 4. A copy of the statement on transfer guarantees

251 developed by the Department of Education under subsection (15).

252 Section 5. Section 1008.30, Florida Statutes, is amended  
253 to read:

254 1008.30 Assessing college-level communication and  
255 computation skills ~~Common placement testing~~ for public  
256 postsecondary education.—

257 (1) The State Board of Education, in conjunction with the  
258 Board of Governors, shall develop and implement a common  
259 placement test for the purpose of assessing the basic  
260 communication and computation ~~and communication~~ skills of  
261 students who intend to enter a degree program at any public  
262 postsecondary educational institution. Alternative assessments  
263 that may be accepted in lieu of the common placement test shall  
264 also be identified in rule. Public postsecondary educational  
265 institutions shall provide appropriate modifications of the test  
266 instruments or test procedures for students with disabilities.

267 (2) By January 31, 2022, the State Board of Education  
268 shall adopt rules to develop and implement alternative methods  
269 for assessing the basic communication and computation skills of  
270 students who intend to enter a degree program at a Florida  
271 College System institution. Florida College System institutions  
272 may use these alternative methods in lieu of the common  
273 placement tests under subsection (1) to assess student readiness  
274 for college-level work in communication and computation ~~The~~  
275 ~~common placement testing program shall include the capacity to~~

276 ~~diagnose basic competencies in the areas of English, reading,~~  
277 ~~and mathematics which are essential for success in meta majors~~  
278 ~~and to provide test information to students on the specific~~  
279 ~~skills the student needs to attain.~~

280 (3) ~~By October 31, 2013, the State Board of Education~~  
281 ~~shall establish by rule the test scores a student must achieve~~  
282 ~~to demonstrate readiness to perform college-level work, and The~~  
283 ~~rules adopted under subsection (2) must specify the following:~~

284 (a) A student who entered 9th grade in a Florida public  
285 school in the 2003-2004 school year, or any year thereafter, and  
286 earned a Florida standard high school diploma or a student who  
287 is serving as an active duty member of any branch of the United  
288 States Armed Services is shall not be required to be assessed  
289 for readiness for college-level work in communication and  
290 computation ~~take the common placement test and is shall not be~~  
291 ~~required to enroll in developmental education instruction in a~~  
292 ~~Florida College System institution. However, a student who is~~  
293 ~~not required to be assessed for readiness for college-level work~~  
294 ~~in communication and computation take the common placement test~~  
295 ~~and is not required to enroll in developmental education under~~  
296 ~~this paragraph may opt to be assessed and to enroll in~~  
297 ~~developmental education instruction, and the college shall~~  
298 ~~provide such assessment and instruction upon the student's~~  
299 ~~request.~~

300 (b) A student who is assessed for readiness for college-

301 level communication and computation and whose assessment results  
302 indicate ~~takes the common placement test and whose score on the~~  
303 ~~test indicates~~ a need for developmental education must be  
304 advised of all the developmental education options offered at  
305 the institution and, after advisement, may ~~shall be allowed to~~  
306 enroll in the developmental education option of his or her  
307 choice.

308 (c) A student who demonstrates readiness by achieving or  
309 exceeding the test scores established by the state board and  
310 enrolls in a Florida College System institution within 2 years  
311 after achieving such scores is ~~shall~~ not be required to retest  
312 or complete developmental education when admitted to any Florida  
313 College System institution.

314 ~~(4) By December 31, 2013, the State Board of Education, in~~  
315 ~~consultation with the Board of Governors, shall approve a series~~  
316 ~~of meta-majors and the academic pathways that identify the~~  
317 ~~gateway courses associated with each meta-major. Florida College~~  
318 ~~System institutions shall use placement test results to~~  
319 ~~determine the extent to which each student demonstrates~~  
320 ~~sufficient communication and computation skills to indicate~~  
321 ~~readiness for his or her chosen meta-major. Florida College~~  
322 ~~System institutions shall counsel students into college credit~~  
323 ~~courses as quickly as possible, with developmental education~~  
324 ~~limited to that content needed for success in the meta-major.~~

325 (4) (a) ~~(5) (a)~~ Each Florida College System institution ~~board~~

326 ~~of trustees shall develop a plan to implement the developmental~~  
327 ~~education strategies defined in s. 1008.02 and rules established~~  
328 ~~by the State Board of Education. The plan must be submitted to~~  
329 ~~the Chancellor of the Florida College System for approval no~~  
330 ~~later than March 1, 2014, for implementation no later than the~~  
331 ~~fall semester 2014. Each plan must include, at a minimum, local~~  
332 ~~policies that outline:~~

333       1. ~~Documented student achievements such as grade point~~  
334 ~~averages, work history, military experience, participation in~~  
335 ~~juried competitions, career interests, degree major declaration,~~  
336 ~~or any combination of such achievements that the institution may~~  
337 ~~consider, in addition to common placement test scores, for~~  
338 ~~advising students regarding enrollment options.~~

339       2. ~~Developmental education strategies available to~~  
340 ~~students.~~

341       3. ~~A description of student costs and financial aid~~  
342 ~~opportunities associated with each option.~~

343       4. ~~Provisions for the collection of student success data.~~

344       5. ~~A comprehensive plan for advising students into~~  
345 ~~appropriate developmental education strategies based on student~~  
346 ~~success data.~~

347       (b) ~~Beginning October 31, 2015,~~ Each Florida College  
348 System institution shall use placement test results or  
349 alternative methods as established by the State Board of  
350 Education to determine the extent to which each student

351 demonstrates sufficient communication and computation skills to  
352 indicate readiness for his or her chosen meta-major. Florida  
353 College System institutions shall counsel students into college  
354 credit courses as quickly as possible, with developmental  
355 education limited to that content needed for success in the  
356 meta-major ~~annually prepare an accountability report that~~  
357 ~~includes student success data relating to each developmental~~  
358 ~~education strategy implemented by the institution. The report~~  
359 ~~shall be submitted to the Division of Florida Colleges by~~  
360 ~~October 31 in a format determined by the Chancellor of the~~  
361 ~~Florida College System. By December 31, the chancellor shall~~  
362 ~~compile and submit the institutional reports to the Governor,~~  
363 ~~the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of~~  
364 ~~Representatives, and the State Board of Education.~~

365 (c) A university board of trustees may contract with a  
366 Florida College System institution board of trustees for the  
367 Florida College System institution to provide developmental  
368 education on the state university campus. Any state university  
369 in which the percentage of incoming students requiring  
370 developmental education equals or exceeds the average percentage  
371 of such students for the Florida College System may offer  
372 developmental education without contracting with a Florida  
373 College System institution; however, any state university  
374 offering college-preparatory instruction as of January 1, 1996,  
375 may continue to provide developmental education instruction as

376 defined in s. 1008.02(1).

377 (5)~~(6)~~ A student may not be enrolled in a college credit  
378 mathematics or English course on a dual enrollment basis unless  
379 the student has demonstrated adequate precollegiate preparation  
380 in ~~on the section of~~ the basic ~~computation and communication and~~  
381 computation skills ~~assessment required pursuant to subsection~~  
382 ~~(1) that is~~ appropriate for successful student participation in  
383 the course.

384 Section 6. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section  
385 1009.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

386 1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

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

391 (f) A student who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate  
392 nighttime residence or whose primary nighttime residence is a  
393 public or private shelter designed to provide temporary  
394 residence, a public or private transitional living program, or a  
395 public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as,  
396 a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. This includes  
397 a student who would otherwise meet the requirements of this  
398 paragraph, as determined by a college or university, but for his  
399 or her residence in college or university dormitory housing. The  
400 State Board of Education may adopt rules and the Board of



401 Governors may adopt regulations regarding documentation and  
 402 procedures to implement this paragraph.

403 Section 7. Subsection (2) of section 1009.52, Florida  
 404 Statutes, is amended to read:

405 1009.52 Florida Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant  
 406 Program; eligibility for grants.-

407 (2)~~(a)~~ Florida postsecondary student assistance grants may  
 408 be made ~~only to full-time degree-seeking~~ students who meet the  
 409 general requirements for student eligibility as provided in s.  
 410 1009.40, except as otherwise provided in this section. Such  
 411 grants shall be awarded for the amount of demonstrated unmet  
 412 need for tuition and fees and may not exceed the maximum annual  
 413 award amount specified in the General Appropriations Act. A  
 414 demonstrated unmet need of less than \$200 shall render the  
 415 applicant ineligible for a Florida postsecondary student  
 416 assistance grant.

417 (a) Awards may be made to full-time degree-seeking  
 418 students who ~~Recipients of such grants must~~ have been accepted  
 419 at a postsecondary institution that is located in this state and  
 420 that is:

421 1. A private nursing diploma school approved by the  
 422 Florida Board of Nursing; or

423 2. A college or university licensed by the Commission for  
 424 Independent Education, excluding those institutions the students  
 425 of which are eligible to receive a Florida private student

426 assistance grant pursuant to s. 1009.51.

427 (b) Awards may be made to full-time certificate-seeking  
428 students who have been accepted at an aviation maintenance  
429 school that is located in this state, certified by the Federal  
430 Aviation Administration, and licensed by the Commission for  
431 Independent Education. Such student's eligibility for the  
432 renewal of an award shall be evaluated at the end of the  
433 completion of 900 clock hours and, as a condition of renewal,  
434 the student must meet the requirements under s. 1009.40(1)(b).

435 (c) If funds are available, a student who received an  
436 award in the fall or spring term may receive an award in the  
437 summer term. Priority in the distribution of summer awards shall  
438 be given to students who are within one semester, or the  
439 equivalent, of completing a degree or certificate program. A ~~No~~  
440 student may not receive an award for more than the equivalent of  
441 9 semesters or 14 quarters of full-time enrollment, except as  
442 otherwise provided in s. 1009.40(3). A student specified in  
443 paragraph (b) is eligible for an award up to 110 percent of the  
444 number of clock hours required to complete the program in which  
445 the student is enrolled.

446 (d) ~~(b)~~ A student applying for a Florida postsecondary  
447 student assistance grant shall be required to apply for the Pell  
448 Grant. The Pell Grant entitlement shall be considered when  
449 conducting an assessment of the financial resources available to  
450 each student.

451        (e)~~(e)~~ Priority in the distribution of grant moneys may be  
452 given to students who are within one semester, or the  
453 equivalent, of completing a degree or certificate program. An  
454 institution may not make a grant from this program to a student  
455 whose expected family contribution exceeds one and one-half  
456 times the maximum Pell Grant-eligible family contribution. An  
457 institution may not impose additional criteria to determine a  
458 student's eligibility to receive a grant award.

459        (f)~~(d)~~ Each participating institution shall report to the  
460 department by the established date the students eligible for the  
461 program for each academic term. Each institution shall also  
462 report to the department necessary demographic and eligibility  
463 data for such students.

464        Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.