

26 relating to the Road-to-Independence Program, charter
 27 schools, charter technical career centers, virtual
 28 instruction programs, graduation and promotion
 29 requirements for publicly operated schools, the Adults
 30 with Disabilities Workforce Education Program,
 31 standards for participation in interscholastic and
 32 intrascholastic extracurricular student activities,
 33 the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, and
 34 the Benacquisto Scholarship Program, respectively, to
 35 incorporate the amendments made to ss. 1002.3105 and
 36 1003.4282, F.S., in references thereto; providing an
 37 effective date.

38

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

40

41 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 1002.3105, Florida
 42 Statutes, is amended to read:

43 1002.3105 Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance
 44 Learning (ACCEL) options.—

45 (5) AWARD OF A STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.—A student who
 46 meets the following grade 9 cohort graduation requirements shall
 47 be awarded a standard high school diploma in a form prescribed
 48 by the State Board of Education:

49 (a) The applicable grade 9 cohort graduation requirements
 50 of s. 1003.4282(3) (a)–(e);

51 (b)1. For a student who enters grade 9 before the 2023-
52 2024 school year, earn three credits in electives; or

53 2. For a student who enters grade 9 in the 2023-2024
54 school year and thereafter, earn two and one-half credits in
55 electives and one-half credit in financial literacy; ~~and~~

56 (c) Earn a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on
57 a 4.0 scale; and

58 (d) Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid
59 pursuant to s. 1003.4282(5).

60 Section 2. Present subsections (5) through (11) of section
61 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6)
62 through (12), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to
63 that section, to read:

64 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school
65 diploma.—

66 (5) FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID REQUIREMENT.—
67 Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2024-2025 school
68 year, a student must submit a Free Application for Federal
69 Student Aid in order to be awarded a standard high school
70 diploma. However, a student is exempt from this subsection if
71 the student's parent or the student, if he or she is 18 years of
72 age or older, submits a letter to the school district declining
73 to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

74 Section 3. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) of
75 section 1003.5716, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

76 1003.5716 Transition to postsecondary education and career
 77 opportunities.—All students with disabilities who are 3 years of
 78 age to 21 years of age have the right to a free, appropriate
 79 public education. As used in this section, the term "IEP" means
 80 individual education plan.

81 (2) Beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect
 82 when the student enters high school, attains the age of 14, or
 83 when determined appropriate by the parent and the IEP team,
 84 whichever occurs first, the IEP must include the following
 85 statements that must be updated annually:

86 (a) A statement of intent to pursue a standard high school
 87 diploma and a Scholar or Merit designation, pursuant to s.
 88 1003.4285, as determined by the parent.

89 1. The statement must document discussion of the process
 90 for a student with a disability who meets the requirements for a
 91 standard high school diploma to defer the receipt of such
 92 diploma pursuant to s. 1003.4282(10)(c) ~~s. 1003.4282(9)(e)~~.

93 2. For the IEP in effect at the beginning of the school
 94 year the student is expected to graduate, the statement must
 95 include a signed statement by the parent, the guardian, or the
 96 student, if the student has reached the age of majority and
 97 rights have transferred to the student, that he or she
 98 understands the process for deferment and identifying if the
 99 student will defer the receipt of his or her standard high
 100 school diploma.

101 (b) A statement of intent to receive a standard high
 102 school diploma before the student attains the age of 22 and a
 103 description of how the student will fully meet the requirements
 104 in s. 1003.4282, including, but not limited to, a portfolio
 105 pursuant to s. 1003.4282(10)(b) ~~s. 1003.4282(9)(b)~~ which meets
 106 the criteria specified in State Board of Education rule. The IEP
 107 must also specify the outcomes and additional benefits expected
 108 by the parent and the IEP team at the time of the student's
 109 graduation.

110 Section 4. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
 111 made by this act to section 1002.3105, Florida Statutes, in a
 112 reference thereto, paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section
 113 1003.03, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

114 1003.03 Maximum class size.—

115 (3) IMPLEMENTATION OPTIONS.—District school boards must
 116 consider, but are not limited to, implementing the following
 117 items in order to meet the constitutional class size maximums
 118 described in subsection (1):

119 (c)1. Repeal district school board policies that require
 120 students to earn more than the 24 credits to graduate from high
 121 school.

122 2. Implement the early graduation options provided in ss.
 123 1002.3105(5) and 1003.4281.

124 Section 5. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
 125 made by this act to section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, in a

126 reference thereto, subsection (8) of section 1002.20, Florida
 127 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

128 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public
 129 school students must receive accurate and timely information
 130 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed
 131 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12
 132 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory
 133 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

134 (8) STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.—Parents of public school
 135 students with disabilities and parents of public school students
 136 in residential care facilities are entitled to notice and due
 137 process in accordance with the provisions of ss. 1003.57 and
 138 1003.58. Public school students with disabilities must be
 139 provided the opportunity to meet the graduation requirements for
 140 a standard high school diploma as set forth in s. 1003.4282 in
 141 accordance with the provisions of ss. 1003.57 and 1008.22.

142 Section 6. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
 143 made by this act to section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, in a
 144 reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 1003.4281, Florida
 145 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

146 1003.4281 Early high school graduation.—

147 (1) The purpose of this section is to provide a student
 148 the option of early graduation and receipt of a standard high
 149 school diploma if the student earns 24 credits and meets the
 150 graduation requirements set forth in s. 1003.4282. For purposes

151 of this section, the term "early graduation" means graduation
152 from high school in less than 8 semesters or the equivalent.

153 Section 7. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
154 made by this act to section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, in a
155 reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 1003.4285, Florida
156 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

157 1003.4285 Standard high school diploma designations.—

158 (1) Each standard high school diploma shall include, as
159 applicable, the following designations if the student meets the
160 criteria set forth for the designation:

161 (a) *Scholar designation*.—In addition to the requirements
162 of s. 1003.4282, in order to earn the Scholar designation, a
163 student must satisfy the following requirements:

164 1. Mathematics.—Earn one credit in Algebra II or an
165 equally rigorous course and one credit in statistics or an
166 equally rigorous course. Beginning with students entering grade
167 9 in the 2014-2015 school year, pass the Geometry statewide,
168 standardized assessment.

169 2. Science.—Pass the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC
170 assessment and earn one credit in chemistry or physics and one
171 credit in a course equally rigorous to chemistry or physics.
172 However, a student enrolled in an Advanced Placement (AP),
173 International Baccalaureate (IB), or Advanced International
174 Certificate of Education (AICE) Biology course who takes the
175 respective AP, IB, or AICE Biology assessment and earns the

176 minimum score necessary to earn college credit as identified
177 pursuant to s. 1007.27(2) meets the requirement of this
178 subparagraph without having to take the statewide, standardized
179 Biology I EOC assessment.

180 3. Social studies.—Pass the statewide, standardized United
181 States History EOC assessment. However, a student enrolled in an
182 AP, IB, or AICE course that includes United States History
183 topics who takes the respective AP, IB, or AICE assessment and
184 earns the minimum score necessary to earn college credit as
185 identified pursuant to s. 1007.27(2) meets the requirement of
186 this subparagraph without having to take the statewide,
187 standardized United States History EOC assessment.

188 4. Foreign language.—Earn two credits in the same foreign
189 language.

190 5. Electives.—Earn at least one credit in an Advanced
191 Placement, an International Baccalaureate, an Advanced
192 International Certificate of Education, or a dual enrollment
193 course.

194 (b) *Merit designation*.—In addition to the requirements of
195 s. 1003.4282, in order to earn the Merit designation, a student
196 must attain one or more industry certifications from the list
197 established under s. 1003.492.

198 Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
199 made by this act to section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, in a
200 reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 1003.5716, Florida

201 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

202 1003.5716 Transition to postsecondary education and career
 203 opportunities.—All students with disabilities who are 3 years of
 204 age to 21 years of age have the right to a free, appropriate
 205 public education. As used in this section, the term "IEP" means
 206 individual education plan.

207 (1) To ensure quality planning for a successful transition
 208 of a student with a disability to postsecondary education and
 209 career opportunities, during the student's seventh grade year or
 210 when the student attains the age of 12, whichever occurs first,
 211 an IEP team shall begin the process of, and develop an IEP for,
 212 identifying the need for transition services before the student
 213 with a disability enters high school or attains the age of 14
 214 years, whichever occurs first, in order for his or her
 215 postsecondary goals and career goals to be identified. The plan
 216 must be operational and in place to begin implementation on the
 217 first day of the student's first year in high school. This
 218 process must include, but is not limited to:

219 (a) Consideration of the student's need for instruction in
 220 the area of self-determination and self-advocacy to assist the
 221 student's active and effective participation in an IEP meeting;

222 (b) Preparation for the student to graduate from high
 223 school with a standard high school diploma pursuant to s.
 224 1003.4282 with a Scholar designation unless the parent chooses a
 225 Merit designation; and

226 (c) Provision of the information to the student and his or
 227 her parent of the school district's high school-level transition
 228 services, career and technical education, and collegiate
 229 programs available to students with disabilities and how to
 230 access such programs. Information shall also be provided on
 231 school-based transition programs and programs and services
 232 available through Florida's Center for Students with Unique
 233 Abilities, the Florida Centers for Independent Living, the
 234 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Agency for Persons
 235 with Disabilities, and the Division of Blind Services. Referral
 236 forms, links, and technical support contacts for these services
 237 must be provided to students and parents at IEP meetings.

238 Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
 239 made by this act to section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, in a
 240 reference thereto, paragraph (n) of subsection (1) of section
 241 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

242 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual
 243 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each
 244 district for operation of schools is not determined in the
 245 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing
 246 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as
 247 follows:

248 (1) COMPUTATION OF THE BASIC AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED FOR
 249 OPERATION.—The following procedure shall be followed in
 250 determining the annual allocation to each district for

251 operation:

252 (n) *Calculation of additional full-time equivalent*

253 *membership based on college board advanced placement scores of*

254 *students and earning college board advanced placement capstone*

255 *diplomas.*—A value of 0.16 full-time equivalent student

256 membership shall be calculated for each student in each advanced

257 placement course who receives a score of 3 or higher on the

258 College Board Advanced Placement Examination for the prior year

259 and added to the total full-time equivalent student membership

260 in basic programs for grades 9 through 12 in the subsequent

261 fiscal year. A value of 0.3 full-time equivalent student

262 membership shall be calculated for each student who receives a

263 College Board Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma and meets the

264 requirements for a standard high school diploma under s.

265 1003.4282. Such value shall be added to the total full-time

266 equivalent student membership in basic programs for grades 9

267 through 12 in the subsequent fiscal year. Each district must

268 allocate at least 80 percent of the funds provided to the

269 district for advanced placement instruction, in accordance with

270 this paragraph, to the high school that generates the funds. The

271 school district shall distribute to each classroom teacher who

272 provided advanced placement instruction:

273 1. A bonus in the amount of \$50 for each student taught by

274 the Advanced Placement teacher in each advanced placement course

275 who receives a score of 3 or higher on the College Board

276 Advanced Placement Examination.

277 2. An additional bonus of \$500 to each Advanced Placement
 278 teacher in a school designated with a grade of "D" or "F" who
 279 has at least one student scoring 3 or higher on the College
 280 Board Advanced Placement Examination, regardless of the number
 281 of classes taught or of the number of students scoring a 3 or
 282 higher on the College Board Advanced Placement Examination.

283

284 Bonuses awarded under this paragraph shall be in addition to any
 285 regular wage or other bonus the teacher received or is scheduled
 286 to receive. For such courses, the teacher shall earn an
 287 additional bonus of \$50 for each student who has a qualifying
 288 score.

289 Section 10. For the purpose of incorporating the
 290 amendments made by this act to sections 1002.3105 and 1003.4282,
 291 Florida Statutes, in references thereto, paragraph (a) of
 292 subsection (2) of section 409.1451, Florida Statutes, is
 293 reenacted to read:

294 409.1451 The Road-to-Independence Program.—

295 (2) POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION SERVICES AND SUPPORT.—

296 (a) A young adult is eligible for services and support
 297 under this subsection if he or she:

298 1. Was living in licensed care on his or her 18th birthday
 299 or is currently living in licensed care; or was at least 16
 300 years of age and was adopted from foster care or placed with a

301 court-approved dependency guardian after spending at least 6
302 months in licensed care within the 12 months immediately
303 preceding such placement or adoption;

304 2. Spent at least 6 months in licensed care before
305 reaching his or her 18th birthday;

306 3. Earned a standard high school diploma pursuant to s.
307 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282, or its equivalent
308 pursuant to s. 1003.435;

309 4. Has been admitted for enrollment as a full-time student
310 or its equivalent in an eligible postsecondary educational
311 institution as provided in s. 1009.533. For purposes of this
312 section, the term "full-time" means 9 credit hours or the
313 vocational school equivalent. A student may enroll part-time if
314 he or she has a recognized disability or is faced with another
315 challenge or circumstance that would prevent full-time
316 attendance. A student needing to enroll part-time for any reason
317 other than having a recognized disability must get approval from
318 his or her academic advisor;

319 5. Has reached 18 years of age but is not yet 23 years of
320 age;

321 6. Has applied, with assistance from the young adult's
322 caregiver and the community-based lead agency, for any other
323 grants and scholarships for which he or she may qualify;

324 7. Submitted a Free Application for Federal Student Aid
325 which is complete and error free; and

326 8. Signed an agreement to allow the department and the
 327 community-based care lead agency access to school records.

328 Section 11. For the purpose of incorporating the
 329 amendments made by this act to sections 1002.3105 and 1003.4282,
 330 Florida Statutes, in references thereto, paragraph (a) of
 331 subsection (7) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is
 332 reenacted to read:

333 1002.33 Charter schools.—

334 (7) CHARTER.—The terms and conditions for the operation of
 335 a charter school, including a virtual charter school, shall be
 336 set forth by the sponsor and the applicant in a written
 337 contractual agreement, called a charter. The sponsor and the
 338 governing board of the charter school or virtual charter school
 339 shall use the standard charter contract or standard virtual
 340 charter contract, respectively, pursuant to subsection (21),
 341 which shall incorporate the approved application and any addenda
 342 approved with the application. Any term or condition of a
 343 proposed charter contract or proposed virtual charter contract
 344 that differs from the standard charter or virtual charter
 345 contract adopted by rule of the State Board of Education shall
 346 be presumed a limitation on charter school flexibility. The
 347 sponsor may not impose unreasonable rules or regulations that
 348 violate the intent of giving charter schools greater flexibility
 349 to meet educational goals. The charter shall be signed by the
 350 governing board of the charter school and the sponsor, following

351 a public hearing to ensure community input.

352 (a) The charter shall address and criteria for approval of
353 the charter shall be based on:

354 1. The school's mission, the types of students to be
355 served, and, for a virtual charter school, the types of students
356 the school intends to serve who reside outside of the sponsoring
357 school district, and the ages and grades to be included.

358 2. The focus of the curriculum, the instructional methods
359 to be used, any distinctive instructional techniques to be
360 employed, and identification and acquisition of appropriate
361 technologies needed to improve educational and administrative
362 performance which include a means for promoting safe, ethical,
363 and appropriate uses of technology which comply with legal and
364 professional standards.

365 a. The charter shall ensure that reading is a primary
366 focus of the curriculum and that resources are provided to
367 identify and provide specialized instruction for students who
368 are reading below grade level. The curriculum and instructional
369 strategies for reading must be consistent with the Next
370 Generation Sunshine State Standards and grounded in
371 scientifically based reading research.

372 b. In order to provide students with access to diverse
373 instructional delivery models, to facilitate the integration of
374 technology within traditional classroom instruction, and to
375 provide students with the skills they need to compete in the

376 21st century economy, the Legislature encourages instructional
377 methods for blended learning courses consisting of both
378 traditional classroom and online instructional techniques.
379 Charter schools may implement blended learning courses which
380 combine traditional classroom instruction and virtual
381 instruction. Students in a blended learning course must be full-
382 time students of the charter school pursuant to s.
383 1011.61(1)(a)1. Instructional personnel certified pursuant to s.
384 1012.55 who provide virtual instruction for blended learning
385 courses may be employees of the charter school or may be under
386 contract to provide instructional services to charter school
387 students. At a minimum, such instructional personnel must hold
388 an active state or school district adjunct certification under
389 s. 1012.57 for the subject area of the blended learning course.
390 The funding and performance accountability requirements for
391 blended learning courses are the same as those for traditional
392 courses.

393 3. The current incoming baseline standard of student
394 academic achievement, the outcomes to be achieved, and the
395 method of measurement that will be used. The criteria listed in
396 this subparagraph shall include a detailed description of:

397 a. How the baseline student academic achievement levels
398 and prior rates of academic progress will be established.

399 b. How these baseline rates will be compared to rates of
400 academic progress achieved by these same students while

401 attending the charter school.

402 c. To the extent possible, how these rates of progress
403 will be evaluated and compared with rates of progress of other
404 closely comparable student populations.

405
406 A district school board is required to provide academic student
407 performance data to charter schools for each of their students
408 coming from the district school system, as well as rates of
409 academic progress of comparable student populations in the
410 district school system.

411 4. The methods used to identify the educational strengths
412 and needs of students and how well educational goals and
413 performance standards are met by students attending the charter
414 school. The methods shall provide a means for the charter school
415 to ensure accountability to its constituents by analyzing
416 student performance data and by evaluating the effectiveness and
417 efficiency of its major educational programs. Students in
418 charter schools shall, at a minimum, participate in the
419 statewide assessment program created under s. 1008.22.

420 5. In secondary charter schools, a method for determining
421 that a student has satisfied the requirements for graduation in
422 s. 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282.

423 6. A method for resolving conflicts between the governing
424 board of the charter school and the sponsor.

425 7. The admissions procedures and dismissal procedures,

426 including the school's code of student conduct. Admission or
427 dismissal must not be based on a student's academic performance.

428 8. The ways by which the school will achieve a
429 racial/ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves or
430 within the racial/ethnic range of other nearby public schools or
431 school districts.

432 9. The financial and administrative management of the
433 school, including a reasonable demonstration of the professional
434 experience or competence of those individuals or organizations
435 applying to operate the charter school or those hired or
436 retained to perform such professional services and the
437 description of clearly delineated responsibilities and the
438 policies and practices needed to effectively manage the charter
439 school. A description of internal audit procedures and
440 establishment of controls to ensure that financial resources are
441 properly managed must be included. Both public sector and
442 private sector professional experience shall be equally valid in
443 such a consideration.

444 10. The asset and liability projections required in the
445 application which are incorporated into the charter and shall be
446 compared with information provided in the annual report of the
447 charter school.

448 11. A description of procedures that identify various
449 risks and provide for a comprehensive approach to reduce the
450 impact of losses; plans to ensure the safety and security of

451 students and staff; plans to identify, minimize, and protect
452 others from violent or disruptive student behavior; and the
453 manner in which the school will be insured, including whether or
454 not the school will be required to have liability insurance,
455 and, if so, the terms and conditions thereof and the amounts of
456 coverage.

457 12. The term of the charter which shall provide for
458 cancellation of the charter if insufficient progress has been
459 made in attaining the student achievement objectives of the
460 charter and if it is not likely that such objectives can be
461 achieved before expiration of the charter. The initial term of a
462 charter shall be for 5 years, excluding 2 planning years. In
463 order to facilitate access to long-term financial resources for
464 charter school construction, charter schools that are operated
465 by a municipality or other public entity as provided by law are
466 eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the
467 sponsor. A charter lab school is eligible for a charter for a
468 term of up to 15 years. In addition, to facilitate access to
469 long-term financial resources for charter school construction,
470 charter schools that are operated by a private, not-for-profit,
471 s. 501(c)(3) status corporation are eligible for up to a 15-year
472 charter, subject to approval by the sponsor. Such long-term
473 charters remain subject to annual review and may be terminated
474 during the term of the charter, but only according to the
475 provisions set forth in subsection (8).

476 13. The facilities to be used and their location. The
477 sponsor may not require a charter school to have a certificate
478 of occupancy or a temporary certificate of occupancy for such a
479 facility earlier than 15 calendar days before the first day of
480 school.

481 14. The qualifications to be required of the teachers and
482 the potential strategies used to recruit, hire, train, and
483 retain qualified staff to achieve best value.

484 15. The governance structure of the school, including the
485 status of the charter school as a public or private employer as
486 required in paragraph (12)(i).

487 16. A timetable for implementing the charter which
488 addresses the implementation of each element thereof and the
489 date by which the charter shall be awarded in order to meet this
490 timetable.

491 17. In the case of an existing public school that is being
492 converted to charter status, alternative arrangements for
493 current students who choose not to attend the charter school and
494 for current teachers who choose not to teach in the charter
495 school after conversion in accordance with the existing
496 collective bargaining agreement or district school board rule in
497 the absence of a collective bargaining agreement. However,
498 alternative arrangements shall not be required for current
499 teachers who choose not to teach in a charter lab school, except
500 as authorized by the employment policies of the state university

501 | which grants the charter to the lab school.

502 | 18. Full disclosure of the identity of all relatives
 503 | employed by the charter school who are related to the charter
 504 | school owner, president, chairperson of the governing board of
 505 | directors, superintendent, governing board member, principal,
 506 | assistant principal, or any other person employed by the charter
 507 | school who has equivalent decisionmaking authority. For the
 508 | purpose of this subparagraph, the term "relative" means father,
 509 | mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first
 510 | cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-
 511 | law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law,
 512 | stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother,
 513 | stepsister, half brother, or half sister.

514 | 19. Implementation of the activities authorized under s.
 515 | 1002.331 by the charter school when it satisfies the eligibility
 516 | requirements for a high-performing charter school. A high-
 517 | performing charter school shall notify its sponsor in writing by
 518 | March 1 if it intends to increase enrollment or expand grade
 519 | levels the following school year. The written notice shall
 520 | specify the amount of the enrollment increase and the grade
 521 | levels that will be added, as applicable.

522 | Section 12. For the purpose of incorporating the
 523 | amendments made by this act to sections 1002.3105 and 1003.4282,
 524 | Florida Statutes, in references thereto, paragraph (g) of
 525 | subsection (4) of section 1002.34, Florida Statutes, is

526 reenacted to read:

527 1002.34 Charter technical career centers.—

528 (4) CHARTER.—A sponsor may designate centers as provided
529 in this section. An application to establish a center may be
530 submitted by a sponsor or another organization that is
531 determined, by rule of the State Board of Education, to be
532 appropriate. However, an independent school is not eligible for
533 status as a center. The charter must be signed by the governing
534 body of the center and the sponsor and must be approved by the
535 district school board and Florida College System institution
536 board of trustees in whose geographic region the facility is
537 located. If a charter technical career center is established by
538 the conversion to charter status of a public technical center
539 formerly governed by a district school board, the charter status
540 of that center takes precedence in any question of governance.
541 The governance of the center or of any program within the center
542 remains with its board of directors unless the board agrees to a
543 change in governance or its charter is revoked as provided in
544 subsection (15). Such a conversion charter technical career
545 center is not affected by a change in the governance of public
546 technical centers or of programs within other centers that are
547 or have been governed by district school boards. A charter
548 technical career center, or any program within such a center,
549 that was governed by a district school board and transferred to
550 a Florida College System institution prior to the effective date

551 of this act is not affected by this provision. An applicant who
 552 wishes to establish a center must submit to the district school
 553 board or Florida College System institution board of trustees,
 554 or a consortium of one or more of each, an application on a form
 555 developed by the Department of Education which includes:

556 (g) A method for determining whether a student has
 557 satisfied the requirements for graduation specified in s.
 558 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282 and for completion
 559 of a postsecondary certificate or degree.

560
 561 Students at a center must meet the same testing and academic
 562 performance standards as those established by law and rule for
 563 students at public schools and public technical centers. The
 564 students must also meet any additional assessment indicators
 565 that are included within the charter approved by the district
 566 school board or Florida College System institution board of
 567 trustees.

568 Section 13. For the purpose of incorporating the
 569 amendments made by this act to sections 1002.3105 and 1003.4282,
 570 Florida Statutes, in references thereto, paragraph (b) of
 571 subsection (4) of section 1002.45, Florida Statutes, is
 572 reenacted to read:

573 1002.45 Virtual instruction programs.—

574 (4) CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.—Each contract with an approved
 575 virtual instruction program provider must, at minimum:

576 (b) Provide a method for determining that a student has
577 satisfied the requirements for graduation in s. 1002.3105(5), s.
578 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282 if the contract is for the provision
579 of a full-time virtual instruction program to students in grades
580 9 through 12.

581
582 A contracting school district shall facilitate compliance with
583 the requirements of paragraphs (h) and (i).

584 Section 14. For the purpose of incorporating the
585 amendments made by this act to sections 1002.3105 and 1003.4282,
586 Florida Statutes, in references thereto, subsection (1) of
587 section 1003.49, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

588 1003.49 Graduation and promotion requirements for publicly
589 operated schools.—

590 (1) Each state or local public agency, including the
591 Department of Children and Families, the Department of
592 Corrections, the boards of trustees of universities and Florida
593 College System institutions, and the Board of Trustees of the
594 Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, which agency is
595 authorized to operate educational programs for students at any
596 level of grades kindergarten through 12, shall be subject to all
597 applicable requirements of ss. 1002.3105(5), 1003.4281,
598 1003.4282, 1008.23, and 1008.25. Within the content of these
599 cited statutes each such state or local public agency or entity
600 shall be considered a "district school board."

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601 Section 15. For the purpose of incorporating the
602 amendments made by this act to sections 1002.3105 and 1003.4282,
603 Florida Statutes, in references thereto, subsection (1) of
604 section 1004.935, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

605 1004.935 Adults with Disabilities Workforce Education
606 Program.—

607 (1) The Adults with Disabilities Workforce Education
608 Program is established in the Department of Education in Hardee,
609 DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties to provide the option of
610 receiving a scholarship for instruction at private schools for
611 up to 30 students who:

612 (a) Have a disability;

613 (b) Are 22 years of age;

614 (c) Are receiving instruction from an instructor in a
615 private school to meet the high school graduation requirements
616 in s. 1002.3105(5) or s. 1003.4282;

617 (d) Do not have a standard high school diploma or a
618 special high school diploma; and

619 (e) Receive "supported employment services," which means
620 employment that is located or provided in an integrated work
621 setting with earnings paid on a commensurate wage basis and for
622 which continued support is needed for job maintenance.

623
624 As used in this section, the term "student with a disability"
625 includes a student who is documented as having an intellectual

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626 disability; a speech impairment; a language impairment; a
627 hearing impairment, including deafness; a visual impairment,
628 including blindness; a dual sensory impairment; an orthopedic
629 impairment; another health impairment; an emotional or
630 behavioral disability; a specific learning disability,
631 including, but not limited to, dyslexia, dyscalculia, or
632 developmental aphasia; a traumatic brain injury; a developmental
633 delay; or autism spectrum disorder.

634 Section 16. For the purpose of incorporating the
635 amendments made by this act to sections 1002.3105 and 1003.4282,
636 Florida Statutes, in references thereto, paragraph (a) of
637 subsection (3) of section 1006.15, Florida Statutes, is
638 reenacted to read:

639 1006.15 Student standards for participation in
640 interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular student
641 activities; regulation.—

642 (3)(a) As used in this section and s. 1006.20, the term
643 "eligible to participate" includes, but is not limited to, a
644 student participating in tryouts, off-season conditioning,
645 summer workouts, preseason conditioning, in-season practice, or
646 contests. The term does not mean that a student must be placed
647 on any specific team for interscholastic or intrascholastic
648 extracurricular activities. To be eligible to participate in
649 interscholastic extracurricular student activities, a student
650 must:

651 1. Maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0
 652 scale, or its equivalent, in the previous semester or a
 653 cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale,
 654 or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1002.3105(5) or
 655 s. 1003.4282.

656 2. Execute and fulfill the requirements of an academic
 657 performance contract between the student, the district school
 658 board, the appropriate governing association, and the student's
 659 parents, if the student's cumulative grade point average falls
 660 below 2.0, or its equivalent, on a 4.0 scale in the courses
 661 required by s. 1002.3105(5) or s. 1003.4282. At a minimum, the
 662 contract must require that the student attend summer school, or
 663 its graded equivalent, between grades 9 and 10 or grades 10 and
 664 11, as necessary.

665 3. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above
 666 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s.
 667 1002.3105(5) or s. 1003.4282 during his or her junior or senior
 668 year.

669 4. Maintain satisfactory conduct, including adherence to
 670 appropriate dress and other codes of student conduct policies
 671 described in s. 1006.07(2). If a student is convicted of, or is
 672 found to have committed, a felony or a delinquent act that would
 673 have been a felony if committed by an adult, regardless of
 674 whether adjudication is withheld, the student's participation in
 675 interscholastic extracurricular activities is contingent upon

676 established and published district school board policy.

677 Section 17. For the purpose of incorporating the
 678 amendments made by this act to sections 1002.3105 and 1003.4282,
 679 Florida Statutes, in references thereto, paragraph (b) of
 680 subsection (1) of section 1009.531, Florida Statutes, is
 681 reenacted to read:

682 1009.531 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;
 683 student eligibility requirements for initial awards.—

684 (1) In order to be eligible for an initial award from any
 685 of the scholarships under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
 686 Program, a student must:

687 (b) Earn a standard Florida high school diploma pursuant
 688 to s. 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282 or a high
 689 school equivalency diploma pursuant to s. 1003.435 unless:

690 1. The student completes a home education program
 691 according to s. 1002.41;

692 2. The student earns a high school diploma from a non-
 693 Florida school while living with a parent or guardian who is on
 694 military or public service assignment away from Florida; or

695 3. The student earns a high school diploma from a Florida
 696 private school operating pursuant to s. 1002.42.

697 Section 18. For the purpose of incorporating the
 698 amendments made by this act to sections 1002.3105 and 1003.4282,
 699 Florida Statutes, in references thereto, subsection (4) of
 700 section 1009.893, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

701 1009.893 Benacquisto Scholarship Program.—

702 (4) In order to be eligible for an initial award under the
 703 scholarship program, a student must meet the requirements of
 704 paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).

705 (a) A student who is a resident of this state, as
 706 determined in s. 1009.40 and rules of the State Board of
 707 Education, must:

708 1. Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its
 709 equivalent pursuant to s. 1002.3105, s. 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282,
 710 or s. 1003.435 unless:

711 a. The student completes a home education program
 712 according to s. 1002.41; or

713 b. The student earns a high school diploma from a non-
 714 Florida school while living with a parent who is on military or
 715 public service assignment out of this state;

716 2. Be accepted by and enroll in a Florida public or
 717 independent postsecondary educational institution that is
 718 regionally accredited; and

719 3. Be enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree program
 720 at an eligible regionally accredited Florida public or
 721 independent postsecondary educational institution during the
 722 fall academic term following high school graduation.

723 (b) A student who initially enrolls in a baccalaureate
 724 degree program in the 2018-2019 through 2021-2022 academic years
 725 and who is not a resident of this state, as determined in s.

726 | 1009.40 and rules of the State Board of Education, must:
 727 | 1. Physically reside in this state on or near the campus
 728 | of the postsecondary educational institution in which the
 729 | student is enrolled;
 730 | 2. Earn a high school diploma from a school outside
 731 | Florida which is comparable to a standard Florida high school
 732 | diploma or its equivalent pursuant to s. 1002.3105, s.
 733 | 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282, or s. 1003.435 or must complete a home
 734 | education program in another state; and
 735 | 3. Be accepted by and enrolled full-time in a
 736 | baccalaureate degree program at an eligible regionally
 737 | accredited Florida public or independent postsecondary
 738 | educational institution during the fall academic term following
 739 | high school graduation.
 740 | Section 19. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.