



SCHOOL BASED TRANSITION LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

To assist students and youth with disabilities in achieving their post- school and career goals, the Okaloosa County School District offers opportunities which include but are not limited to:

- Learning Strategies Instruction
- Community Based Instruction
- Career and Technical Education
- On The Job Training
- Physical Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Language Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Self Advocacy and Determination
- Blind and Visually Impaired Instruction
- Special Olympics
- Disability Awareness Month
- Vocational, Advocacy, and Self-Determination Activities
- Mock Interviews

AGENCY LOCATOR

A resource for Teachers, Parents, and Students with Disabilities

Contact your Middle or High School Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Department or visit our [website](#) for more information!



RESOURCES

project10 transition education network

Deferring the receipt of the standard diploma is done in order to continue to receive services under FAPE (Free Appropriate Public Education). For more information on the Deferral process, please visit the [Project10](#) website.

Florida Center for Students with **UNIQUE ABILITIES**

The purpose of the [Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities](#) is to provide support to students, families, and institutions of higher education so that students with intellectual disabilities have opportunities for on-campus college experiences that lead to employment opportunities. Please visit their [website](#) for more information!



The [Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living](#) coordinates organizations who support community living and independence for people with disabilities based on the belief that all people can live with dignity, make their own choices and participate fully in society. If you are interested in their services, please visit their [website](#).



The [Division of Blind Services](#) offers resources to help blind and visually impaired Floridians achieve their goals and live productive and independent lives. Their services cover all ages from babies to senior citizens. They also offer Employer Services, the Braille and Talking Books Library, and the Business Enterprise Program. Visit their [website](#) to find out more about eligibility requirements.



Agency for Persons with Disabilities

The [Agency for Persons with Disabilities](#) supports persons with developmental disabilities in living, learning, and working in their communities. Please visit their [website](#) for resources!

AGENCY REFERRAL FORMS

PROJECT SEARCH

PROJECT SEARCH is a unique program designed to help students with disabilities successfully transition from high school to the workforce. Over the course of a year, students have the chance to participate in targeted internships hosted at job sites across the state of Florida. Okaloosa has obtained a host site at the Hilton Garden Inn, located in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. This site will host the first Okaloosa PROJECT SEARCH Interns beginning the 2022 - 2023 school year. There is an application process with an application available on the OCSD Transition Web Page.

[APPLY HERE](#)



Learn More About Project Search



[Project Search Home Page](#)



[Outrigger Project Search Program](#)



[Project Search Intro Course](#)



WE GROW

Career Experiences

Okaloosa Technical College

School Based Enterprises

- Auto Detailing
- Lawn Maintenance
- Christmas Pallet Project
- Laundry Service
- Coffee Shop/ Delivery
- OTC School Store

Employment Opportunities

- 4 students from the We GROW program are employed part-time with the Okaloosa County School District as Cleaners in the Custodial Department.
- 2 Students from the We GROW program are full time employees as custodians with the Okaloosa County School District.

General Education Participation

- Culinary Arts
- Cosmetology
- Carpentry

School Based Certifications

- Automobile Detailing
- Groundskeeping/Landscaping
- Basic Culinary Arts
- Hotel/Motel Housekeeping



OKALOOSA UP

at Okaloosa Technical College

A FLORIDA POSTSECONDARY COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION PROGRAM FOR ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

The mission of Okaloosa UP (Unique Professionals) is to give adult students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities access to training and individualized supports that allow them to develop specific career skills by earning occupational completion points for jobs embedded within CTE programs, career certificates for full program completion, and industry certifications or licensure. The program's ultimate goal is to help students to secure competitive, integrated employment within their communities.



About Okaloosa Up

Okaloosa UP at Okaloosa Technical College provides the opportunity for aspiring Unique Professionals to gain the skills, abilities, and training to transition from their desires for success to gainful professional employment. Two specific programs are available to these students at this time:

- Professional Culinary Arts and Hospitality
- Building Trades and Construction Design Technology

As students are selected and enter the program, they choose one of the two CTE programs to participate in alongside non-disabled peers for half the day to gain lab experience and training to become certified and employable. The other half of the day is dedicated to a variety of instruction and supports (academic, social, vocational) that will lead Okaloosa UP students to succeed in their program of study and eventually as employees.

Okaloosa UP students will complete their program over a two-year period to earn an Okaloosa UP certification, as well as any industry certifications they are able to complete alongside non-disabled peers. Additionally, two third-year options are offered to completers of Okaloosa UP:

1. Apprenticeship certification guiding students into an actual hired position in the local community
2. Entering their CTE program as a beginning student having earned hours toward completion of either Culinary or Building Trades

LEARN MORE

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

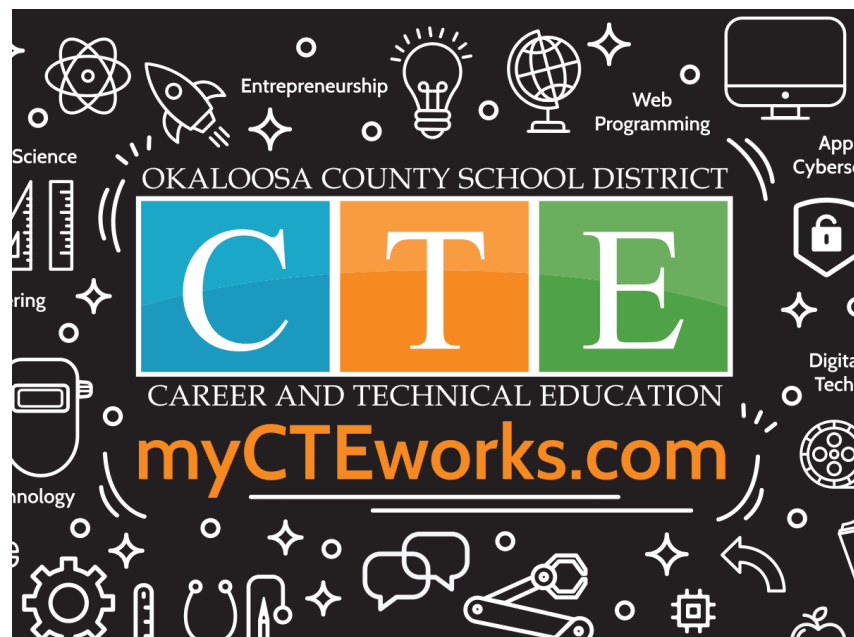
Our Career and Technical Education educators prepare students to explore, compete, and succeed as lifelong learners in careers that are available in our area as well as the entire state of Florida. Our CTE programs provide hands-on, work-based learning that is relevant to student interests and responsive to the needs of employers and the economy. We provide Career and Technical Education programs to students in middle and high school with rigorous career pathways for all facets of the workforce.

Programs Offered

Building Construction Technologies	Cosmetology
Carpentry	Applied Cybersecurity
Digital Design	Web Programming
Digital Video Technology	Criminal Justice Operations
Early Childhood Development	Applied Welding Technologies
Engineering	Advanced Manufacturing Technology
Applied Robotics	Entrepreneurship
Biomedical Science	Coding in Web
Emergency Medical Responder	Fundamentals of Web & Software Development
Practical Nursing	Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair
Culinary Arts	

Find out more!

Visit our CTE [website](#) for information on each program of study. You can see our students in action by visiting our [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) pages!



OCS D DEFERRAL OPTIONS

SILVER SANDS SCHOOL
Home of the Seahorses



Lance G. Richbourg School



Global Connections to Employment, Inc.
An Affiliate of Lakaview Center, Inc.



Project | SEARCH®

Located in Ft Walton Beach

Located in Crestview

Located in Ft Walton Beach

Located on Eglin Air Force Base

Located at Hilton Garden Inn of FWB

Structured work study program which provide students who have completed High School credits (up to age 22) with the opportunity to explore a variety of work environments both on and off school campus.

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The We Grow Program is a structured work-study, pre-apprenticeship program for students who have completed High School credits (up to age 22). It is designed to prepare the student for employment by providing 1 or more work experiences on campus.

People with disabilities are looking for a wide variety of career opportunities, and we offer many lines of business to serve this need. The common denominator across all business lines is excellent service. We are honored to be in a position to provide jobs and service to employees, customers and communities.

A business-led, 1-year, school-to-work program that takes place entirely at the workplace in conjunction with a school.

Off Campus

- Golden Corral
- Piggly Wiggly
- Integrity Chiropractic
- CiCi's Pizza
- Jackie's Hair Salon
- Ruby Tuesday's
- Ft Walton Beach Rec Center
- Target
- Cinco Baptist Church

Off Campus

- Walmart
- Uncle Bills
- Subway
- Hideaway Pizza

Career Fields

- Culinary
- Landscaping
- Auto Detailing
- Housekeeping
- Hospitality
- Merchandise

- Custodial Services
- Facilities Maintenance
- Food Services
- Business Services
- Health Care Environment
- IT Services
- Employment & Support Services

A total workplace immersion facilitates a seamless combination of classroom instruction, career exploration, and relevant job-skills training through strategically designed internships.

On campus

- Making Twisted Pens to sell
- Making magnets & blankets to sell
- Key Club Snack Bar
- Recycling
- Managing the Greenhouse & Grasses in Classes plants
- Working in the Cafeteria
- Shredding

On Campus

- Move/repair furniture
- Recycling
- Media Program
- Shredding
- Carpentry
- Gardening and Lawncare Maintenance
- Changing outdoor decorations
- Taking care of the flag
- Small appliance repair
- Assisting with grounds and facilities maintenance

Students with significant intellectual and developmental disabilities ages 18-22 **in their last year of school** eligibility who have a desire to achieve competitive employment are eligible.

An application is required and students are selected by a committee based on qualifying factors:

- Desire to work after the program
- Ability to take direction
- Attendance
- Discipline
- Work Skills

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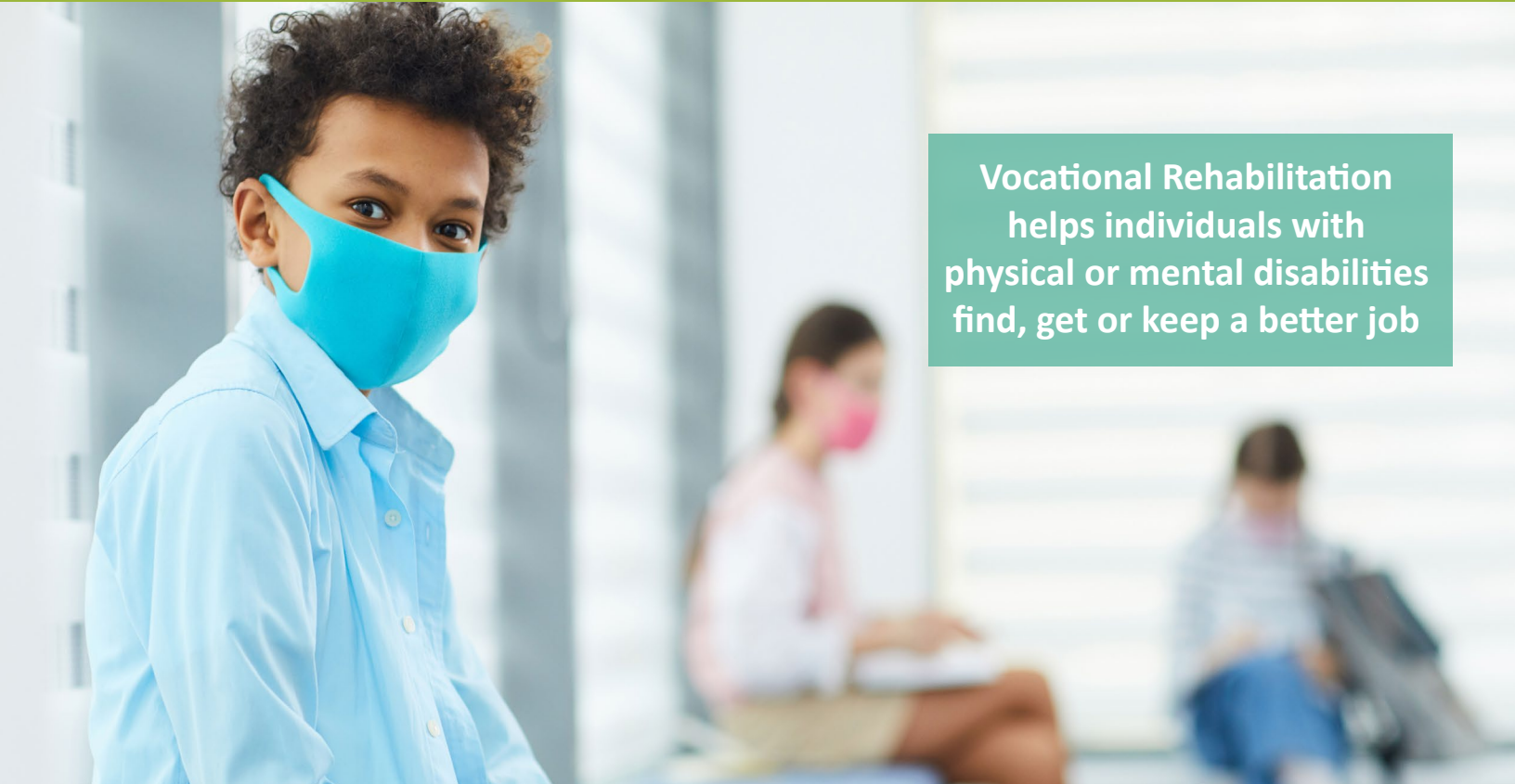
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Pre-Employment Transition Services



Vocational Rehabilitation helps individuals with physical or mental disabilities find, get or keep a better job

The Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) works together with students, families, schools and community agencies and organizations to provide services that promote successful transitions from school to work and into adult life.

What is Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) offer students with disabilities an early start at career exploration and preparation for adult life.

Beginning at age 14, students with disabilities can connect with VR for Pre-ETS. VR works with students, their families, their schools and community partners to enrich transition planning and support students with gaining knowledge and experiences necessary so they may make informed decisions about their future.

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA), every student (ages 14-21) with a disability has the opportunity to participate in Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS). This includes:

- Job-exploration counseling
- Work readiness training
- Work-based learning experience
- Postsecondary educational counseling, and
- Self-advocacy training and peer mentoring

Students with disabilities may participate in Pre-ETS without having to apply to VR or be determined eligible for services. The focus is to develop work skills, practice social skills and acquire a network of community supports while the student is still in high school.

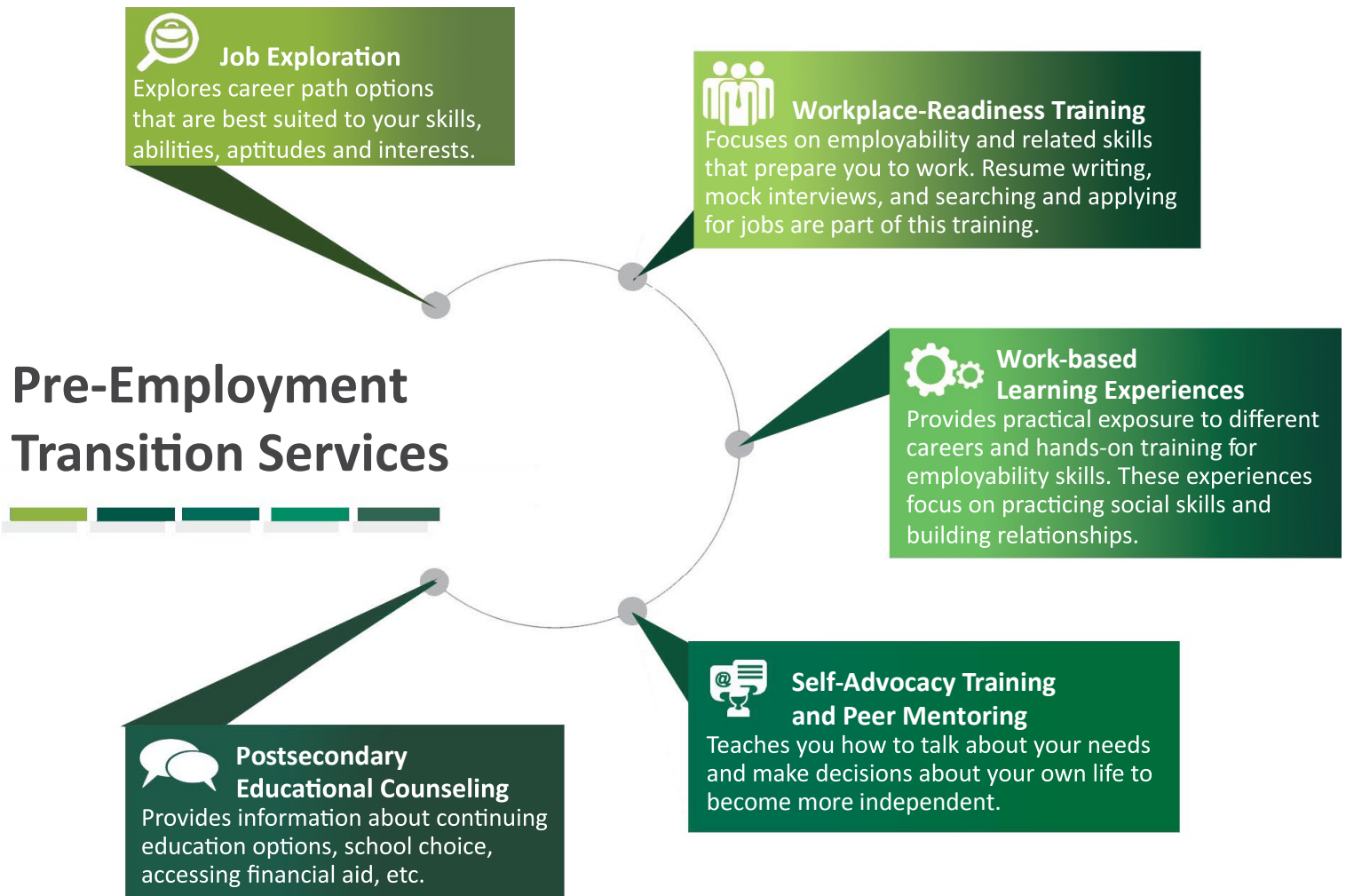


Who Can Participate in Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Students with disabilities ages 14-21 who are currently enrolled in school.

What are the Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Pre-ETS include job exploration, workplace-readiness training, work-based learning experiences, training on self-advocacy (e.g., youth peer mentoring) and postsecondary educational counseling.



How Does a Student Access Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Students can contact a VR office or request a referral from their school.

Contact Vocational Rehabilitation



850-245-3399
800-451-4327



VRTransitionYouth@
vr.fldoe.org



www.RehabWorks.org



Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Transition Youth Services
4070 Esplanade Way, 2nd Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32399-7016

The Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is an equal opportunity employer. It is against the law for VR as a recipient of Federal financial assistance to discriminate against any individual in the United States on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief. The application process used by VR to determine eligibility for services, any subsequent services and the entire VR process are subject to these non-discrimination requirements. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. VR program receives 78.7 percent of its funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For the 2020 Federal fiscal year, the total amount of grant funds awarded were \$153,000,001. The remaining 21.3 percent of the costs (\$41,409,148) were funded by Florida State Appropriations. Revised October 2020.

Standard Diploma Requirements

Academic Advisement – What Students and Parents Need to Know

What are the diploma options?

Students must successfully complete one of the following diploma options:

- 24-credit standard diploma
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma curriculum

What are the state assessment requirements?

Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA) or a concordant score
- Algebra 1 end of course (EOC) or a comparative score

Refer to [Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments](#) for concordant and comparative scores.

Students enrolled in the following courses must participate in the corresponding EOC assessment, which constitutes 30 percent of the final course grade⁺:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Biology 1
- U.S. History

⁺Special note: Thirty percent not applicable if not enrolled in the course but passed the EOC (credit acceleration program [CAP]).

What is the difference between the 18-credit ACCEL option and the 24-credit option?

- 3 elective credits instead of 8
- Physical Education is not required
- Online course is not required

What is the difference between the CTE Pathway option and the 24-credit option?

- At least 18 credits are required
- 4 elective credits instead of 8
 - 2 credits in CTE courses, must result in completion and industry certification
 - 2 credits in work-based learning programs or up to 2 elective credits including financial literacy
- Physical Education is not required
- Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts is not required
- Online course is not required

24 Credit Standard Diploma

4 Credits ELA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELA 1, 2, 3, 4 • ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), AICE, IB and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement
4 Credits Mathematics*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry • Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry) • An identified computer science** credit may substitute for up to one mathematics credit (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)
3 Credits Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of which must be Biology 1, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses • Two of the three required course credits must have a laboratory component • Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1) • An identified computer science** credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)
3 Credits Social Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 credit in World History • 1 credit in U.S. History • 0.5 credit in U.S. Government • 0.5 credit in Economics
1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts*
1 Credit Physical Education*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To include the integration of health
8 Elective Credits
1 Online Course
<p>Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale for all cohort years and pass statewide, standardized assessments unless a waiver of assessment results is granted by the IEP team for students with disabilities.</p>

* Eligible courses are specified in the [Florida Course Code Directory](#).

**A computer science credit may not be used to substitute for both a mathematics and science credit.

Scholar Diploma Designation

In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements, a student must meet all of the following requirements:

- Earn 1 credit in Algebra 2 or an equally rigorous course
- Pass the Geometry EOC
- Earn 1 credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course
- Pass the Biology 1 EOC*
- Earn 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics
- Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics
- Pass the U.S. History EOC*
- Earn 2 credits in the same World Language
- Earn at least 1 credit in an AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course

*A student is exempt from the Biology 1 or U.S. History EOC assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP, IB or AICE Biology 1 or U.S. History course; takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment; and earns the minimum score to earn college credit.

Merit Diploma Designation

- Meet the standard high school diploma requirements
- Attain one or more [industry certifications](#) from the list established (per s. 1003.492, F.S.)

What are the additional graduation options for students with disabilities ?

Two additional options are available only to students with disabilities. Both allow students to substitute a CTE course with related content for one credit in ELA 4, mathematics, science and social studies (excluding Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology 1 and U.S. History). The two options are as follows:

- Students with significant cognitive disabilities may earn credits via access courses and be assessed via an alternate assessment.
- Students who choose the academic and employment option must earn at least 0.5 credit via paid employment.

What is the CAP?

The CAP allows a student to earn high school credit if the student passes an AP examination, a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or a statewide course assessment without enrollment in the course. The courses include:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Biology 1
- U.S. History

State University System (SUS)

Admission into Florida's public universities is competitive. Prospective students should complete a rigorous course of study in high school and apply to more than one university to increase their chance for acceptance. To qualify to enter one of Florida's public universities, a first-time-in-college student must meet the following minimum requirements (credit earned by industry certification does not count for SUS admission):

- High school graduation with a standard diploma, a minimum of a 2.5 GPA, and admission test scores meeting minimum college-ready test scores per Board of Governors (BOG) Regulation 6.008
- 16 credits of approved college preparatory academic courses per BOG Regulation 6.002
- 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
- 4 Mathematics (Algebra 1 level and above)
- 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
- 3 Social Science
- 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language or other equivalents)
- 2 approved electives

[State University System of Florida](#)

The Florida College System

The 28 colleges of the Florida College System serve nearly 800,000 students. Colleges offer affordable and stackable workforce credentials including certificate programs, associate in science degrees and associate in arts degrees, which transfer to a bachelor's degree program. Many colleges also offer workforce bachelor's degree programs in areas of high demand. All Florida College System institutions have open-door admissions for students who earned a standard high school diploma or an equivalent diploma or successfully earned college credit.

[Florida College System](#)

Career and Technical Colleges and Centers

Florida also offers students 49 accredited career and technical colleges or centers throughout the state, which provide the education and certification necessary to work in a particular career or technical field. Programs are flexible for students and provide industry-specific education and training for a wide variety of occupations.

[Career and Technical Education Directors](#)

Where is information on financial aid located?

The Florida Department of Education's Office of Student Financial Assistance administers a variety of postsecondary educational state-funded grants and scholarships.

[Office of Student Financial Assistance](#)