

6A-6.0576 CAPE Industry Certification Funding List

(1) No change.

(2) Definitions. The following definitions must be used in this rule and incorporated documents:

(a) through (b) No change.

(c) “CAPE Acceleration Industry Certifications” means certifications identified on the Funding List pursuant to the requirements in Sections 1003.4203(4) and 1008.44(1)(c)(e), F.S. These certifications have statewide articulation agreements for fifteen (15) or more college credits in a related postsecondary associate degree program.

(d) through (n) No change.

(3) through (4) No change.

(5) General requirements for inclusion on the Funding List for CAPE Industry Certifications, CAPE Acceleration Industry Certifications and any certification approved for CAPE postsecondary funding eligibility. ~~For inclusion on this list, each certification must:~~

(a) Effective for the 2025-26 CAPE Industry Certification Funding List, each certification must meet the following criteria: Require written or performance based examinations for students that are designed to award a certificate only when a student demonstrates competency or proficiency in the certification area;

1. The certification must result in the award of a time-limited certificate or badge, signed or issued by a representative of the certifying agency, documenting successful completion of written and/or performance-based assessments.

2. The certification must be developed and issued by a third-party certifying agency which is a recognized industry, trade, or professional entity for the occupations to which the credential is linked or a state or federal regulatory body for the related occupations.

3. The certifying agency must require all assessments to be delivered in a proctored environment where assessment delivery is overseen by an authorized individual who ensures the identity of the test taker and the security of the testing environment.

4. The certifying agency must require the exam questions be delivered in a secure manner and not be available to the test proctor for an extended period of time, other than the time necessary to receive, distribute, and return any written materials to the scoring entity.

5. The certifying agency must require that written examinations be scored by the certifying agency.

6. The certifying agency must have a testing time limit established for all written assessments required to earn the industry certification and this requirement must apply to all individuals seeking to earn the certification, notwithstanding accommodations for students with disabilities.

7. The certifying agency must provide publicly available and downloadable documentation related to the standards and requirements on the certifying agency's website. At a minimum, the following information must be publicly posted: test blueprint, minimum performance level(s), proctoring requirements, the exam registration process, and process for approval of accommodations for candidates with disabilities.

8. The industry certification must be obtainable by a candidate for the credential without use of specific courseware or curriculum, notwithstanding any state or federal requirements for a license to practice in an occupation.

(b) If an industry certification is on the 2024-25 CAPE Industry Certification Funding List and the requirements for inclusion above cannot be documented by July 15, 2025, the certification will be flagged for removal on the 2025-26 funding list and removed from the 2026-27 list. All new industry certifications submitted for consideration for addition to the funding list as specified in subsection (7) must meet these requirements to be considered for inclusion on the 2025-26 list and subsequent years. ~~Be developed by a third party and administered in accordance with the test administration procedures specified by the certifying agency;~~

(c) For any credential flagged for removal from the next year's funding list, school districts may submit documentation and request an updated review to verify a certification's compliance with these eligibility requirements by the last business day in November each year. Requests for review must be submitted in writing to industrycertification@fldoe.org. Upon receipt of the request, the Department will review documentation provided. If a certification's eligibility is substantiated, the flag will be removed in the next scheduled rule amendment or on the adopted listed for the subsequent year. ~~Require all written examinations be proctored by a third party and not proctored by the individual providing direct instruction for the industry certification;~~

(d) ~~Require performance-based competency examinations be independently evaluated and not performed by the student's direct instructor;~~

(e) ~~Require the exam questions be delivered in a secure manner and not available to the test proctor for an extended period of time, other than the time necessary to receive, distribute, and return any written materials to the scoring entity; and,~~

~~(f) Require that the written examinations be scored by the certifying agency.~~

(6) No change.

(7) School District Requests for an Industry Certification for FEFP Funding Eligibility and Secondary Career and Technical Education Program Linkages. School districts may request an industry certification approved on the Master Credentials List for FEFP funding eligibility and industry certification linkages to secondary career and technical education program or program of study during an annual submission window. The request window allows school districts to submit information for the following purposes: request FEFP funding eligibility and program linkages for an industry certification which was added to the Master Credentials List since the last funding list adoption; request FEFP funding eligibility and program linkages for an industry certification on the Master Credentials List which only has postsecondary funding eligibility on the most recent CAPE funding list; and, request new program linkages for certifications that are already approved for the CAPE funding list.

(a) No change.

(b) The request must demonstrate that the certification meets the requirements for inclusion on the CAPE funding list as specified in subsection (5) and paragraph (6)(a) of this rule.

(c) through (e) No change.

(8) through (10) No change.

(11) Conditions for FEFP calculation of the 0.3 FTE for Career Pathways Completion.

(a) through (c) No change.

(d) For the 2025-26 FEFP calculation, school districts shall report 0.3 FTE for each program in which a student satisfied the criteria for a CTE Pathway Completer. This additional FTE shall be reported in the student database formats. To report a student with 0.3 FTE, the following conditions must be met:

1. A student must not have generated funding for the district in a program of concentration in the 2024-25 FEFP in the Department's calculation from paragraph (11)(c). Once a program generates funding for a student, it may not be reported for funding again. To be used for this calculation, the completion of the third or more course toward concentrator status and attainment of the industry certification in the related program must have occurred after July 1, 2023.

2. A student must have satisfied the requirements to be a CTE Concentrator in a program identified on the Secondary Career and Technical Education Programs and Associated Courses with Dual Enrollment Course

Substitutions list and-

~~3. A student must have~~ completed an industry certification related to the CTE program of concentration as approved on the Secondary Career and Technical Education Program to Certification Linkage List while enrolled in the district.

4. renumbered 3. and 5. renumbered 4. No change.

(e) No change.

(12) through (19) No change.

Rulemaking Authority 1001.02(1), (2)(n), 1003.4203(8), 1003.491(5)(d), 1008.44(1), 1011.62(1) FS. Law

Implemented 1003.4203, 1003.491, 1003.492, 1003.493, 1003.4935, 1011.80, 1011.81, 1008.44, 1011.62(1) FS.

History–New 9-20-22, Amended 5-23-23, 9-26-23, 7-2-24, 9-24-24, 2-18-25.