



**THE YEAR OF THE TEACHER**

# 2020 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

FLORIDA EDUCATION COMMISSIONER RICHARD CORCORAN



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**  
fldoc.org



## 2020 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

2020 will undoubtedly be remembered as “The Year of the Teacher,” thanks to the bold vision and leadership of Governor DeSantis. Florida continues to solidify its place as the “Education State,” by seeking a bold and aggressive platform of education reforms that will benefit students, parents and teachers alike.

The monumental passage of a first-of-its-kind bill that sets a minimum teacher salary in Florida is historic. Now, Florida will explode up the national rankings by having the 5<sup>th</sup>-highest starting teacher salary in the nation. It is an indication of the respect and admiration we have for our committed, selfless and dedicated teachers. There has never been a better time to be a teacher in Florida.

Florida’s students are also poised to benefit from the enduring focus on transforming the education landscape. The Florida Department of Education also reinforced its dedication to:

✓ REINVIGORATING OUR STATE’S COMMITMENT TO SCHOOL CHOICE FOR ALL WHO SEEK IT;

✓ IMPROVING THE SAFETY AND HEALTH OF OUR STUDENTS AND FACULTY;

✓ IMPARTING TO STUDENTS THE VALUE OF LIFELONG LEARNING AND CIVIC LITERACY;

✓ EMPHASIZING WORKFORCE EDUCATION AS AN EXCELLENT CAREER PATHWAY TO SUCCESS; AND

✓ HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF MILLIONS OF VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES WHO CALL FLORIDA HOME.

When we work to promote true freedom and equity in education, we recognize that a world-class education is foundational to the prosperity of not only our state, but also our country!

We are pleased to present the following review of legislation that will surely improve education for years to come. There is no question that Florida remains steadfast in its mission to be the top education system in the country.

Sincerely,

Richard Corcoran  
Florida Commissioner of Education



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S 2020 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### ***Major Investments in Education***

- A total commitment of \$21.6 billion for early learners through postsecondary students.
- Florida Education Finance Program total increase of \$641 million for K-12.
- Giving districts greater spending flexibility with a \$137 total per student funding increase that includes a significant increase of \$40 per student in the Base Student Allocation (BSA).
- \$9.9 million increase for Voluntary Prekindergarten, the highest BSA since 2011-12 and first increase since 2014-15.

### ***Elevating and Celebrating Educators***

- Marking 2020 as “The Year of the Teacher” with a bold step to move Florida to #5 in the nation in terms of minimum teacher pay with a \$500 million pay increase for teachers ([HB 641](#) and [HB 5001](#)).
- Following Governor DeSantis’ request to eliminate Common Core from our classrooms, \$2.7 million is allocated for teacher professional development to help our educators become experts in Florida’s new Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) and Math.
- Covered the \$850,000 cost to provide all educators with liability insurance to allow them to focus on doing what matters most – educating and inspiring their students to succeed in life.

### ***Increasing Educational Choice Options for Florida’s Families and Students***

- Expanded access while continuing to prioritize low-income families to ensure a world-class education is in reach for every student regardless of race, zip code or socio-economic status for school choice programs like the Family Empowerment Scholarship and Florida Tax Credit Scholarship ([HB 7067](#)).
- Increased the Family Empowerment Scholarship maximum enrollment cap to allow 28,000 additional students to benefit from Florida’s world-class school choice options ([HB 7067](#)).
- A considerable commitment to our most vulnerable students with unique needs by fully funding the Gardiner Scholarship Program and its waitlist of 3,000 students at \$190 million.
- Provided 15,000 public school students in grades 3-5 with access to Reading Scholarship Accounts with \$7.6 million to improve their literacy skills and ensure they read on grade level as they matriculate through middle and high school.

### ***Aligning Education to the Goals of Lifelong Learning, Civic Literacy and Support for our Military***



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- The Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Pilot Program will assist selected school districts in implementing comprehensive music education programs for students in kindergarten through grade 2 ([SB 156](#)).
- Helping to create informed and knowledgeable citizens, the statewide Florida Civics and Debate Initiative will expand speech and debate programs throughout the state and engage students in civil discussions with the Legislature's support of \$925,000 and a \$5 million multi-year commitment from the Marcus Foundation ([HB 5001](#)).
- Created the Florida Institute of Politics within Florida State University to provide the southeastern region of the United States with a world class, bipartisan, nationally renowned institute of politics ([SB 72](#)).
- Ensured that service members and veterans are able to earn a degree conveniently and efficiently by implementing a process to award postsecondary credit for training and education acquired during their military career at each of Florida's public colleges and universities will help our heroes transition back to civilian life ([HB 171](#)).
- Modified school district residency requirements to accommodate military families with greater flexibility to enroll in school will give families peace of mind and make their transition to Florida easier ([SB 662](#)).

### ***Increasing Safe and Healthy Learning Environments***

- Increased the Mental Health Assistance Allocation by \$25 million to put more counselors and mental health professionals in our schools and to ensure more students have direct access to the care they need ([HB 5001](#)).
- Helped schools identify signs of emotional disturbance, mental illness and substance abuse with \$5.5 million for Youth Mental Health Awareness, providing educators with the skills to help students experiencing or overcoming these issues ([HB 945](#)).
- Allowed private and charter schools to receive Medicaid reimbursements for services provided to students that are currently eligible for Medicaid ([HB 81](#)).
- Enhanced school safety measures with \$180 million and \$42 million for school hardening grants to improve the physical security of school buildings.
- Created Alyssa's Law, requiring the Florida Department of Education to utilize \$8 million and work with each public school to implement a panic alert system capable of connecting diverse emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple first responders ([SB 70 & HB 5001](#)).
- Increased the penalties for reckless individuals who endanger the lives of students by violating laws relating to stopping for a school bus ([HB 37](#)).

### ***Expanding Opportunities for Students in Workforce Education***

- For three years, Florida has earned the distinction of being the #1 state for higher education in the country (U.S. News & World Report); Florida colleges were awarded \$23 million in tiered funding to help ensure our world-class ranked colleges continues their national dominance ([HB 5001](#)).
- A continued investment of \$10 million for the Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant to provide high-quality pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship opportunities to students



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by providing them with an avenue to help meet the needs of Florida's rapidly growing workforce ([HB 5001](#)).

- Provided \$20.5 million to school districts and colleges to offer industry certifications programs and to educate and train a skilled workforce in Florida's diverse labor market, allowing students to obtain high-paying jobs in high-demand fields ([HB 5001](#)).
- Allowed students who complete career certificate dual enrollment courses to be engaged in workforce learning opportunities and included in the school grading calculation ([SB 434](#)).
- Protected Floridians who may have fallen on hard times the ability to remain in the workforce by preventing the state from denying, suspending or refusing to renew certain occupational licenses solely because of late or delinquent student loan payments ([HB 115](#)).
- Continued investment of \$10 million for computer science professional development to provide skills and training to those educating future computer programmers.
- Starting in the 2021-2022 school year, students receiving the Florida Bright Futures Medallion Scholarship will receive 100% of their tuition and fees paid for if they select to attend a Florida College System institution, creating an affordable alternative for students to finance a higher education and enter the workforce ([SB 72](#)).
- Provided heightened governance and collaboration opportunities for ABLE Trust to support job exploration and workforce readiness training to students with disabilities ([HB 901](#)).



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## HOUSE BILL 37 – SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Representative Zika, Representative Slosberg and State Affairs Committee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	January 1, 2021
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends section 318.18, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

Increases the minimum civil penalties for violations related to the illegal passing of stopped school buses.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Increases the minimum civil penalty for failure to stop for a school bus from \$100 to \$200.
- For a subsequent offense within five years, the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) must suspend the license of the driver for a minimum of 180 days and not more than one year.
- Raises the minimum civil penalty for passing a school bus on the side that children enter and exit, from \$200 to \$400.
- For a subsequent offense within five years, DHSMV must suspend the license of the driver for a minimum of 360 days and not more than two years.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JANUARY 1, 2021</b>	The bill becomes effective
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## SENATE BILL 70 – ALERT SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Senator Book, Appropriations Committee and Infrastructure and Security Committee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends section 1006.07, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

Requires each public school in Florida to implement a mobile panic alert system capable of connecting diverse emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple first responders.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The act is known as “Alyssa’s Law.”
- Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, each public school must implement a mobile panic alert system, known as “Alyssa’s Alert,” to: (1) connect with diverse emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple responders; and (2) integrate with local public safety answering point infrastructure to transmit 911 calls and mobile device activations.
- School districts may implement additional strategies or systems to ensure real-time coordination between multiple first responders in a school security emergency.
- In consultation with the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Florida Department of Education is required to develop a competitive solicitation for the statewide mobile panic alert system that may be used by the school districts.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
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## SENATE BILL 72 – HIGHER EDUCATION

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Senator Stargel and Appropriations Committee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020, except as otherwise provided
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends sections (ss.) 287.057, 1001.03, 1001.7065, 1001.92, 1004.085, 1004.346, 1009.50, 1009.505, 1009.51, 1009.52, 1009.534, 1009.893 and 1011.45, Florida Statutes (F.S.). Creates ss. 1004.6499 and 1012.977, F.S.

### SUMMARY

The bill modifies requirements for higher education institutions as they relate to building projects, grant programs, academic/research standards and establishes the Florida Institute of Politics and the Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic Freedom.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Expands the criteria by which a state agency may contract with a specified nonpublic college or university.
- Modifies Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) criteria for new construction, renovation, or remodeling at a Florida College System (FCS) institution.
- Includes opt-in and opt-out provisions for postsecondary students as it relates to innovative pricing techniques and payment options.
- Establishes the Florida Institute of Politics at Florida State University and The Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic Freedom at Florida International University.
- Clarifies maximum award amounts, eligibility, awards for summer terms and priority for certain students for all Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG) Programs.
- Modifies the Florida Academic Scholar (FAS) award to specify the annual stipend amount for textbooks in the General Appropriations Act (GAA).
- Modifies the Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) award to provide, beginning in fall 2021, an award equal to 100% tuition and specific fees for an awardee enrolled in an FCS institution’s associate degree program.
- Modifies the Benacquisto Scholarship Program:
  - Clarifies the program is for students designated as "National Merit Scholars" removing the "National Achievement Scholar" designation.
  - Specifies scholarship renewal students must be enrolled full-time to receive scholarship funding.
  - Requirements for initial eligibility and scholarship renewal provisions.
- Modifies provisions relating to the carry forward of operational funds by state universities and FCS institutions.
- Modifies the FSAG for public, private, postsecondary and career education:
  - Limits the maximum annual award amount to that specified in the General Appropriations Act (GAA).



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- Modifies the eligible student population to students with up to one and one-half times the maximum Pell Grant-eligible family contribution.
- Requires institutions to report all students eligible for a disbursement.
- Establishes priority funding for FSAG recipients who are within one semester from completing their degree or certificate.
- Establishes reconciliation requirements for fall/spring funding.
- Allows for FSAG summer funding and establishes FSAG summer funding reporting deadlines.

### **GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE**

<b>UPON BECOMING LAW</b>	Academic and research excellence standards, preeminence standards, emerging preeminent funding provisions and program of distinction provisions are amended
<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective, except as otherwise provided
<b>FALL 2021</b>	FMS enrolled in an associate degree program at an FCS institution are eligible for an award equal to 100% tuition and specific fees



## HOUSE BILL 81 – HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Representative Andrade and Health and Human Services Committee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends sections (ss.) 383.14, 383.318, 395.1053, 409.9071, 409.908 and 1002.391, Florida Statutes (F.S.). Creates s. 456.0496, F.S.

### SUMMARY

The bill requires the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) to release a pamphlet with information on screening for preventable childhood eye and vision disorders. In addition, the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) is directed to make Medicaid reimbursements to school districts for eligible school-based health services provided to any student, not just students with disabilities. The bill revises the definition of “Auditory-oral education program,” and requires a student’s individual educational plan (IEP) team to include a certified listening and spoken language specialist from the student’s family’s chosen auditory-oral education program.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- FDOH’s pamphlet must be available electronically.
- Hospitals and other healthcare providers that provide birthing services are required to provide FDOH’s pamphlet to each parent upon the birth of a baby.
- AHCA is authorized to provide school districts with Medicaid reimbursements for eligible school-based health services provided to any Medicaid-eligible student, not just students with disabilities.
- For purposes of s. 1002.391, F.S., the meaning of “auditory-oral education program” is revised to include the use of faculty and supervisors certified as listening and spoken language specialists each day the child is in attendance. A student’s IEP team must include a certified listening and spoken language specialist from the family’s chosen auditory-oral education program to determine the student’s level of services.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
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## HOUSE BILL 115 – KEEP OUR GRADUATES WORKING ACT

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Representative Duran, Commerce Committee, Health Quality Subcommittee and Business and Professions Subcommittee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Creates section (s.) 120.82, Florida Statutes (F.S.), amends ss. 456.0635, 456.072, 456.074, 1009.95 and repeals s. 456.0721, F.S.

### SUMMARY

Creates the Keep Our Graduates Working Act of 2020 and establishes that state authorities cannot deny, refuse to renew, suspend or revoke professional licenses, certificates or registrations solely because a student loan borrower is in default or is delinquent on federal or state student loans.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Floridians who graduate from an accredited college or university can maintain their occupational licenses and remain in the workforce while paying off their student loan debt.
- Failing to repay a student loan issued by or guaranteed by the state or the federal government is not considered a failure to perform a statutory or legal obligation placed upon a licensee, as grounds for disciplinary action under s. 456.072, F.S.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
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## SENATE BILL 156 – EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC EDUCATION INCENTIVE PILOT PROGRAM

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Senators Perry, Stewart, Diaz, Appropriations Committee and Education Committee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends section 1003.481, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

Enhances student access to early childhood music education by extending the Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Pilot Program (pilot program) to June 30, 2022, and revises eligibility and evaluation requirements to encourage greater participation in districts and wider dissemination of findings.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Extends the scheduled expiration of the pilot program from June 30, 2020, to June 30, 2022.
- Allows districts to participate in the pilot program with only specified elementary schools having an established comprehensive music education program, rather than requiring a program in each elementary school.
- Evaluation of the pilot program will be a collaborative effort between the Florida International University School of Music and the University of Florida College of Education. Results from the evaluation will be shared with the Florida Center for Partnerships for Arts-Integrated Teaching.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
<b>JUNE 30, 2022</b>	Pilot program expires



## HOUSE BILL 171 – POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FOR CERTAIN MILITARY PERSONNEL

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Representative Ponder, Representative Hattersley and Higher Education and Career Readiness Subcommittee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	Upon becoming law
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends sections 1004.096 and 1009.26, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

Requires the Board of Governors (BOG) and the State Board of Education (SBOE), in consultation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to create a process for the uniform award of postsecondary credit or career education clock hours to certain servicemembers and veterans of the United States Armed Forces. This includes the establishment of an Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) workgroup that will be responsible for developing the process for determining postsecondary course equivalencies and minimum postsecondary credit or career clock hours.

Requires certain military personnel transcript fees to be waived by specified postsecondary institutions.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Creates a process that enables servicemembers or veterans to earn uniform postsecondary credit or career education clock hours for training and education acquired during service.
- Requires career centers, State University System (SUS) and Florida College System (FCS) institutions to award credit or clock hours for courses deemed equivalent of courses taken and occupations held while in the military, if the courses are applicable to the student's degree or certificate. Institutions may award additional credit or clock hours if appropriate.
- Requires career centers, charter technical career centers, SUS and FCS institutions to waive the transcript fee for active duty members or honorably discharged veterans, and the spouse and dependents of both.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>UPON BECOMING LAW</b>	Postsecondary institutions are to waive the transcript fee for active duty members of the United States Armed Forces, certain veterans, and their spouses and dependents
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**JULY 15, 2020**

The ACC shall convene a workgroup to develop the process determining postsecondary course equivalencies and minimum postsecondary credit or career clock hours to be awarded.

**DECEMBER 1, 2020**

The workgroup shall provide recommendations to the BOG and the SBOE for approval at the next meeting of each board

**ONE YEAR FROM BOG  
AND SBOE APPROVAL**

The ACC shall approve a prioritized list of postsecondary course equivalencies and the minimum postsecondary credit or career education clock hours

**ANNUALLY**

The ACC must update the prioritized list of postsecondary course equivalencies and the minimum postsecondary credit or career education clock hours, and the BOG and SBOE shall timely adopt the updated list



## SENATE BILL 434 – DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL GRADES

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Senator Montford and Education Committee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends section 1008.34, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

Adds career clock-hour dual enrollment to the school grading calculation.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, schools will receive credit in the College and Career Acceleration component of the school grading calculation for students who complete 300 or more clock hours of approved career dual enrollment courses.
- The impact of this amendment will not be fully felt until Summer or 2025 as the class of 2024 will be the first graduation cohort to have the full complement of four years of clock-hour lists.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
<b>2024-2025</b>	Changes to the school grading calculation will take effect



## HOUSE BILL 641 – FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF SCHOOLS

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Representative Plasencia and Representative Overdorf
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020, unless otherwise provided
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends sections (ss.) 1007.27, 1011.62 and 1006.33, Florida Statutes (F.S.). Repeals ss. 1012.731 and 1012.732, F.S.

### SUMMARY

The bill removes the limit on the number of postsecondary credit hours that a secondary student may earn through International Baccalaureate (IB) and Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) programs. The bill amends the calculation of the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), as outlined in s. 1011.62, F.S., to provide additional funding for students who earn Advanced Placement (AP) Capstone Diplomas, repeals the Florida Best and Brightest Teacher and Principal Programs. The bill creates the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation, with \$500 million provided in Specific Appropriation 92 in House Bill 5001 General Appropriations Act (GAA), making this the single largest teacher compensation package in the history of Florida. Additionally, ranking Florida number five in the nation for average minimum salary. The Florida Department of Education (department) may establish timeframes for the advertisement and submission of instructional materials bids for the 2020 adoption cycle.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Removes the limit on the number of postsecondary credit hours that a secondary student may receive through IB, AICE and pre-AICE programs. Previously, students could earn no more than 30 semester credit hours through these programs.
- Provides an additional value of 0.3 weighted full-time equivalent (FTE) student membership for funding through the FEFP for any student who receives a College Board AP Capstone Diploma and meets the requirements for a standard high school diploma.
- Creates the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation to the calculation of the FEFP and establishes the policy for the distribution of the new allocation.
  - A portion of the allocation (\$400 million provided in Specific Appropriation 92 of GAA) requires school districts and charter schools to increase the salaries of all full-time district and charter school instructional classroom teachers (including certified pre-kindergarten teachers funded through the FEFP) to at least \$47,500 or the maximum amount achievable based on the district’s allocation. Substitute teachers are excluded from this increase.
    - The bill specifies that moving forward no full-time classroom teacher will receive a salary less than the minimum base salary.



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- After a district meets the minimum salary threshold requirements, districts may use the other allocation amount (\$100 million provided in Specific Appropriation 92 of GAA) to provide salary increases to:
  - Classroom teachers (including certified prekindergarten teachers funded through the FEFP) who did not receive an increase under the \$400 million allocation;
  - Classroom teachers (including certified prekindergarten teachers funded through the FEFP) who received an increase of less than two percent under the \$400 million allocation; and
  - Other full-time instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(b)-(d), F.S., classroom teachers, student personal services, librarians/media specialists, and other instructional staff (excluding substitute teachers).
- Distributes allocations for the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation based on each district's share of statewide total base funding.
- Prior to the distribution of funds, school districts are required to submit to department their salary distribution plans as approved by the school board and the charter school salary distribution plans as approved by their governing boards. The plans are due to the department by October 1, 2020, and must clearly delineate the proposed distribution of Teacher Salary Increase Allocation funds, including salary distribution plans for district charter schools.
- Requires school districts to submit a preliminary report to the department detailing planned expenditures of the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation by December 1, 2020, and a final report by August 1, 2021. Each charter school must provide the required information to the district school board for inclusion in the district's report. The department must submit a report on the planned statewide expenditure of Teacher Salary Increase Allocation funds to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House by February 1, 2021.
- Repeals the Florida Best and Brightest Teacher and Principal Programs, which were funded at \$284.5 million in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- Allows the department to establish timeframes for the advertisement and submission of bids for instructional materials for the 2020 adoption cycle.

### **GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE**

<b>UPON BECOMING LAW</b>	Section 5 takes effect, allowing the department to establish timeframes for the advertisement and submission of instructional materials bids for the 2020 adoption cycle
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<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	Sections 1 through 4 of the bill take effect
<b>OCTOBER 1, 2020</b>	School districts must submit an approved Teacher Salary Increase Allocation distribution plan along with the approved salary distribution plan for each charter school in the district to the department
<b>DECEMBER 1, 2020</b>	Each school district must submit a preliminary detailed Teacher Salary Increase Allocation expenditure report to the department
<b>FEBRUARY 1, 2021</b>	The department must submit a preliminary statewide report on the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation to the legislature and Governor
<b>AUGUST 1, 2021</b>	School districts must submit a final Teacher Salary Increase Allocation expenditure report to the department
<b>JULY 1, 2022</b>	Section 5 on instructional materials expires



## SENATE BILL 646 – INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETE COMPENSATION AND RIGHTS

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Senator Mayfield, Innovation Industry and Technology Committee and Education Committee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2021
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Creates section (s.) 1006.74, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and amends s. 468.453, F.S.

### SUMMARY

Establishes the rights of student athletes including the right to earn compensation for the use of their name, image or likeness (NIL) and the responsibilities of their postsecondary educational institutions.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Authorizes an intercollegiate athlete to earn compensation for the use of his/her NIL while maintaining a separation between amateur and professional sports.
- Outlines responsibilities and restrictions of postsecondary educational institutions related to student athlete compensation, contracts and a required workshop on financial literacy and life skills for student athletes.
- Requires the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to adopt regulations and rules.
- Provides regulations on qualifications and licensure for athlete agents representing student athletes for contracts.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2021</b>	The bill becomes effective
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## SENATE BILL 662 – EDUCATION AND THE MILITARY

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Senator Wright, Rules Committee, Military Veterans Affairs and Space Committee and Education Committee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends sections 1003.05 and 1008.34, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

Provides greater flexibility to transitioning students of military families for enrollment and certain preferential treatment. Adds to the school grading calculation Armed Services Qualification Test (ASQT) scores and Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (JROTC) course participation.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Deems a student a resident of a school district when the parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation within Florida for enrollment and preferential treatment in special programs.
- Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, schools will receive credit in the College and Career Acceleration component of the school grading calculation for students who earn an ASQT score in Category II or higher and at least two JROTC credits from the same branch of the United States Armed Forces.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
<b>2022-2023</b>	Changes to the school grading calculation will take effect



## SENATE BILL 828 – FLORIDA ABLE PROGRAM

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Senator Benacquisto
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	Upon becoming law
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends section 1009.986, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

The bill saves from repeal Florida ABLE, Inc., a direct-support organization for the Florida Prepaid College Board that administers the Florida ABLE Program.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Repeals the sunset date for the Florida ABLE Program, allowing the program to continue.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>UPON BECOMING LAW</b>	The bill becomes effective
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## SENATE BILL 830 – OGSR/CERTAIN PERSONAL FINANCIAL AND HEALTH INFORMATION

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Senator Benacquisto
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	October 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends section (s.) 1009.987, Florida Statutes (F.S.)

### SUMMARY

The bill saves from repeal the provision that provides that certain personal financial and health information that is held by the Florida Prepaid College Board; Florida Able, Inc.; the Florida ABLE program; or an agent or service provider of one of those previously listed is confidential and exempt from certain public disclosure requirements.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Removes the scheduled repeal date for s. 1009.987, F.S.
- The personal financial and health information held by the entities mentioned in the bill continues to be regarded as confidential and exempt from public disclosure requirements beyond October 2, 2020.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>OCTOBER 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
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## HOUSE BILL 901 – VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Representative Ponder and Higher Education and Career Readiness Subcommittee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends sections (ss.) 413.20, 413.207, 413.23, 413.30, 413.301, 413.405 and 1003.5716, Florida Statutes (F.S.)

### SUMMARY

Revises the duties of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) to describe the provision of Pre-Employment Transition Services to students with disabilities within specific timelines. Amends the Able Trust Board membership and changes recommended by the Florida Department of Education’s (department) Office of Inspector General (OIG).

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Federal law changed in 2014 to require VR to provide specific Pre-Employment Transition Services to students with disabilities. The services have been added to statute to describe the services VR provides, including specific timelines.
- The *Five-Year Performance Report* requirements were modified to add information about services provided to youth and students with disabilities, match requirements and expenditure information.
- Revises requirements for individual educational plans (IEP) for students with disabilities to include a statement of measurable postsecondary education and career goals concerning Pre-Employment Transition Services.
- Revises The Able Trust statute to include the Director of VR, or designee, as an ex officio board member and revises the board member terms to two 3-year terms or until resignation or removal for cause. Additionally, the bill includes recommendations by the department’s OIG to calculate the cap on administrative costs based on actual expenditures.
- Pre-Employment Transition Services, if appropriate, must be added to the statement of measurable long-term postsecondary education and career goals in the IEP for a student who will be 16 years of age or older when the IEP is in effect, or for a student who is younger, if determined appropriate by the parent and IEP team.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
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## 2020 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

**JULY 1, 2020**

VR will continue to provide Pre-Employment Transition Services to students with disabilities within the timeframes and requirements of the bill

**JULY 1, 2020**

The Able Trust will calculate administrative costs based on actual expenditures within the fiscal year according to the statutory definition

**DECEMBER 1, 2020**

VR will produce the required *Five-Year Performance Report*, including new data elements

## HOUSE BILL 945 – CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Representative Silvers, Representative Webb, Health and Human Services Committee and the Children, Families and Seniors Subcommittee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends sections 1003.02, 1004.44, 1006.04, 1002.20 and 1002.33, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

The bill requires a coordinated system of mental health care for children, the development of which is facilitated by each behavioral health managing entity. The system must integrate services provided through providers funded by the state's child-serving systems, as well as other systems for which children and adolescents would qualify, and facilitate access by children and adolescents to needed mental health treatment and services at any point of entry.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Requires district school boards and the Multiagency Network for Students with Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities (SEDNET) to participate in the planning process to promote a coordinated system of mental health care for children and adolescents.
- Requires the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute to develop a model response protocol for schools to use mobile response teams by August 1, 2020.
- Requires public school principals, or the principal's designee, to verify that de-escalation strategies and outreach to a mobile response team have been initiated before a law enforcement officer is contacted to remove a student for an involuntary examination, unless the delay will increase the likelihood of harm to the student or others.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
<b>AUGUST 1, 2020</b>	Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute must develop a model response protocol for schools to use mobile response teams

## HOUSE BILL 1213 – EDUCATIONAL INSTRUCTION OF HISTORICAL EVENTS

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Representative Fine, Representative Caruso, Education Committee and PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends section 1003.42, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

Requires the Commissioner of Education’s (Commissioner) African American History Task Force to examine ways to include the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots in the required instruction on African American history.

Revises the requirement to teach Holocaust education to include instruction concerning anti-Semitism; requires school districts to report Holocaust education instruction annually to the Florida Department of Education (department); requires the department to prepare and offer Holocaust education standards and curriculum; and designates the second week in November as “Holocaust Education Week.”

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Requires the Commissioner’s African American History Task Force to examine ways to include the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots in the required instruction on African American history.
- Encourages district school boards to seek opportunities to name school facilities in recognition of victims of the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots.
- Revises the requirement to teach Holocaust education to include instruction on anti-Semitism.
- Requires school districts to report Holocaust education instruction annually to the department.
- Requires the department to prepare and offer Holocaust education standards and curriculum and permits the department to seek input from the Commissioner’s Task Force on Holocaust Education or from any state or nationally recognized Holocaust educational organizations.
- Allows the department to contract with any state or nationally recognized Holocaust educational organizations to develop instructional personnel training and classroom resources.
- Designates the second week in November as “Holocaust Education Week.”



## 2020 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
<b>SECOND WEEK OF NOVEMBER (EACH YEAR)</b>	Designated as “Holocaust Education Week”
<b>MARCH 1, 2021</b>	The Commissioner’s African American History Task Force submits instruction recommendations on the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots to the State Board of Education and the Commissioner

## HOUSE BILL 7011 – STUDENT ATHLETES

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Representative Massullo, Education Committee and PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends sections 1006.165 and 1006.20, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

This “Zachary Martin Act” protects the well-being of students participating in extracurricular activities from exertional heat stroke by revising provisions related to automated external defibrillators (AED) on school grounds, training related to cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and AEDs, Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) student athlete safety policies and specified medical evaluations.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- FHSAA must establish guidelines for monitoring heat stress, for identifying heat stress levels at which a cooling zone must be made available for athletic activities, and for athlete hydration and use of electrolytes. The FHSAA must also make training available to member schools for the effective monitoring of heat stress and must establish requirements for cooling zones at athletic activities. The FHSAA must require member schools to monitor heat stress and modify athletic activities in accordance with the FHSAA guidelines to include onsite cooling using cold water immersion in emergency action plans for heat stroke, and to require student athletes to pass the annual medical evaluation before engaging in athletic activities.
- Beginning June 1, 2021, an employee or volunteer with current CPR and AED training must be present at each athletic activity during and outside of the school year.

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
<b>JUNE 1, 2021</b>	An employee or volunteer with current CPR and AED training must be present at each athletic activity during and outside of the school year



## HOUSE BILL 7067 – K-12 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

<b>BILL SPONSOR(S)</b>	Representative Sullivan and Education Committee
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE(S)</b>	July 1, 2020
<b>STATUTE(S)</b>	Amends sections 1002.394, 1002.395, 1002.40 and 1011.62, Florida Statutes

### SUMMARY

Revises scholarship eligibility for both the Family Empowerment Scholarship (FES) program and the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) scholarship program. The bill also increases the maximum student participation in the FES and provides additional requirements for Scholarship Funding Organizations (SFO). The bill provides more educational opportunities for children from low income families to get a great education, by putting more parents in the driver’s seat to determine the best education environments for their children.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Amends eligibility requirements, along with establishing a priority order for award of FES, as following:
  - A student who received an FES during the previous school year.
  - A student who received an FTC scholarship in the previous school year but did not receive a renewal scholarship because of a lack of funds, and whose household income does not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty level.
  - A student whose household income does not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty level, or is placed in foster care or in-home care; and spent the prior year in full-time attendance at a Florida public school.
  - A student whose household income does not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty level, or is placed in foster care or in-home care; and is eligible to enroll in kindergarten.
  - A student who is in a household with an income level that does not exceed 300 percent of the federal poverty level, or an “adjusted maximum;” and, in priority order, spent the prior year in full-time attendance at a Florida public school; or is eligible to enroll in kindergarten
- Provides more high-quality education options for low-income families by annually increasing FES by 1.0 percent of the state’s total public school enrollment, rather than 0.25% under the original law, resulting in nearly 29,000 scholarships being available to students in 2020-2021.
- Students who initially qualified for an FTC scholarship due to their household income may continue to receive scholarship funds even if their household income level increases, matching this program with the requirements for FES and ensuring instructional continuity for these students.



## 2020 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

- **Adjusted Maximum:** in future fiscal years a student is eligible for FES if the student’s household income level does not exceed an adjusted maximum percent of the federal poverty level that is increased by 25 percent in the fiscal year following any fiscal year in which more than 5 percent of the available scholarships authorized have not been awarded.
- Each eligible SFO must exhaust all FTC and Hope Scholarship Program (HSP) funds for renewal scholarships before awarding initial scholarships. Each eligible SFO must also refer any student eligible for an FTC or HSP scholarship who did not receive a renewal or initial scholarship based solely on the lack of available funds to another eligible SFO that may have funds available.
- The bill also provides full-time equivalent (FTE) add-on bonus funding amounts in the Florida Education Finance Program to school districts for each student who completes a general education core course or associate degree, with a specified letter grade or GPA, through dual enrollment.

### **GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE**

<b>JULY 1, 2020</b>	The bill becomes effective
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