

2019-2020 School Year Information

Table of Contents

District and School Leader Supports

2019 Legislative Review	1
2019-2020 Clinical Education Facilitator Academy	1
2020 Census	2
Academic Advising on Career Education Programs	2
Adjunct Instructor Assignments Expanded	2
Apprenticeship Grants	3
Assistance for Certification Applicants	3
Best and Brightest Award Program	3
Bright Futures Updates	4
CPALMS	5
Career and Adult Education	6
Career and Professional Education	6
Career and Technical Education Audit	7
Civics Standards Review	7
College and Career Decision Day	8
Computer Science Updates	8
Diploma Designations	9
Dress Code Updates	9
Educator Preparation	10
Financial Literacy	10
Florida Green School District Recognition Opportunity	10
Florida Report Cards (EduData Portal)	10
Florida Standards Review	11
General Knowledge Exam Requirements Amended	11
Gifted Endorsement Modules Updated	12
High School Graduation Requirements and Advising	12
Honor and Remember Flag	12
Instructional Materials	13
Library Media Services	13

Mental and Emotional Health Education	13
Mental Health Assistance Allocation	14
Middle Grades Career and Education Planning Course Requirement	14
Revisions to Rule 6A-5.071, Florida Administrative Code, Professional Learning Catalogs and Florida’s Professional Learning Standards	15
School Immunization Requirements	16
School Safety Updates	16
Suicide Prevention Certified Schools	17
Uniform Core Curriculum for State-Approved Education Preparation Programs	17
Women’s Suffrage Centennial Commission	18

Teacher Supports

2020 Census	18
Educator Certification and Renewal	19
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) e-Learning	19
English Language Development (ELD) Standards	20
Florida History Day	20
Gifted Endorsement Course Facilitator Training	20
MyCareerShines	21

Student and Parent Supports

FloridaStudents.org Student Tutorials	21
Just Take 20	21
Military-Friendly Initiatives	22
Seal of Biliteracy	22

Assessments

2019-2020 Statewide Assessments	22
ACCESS for English Language Learners (ELLs) English Language Proficiency Assessment	23
Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener	23
Florida Pre-College Entrance Examinations	24
Florida Standards Alternate Assessment	24
Postsecondary Education Readiness Test	24
Progress Monitoring and Reporting Network (PMRN)	25
Statewide Assessments and the Braille Code	25

Important Dates/Events

Administrator, Teacher and Support Personnel Awards	25
Art in the Capitol Competition	26
Manufacturing Day	26
National Apprenticeship Week	27
2020 Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!	27
Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month	27
Month of the Military Child	27
Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day	28
Hispanic Heritage Month	28
Black History Month	28

District and School Leader Supports

2019 Legislative Review

For a chart of school district actions as a result of the 2019 legislative session, please visit <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-8596/dps-2019-96a.pdf>.

For a summary of each bill affecting education, please see the 2019 Legislative Review Book at <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7749/urlt/LegisReviewBook19.pdf>.

2019-2020 Clinical Education Facilitator Academy

[Section 1004.04\(5\), Florida Statutes \(F.S.\)](#), requires clinical educator training for all school district personnel, instructional personnel and individuals in postsecondary teacher preparation programs who instruct, supervise or direct teacher preparation students during field experience courses or internships.

In an effort to meet the needs of local educational agencies and institutions of higher education, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) is inviting key members of your district/school to participate in the newly revised Clinical Education Facilitator Academy (CEFA). The academy is structured to provide a model framework to individuals charged with developing the clinical education training program for their organization.

The academy consists of three days of face-to-face workshops, with the third day occurring a few weeks after the initial two days. During this time, participants will build content knowledge in four essential skills of clinical educators, have opportunities to practice and receive feedback on active learning strategies, and receive support for the development or revision of their organization's clinical education training program to incorporate the four skills.

Dates and locations for the upcoming academies are as follows:

- October 2-3, 2019, and November 13, 2019, in Orange County
- January 29-30, 2020, and February 26, 2020, in Southwest Florida
- May 6-7, 2020, and June 3, 2020, in Northeast Florida

Interested parties must complete the 2019-20 CEFA application, which is available at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2019-20_CEFAs.

For more information, contact Jenna Evans, program specialist, at 850-245-9835 or via email at Jenna.Evans@fldoe.org.

2020 Census

The 2020 Census is fast approaching. This nationwide count happens every 10 years. When children are not counted, important decisions are affected, such as how much money to spend on services and programs that help children, including:

- Special education
- Teacher training
- Technology
- School lunch assistance
- Head Start
- After-school programs

Responses from the census provide the basis for distributing more than \$675 billion in federal funds annually to communities across the country to support these vital programs and more.

As school leaders, you are trusted by your students, staff, community members and families, and you have a direct line of communication with them. You can help get the word out about the importance of their participation in the 2020 Census and the benefits of an accurate count.

Information about a free classroom resource, Statistics in Schools (SIS), can be found in the teacher section of this school information newsletter.

More information is available at www.census.gov/schools.

Academic Advising on Career Education Programs

[Section 1003.491, F.S.](#), has been amended as a result of [House Bill \(HB\) 7071](#). This legislation requires district school boards to provide a student whose cumulative grade point average drops below a 2.0 with in-person academic advising that includes information on career education programs by a certified school counselor or the school principal or his or her designee during any semester the student is at risk of dropping out or has a cumulative grade point average below 2.0.

For more information contact Andrew Weatherill, student support services project director, at Andrew.Weatherill@fldoe.org.

Adjunct Instructor Assignments Expanded

[HB 7071](#) expands districts' assignment of adjunct instructors under [s. 1012.57, F.S.](#), by allowing for both full-time and part-time employment. Districts will need to review and revise school board policies relating to adjunct instructors. The bill requires the posting of criteria for employment on district websites and the annual reporting of district adjunct certificates issued.

For more information contact Daniel Moore, chief, Bureau of Educator Certification, at Daniel.Moore@fldoe.org.

Apprenticeship Grants

The 2019 General Appropriations Act provides \$10 million in new funds for the expansion of opportunities for apprenticeship training for Florida's population and fill the demand for skilled workers for Florida's economy. Funds must be used to implement a program expansion or new program development which increases the number of apprenticeship training opportunities in Florida. A new program is defined as the development of a new registered apprenticeship program. A program expansion is defined as an increase in overall capacity to enroll additional apprentices in a currently registered apprenticeship programs. Eligible applicants include the following: high schools, school district career centers, school district charter technical career centers, Florida College System institutions, or other entities authorized to sponsor an apprenticeship or preapprenticeship program, as defined in s. 446.021, F.S. The funds will be awarded through a competitive request for proposal process. FDOE will share the announcement of the RFP upon its release.

For more information, contact CareerandAdultEd@fldoe.org.

Assistance for Certification Applicants

The Bureau of Educator Certification released a short video to assist certification applicants with the online application. To view the video, visit <http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/certification/on-line-application-status-lookup-site.stml>.

For more information call the Customer Access Number at 1-800-445-6739.

Best and Brightest Award Program

In order to assist districts and charter schools in implementing the 2019 changes to the Best and Brightest Award Programs, the links below include frequently asked questions and answers. The 2019 legislative changes amended s. 1012.731, F.S., The Florida Best and Brightest Teacher Program, s. 1012.732, F.S., The Florida Best and Brightest Principal Program and s. 1011.62, F.S., Funds for Operation of Schools.

[The Best & Brightest Teacher and Principal Program Eligibility for Retention Award and Principal Award Frequently Asked Questions – July 17, 2019](#)

[The Best & Brightest Teacher and Principal Program Frequently Asked Questions – July 29, 2019](#)

For additional information please email BestandBrightestAward@fldoe.org.

Bright Futures Updates

Changes were made to the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program during the 2019 Florida Legislative Session as a result of [Senate Bill \(SB\) 190](#). Please share the information below with the appropriate personnel.

- **Initial Eligibility Test Score Requirement:** This bill revises examination score requirements for award eligibility to align the ACT[®] and SAT[®] examination scores with the SAT[®] national percentile ranks.
 - For high school students graduating in the 2018-19 and the 2019-20 academic years, a student must achieve the following scores:
 - Florida Academic Scholars (FAS): SAT[®] combined score of 1290 or an ACT[®] composite score of 29.
 - Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS): SAT[®] combined score of 1170 or an ACT[®] composite score of 26.
 - For high school students graduating in the 2020-21 academic year, a student must achieve the required examination scores published by FDOE before each school year, where:
 - the FAS award must not be set lower than the 89th national percentile on the SAT[®], and
 - the FMS award must not be set lower than the 75th national percentile on the SAT[®].
- **Midyear Graduate Application Deadline:** This bill extends the annual application deadline, from August 31 to December 31, for when a student who graduates from high school midyear must apply for a Bright Futures award.
- **High School Student Evaluation Reports:** School districts are no longer required to provide the Bright Futures program Evaluation Report and Key to high school students in grades 9 and 10. School districts will only be required to provide the Bright Futures program Evaluation Report and Key to high school students in grades 11 and 12.
- **Misadvised Students:** This bill clarifies that a student who is permitted additional time to meet eligibility criteria may receive funding for the full academic year, including the fall term, only after the student completes the remaining eligibility requirements.
- **Bright Futures Scholarship Length:** This bill removes the two-year timeframe for the eligibility to receive an initial award. Specifically, a student who earns the award may accept funding at any time during the five-year eligibility period following high school graduation.
- **Religious or Service Obligation:** A student who is unable to accept an initial award due to a full-time religious or service obligation lasting at least 18 months must begin such obligation within one year after completion of high school.
- **Annual Credit Hour:** This bill eliminates the 45-credit hour annual restriction in the award of a scholarship.
- **Bright Futures Gold Seal CAPE (GSC):** This bill specifies that a GSC student must maintain the equivalent of a cumulative grade point average of a 2.75 on a 4.0 scale with an opportunity for restoration one time pursuant to law. This provision is consistent with the Florida Gold Seal Vocational award.

For more information contact Shawn Haskin, centralized scholarship program director, at Shawn.Haskin@fldoe.org.

CPALMS

CPALMS is the official public school K-12 repository for Florida’s standards, courses and aligned resources. Supported by FDOE, CPALMS is developed by the Florida Center for Research in STEM (FCR-STEM) at Florida State University. Many new features were added over this past year to make the site even more useful for teachers:

- Resource Updates:
 - More than 12,920 published resources are now freely accessible to all Florida teachers. All resources have been vetted by peer teachers and subject area experts. More than 90% of the resources are original and created specifically for Florida’s standards. Of these resources there are:
 - More than 5,000 lesson plans for K-12 mathematics, science and English Language Arts (ELA).
 - More than 550 Model Eliciting Activities (MEAs) – open-ended, real-life problems with engineering concepts. Information and access may be found at: <http://www.cpalms.org/Public/ResourceCollection/Preview/59>.
 - More than 460 CPALMS Perspectives videos showcasing the use of mathematics and science concepts in real-world applications and hobbies. Information and access may be found at: <http://www.cpalms.org/Public/ResourceCollectioncategory/Preview/42>.
 - More than 590 text complexity resources available for mathematics and science teachers to incorporate appropriately complex texts aligned with the standards for literacy in technical subjects. Information and access may be found at: <http://www.cpalms.org/Public/ResourceCollection/Preview/87>.
 - More than 1,800 formative assessments for mathematics and ELA. Information and access may be found at:
 - Mathematics: <http://www.cpalms.org/Resource/mfas.aspx>.
 - ELA: <http://www.cpalms.org/Public/ResourceCollectioncategory/Preview/72>.
 - More than 800 original student tutorials that are supplemental interactive online lessons for students, available at www.FloridaStudents.org or <https://www.cpalms.org/Public/ResourceCollectioncategory/Preview/41>.
 - The iCPALMS Curriculum Mapping Tool (CMAP) has had several updates this year in response to user requests including integrating the schedule as part of the CMAP, managing breaks and more controls over student views. More major features will be added soon, allowing teachers to create student assignments and track student tutorial completions; other updates will be announced as they become available. Accessing the curriculum planner does not require any plug-ins and includes integrated course descriptions, integrated district calendars, live sharing/collaboration with other teachers/administrators, and the ability for teachers to create student views that can automatically or manually recommend tutorials to students or parents based on the teacher’s plan. A short overview is available at <http://www.cpalms.org/page398.aspx>. In order to create and access CMAPs teachers must be logged into their iCPALMS account and click on the My Planner app.
 - In the last few years, CPALMS has placed more than 550 3D printers with the MyStemKits.com STEM curriculum in Florida schools. These STEM lessons utilize 3D printing for teaching mathematics and science. (MyStemKits is a commercial product developed jointly by FCR-STEM at FSU and MyStemKits.com, Inc., and is not part of CPALMS).

- CPALMS is now fully mobile and tablet friendly. All teachers may register for a free account to access all the available resources and tools. Also included is the CPALMS student site at www.FloridaStudents.org.

For more information, contact Katrina Figgett, director of innovation and implementation, at Katrina.Figgett@fldoe.org.

Career and Adult Education

The [2019-2020 Career and Technical Education Program Frameworks](#) and [Adult General Education Program Frameworks](#) are available to facilitate instructional planning for the 2019-2020 school year.

For more information, contact Kathleen Taylor, bureau chief, at Kathleen.Taylor@fldoe.org.

Career and Professional Education (CAPE)

The Florida Career and Professional Education (CAPE) Act was created in 2007 to provide a statewide planning partnership between the business and education communities in order to attract, expand and retain targeted, high-value industry and to sustain a strong, knowledge-based economy. The primary purpose of the CAPE Act is to:

- Improve middle and high school academic performance by providing rigorous and relevant curriculum opportunities;
- Provide rigorous and relevant career-themed courses that articulate to postsecondary-level coursework and lead to industry certification;
- Support local and regional economic development;
- Respond to Florida's critical workforce needs; and
- Provide state residents with access to high-wage, high-demand careers.

Participation in CAPE can be very beneficial for students. Students are able to earn industry certifications, which make them more college and career-ready. Some industry certifications articulate for college credit. College credit articulated through industry certifications may contribute to requirements for the Gold Seal CAPE (GSC) Scholarship. Other benefits include bonus FTE funding, teacher bonuses and contribution to the school grades/acceleration formula.

An industry certification is a voluntary process through which students are assessed by an independent, third-party certifying entity using predetermined standards for knowledge, skills and competencies, resulting in the award of a credential that is nationally recognized. Digital tool certificates assess digital skills necessary for a student's academic work and are appropriate for elementary and middle grades students. Industry Certifications and Digital Tool Certificates, which may be reported to FDOE, are included on the [CAPE Industry Certification Funding List](#).

Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List will include a maximum of 30 digital tool certificates. The 15 digital tool certificates included on the 2018-2019 list will be carried forward in 2019-2020. Up to 15 additional digital tool certificates will be identified through a competitive procurement process.

In order for industry certifications to be delivered and reported, districts and schools must comply with [Rule 6A-6.0573, Florida Administrative Code \(F.A.C.\)](#), Industry Certification Process. This includes the following:

- Teachers may not administer an industry certification exam to students to whom they provide direct instruction for the certification.
- Exam questions are delivered in a secure manner.
- The exam is scored by certifying agency or vendor, not a school district employee.
- A student **cannot be given an exam more than 3 times** during the academic year. There must be a **minimum of 20 calendar days between test administrations**.
- School districts shall create and maintain local test administration procedures for the administration of all industry certification exams.
- Teachers, proctors and monitors for industry certification exams must sign [Form FCAPEA-04, Florida CAPE Act Industry Certification Test Administration and Security Agreement](#).

When teachers, proctors and monitors sign Form FCAPEA-04, they attest that they have been trained in their local test administration procedures and will not engage in cheating. Certification exams administered that do NOT adhere to all of the required test administration procedures cannot be reported to the state for school grades or any other purpose.

Additional resources are provided through the following links:

- [Industry Certification Articulation Agreements](#)
- [Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program](#) (Click on “Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholarship”)
- [Resources CAPE Secondary](#) (Also see the latest CAPE Technical Assistance Paper included on this webpage)
- [CAPE Statutes & Rule](#)

For more information, contact Kathryn Wheeler, CAPE industry certification manager, at IndustryCertification@fldoe.org.

Career and Technical Education Audit

In January 2019, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 19-31 to chart a course for Florida to become number 1 in the nation in workforce education, with the goal of ensuring our students are prepared to succeed in jobs of the future and satisfy our state’s growing workforce demands. Governor DeSantis directed the Commissioner of Education to audit course offerings in career and technical education (CTE). This order was codified in HB 7071. School districts can review the current status of the CTE audit and provide feedback on the proposed program quality indicators at the following site: <http://fldoe.org/careerpathways/index.stml>.

Civics Standards Review

[HB 807](#), passed and signed into law this year, relates to ensuring that civics education in Florida’s public schools is the best in the nation. One of the requirements of the law is for FDOE to review statewide civics education course standards by December 31, 2020. A period of online public input is planned beginning in January 2020. The Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support is facilitating this review. More information is forthcoming.

College and Career Decision Day

[HB 7071](#), signed into law this year, amends [s. 1001.43\(b\)\(14\), F.S.](#), to encourage districts to recognize academic and workforce achievement by declaring “College and Career Decision Day.” This day would recognize high school seniors for their postsecondary education plans, encourage early preparation for college and encourage students to pursue advanced career pathways through attaining industry certifications.

For more information, contact Kathleen Taylor, bureau chief, at Kathleen.Taylor@fldoe.org.

Computer Science Updates

In support of the Governor's [Executive Order 19-31](#), the Florida Legislature appropriated \$10 million dollars to fund the implementation of [2018 HB 495](#). The funding has two main purposes. Firstly, it provides funding to districts or consortia to enhance the capacity of schools to provide staff trained and certified as appropriate to meet the requirements of [s. 1007.2616, F.S.](#) Specifically, funding may be used for:

- delivering or facilitating training for classroom teachers to earn an educator certificate in computer science pursuant to [s. 1012.56, F.S.](#); or
- training that leads to an industry certification associated with a course identified in the [Course Code Directory](#) (the course list may be accessed at <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7746/urlt/1920CompSci.pdf>); or
- to pay fees for examinations that lead to a credential; or
- professional development that provides classroom teachers instruction in computer science courses and content.

Secondly, it will reward appropriately certified teachers by providing a bonus after each year the individual completes teaching a general education computer science course or identified Career and Technical Education (CTE) course at a public middle or high school (for up to three years subject to legislative appropriation).

Requests for Applications will be forthcoming from FDOE in relation to this appropriation.

[HB 7071](#), passed and signed into law this year, also made an amendment to [s. 1007.2616, F.S.](#), computer science technology instruction, to require that high school students must be provided opportunities to earn technology-related industry certifications as well as being provided access to computer science courses. The technology-related industry certifications must satisfy the graduation requirements in [s. 1003.4282\(3\), F.S.](#); that is, a student who earns an industry certification for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement may substitute it for up to two mathematics credits (excluding Algebra I and Geometry) or one science credit (excluding Biology 1). List of acceptable courses is forthcoming.

For more information, contact Katrina Figgett, director of innovation and implementation, at Katrina.Figgett@fldoe.org.

Diploma Designations

[Section 1003.4285, F.S.](#), has been revised as a result of [HB 7071](#). This revision will allow a student to meet the mathematics requirement for the scholar designation if they earn one credit in Algebra II or an equally rigorous course and one credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous course. The following courses have been identified as equally rigorous to Algebra II and Statistics:

Equally Rigorous to Algebra II (1200330)	
1200340	Algebra II Honors
1298310	Advanced Topics in Mathematics
1200395	IB Middle Years Programs Algebra II
1209825	Pre-AICE Mathematics 3 IGCSE Level
1201300 and 1201315 or 1211300	Combination of Mathematical Analysis Honors and Analysis of Functions Honors or Trigonometry Honors
	Any college, credit-bearing mathematics course, including Advanced Placement and dual-enrollment

Equally Rigorous to Statistics	
1210323	IB Statistics & Probability
1202362	AICE Mathematics & Probability & Statistics 1 AS Level
1202364	AICE Mathematics & Probability & Statistics 2 A Level
1210310	IB Statistics & Introductory Differential Calculus
1201300 and 1201315 or 1211300	Combination of Mathematical Analysis Honors and Analysis of Functions Honors or Trigonometry Honors
1202340	Pre-calculus Honors
1202300	Calculus Honors
	Any college, credit-bearing mathematics course, including Advanced Placement and dual-enrollment

For more information contact Andrew Weatherill, student support services project director, at Andrew.Weatherill@fldoe.org.

Dress Code Updates

[Section 1001.43, F.S.](#), has been revised as a result of [SB 292](#). This legislation prohibits a school district from preventing a student from lawfully wearing the dress uniform of any of the Armed Forces of the United States or of the state at the student's graduation ceremony. A memorandum is available at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-8594/dps-2019-82.pdf>.

For more information contact Curtis Jenkins, school counseling consultant, at Curtis.Jenkins@fldoe.org.

Educator Preparation

[SB 7070](#) now requires private and public colleges and universities with both state-approved initial teacher preparation programs and Educator Preparation Institutes to submit the results of surveys to the employer(s) of their program candidates and completers on the responsiveness of their state approved teacher preparation programs to local school districts. These results are required to be reported to the governor, legislators and the general public in an annual report due after January 1. Districts may begin seeing survey requests from state-approved teacher preparation programs beginning this fall.

For more information, contact Abbey Stewart, chief, Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Retention, at Abbey.Stewart@fldoe.org.

Financial Literacy

Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, Financial Literacy is no longer included as a requirement for a standard high school diploma, and all school districts must offer a high school financial literacy course consisting of at least one-half credit as an elective. State requirements for a standard high school diploma can be found in [s. 1003.4282, F.S.](#) Districts may include Financial Literacy as a local requirement. Course 2102310 Economics and course 2102320 Economics Honors have been added to the [2019-2020 Course Code Directory](#) (CCD). Middle grades Course 2104060 M/J Introduction to Personal Financial Literacy has also been added to the CCD. Course 2102335 Economics with Financial Literacy, course 2102345 Economics with Financial Literacy Honors, course 2102372 Personal Financial Literacy and course 2102374 Personal Financial Literacy Honors remain in the current CCD.

For more information contact Michael DiPierro, social studies education specialist, at Michael.DiPierro@fldoe.org.

Florida Green School District Recognition Opportunity

The Florida Green School Network is eager to recognize school district efforts to reduce environmental impacts and costs, improve the health and wellness of students and staff and provide effective environmental and sustainability education. The application can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/93RK7B6> and must be submitted by September 16, 2019.

For more information contact Penny Taylor, healthy schools director, at Penny.Taylor@fldoe.org.

Florida Report Cards (EduData Portal)

FDOE is excited to announce the release of Florida's education reports portal, [EduData](#) (<http://edudata.fldoe.org>), which currently includes the 2017-18 School and District Report Cards, with an upcoming release of the 2018-19 State, District and School Report Cards planned for mid-August. Redesigned to meet the requirements outlined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the report cards serve as a valuable resource for understanding important information about Florida's districts and schools.

The report cards offer greater transparency into how the state, districts and schools are doing with regard to student achievement and success, including subgroup information, on the following key performance indicators for each district and school, as required by ESSA: the overall summative rating (district grade, school grade or school improvement rating); the breakdown of each component in the overall rating; whether a school is identified for support and detailed reasons for the identification; academic achievement, growth and participation, including alternate assessment participation; English Language Learners' proficiency and progress; middle school and college and career acceleration; discipline and attendance; graduation and postsecondary continuation; long-term goals and interim progress; accelerated course enrollment; and preschool enrollment.

The 2018-19 Report Cards will also provide a State Report Card, educator qualifications and equity, per-pupil expenditures, and national assessment data. News and updates about ongoing enhancements will be provided to those who subscribe through the portal, and we encourage you to share this information with parents, educators and stakeholders in your community.

For more information about School, District and State Report Cards or the EduData portal, please contact the Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement at BITeam@fldoe.org or 850-245-0437.

Florida Standards Review

The review process of the English Language Arts and mathematics standards prompted by [Executive Order 19-32](#) continues. The review is facilitated on the EdCredible platform at www.FloridaStandardsReview.org. Public input on the current standards will close in August. Teacher expert groups continue to revise the proposed FIRST DRAFT of the standards that are posted on the EdCredible platform for public review and input.

The proposed SECOND DRAFT of the standards will be posted on the platform in September 2019. Face-to-face roundtable meetings to gather stakeholder input will be held tentatively in September and October while public input is gathered via the online platform. Final revisions to the standards will be completed by the end of November based on the input gathered in September and October and submitted to the Commissioner for review in December to meet the deadline of providing revisions to Governor DeSantis by January 1, 2020.

Active participation in the review process will assist FDOE in creating the best standards in the nation. For up-to-date information, visit the [Standards Review](#) website.

General Knowledge Exam Requirements Amended

A memorandum was sent to all school district superintendents in May 2019 providing guidance on the implementation of the amended General Knowledge exam requirements as a result of [SB 7070](#). It may be accessed at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-8557/dps-2019-69.pdf>.

For more information contact Daniel Moore, chief, Bureau of Educator Certification, at Daniel.Moore@fldoe.org.

Gifted Endorsement Modules Updated

After collaboration with the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services and Florida Diagnostic Learning Resources System (FDLRS), the Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support is excited to share that there has been an update to the five Gifted Endorsement courses. The courses have been converted to a Moodle platform; all content has been enhanced and assessment tasks have been revised. FDLRS associate centers will work with district master in-service plan coordinators to adopt this endorsement program and offer it to individuals seeking gifted endorsement.

Virtual training sessions for new facilitators of the courses will be on August 27-28, 2019. Teachers with a gifted endorsement that are interested in facilitating a course should contact their local FDLRS Center at www.fdlrs.org. Gifted endorsement courses should be available in October 2019.

For more information, contact Alicia Foy, gifted education program specialist, at Alicia.Foy@fldoe.org.

High School Graduation Requirements and Advising

FDOE is preparing a comprehensive update on this topic that is forthcoming. In the meantime, there is a web page for resources about the new Career and Technical Education Graduation Pathway Option created by HB 7071. Please visit <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-tech-edu/pathways-option.stml> to learn more about this new graduation option.

For more information contact Andrew Weatherill, student support services project director, at Andrew.Weatherill@fldoe.org.

Honor and Remember Flag

[HB 427](#) goes into effect on January 1, 2020, and designates the Honor and Remember flag as the state emblem to honor and remember the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who have given their lives in the line of duty. Local governments, including school boards, MAY display the Honor and Remember flag at any local government building at which the United States flag is displayed and at any other local government location it deems appropriate. The Honor and Remember flag can be displayed on Veterans Day, Gold Star Mother's Day, and a day on which a member of the United States Armed Forces who is a Florida resident loses his or her life in the line of duty. The Honor and Remember flag must be displayed to ensure public visibility with no more than two additional flags when displayed together on a flagpole, and it must be manufactured in the United States. Twenty-five states, including Florida, allow for the flying of the Honor and Remember flag, which is a standard, nationally recognized flag: <https://www.honorandremember.org/the-flag/flag-symbolism/>.

For more information contact Kevin Hoefl, education policy developer, at Kevin.Hoefl@fldoe.org.

Instructional Materials

The 2019-2020 state instructional materials adoption call for bids includes K-12 World Languages, Computer Science, and Career and Technical Education. FDOE is seeking reviewers with content area expertise and an in-depth understanding of the current Florida Standards to review the submitted materials for adoption consideration. The list of participating publishers and the materials that have been submitted for adoption consideration, along with information regarding the state adoption process, may be found on the Instructional Materials website at <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/instructional-materials>.

[HB 807](#), passed and signed into law this year, relates to ensuring that civics education in Florida's public schools is the best in the nation. One of the requirements of the law is a review of current state adopted instructional materials and test item specifications in Civics education to be completed by December 2019. Civics course standards will be reviewed by December 2020. More information on the review process will be posted to <http://www.fldoe.org/standardsreview> when it is available.

For more information, contact Cathy Seeds, director of instructional materials, at Cathy.Seeds@fldoe.org.

Library Media Services

On September 9, 2018, the Library Media Services office, within the Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support, sent a voluntary survey to district media supervisors to gather information regarding statewide media center programs. The information submitted contains data from participating local districts in the K-12 division; specifically, information regarding library programs, education, certification and media center personnel. There will be a new survey forthcoming in the fall of 2019. In conjunction with our Literacy in the Content Areas specialist, Alicia Foy, there have been resources added to our Information Literacy: FINDS – Florida's Library Media Research Model. The resources that were added include a webinar, PowerPoint presentation and research process questions. Information regarding library media services such as the State 2018 Library Media Survey and the Information Literacy: FINDS – Florida's Library Media Research Model may be found on the Library Media Services website at <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/subject-areas/library-media-services-instructional-t>.

For more information, contact Melissa Sykes, Library Media Specialist at Melissa.Sykes@fldoe.org.

Mental and Emotional Health Education

In Florida, quality mental and emotional health education has been identified as a high priority by Florida Governor DeSantis, First Lady Casey DeSantis and the Florida Legislature. For decades, Comprehensive Health Education has included mental and emotional health as part of required instruction through [s. 1003.42\(2\)\(n\), F.S.](#), but did not include an instructional time requirement or assurance mechanisms to support and verify that mental and emotional health instruction is delivered. [Rule 6A-1.094121, F.A.C.](#), establishes a minimum of five hours of required instruction related to mental and emotional health education for students in grades 6-12 and institutes procedures for school districts to document planning and delivery of instruction. Decisions about which course(s) will be used to deliver this instruction will be determined at the school district level. The Mental and Emotional Health Education Rule can be accessed

at <https://web02.fldoe.org/Rules/Default.aspx>. A memorandum sent on July 19, 2019, is available at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-8601/dps-2019-110.pdf>.

For more information contact Penny Taylor, healthy schools director, at Penny.Taylor@fldoe.org.

Mental Health Assistance Allocation

The memorandum regarding Mental Health Assistance Allocation (MHAA) amendments may be accessed at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-8576/dps-2019-78.pdf>.

For more information contact Andrew Weatherill, student support services project director, at Andrew.Weatherill@fldoe.org.

Middle Grades Career and Education Planning Course Requirement

[Section 1003.4156, F.S.](#), has been amended as a result of [HB 7071](#). Effective July 1, 2019, there will be a promotion requirement for middle grades students to complete one Career and Education Planning course in either grades 6, 7 or 8 before entering ninth grade. Seventy-two [approved courses](#) will be available for selection by districts and schools and several of the courses are designated as year-long. In those cases, the classroom teacher can determine which semester to implement the career and education content. Several supports for this required course are available.

The [MyCareerShines powered by Kuder[®]](#) career planning system is available for the 2019-2020 school year and will continue to help districts meet the requirements of [s. 1003.4156, F.S.](#) This online tool is available free of charge to all Florida middle and high schools to assist students in exploring career options and researching postsecondary opportunities. Aspects of the required course that can be accomplished by using MyCareerShines are that it is internet-based, customizable to each student and includes research-based assessments to assist in determining educational and career options and goals. It allows students to complete a personalized academic and career plan that may be revised as the student progresses through middle school and high school. It also provides a link in the program to FDOE's information on [Florida's registered apprenticeship programs](#) and [registered pre-apprenticeship programs](#).

The [FloridaShines](#) website contains many tools and supports for secondary and postsecondary students and also allows for the accomplishment of several aspects of the required middle grades course. Information can be found regarding high school graduation requirements through a secure tool that completes a student's personal [High School Academic Progress Evaluation](#). There is also a [Bright Futures Scholarship Evaluation](#) and a [College & Career Planner document](#) that outlines state university and Florida College System institution admission requirements, plus available opportunities to earn college credit in high school including AP courses, the IB Program and the AICE Program.

The [Educator's Toolkit on Career and Education Planning](#) was developed as a resource to assist teachers in planning a comprehensive middle school career course. This toolkit provides easy access to classroom activities, lesson plans and related web-based resources. Each module includes a module description, lesson plans with student handouts, recommended websites for additional information and a glossary for the unit. A crosswalk is provided for handy reference between both the course standards and lesson plans.

The Department of Economic Opportunity's [economic security report](#) is also available as required by [s. 445.07, F.S.](#)

This revision will mean that districts will need to review and revise their Student Progression Plan to incorporate the addition of the career and education planning course requirement, and to provide this information to students, parents and other interested stakeholders.

For more information contact Andrew Weatherill, student support services project director, at Andrew.Weatherill@fldoe.org.

Revisions to Rule 6A-5.071, Florida Administrative Code, Professional Learning Catalogs and Florida's Professional Learning Standards

As school districts continue developing and implementing professional learning opportunities for their educators, we want to remind you of revisions to [Rule 6A-5.071, F. A. C.](#), regarding the name change of the master inservice plan to “professional learning catalog” and updates to Florida’s standards for high-quality professional learning adopted by the State Board of Education during the 2018-2019 school year.

[Section 1012.98, F.S.](#), the School Community Professional Development Act, authorizes FDOE to adopt a set of professional learning standards which will be used to guide and evaluate the quality of school district professional development systems. The main impetus for this rule revision was to update this set of standards, as they were last revised in 2010. To accomplish this task, FDOE staff worked with internal and external stakeholder groups to create a set of new professional learning standards that are aligned with contemporary research and the national professional learning standards framework.

In addition, the name change from “master inservice plan” to “professional learning catalog” will aid stakeholders in understanding and communicating the purpose of this document. The term “master inservice plan” used dated terminology and historically caused confusion regarding its purpose, as it is not a plan but rather a complete list of all professional learning opportunities to be offered by the school district during the school year. It is worth noting, there are no changes to the rule that require school districts to make revisions to their professional learning catalogs.

To support school districts with the transition to the updated standards, FDOE developed several professional learning standards resources and provided multiple virtual and face-to-face technical assistance opportunities throughout the 2018-2019 school year. As additional resources and technical assistance opportunities become available during the 2019-2020 school year, information will be provided to school district professional development directors.

For more information, contact Jenna Evans, program specialist at 850-245-9835 or via email at Jenna.Evans@fldoe.org.

School Immunization Requirements

The 2019-2020 School Immunization Requirements are available at http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/immunization/publications/_documents/19-20-schoolentry-eng.pdf.

For more information contact Dr. Dianne Mennitt, school nurse consultant, at Dianne.Mennitt@fldoe.org.

School Safety Updates

School Guardians

Section 1006.12, F.S., requires safe-school officers at each public school, including charter schools. To meet this requirement, each district school board and school district superintendent shall partner with law enforcement agencies or security agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school officers at each school facility within the district.

Many of Florida's school districts are utilizing the option of training staff to serve as School Guardians through the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program to meet the expectation laid out in law. The Guardians are school district or charter school employees or personnel who volunteer to serve in addition to his or her official duties or an employee of a school district or charter school who is hired for the specific purpose of serving as a Guardian. Additionally, a school district or charter school may contract with a security agency to employ a school security guard. All identified to meet this requirement must demonstrate completion of 144 hours of required training through their local sheriff's office or, through mutual agreement, by another sheriff's office who is implementing the program.

More information specific to the Guardian Program can accessed at <http://www.fldoe.org/safe-schools/guardian-program.stml>.

FortifyFL

Section 943.082, F.S., established the use of a mobile suspicious activity reporting tool, known as FortifyFL, to allow for students, parents or members of the community to submit tips regarding public or private schools to designated law enforcement and school officials throughout the state. Any tips submitted via FortifyFL are sent to local school, district and law enforcement officials, and the designated officials are contacted until one or more of them take responsibility for taking action on the tip. New statutory language within SB 7030 requires the district school boards to promote the use of FortifyFL by advertising it on the school district website, in newsletters, on school campuses and in school publications, by installing it on all mobile devices issued to students, and by bookmarking the website on all computer devices issued to students.

If schools or school districts have any questions or need assistance with FortifyFL, you may contact FortifyFL@fldoe.org.

Florida Safe School Assessment Tool (FSSAT)

Section 1006.1493, F.S., outlines requirements for school officials at each school district and public school site to utilize the FSSAT to conduct security assessments to identify threats, vulnerabilities and appropriate safety controls for the schools they supervise. Each school district must report to FDOE by October 15 that all public schools within the school district have completed the school security risk assessment using the FSSAT.

For more information, please contact Sylvia Ifft at Sylvia.Ifft@fldoe.org.

School Based Behavioral Threat Assessments

Section 1006.07(7), F.S., requires each district school board to adopt policies for the establishment of threat assessment teams at each school whose duties include the coordination of resources and assessment and intervention with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school staff or students and include procedures for referrals to mental health services identified by the school district, when appropriate. The FDOE Office of Safe Schools has identified a standardized threat assessment instrument, to be used by all threat assessment teams. This standardized, statewide behavioral threat assessment instrument is required to be used by all public schools, including charter schools, to address early identification, evaluation, early intervention and student support. A memorandum was recently shared with all superintendents and charter school directors identifying the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines, developed by Dr. Dewey Cornell, and the forms included as Florida's standardized behavioral threat assessment instrument. It is available at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-8617/DPS-2019-116.pdf>.

For additional information, please contact Brooks Rumenik at Brooks.Rumenik@fldoe.org.

Suicide Prevention Certified Schools

[Section 394.4615, F.S.](#), has been revised as a result of [SB 1418](#). The legislation requires FDOE to develop a list of approved suicide screening instruments to be included in youth suicide awareness and prevention training materials.

It amends the criteria for designation of a “Suicide Prevention Certified School” to include:

- At least two school-based staff members certified or competent in the use of one of the approved suicide screening instruments.
- A policy that requires the use of a suicide risk screening instrument prior to the initiation of an involuntary examination.

It also establishes reporting and posting requirements to identify “Suicide Prevention Certified Schools.”

For more information contact Dr. David Wheeler, school psychologist consultant, at David.Wheeler@fldoe.org.

Uniform Core Curriculum for State-Approved Educator Preparation Programs

As per the 2019 [SB 7070](#), the Uniform Core Curricula (UCC) has been updated as of July 1, 2019. These updates will require all state approved Professional Development Certification Programs (PDCPs) to submit an updated UCC matrix during the fall submission and reporting window for the electronic Institutional Program Evaluation Plan (eIPEP). More information about submission requirements will be communicated to identified district/charter level managers of PDCP programs.

Additionally, SB 7070 now requires private and public colleges and universities with both state-approved initial teacher preparation programs and Educator Preparation Institutes to submit the results of surveys to the employer(s) of their program candidates and completers on the responsiveness of the state approved teacher preparation programs to local school districts. These are required to be reported to the governor, legislators and the general public in an annual report due after January 1. Districts may begin seeing survey requests from state-approved teacher preparation programs beginning this fall.

For more information, contact Abbey Stewart, chief, Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Retention, at Abbey.Stewart@fldoe.org.

Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission

Resulting from the 2019 legislative session, [SB 1306](#) created The Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission for the express purpose of ensuring a suitable statewide observance of the centennial of women's suffrage in 2020. The commission will coordinate with FDOE regarding the manner in which the centennial of women's suffrage will be commemorated in the state's public secondary schools. This act took effect July 1, 2019. Now is a great time to start thinking about activities to support the Women's Suffrage Centennial during the 2019-2020 school year. Watch for resources to be posted on the FDOE website in the coming weeks.

For more information contact Michael DiPierro, social studies education specialist, at Michael.DiPierro@fldoe.org.

Teacher Supports

2020 Census

The 2020 Census is fast approaching. As an educator or education supporter, you are always striving to do your part to create a brighter future for children. There are many ways you do that, and in 2020 there is one big way you can help: Support efforts to make sure EVERY child is counted in the 2020 Census, because you know that every child is a part of our community.

This nationwide count happens every 10 years. When children are not counted, important decisions are affected, such as how much money to spend on services and programs that help children, including:

- Special education
- Teacher training
- Technology
- School lunch assistance
- Head Start
- After-school programs

Statistics in Schools (SIS) is a U.S. Census Bureau program that uses census statistics to create classroom materials for grades pre-K through 12. Teachers and subject matter experts nationwide helped develop each SIS activity to make sure it is valuable and engaging. The SIS program includes more than 200 activities and resources that enhance learning in a variety of subjects.

SIS has crafted new materials specifically for the 2020 Census to educate students and adults in their home about the importance of counting everyone in the 2020 Census, especially children. New SIS materials include:

- 67 new activities for grades pre-K through 12 that have students use data in interactive ways to build skills in subjects like history, mathematics, geography and English Language Arts.

- Large, colorful maps with fun census-based facts about the country and its territories, including state-by-state comparisons.
- A storybook with activities and a music video for children in preschool and early grades.
- Engaging videos created specifically for elementary, middle and high school grade bands.
- Resources for English language learners and adult English as a second language students.

These new materials will be available at the beginning of the school year at www.census.gov/schools.

Incorporate these resources in 2019 during Constitution Week (September 16-20) and again in 2020 for Statistics in Schools Week (March 2-6). Use Census Bureau tools, information, and messaging in creative ways, such as in newsletter articles, on co-branded products, and in social media content, to increase public participation in the 2020 Census. Share what you can to provide information to students, educators, community members, and families about the importance and benefits of participating in the 2020 Census.

More information is available at www.census.gov/schools.

Educator Certification and Renewal

Educators whose certificates expire in 2020 can apply for renewal or upgrade beginning in July 2019. The Bureau of Educator Certification has released a short video to assist certification applicants with their online applications. To view the video, visit <http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/certification/on-line-application-status-lookup-site.stml>.

Contact the Bureau of Educator Certification customer access number at 1-800-445-6739 or your district certification office for more information.

Florida offers initial certification application and exam fee waivers for eligible military personnel and spouses. For questions about certification military fee waivers, contact TroopsTeaching4FL@fldoe.org.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) e-Learning

The Bureau of Student Achievement through Language Acquisition (SALA) Online Learning Series is comprised of self-paced modules that include:

- Module 1: Overview of ESOL Program of Florida, including legislative decisions;
- Module II: English Language Development (ELD) Standards in Review;
- Module III: ESOL Training, Strategies and More;
- Module IV: Assessing Your ESOL Knowledge through Games; and
- Module V and VI (expected fall 2019) will provide specific examples and guidance for scaffolding content during Science and Social Studies lessons.

All modules are accessible via the [SALA Online Learning Series Portal](#) found on the [SALA website](#). The modules are easy to access and no password or sign-in credentials are needed, so all educators are invited to review.

For more information contact Ginger Alberto, SALA director, at Ginger.Alberto@fldoe.org.

English Language Development (ELD) Standards

The Bureau of SALA recommends that middle or high schools having at least 20-25 English Language Learners (ELLs) enrolled should consider offering the following English Language Development courses, specifically designed for language acquisition.

[1002180 M/J English Language Development \(MC\)](#)

[1002380 English language Development \(HS\)](#)

These elective courses can be multi-grade and multi-level and should focus on ELLs learning English skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Since the ELD standards address all content areas, more flexibility is allowed. For example, courses could be designed “as a block” with other core subject areas to reinforce English acquisition skills while learning subject area content. Courses could also be designed by proficiency level or time in the program. Please note, however, that the Developmental Language Arts Through ESOL (Reading) courses that can be used for the Reading requirement for Level 1 ELLs have remained the same and must follow the reading standards. All course descriptions may be accessed on [CPALMS](#).

For more information, contact Ginger Alberto, SALA director, at Ginger.Alberto@fldoe.org.

Florida History Day

Sponsored by the Florida Department of State Museum of Florida History, Florida History Day (FHD) is an annual statewide activity that enhances the teaching and learning of history. Participation in FHD requires students to engage in self-directed research; identify, analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources; convey synthesized information in popular formats; recognize how past events impacted the surrounding society; and present themselves with poise and self-assurance during contests with peers. Florida’s 2019 state competition winners can be found [at](#) <http://www.floridahistoryday.com/awards/statewinners.cfm>. To learn more about FHD, visit <http://www.floridahistoryday.com> or contact Danila.Coppola@dos.myflorida.com.

For more information, contact Michael DiPierro, social studies education specialist, at Michael.DiPierro@fldoe.org.

Gifted Endorsement Course Facilitator Training

Updates to the Gifted Endorsement courses have been made. Facilitator training will be held virtually August 27-28, 2019. Teachers with a gifted endorsement that are interested in facilitating a course should contact their local FDLRS Center at www.fdlrs.org.

For more information contact Alicia Foy, gifted education program specialist, at Alicia.Foy@fldoe.org.

MyCareerShines

The Florida career and education planning system, [MyCareerShines powered by Kuder®](#), allows Floridians to explore careers, identify personal preferences for future employment and learn about the educational requirements for specific professions. This planning tool is free of charge and includes research-based assessments for career interests, work values and skills. In MyCareerShines, students can build a revisable high school course plan by grade year and diploma credit option of statewide courses that include career and technical courses grouped by career cluster. Middle and high school students can also access a module called Finance 101, which is nine chapters of financial literacy, including understanding bank and money basics, tracking expenses, calculating interest on a loan and creating a budget. A recent enhancement to the system is a student's ability to build SMART goals (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound goals) in their portfolio.

For more information, contact Heather Conley, program specialist, at Heather.Conley@fldoe.org.

Student and Parent Supports

FloridaStudents.org Student Tutorials

More than 3,000 student resources are accessible on the CPALMS FloridaStudents.org Tutorial at www.FloridaStudents.org. Students can access these resources including more than 800 original and interactive student tutorials covering K-12 topics in mathematics, science, English Language Arts and social studies. These tutorials are created specifically for Florida's standards and are accessible to all, no student account is needed.

For more information, contact Katrina Figgett, director of innovation and implementation at Katrina.Figgett@fldoe.org.

Just Take 20

The [Just Take 20](#) campaign provides Florida families with students in grades K-12 with practical, easy-to-implement reading activities that establish literacy as a lifelong value. Just Take 20 encourages families to seize everyday teachable moments by using 20 minutes each day to integrate reading into their busy lives. Families and educators may access all available resources online at [Just Take 20](#) or at [Just Read, Florida!](#). There are two options to choose from: Just Take 20 for Families and Just Take 20 for Educators. Families are able to search quickly for activities based on their child's grade level and by topic. Educators have access to two different toolkits. The Just Take 20 Toolkit will provide schools with everything they need to start a Just Take 20 campaign and the REaD Carpet Ready Toolkit that will provide schools everything they need to host an exciting family literacy event to promote their Just Take 20 campaign. Schools should review the new toolkits and familiarize themselves with the new layout of the website so that they will be able to encourage their families to access these wonderful resources.

For more information, contact Shannon Dodd, reading specialist, at Shannon.Dodd@fldoe.org.

Military-Friendly Initiatives

[Section 163.3175, F.S.](#), has been amended as a result of [SB 620](#). This legislation requires that a student whose parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within a school district while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order shall be considered a resident of the school district for purposes of enrollment when the order is submitted to the school district. The student shall also be provided preferential treatment in the controlled open enrollment process of the school district pursuant to [s. 1002.31, F.S.](#) A memorandum is available at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-8622/DPS-%202019-102.pdf>.

For more information contact Curtis Jenkins, school counseling consultant, at Curtis.Jenkins@fldoe.org.

Seal of Biliteracy

The Seal of Biliteracy program was established to recognize high school students who have achieved biliteracy. Biliteracy is the attainment of a high level of competency in listening, speaking, reading and writing in one or more world languages in addition to English. Qualifying high school graduates will have an insignia on their diploma and a notation on their high school transcript as either a Gold Seal of Biliteracy (highest level of competency) or a Silver Seal of Biliteracy (second-highest level of competency) awarded by the Commissioner of Education in accordance with [Rule 6A-1.09951, F.A.C.](#), [Requirements for the Florida Seal of Biliteracy Program](#).

For more information, contact Chane Eplin, SALA bureau chief, at Chane.Eplin@fldoe.org.

Assessments

2019-2020 Statewide Assessments

For the 2019-20 school year, the statewide assessment program includes the following:

- Florida Standards Assessments (FSA): grades 3-10 English Language Arts (ELA); grade 10 ELA Retake; grades 3-8 Mathematics; and Algebra 1 (including Retake) and Geometry End-of-Course (EOC) assessments;
- Statewide Science Assessment: grades 5 and 8; and
- Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) EOC assessments: Biology 1, Civics and U.S. History.

Information about these assessments, including policy, scoring and schedule information, will be provided in the 2019-2020 Fact Sheets (available in fall 2019) on the [K-12 Student Assessment](#) webpage. Information regarding assessments required for graduation purposes is provided in the Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments document on the [Graduation Requirements](#) webpage. Additional information about the statewide assessment program is provided in the [Statewide Assessment Program Information Guide](#). Information and resources for FSA are available on the [FSA Portal](#). For the Statewide Science Assessment and NGSSS EOCs, resources are available at <http://florida.pearsonaccessnext.com/>.

For more information, contact Jenny Black, director of test administration, at Jenny.Black@fldoe.org.

ACCESS for English Language Learners (ELLs) English Language Proficiency Assessment

Florida continues to partner with the WIDA consortium to administer assessments aligned to Florida's English Language Development (ELD) standards. Florida's English language proficiency assessments, ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs, will be administered as paper-based tests for the spring 2020 administration. Additional information and resources about the assessment will be provided this fall at <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/access-for-ells.stml>.

Districts may continue to use the WIDA Screener as an English language proficiency screening tool for evaluating and making placement decisions for incoming students in grades 1-12. The WIDA Screener is available as either a paper-based or online assessment. Information about the WIDA Screener (online and paper) is available at <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/screener>. Districts may also continue to use Kindergarten WIDA-ACCESS Placement Test (K W-APT) as another instrument to evaluate and make placement decisions for incoming kindergarteners. Information about K W-APT is available at <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/kwapt>. The WIDA Measure of Developing English Language (MODEL) is an adaptive test that can be administered at any time during the school year as an identification/placement assessment for newly enrolled ELLs in grades K-12. In addition, WIDA MODEL is available as either a paper-based or online assessment. More information about WIDA MODEL is available at <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/model>.

WIDA Screener Online and K W-APT are free options for districts to use for identification and placement of ELLs. WIDA MODEL and WIDA Screener Paper must be purchased from the WIDA store at the Wisconsin Center for Education Products and Services (WCEPS) at <https://www.wceps.org/store>.

For more information, contact Sabrina Read, WIDA Florida ACCESS manager, at Sabrina.Read@fldoe.org.

Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener

For the 2019-2020 school year, the Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS) will continue to be administered through Star Early Literacy® to fulfill the legislative requirement for assessing kindergarten readiness. Developed by Renaissance Learning, Inc., Star Early Literacy® is a computer-adaptive assessment that measures three domains, 10 sub-domains, and 42 skill areas. Renaissance Learning maintains a webpage for Star Early Literacy® at <http://www.renaissance.com/products/assessment/star-360/star-early-literacy-skills/>. Additional resources are available at FDOE's FLKRS webpage (<http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/flkrs>).

For more information, contact FLKRS@fldoe.org.

Florida Pre-College Entrance Examinations

The Florida Legislature has allocated funds to support the administration of the PSAT/NMSQT or PreACT pre-college entrance examinations to grade 10 public school students in fall 2019.

For more information about these tests, please visit the appropriate vendor's website at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10> (PSAT/NMSQT) and <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/preact.html> (PreACT) or contact Teri Williams, program specialist, at Teri.Williams@fldoe.org.

Florida Standards Alternate Assessment

The Florida Standards Alternate Assessment (FSAA) program consists of two pathways for assessing students with significant cognitive disabilities who require instruction and assessment on Access Points:

- FSAA—Performance Task, developed for students for whom participation in the general statewide assessment is not appropriate, even with accommodations.
- FSAA—Datafolio, developed to support students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who do not have an identified formal mode of communication and may be working at pre-academic levels.

Both an Individual Educational Plan (IEP) team recommendation and parent consent are required for participation in the FSAA.

For the 2019-2020 school year, the FSAA program (Performance Task and Datafolio) includes the following assessments:

- Florida Standards—Access Points: grades 3-10 ELA, grades 3-8 Mathematics, and Access Algebra 1 and Access Geometry EOC assessments; and
- NGSSS—Access Points: grades 5 and 8 Science; and Access Biology 1, Access Civics and Access U.S. History EOC assessments.

More information is available at the [Florida Standards Alternate Assessment](#) webpage on the FDOE website or by contacting Angela Nathaniel, FSAA program specialist, at Angela.Nathaniel@fldoe.org.

Postsecondary Education Readiness Test

The Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT) will continue to be available throughout the 2019-2020 school year to administer as a college-ready assessment. PERT will be available for districts to purchase at their own expense directly from McCann Associates.

Districts will continue to have local flexibility with administering PERT by setting their own testing dates, retake policies and postsecondary preparatory course placement decisions. The five college readiness/success courses linked to college readiness cut scores are a required provision in the Student Progression Plan (see section [s. 1008.25\(2\)\(a\), F.S.](#)). The five courses are included in Florida's [Course Code Directory](#) and in [CPALMS](#). Districts and schools should make local decisions in the best interest of each student regarding college and career readiness course enrollment and instructional support for success.

For more information, contact Cassandra Grayson, program manager, at Cassandra.Grayson@fldoe.org.

Progress Monitoring and Reporting Network (PMRN)

The PMRN is a data management system for recording and reporting student data for the Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading aligned to Florida Standards (FAIR-FS). For the 2019-2020 school year, district-level users have the ability to register schools in their district as well as manage school-level users, students and classes for grades 3-12. District-level users may also update student demographics and exceptional student education eligibility for the FAIR-FS modified task flow.

Documentation for the [PMRN](#) system is on the Just Read, Florida! website under the PMRN v5.1/FAIR-FS section.

For more information, contact Richard Myhre, executive director, at Richard.Myhre@fldoe.org.

Statewide Assessments and the Braille Code

During the fall and winter of 2019, the Florida Standards Assessments and the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards assessments will only be offered in Unified English Braille (UEB) with Nemeth as appropriate. UEB technical will not be an option. Starting in Spring 2020 these assessments will be offered in UEB and will have the option between Nemeth and UEB technical for the mathematics and science tests.

Districts should ensure students who utilize braille are being instructed in the appropriate braille code. Additional information about available trainings in braille code is available through the state's discretionary project Florida Instructional Materials Center of the Visually Impaired at <http://www.fimcvi.org/>.

For more information contact Judith White, senior program director, at Judith.White@fldoe.org.

Important Dates/Events

Administrator, Teacher and Support Personnel Awards

FDOE recognizes and honors the contributions of outstanding school administrators, classroom teachers and education support personnel. The Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Retention will release all applications in the fall. Application due dates will be similar to the previous school year. We do not anticipate any major changes to these applications.

The Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Retention coordinates the following recognition programs:

- Principal Achievement Award for Outstanding Leadership: The nomination packet may be obtained at <http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/recognition/principal-achievement-award-for-outsti/>.

- Outstanding Assistant Principal Achievement Award: The nomination packet may be obtained at <http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/recognition/outsting-assistant-principal-achieveme/>.
- Florida School-Related Employee of the Year Nominations: The Florida School-Related Employee of the Year nomination packet may be obtained at <http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/recognition/fl-school-related-employee-of-the-year/>.
- Florida Teacher of the Year Nominations: The Florida Teacher of the Year nomination packet may be obtained at <http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/recognition/>.

For more information, contact Virginia Whitaker, recognition coordinator, at Virginia.Whitaker@fldoe.org.

Art in the Capitol Competition

The Art in the Capitol Competition required by [s. 1003.49965, F.S.](#), is a statewide visual arts contest that requires each school district to annually hold an art competition for all students in grades 6-8. The winning selection from each district will be on display at the Capitol during the Florida legislative session.

The timeline for the 2019-2020 Art in the Capitol Competition is as follows:

- Fall 2019 – Districts hold annual Art in the Capitol Competition for all students in grades 6-8.
- November 14, 2019 – Each district’s winning selection of student artwork is given to the legislator of the legislative district in which the student resides prior to this date.
- January 14, 2020 – Start of regular legislative session and opening date of exhibit at the Capitol.
- March 13, 2020 – Last day of regular legislative session; legislator will return winning submission to the student after this date.

For more information, contact Erin O’Connor, arts education specialist, at Erin.O’Connor@fldoe.org.

Manufacturing Day

Manufacturing Day was created by the National Association of Manufacturers and the Manufacturing Institute. The goal is to address misperceptions of the industry by having real manufacturers open their doors to the next generation to show what modern manufacturing really looks like. Currently, there are four events throughout the state scheduled for October 4, 2019. Visit <https://www.mfgday.com/> to find an event near you, along with toolkits and other resources to have a successful Manufacturing Day.

For more information, contact Robert Blevins, state supervisor for manufacturing education programs, at Robert.Blevins@fldoe.org.

National Apprenticeship Week

National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) is November 10-16, 2019. NAW is a national celebration that offers leaders in education, business, labor and other critical partners a chance to demonstrate their support for apprenticeship. NAW also gives apprenticeship sponsors the opportunity to showcase their programs, facilities, and apprentices in their community. NAW highlights the benefits of apprenticeship in preparing a highly-skilled workforce to meet the talent needs of employers across diverse industries. A few ways to participate in NAW include apprentice graduations, business open houses, high school career fairs, apprenticeship signing days, skills competitions, industry roundtable events and more.

For more information, visit <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/NAW/> to learn more and to find an event near you, or contact Richard “Ted” Norman, state apprenticeship director, at Richard.Norman@fldoe.org.

2020 Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!

Please mark your calendar and start planning for 2020 Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! scheduled for January 27-31, 2020. This year’s theme is “Book a Trip – Your Passport for Adventure.”

For more information, keep your eye on the Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! [website](#) or contact Carey Sweet, reading specialist, at Carey.Sweet@fldoe.org.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month

February is CTE month. The goal of CTE month is to raise awareness about all the great opportunities career and technical education can offer. CTE is designed for the practical application of knowledge through skills, preparing students for success in college and careers. CTE month is a great time to focus on partnerships between education and industry through mutually engaging activities. The [Association for Career and Technical Education](#) has great resources on how your school can engage with local businesses in your community. You can also read Governor Ron DeSantis’s 2019 [Proclamation](#) for Career and Technical Education Month in Florida.

For more information, email CareerandAdultEd@fldoe.org.

Month of the Military Child

April is Month of the Military Child. This special recognition was established by former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in 1986 to honor the important role children play in contributing to the strength of military families. We encourage everyone in each of Florida’s local school districts to reach out with events and celebrations that honor the hard work and applaud the courage of military children. One way to celebrate is by wearing purple during April. Purple symbolizes all branches of the military including Coast Guard blue, Army green, Navy blue, Marine Corps red and Air Force blue.

For more information, contact Curtis Jenkins, school counseling consultant, at Curtis.Jenkins@fldoe.org.

Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day is May 7, 2020. It is a day that shines a national spotlight on the importance of caring for every child’s mental health and reinforces that positive mental health is essential to a child’s healthy development. Created by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the day's purpose is to increase public awareness about the needs of children with serious mental illness and severe emotional disturbance and their families, provide information on evidence-based practices, and encourage those who need help to seek treatment.

For more information, contact Curtis Jenkins, school counseling consultant, at Curtis.Jenkins@fldoe.org.

Hispanic Heritage Month

Each year the Governor and the First Lady invite students in grades K-12 to participate in art and essay contests in observance of Hispanic Heritage Month which will take place this year from September 15-October 15, 2019. More information will be available soon.

Black History Month

Each year the Governor and the First Lady invite students in grades K-12 to participate in art and essay contests in observance of Black History Month in February. More information will be available later this year at <http://www.floridablackhistory.com/>.