



HB 1365 Competency-Based Education Pilot Program
(CH. 2016-149, Laws of Florida)

Bill Sponsor: Representative R. Rodrigues; Representative Sprowls

Effective Date: July 1, 2016

DOE Contact: Hershel Lyons, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools, (850) 245-0509

Executive Summary:

This bill authorizes the competency-based education pilot program for five years in five school districts. The districts that participate may receive a waiver(s) allowing students to advance to higher levels of learning upon mastery of concepts and skills rather than awarding of credits.

Section 1.

Creates s. 1003.4996, F.S., Competency-Based Education Pilot Program, to:

- Establish a pilot program for five years beginning with the 2016-2017 school year. The purpose is to provide an educational environment that allows students to advance to higher levels of learning upon mastery of concepts and skills rather than awarding of credits.
- Allow the P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School and the Lake, Palm Beach, Pinellas, and Seminole County School Districts to submit an application in a format prescribed by the Department of Education (FDOE) to participate in the pilot program.
- Require the application to include, at a minimum:
 - The vision and timelines for the implementation of competency-based education within the school district, including:
 - A list of the schools that will participate in the pilot program during the first school year; and
 - A list of schools that will be integrated into the program in subsequent school years.
 - The annual goals and performance outcomes for participating schools, including, but not limited to:
 - Student performance as defined in s. 1008.34, F.S., School grading system; school report cards; district grade;
 - Promotion and retention rates;
 - Graduation rates; and
 - Indicators of college and career readiness.



- A communication plan for parents and other stakeholders, including local businesses and community members;
 - The scope of and timelines for professional development for school instructional and administrative personnel;
 - A plan for student progression based on the mastery of content, including mechanisms that determine and ensure that a student has satisfied the requirements for grade-level promotion and content mastery;
 - A plan for using technology and digital and blended learning to enhance student achievement and facilitate the competency-based education system;
 - The proposed allocation of resources for the pilot program at the school and district levels.
 - The recruitment and selection of participating schools; and
 - The rules the school district intends to waive to implement the pilot program.
- Allow the State Board of Education (SBE) to authorize the commissioner to grant a waiver of rules relating to student progression and the awarding of credits, in addition to the waivers authorized in s. 1001.10(3), F.S., Commissioner of Education; general powers and duties.
 - Require that students enrolled in a participating school be reported for and generate funding pursuant to s. 1011.62, F.S., Funds for operation of schools.
 - Require the FDOE to:
 - Compile the student and staff schedules of participating school before and after implementation.
 - Provide participating schools with access to statewide, standardized assessments required under s. 1008.22, F.S., Student assessment program for public schools.
 - Annually, by June 1, provide a report summarizing the activities and accomplishments of the pilot program and any recommendations for statutory to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 - Require the SBE to adopt rules to administer this pilot program.

General Implementation Timeline:

July 1, 2016	The act shall take effect.
June 1, Annually	The FDOE must submit a report to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives