

256.137 Career academy.

1. A career academy may be established under an agreement between a single school district and a community college, or by multiple school districts and a community college organized into a regional career and technical education planning partnership pursuant to [section 256.136](#). A career academy established under [this section](#) shall be a career-oriented or occupation-oriented program of study that includes a minimum of two years of secondary education, which may fulfill the sequential unit requirement in one of the four service areas required under [section 256.11, subsection 5](#), paragraph “h”, is articulated with a postsecondary education program, and is approved by the director under [section 256.130](#). A career academy shall do all of the following:

a. Utilize regional career and technical education planning partnerships outlined in [section 256.136](#) in an advisory capacity to inform the selection and design of the career academy and establishment of industry standards.

b. Establish a program of study that meets all of the following criteria:

(1) Is designed to meet industry standards and prepare students for success in postsecondary education and the workforce.

(2) Integrates academic coursework, includes work-based learning, and utilizes the individual career and academic planning process established under [section 279.61](#).

(3) Allows students enrolled in the academy an opportunity to continue on to an associate degree and, if applicable, a postsecondary baccalaureate degree program.

2. The state board, in consultation with the community colleges and post-secondary readiness bureau, shall adopt rules setting minimum standards for the development and implementation of career academies under [this section](#) and ensuring compliance with the federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006, 20 U.S.C. §2301 et seq., as amended.

[2016 Acts, ch 1108, §47](#)

C2017, §258.15

[2017 Acts, ch 29, §76; 2023 Acts, ch 19, §2535](#)

C2024, §256.137

[2024 Acts, ch 1043, §76](#)

Referred to in [§256.125, 257.51](#)

Subsection 2 amended