

CHAPTER 1117

EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, AND AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE ACCESS PROGRAMS

H.F. 2629

AN ACT relating to the future ready Iowa Act and other efforts to strengthen Iowa's workforce, including provisions relating to apprenticeship training programs, a child care challenge program for working Iowans, computer science educational standards, a scholarship program, and the senior year plus program, and including effective date and retroactive applicability provisions.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

DIVISION I

FUTURE READY IOWA APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAMS

Section 1. [Section 15B.4, subsection 5](#), Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

5. An apprenticeship sponsor receiving financial assistance under [this chapter](#) is ineligible for financial assistance under ~~[section 15C.1](#)~~ [chapter 15C](#) during the same fiscal year.

Sec. 2. [Section 15C.1, subsection 3](#), paragraph b, Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

b. An apprenticeship sponsor receiving financial assistance under [chapter 15B](#) or [section 15C.2](#) is ineligible for financial assistance under [this section](#) during the same fiscal year.

Sec. 3. **NEW SECTION. 15C.2 Future ready Iowa expanded registered apprenticeship opportunities program.**

1. *Definitions.* For purposes of [this section](#), unless the context otherwise requires:

a. "Applicant" means an apprenticeship sponsor located in Iowa that has established an apprenticeship program involving an eligible apprenticeable occupation that is located in Iowa and approved by the United States department of labor, office of apprenticeship.

b. "Apprentice" means the same as defined in [section 15C.1](#).

c. "Apprenticeable occupation" means the same as defined in [section 15C.1](#).

d. "Apprenticeship program" means the same as defined in [section 15C.1](#).

e. "Authority" means the economic development authority created in [section 15.105](#).

f. "Eligible apprenticeable occupation" means the same as defined in [section 15C.1](#).

g. "Eligible apprenticeship sponsor" means an entity operating an apprenticeship program or an entity in whose name an apprenticeship program is being operated, which is registered with or approved by the United States department of labor, office of apprenticeship and which program has twenty or fewer apprentices, at least one of whom is in an eligible apprenticeable occupation.

h. "Financial assistance" means assistance provided only from the funds, rights, and assets legally available to the authority and includes but is not limited to assistance in the form of a reimbursement grant of one thousand dollars per apprentice in an eligible apprenticeable occupation.

2. *Program created.* Subject to an appropriation of funds by the general assembly for this purpose, a future ready Iowa expanded registered apprenticeship opportunities program is created which shall be administered by the authority. The purpose of the program is to provide financial assistance to encourage apprenticeship sponsors of apprenticeship programs with twenty or fewer apprentices to maintain apprenticeship programs in high-demand occupations.

3. *Application requirements — restriction.* An eligible apprenticeship sponsor may apply to the authority, on forms provided by the authority and in accordance with the authority's instructions, to receive financial assistance under the program. The authority shall provide upon request and on the authority's internet site information about the program, the application, application instructions, and the application period established each year for funding available under the program.

a. An apprenticeship sponsor is eligible to apply for financial assistance for apprentices in eligible apprenticeable occupations if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) Twenty or fewer apprentices are registered in the apprenticeship program as of December 31 of the calendar year prior to the date the authority receives the eligible apprenticeship sponsor's application.

(2) More than seventy percent of the applicant's apprentices are residents of Iowa, and the remainder of the applicant's apprentices are residents of states contiguous to Iowa. In determining the number of apprentices in an applicant's apprenticeship program, the authority may calculate the average number of apprentices in the program within the most recent two-year period.

b. An apprenticeship sponsor receiving financial assistance under [chapter 15B](#) or [section 15C.1](#) is ineligible to receive financial assistance under [this section](#) during the same fiscal year. An apprenticeship sponsor who trains through a lead apprenticeship sponsor that qualifies for financial assistance under [chapter 15B](#) is ineligible to receive financial assistance under [this section](#).

4. *Rules.* The authority shall adopt rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) establishing a staff review and application approval process, application scoring criteria, the minimum score necessary for approval of financial assistance, procedures for notification of an award of financial assistance, the terms of agreement between the apprenticeship sponsor and the authority, and any other rules deemed necessary for the implementation and administration of [this section](#).

5. *Agreement.* Prior to distributing financial assistance under [this section](#), the authority shall enter into an agreement with the eligible apprenticeship sponsor awarded financial assistance in accordance with [this section](#), and the financial assistance recipient shall confirm the number of apprentices in eligible apprenticeable occupations as identified in the approved application, and shall meet all terms established by the authority for receipt of financial assistance under [this section](#).

6. *Financial assistance limitation.* Financial assistance in the form of a reimburseable grant awarded to any one eligible apprenticeship sponsor in any given fiscal year shall not exceed twenty thousand dollars.

7. *Use of moneys appropriated — administration.*

a. The annual administrative expenditures as a percent of the moneys appropriated for a fiscal year for purposes of [this section](#) shall not exceed two percent.

b. Notwithstanding [section 8.33](#), moneys appropriated to the authority by the general assembly for purposes of [this section](#) that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the end of the fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain available for expenditure for the purposes designated in subsequent fiscal years.

Sec. 4. [Section 84A.1B, subsection 14](#), unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

Create, and update as necessary, a list of high-demand jobs statewide for purposes of the future ready Iowa registered apprenticeship ~~development program~~ programs created in [section 15C.1](#) ~~chapter 15C~~, the summer youth intern pilot program established under [section 84A.12](#), the Iowa employer innovation program established under [section 84A.13](#), the future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship program established under [section 261.131](#), the future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant program established under [section 261.132](#), and postsecondary summer classes for high school students as provided under [section 261E.8, subsection 8](#). In addition to the list created by the workforce development board under [this subsection](#), each community college, in consultation with regional career and technical education planning partnerships, and with the approval of the board of directors of the community college, may identify and maintain a list of not more than five regional high-demand jobs in the community college region, and shall share the lists with the workforce development board. The lists submitted by community colleges under the subsection may be used in that community college region for purposes of programs identified under [this subsection](#). The workforce development board shall have full discretion to select and prioritize statewide high-demand jobs after consulting with business and education stakeholders, as appropriate, and seeking public comment. The workforce development

board may add to the list of high-demand jobs as it deems necessary. For purposes of [this subsection](#), “*high-demand job*” means a job in the state that the board, or a community college in accordance with [this subsection](#), has identified in accordance with [this subsection](#). In creating a list under [this subsection](#), the following criteria, at a minimum, shall apply:

DIVISION II
IOWA CHILD CARE CHALLENGE FUND

Sec. 5. [Section 84A.13, subsection 4](#), Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

4. An Iowa employer innovation fund is created in the state treasury as a separate fund under the control of the department of workforce development, in consultation with the workforce development board. The fund shall consist of any moneys appropriated by the general assembly and any other moneys available to and obtained or accepted by the department from the federal government. A portion of the moneys deposited in the fund, in an amount to be determined annually by the department of workforce development in consultation with the workforce development board, shall be transferred annually to the Iowa child care challenge fund. The assets of the Iowa employer innovation fund shall be used by the department ~~only for purposes of~~ in accordance with [this section](#). All moneys deposited or paid into the fund are appropriated and made available to the board to be used ~~for purposes of~~ in accordance with [this section](#). Notwithstanding [section 8.33](#), any balance in the fund on June 30 of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund of the state, but shall be available for purposes of [this section](#) and for transfer in accordance with [this section](#) in subsequent fiscal years.

Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 84A.13A Iowa child care challenge program — fund.

1. For purposes of [this section](#), “*consortium*” means a consortium of two or more employers or businesses, at least one of which must be a private employer.

2. The Iowa child care challenge program is established in the department of workforce development. The department shall administer the program in consultation with the workforce development board. The purpose of the Iowa child care challenge program is to encourage and enable businesses, nonprofit organizations, and consortiums to establish local child care facilities and increase the availability of quality, affordable child care for working Iowans.

3. The department of workforce development shall adopt rules under [chapter 17A](#) establishing a program application and award process to match business, nonprofit organization, or consortium moneys and the criteria for the allocation of moneys in the fund established pursuant to [subsection 4](#). A business, nonprofit organization, or consortium seeking matching moneys shall submit an application and a proposal for the new construction of a child care facility, rehabilitation of an existing structure as a child care facility, or the retrofitting and repurposing of an existing structure for use as a child care facility to the department. Proposals shall include a financial statement and a description of funds to be provided by the business, nonprofit organization, or consortium, including in-kind donations, and a plan for sustainability. Match amount awards made by the department that are unclaimed or unused as of June 1 of the fiscal year shall be canceled by the department.

4. An Iowa child care challenge fund is created in the state treasury as a separate fund under the control of the department of workforce development, in consultation with the workforce development board. The fund shall consist of appropriations made to the fund, any other moneys available to and obtained or accepted by the department from the federal government or private sources for placement in the fund, and transfers of interest, earnings, and moneys from other funds as provided by law. The assets of the fund shall be used by the department only for purposes of [this section](#). All moneys deposited, transferred to, or paid into the fund are appropriated and made available to the department to be used for purposes of [this section](#). Any unclaimed moneys in the fund by June 1 annually shall be transferred to the Iowa employer innovation fund, created pursuant to [section 84A.13](#), to be used only for purposes of the Iowa employer innovation program established pursuant to [section 84A.13](#). Notwithstanding [section 8.33](#), moneys deposited after May 1 annually in the

Iowa child care challenge fund that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the close of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund of the state but shall be transferred to the Iowa employer innovation fund created pursuant to [section 84A.13](#) to be used for purposes of the Iowa employer innovation program established pursuant to [section 84A.13](#).

DIVISION III
COMPUTER SCIENCE INSTRUCTION — EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

Sec. 7. [Section 256.7, subsection 26](#), paragraph a, subparagraph (4), Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

(4) The rules shall provide for the establishment of high-quality standards for computer science education taught by elementary, middle, and high schools, in accordance with the goal established under [section 284.6A, subsection 1](#), setting a foundation for personal and professional success in a high-technology, knowledge-based Iowa economy. ~~Such rules shall be applicable only to school districts and accredited nonpublic schools receiving moneys from the computer science professional development incentive fund under [section 284.6A](#), or from other funds administered by the department for the same purposes as specified in [section 284.6A, subsection 2](#).~~

Sec. 8. [Section 256.9](#), Code 2020, is amended by adding the following new subsection:
NEW SUBSECTION. 60. Develop and implement a statewide kindergarten through grade twelve computer science instruction plan by July 1, 2022.

Sec. 9. [Section 256.11, subsections 3 and 4](#), Code 2020, are amended to read as follows:

3. The following areas shall be taught in grades one through six: English-language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, health, age-appropriate and research-based human growth and development, physical education, traffic safety, music, and visual art. Computer science instruction incorporating the standards established under [section 256.7, subsection 26](#), paragraph “a”, subparagraph (4), shall be offered in at least one grade level commencing with the school year beginning July 1, 2023. The health curriculum shall include the characteristics of communicable diseases including acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The state board as part of accreditation standards shall adopt curriculum definitions for implementing the elementary program.

4. The following shall be taught in grades seven and eight: English-language arts; social studies; mathematics; science; health; age-appropriate and research-based human growth and development; career exploration and development; physical education; music; and visual art. Computer science instruction incorporating the standards established under [section 256.7, subsection 26](#), paragraph “a”, subparagraph (4), shall be offered in at least one grade level commencing with the school year beginning July 1, 2023. Career exploration and development shall be designed so that students are appropriately prepared to create an individual career and academic plan pursuant to [section 279.61](#), incorporate foundational career and technical education concepts aligned with the six career and technical education service areas as defined in [subsection 5](#), paragraph “h”, and incorporate relevant twenty-first century skills. The health curriculum shall include age-appropriate and research-based information regarding the characteristics of sexually transmitted diseases, including HPV and the availability of a vaccine to prevent HPV, and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The state board as part of accreditation standards shall adopt curriculum definitions for implementing the program in grades seven and eight. However, [this subsection](#) shall not apply to the teaching of career exploration and development in nonpublic schools. For purposes of [this section](#), “age-appropriate”, “HPV”, and “research-based” mean the same as defined in [section 279.50](#).

Sec. 10. [Section 256.11, subsection 5](#), Code 2020, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

NEW PARAGRAPH. *l.* One-half unit of computer science commencing with the school year beginning July 1, 2022. The one-half unit of computer science shall incorporate the standards established pursuant to [section 256.7, subsection 26](#), paragraph “a”, subparagraph

(4), and may be offered online in accordance with rules adopted pursuant to [section 256.7, subsection 32](#), paragraph “a”.

Sec. 11. [Section 280.3, subsection 3](#), Code 2020, is amended by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

3. The board of directors of each public school district and the authorities in charge of each nonpublic school shall develop and implement a kindergarten through grade twelve computer science plan by July 1, 2022, which incorporates the standards established under [section 256.7, subsection 26](#), paragraph “a”, subparagraph (4), and the minimum educational standards relating to computer science contained in [section 256.11](#).

Sec. 12. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — COMPUTER SCIENCE WORK GROUP.

1. The department of education shall convene a computer science work group to develop recommendations to strengthen computer science instruction and for the development and implementation of a statewide campaign to promote computer science to kindergarten through grade twelve students and to the parents and legal guardians of such students.

2. The work group shall submit its findings to the general assembly by July 1, 2021.

Sec. 13. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance with [section 25B.2, subsection 3](#), the state cost of requiring compliance with any state mandate included in this division of this Act shall be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid received by the school district under [section 257.16](#). This specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of [section 25B.2, subsection 3](#), and no additional state funding shall be necessary for the full implementation of this division of this Act by and enforcement of this division of this Act against all affected school districts.

Sec. 14. EFFECTIVE DATE. The following takes effect July 1, 2021:

The section of this division of this Act amending section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph “a”, subparagraph (4).

DIVISION IV

FUTURE READY IOWA SKILLED WORKFORCE LAST-DOLLAR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Sec. 15. [Section 256.7](#), Code 2020, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 34. Adopt rules under [chapter 17A](#) establishing a process by which the department shall approve state-recognized work-based learning programs consisting of structured educational and training programs that include authentic worksite training, such as registered apprenticeship programs, for purposes of eligible institutions under [section 261.131](#).

Sec. 16. [Section 261.131, subsection 1](#), Code 2020, is amended by adding the following new paragraphs:

NEW PARAGRAPH. 0a. “*Adult learner*” means a person who, following receipt of a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma and on or after attaining the age of twenty, enrolls on a full-time or part-time basis in an eligible program at an eligible institution and maintains continuous enrollment on a full-time or part-time basis in subsequent terms to receive additional awards. A person’s age for purposes of this paragraph shall be calculated on July 1 prior to the year of enrollment in an eligible institution.

NEW PARAGRAPH. 00a. “*Approved state-recognized work-based learning program*” means a structured educational and training program that includes authentic worksite training and is approved by the department of education according to a process established under rules adopted pursuant to [section 256.7, subsection 34](#).

Sec. 17. [Section 261.131, subsection 1](#), paragraph e, subparagraph (1), Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

(1) Is ~~either a new~~ any of the following:

(a) A graduate of an Iowa high school, or a person who completed private instruction under chapter 299A, or a person who is a recipient of a high school equivalency diploma, and who prior to becoming an adult learner enrolls full-time during the academic year, or part-time for a summer semester, in an eligible program at an eligible institution by the fall semester, or the equivalent, following graduation from high school or completion of private instruction under chapter 299A; or is an

(b) A graduate of an Iowa high school or a person who completed private instruction under chapter 299A, or a recipient of a high school equivalency diploma, and who prior to becoming an adult learner, enters into full-time or part-time employment as part of an approved state-recognized work-based learning program, and enrolls full-time or part-time in an eligible program in an eligible institution.

(c) An adult learner who is at least age twenty at the beginning of the state fiscal year, who has received a high school diploma or a high school equivalency diploma, and who enrolls in an eligible program in an eligible institution as a full-time or part-time student.

Sec. 18. EMERGENCY RULES. The department of education and the college student aid commission may adopt emergency rules under [section 17A.4, subsection 3](#), and [section 17A.5, subsection 2](#), paragraph “b”, to implement the provisions of this division of this Act and the rules shall be effective immediately upon filing unless a later date is specified in the rules. Any rules adopted in accordance with this section shall also be published as a notice of intended action as provided in [section 17A.4](#).

Sec. 19. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. Unless otherwise provided, this division of this Act, if approved by the governor on or after July 1, 2020, takes effect upon enactment.

Sec. 20. RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY. Unless otherwise provided, this division of this Act, if approved by the governor on or after July 1, 2020, applies retroactively to July 1, 2020.

DIVISION V

SENIOR YEAR PLUS PROGRAM AND POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

Sec. 21. [Section 261E.2, subsections 5 and 7](#), Code 2020, are amended by striking the subsections.

Sec. 22. [Section 261E.6, subsection 1](#), Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

1. *Program established.* The postsecondary enrollment options program is established to promote rigorous academic or career and technical pursuits and to provide a wider variety of options to high school students by enabling ninth and tenth grade students who have been identified by the school district as gifted and talented, and eleventh and twelfth grade students, to enroll in eligible courses at an eligible postsecondary institution of higher learning ~~as a part-time student~~.

Sec. 23. [Section 261E.7, subsection 2](#), Code 2020, is amended by striking the subsection.

Sec. 24. [Section 261E.8, subsection 1](#), Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

1. A district-to-community college sharing or concurrent enrollment program is established to be administered by the department to promote rigorous academic or career and technical pursuits and to provide a wider variety of options to high school students to enroll ~~part-time~~ in eligible nonsectarian courses at or through community colleges established under [chapter 260C](#). The program shall be made available to all resident students in grades nine through twelve. Notice of the availability of the program shall be included in a school district’s student registration handbook and the handbook shall identify which courses, if successfully completed, generate college credit under the program. A student and the student’s parent or legal guardian shall also be made aware of this program

as a part of the development of the student's career and academic plan in accordance with [section 279.61](#).

Approved June 29, 2020