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| <p>1. What is workforce development education?</p> | <p>Workforce development education consists of two main components: adult education and vocational education.</p> <p><u>Adult education includes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• adult basic education (grade levels K - 8);• adult secondary education (high school and GED);• classes in English for speakers of other languages (ESOL); and• vocational preparatory education, which helps a person achieve literacy in order to pursue employment. <p><u>Vocational education includes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• vocational certificate programs (such as welding, auto mechanics, or cosmetology);• Associate in Science (AS) degrees (such as nursing); and• continuing workforce education courses (such as a single course in Windows 95 to update skills). <p>Also included in vocational education are some new credentials which are currently being implemented. These new credentials include an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree, an Applied Technology Diploma (ATD), and Occupational and Literacy Completion Points (OCPs & LCPs).</p> |
| <p>2. Why is workforce development education important?</p> | <p>Multiple economic development surveys have consistently cited workforce development education as one of the top three factors in attracting new business and retaining or expanding existing business.</p> |
| <p>3. Who can be a workforce development education student?</p> | <p>High school graduates who are seeking college credit can enroll in the vocational degree programs listed in Question 1. Some vocational certificates are college credit as well. High school graduates seeking vocational training can enroll in vocational certificate programs.</p> <p>Adults without a high school degree or a GED can enroll in some of the certificate programs, but must achieve certain standards of basic academics to receive the certificate. Adults who need to improve their skills in math, reading, or writing so they can find employment or continue their education, may enroll in adult education. Adults who speak English as a second language may enroll in ESOL courses and adults with disabilities may enroll in either adult or vocational education based on their level of ability.</p> |

Workforce Development Education

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| <p>4. Who can offer workforce education?</p> | <p>Both school district vocational-technical centers and community colleges can offer workforce development education; however, only community colleges can offer college-credit programs.</p> |
| <p>5. How is workforce development education funded?</p> | <p>Community colleges and school district vocational-technical centers obtain funding for workforce development education through the Workforce Development Education Fund (WDEF), and in some cases through student fees. The WDEF is based on a performance funding model which allocates up to 85 percent of a school's or college's funding as a base and awards at least 15 percent based on the number of students who complete programs and are placed in jobs.</p> |
| <p>6. What are the applicable statutes and rules?</p> | <p>Section 239.105, F.S., -- Definitions Section 239.115, F.S. -- Funding formula for the Workforce Development Education Fund (WDEF) Section 239.117, F.S. -- Fee structure</p> |
| <p>7. Where can I get additional information?</p> | <p>Department of Education Division of Workforce Development (850) 488-7591</p> <p>Department of Education Division of Community Colleges (850) 488-1721</p> <p>The Florida House of Representatives Committee on Workforce & Technical Skills (850) 922-9463</p> |