

**6A-6.0200 Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education Program.**

(1) Purpose. The purpose of this rule is to establish requirements for the Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE) Program, which is designed to provide students with alternative pathways to graduation and postsecondary education, with a focus on career readiness and skills development.

(2) Definitions.

(a) “Adult secondary education program” means the GED Preparation Program and Adult High School program frameworks adopted by the State Board of Education in Rule 6A.6.0571, F.A.C.

(b) “Career and technical education coursework” means postsecondary career certificate or applied technology diploma courses which are offered as part of a career education program.

(c) “Career education program” means an applied technology diploma program as defined in s. 1004.02(7), F.S., or a career certificate program as defined in s. 1004.02(20), F.S., with adopted frameworks approved by the State Board of Education in Rule 6A-6.0571, F.A.C.

(d) “Concurrent enrollment” means enrollment of a student in an adult secondary education program and career education program in the same academic term,

(e) “Institution” means a school district career center established under s. 1001.44, F.S., a charter technical career center established under s. 1002.34, F.S., or a Florida College System institution identified in s. 1000.21, F.S. The Department will publish a list of these institutions.

(f) “Master Credentials List” means the list of non-degree programs for school districts and Florida College System institutions adopted by the Credentials Review Committee and CareerSource Florida and transmitted to the Department in accordance with s. 445.004, F.S., and adopted by the State Board of Education Rule in 6A-6.0576, F.A.C.

(g) “Withdrawn from high school” means that student has voluntarily withdrawn from all public and private secondary education and is not currently enrolled in a public school, private school or home education program.

(3) Institutional Procedures for Operation of the GATE program. School districts and Florida College System institutions offering the GATE program must maintain written policies and procedures for its operation. These written procedures must include the following:

(a) A student application with attestations and documentation required to determine student eligibility to participate;

- (b) Enrollment agreement form signed by the student attesting to their knowledge of the statutory requirements;
- (c) Process for review and verification of student eligibility;
- (d) Identification of and process for student selection of a CTE program including notification regarding programs in which GATE students may not be eligible due to age or other requirements;
- (e) Process for awarding extensions on the three-year enrollment limit in s. 1004.933(4)(b), F.S., due to extenuating circumstances;
- (f) Partnership agreements; and,
- (g) Communications plan for notification of parents, local workforce boards and other stakeholders of the program availability.

(4) Partnerships for offering the GATE program between eligible postsecondary institutions and adult education providers. Eligible institutions identified in subsection (2) may partner with school districts to provide the adult education program component. ~~Partnerships for offering the GATE program between district or Florida College System adult education providers and postsecondary career education providers. School districts without eligible institutions identified in subsection (2) may partner with eligible institutions to provide the career education program component.~~ Scholarship funds associated with the GATE participation waiver of tuition and fees shall be provided to the eligible institutions under subsection (2). Both the adult secondary education and career education providers must provide the respective waivers for tuition and other fees. The partnership agreement should address how scholarship funds received by the postsecondary career education provider will be disbursed to the school district adult secondary education provider.

(5) Program notification. Eligible school districts and Florida College System institutions seeking to offer the GATE program must submit a program notification to the Division of Career and Adult Education and receive approval prior to offering the program. Form FGATE-01, Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE) Program Summary (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-17061>) (effective October 2024) is hereby incorporated by reference and must be utilized for program notification. The form must be accompanied by the district or college's written policies and procedures for program operation, as identified in subsection (3). Upon approval of the proposed GATE program, an institution is eligible to enroll students in compliance with the requirement in s.1004.933, F.S. The following requirements must be met when completing FGATE-01 GATE Program Summary form to ensure accurate and complete program notification:

(a) If a school district or Florida College System institution operates more than one career center, a separate FGATE-01 GATE Program Summary form must be submitted for each institution seeking to offer the GATE program.

(b) School districts that operate a career center and also maintain one or more independent instructional sites for adult education may utilize these sites to deliver the GED® Preparation and Adult High School (AHS) components of the GATE program. An independent instructional site is a school that is not reported under the career center but operates under and reports through the same school district as the career center.

(c) GATE students must be permitted to select any Career and Technical Education (CTE) program offered by the career center or Florida College System institution that is an applied technology diploma or a career certificate program included on the Master Credentials List, except where enrollment is legally restricted due to programmatic requirements. The physical location of a student's enrollment in GED Preparation or AHS cannot be used as a basis to restrict or limit access to CTE programs. GATE students must be allowed to select eligible CTE programs offered by the career center regardless of where adult education instruction is delivered.

(6) Enrollment requirements. A student must be concurrently enrolled in an adult secondary education program and the career education program in each term of enrollment, unless the student has completed their high school equivalency or adult high school diploma. A career education program must be on the Master Credentials List, valid at the time of the student's enrollment in the GATE program. If a career education program is removed from the Master Credentials List after the student's initial enrollment, the student may continue enrollment in that program until completion, subject the enrollment limitations in the statute.

(a) If the district or Florida College System institution does not have enrollment in the summer reporting term for adult education, a student may maintain enrollment in their career education program during that term and enroll in the next term for the adult secondary education program.

(b) If a student terminates their enrollment or is withdrawn for non-attendance from the adult secondary education program without completion of the diploma by the end of the term, their participation in the GATE program is also terminated. However, the district or college may determine whether extraordinary circumstances occurred which required the student's withdrawal for non-attendance and may allow for re-entry into the GATE program based upon their review.

(7) Reporting requirements for school districts and Florida College System institutions.

(a) For the 2024-25 reporting year, school districts and Florida College System institutions are required to report the following information in a supplemental format as specified by the Department:

1. Student participation in the GATE program including courses taken for the adult secondary and career education programs;
2. Student completion of the high school equivalency diploma or adult high school diploma;
3. Student completion of the career education program selected as part of the GATE program enrollment; and,
4. Industry certifications earned by students as a result of GATE program participation.

(b) Beginning with the 2025-26 reporting year, school districts and Florida College System institutions are required to report GATE program participation, enrollment, and completion data as specified in the database manual reporting manual, in accordance with Rules 6A-1.0014 Comprehensive Management Information System and 6A-1.0015 K-20 Data Warehouse, F.A.C.

(c) For school districts with partnerships identified in subsection (4), the secondary education program must report GATE program participation and the postsecondary career education must be reported by the eligible institution.

*Rulemaking Authority 1001.02(1), (2)(n), 1004.933(7) FS. Law Implemented 1004.933, 1011.805, 1011.8041 FS.*

*History—New 10-29-24.*



# Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education

~~Program Summary~~ Form FGATE-01 GATE Program Summary

---

*Section (s.) 1004.933, Florida Statutes (F.S.), establishes the Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE) Program. By completing this form, you are requesting to provide the GATE Program at your career center or Florida College System (FCS) institution. This notification form and the required attachments must be completed and submitted to the Florida Department of Education's Division of Career and Adult Education for approval prior to offering the GATE program.*

All applications must be submitted to [GATEprogram@fldoe.org](mailto:GATEprogram@fldoe.org).

## Disclaimer:

The information provided in this form will be used to inform the public about your GATE program. By submitting this form, you consent to the use and publication of the information you provide for public dissemination purposes. Please ensure that all information is accurate and complete before submission.

## SECTION I: Applicant Information

---

*Read the instructions and complete the following section on the applicants' GATE program.*

School district career centers (s. 1001.44, F.S.), charter technical career centers (s. 1002.34, F.S.), and Florida College System (FCS) institutions (s. 1002.34, F.S.) are the only entities that are eligible to apply for the GATE program. The applicant must identify in Section III if it has partnered with adult education providers to provide the GATE program. The applicant and its partner(s) should work cooperatively to ensure the information on this form is accurate.

Identify the type of applicant submitting this form. Check one of the following:

- ☐ School District Career Center established under s. 1001.44, F.S.;
- ☐ Charter Technical Career Center established under s. 1002.34, F.S.; or
- ☐ FCS ~~Florida College System~~ institution identified in s. 1000.21, F.S.

Provide the information requested below.

<b>A) Applicant Name:</b>	
<b>B) Business Information</b> <i>Contact information for the individual who will serve as the primary financial contact for the GATE program. This should be the individual responsible for overseeing and managing the use of the GATE Scholarship and GATE Program Performance funds ensuring compliance with fiscal requirements and handling any budget-related communications (e.g. your institution's financial aid officer).</i>	
Contact Name:	Phone Number:
Contact Email:	Extension:
<b>C) Applicant Contact Information for Public Posting</b> <i>Address, phone number and website information will be provided to the public to contact your institution for information about your GATE program.</i>	
Contact Name: _____	Institution Physical Address:
Contact Email: _____	Phone Number:
	Website Address, if applicable:
<b>D) <u>Lead</u> Contact(s) for GATE Program Questions</b> <i>The lead contact(s) serve as the primary point of contact for the entire agency's GATE program, regardless of how many institutions or campuses are participating. This includes oversight at the district, charter or college level and may involve coordinating between multiple institutions, campuses or departments. These individuals should be able to speak to the agency's overall GATE program structure; implementation plans and cross-site coordination. This information will be used by FDOE to contact your institution for information about your GATE program.</i>	
<b><u>Primary Contact</u></b>	<b><u>Secondary Contact</u></b>
Name:	Name:
Title:	Title:
Email:	Email:
Phone Number:	Phone Number:

## **SECTION II: Applicant and Course Offering Information**

*Read the instructions and complete the following section on the applicants' GATE program.*

Identify the Adult Secondary Education programs that will be offered by the career center or FCS institution ~~agency~~ completing this application. Check all that apply:

- ☐ Adult High School Program
- ☐ GED® Preparation Program
- ☐ Not Applicable – Only providing Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs

### **Institutional Information**

In the table below, provide information on the school district career center, charter technical career center or Florida College System institution seeking to offer the GATE program.

*Note: If your agency operates more than one eligible career center or FCS institution, a separate FGATE-01 GATE Program Summary form must be submitted for each seeking to offer the GATE program.*

<b><u>Institution Name:</u></b>	<b><u>Address Information</u></b> <u>Institution Physical Address:</u>  <u>Phone Number:</u>  <u>Website Address, if applicable:</u>
<b><u>Institutional Contact(s) for GATE Program Questions</u></b> <i><u>The institutional contact(s) should be specific to the career center or FCS institution. These contacts should be individuals who are directly involved in the day-to-day operations of the GATE program at the local level and can answer questions about how the program is delivered at that career center or FCS institution (e.g., schedules, enrollment processes, CTE offerings, coordination with adult education, etc.).</u></i>	
<b><u>Primary Contact</u></b>  <u>Name:</u>  <u>Title:</u>  <u>Email:</u>  <u>Phone Number:</u>	<b><u>Secondary Contact</u></b>  <u>Name:</u>  <u>Title:</u>  <u>Email:</u>  <u>Phone Number:</u>

### **Identification of Independent Adult Education Instructional Sites**

The Department recognizes that some school districts not only operate an institution that meets the statutory requirements under s. 1004.933, F.S., to serve as an eligible GATE program provider, but may also offer GED® Preparation and AHS through instructional sites that operate independently from the career center. An independent instructional site is a school that is not reported under the career center but operates under and reports through the same school district as the career center.

In these situations, such independent adult education instructional sites may be used to deliver the adult secondary education component of the GATE program. To be included in the GATE program, these instructional sites must be clearly identified in this section of the form.

If your school district meets this criterion, provide the following information for each independent adult education instructional site:

*Note: Even if the adult secondary education and CTE components are delivered at different sites, GATE students must be permitted to select any CTE program offered by the career center that is an applied technology diploma or a career certificate program included on the Master Credentials List, except where enrollment is legally restricted due to programmatic requirements. The physical location of a student's enrollment in GED Preparation or AHS cannot be used as a basis to restrict or limit access to CTE programs. GATE students must be allowed to select eligible CTE programs offered by the career center regardless of where adult education instruction is delivered.*

If your agency plans to offer all GATE program services through the main campus identified above, check "N/A — Not Applicable" for this section.

☐ N/A – Not applicable (the adult education component of the GATE Program will only be offered at the eligible career center or FCS institution identified above).

#### **Adult Education Instructional Site Information**

*In the box below, provide the following information for each independent adult education instructional site:*

- *Campus Name*
- *Address*
- *Primary Contact (Including Title, Name, Phone Number and Email)*
- *Secondary Contact (Including Title, Name, Phone Number and Email)*
- *Identify the programs that will be provided at each campus (Adult High School and/or GED® Preparation).*



### **CTE Program Offerings**

Identify all applied technology diploma and career certificate CTE ~~the Career and Technical Education~~ programs offered by the institution completing this application. ~~that GATE participants will be eligible to participate in.~~ Institutions may not exclude a student from selecting a CTE program based solely on institutional preference to restrict access to certain programs. If a student meets the GATE eligibility requirements outlined in s. 1004.933 F.S. and the CTE programmatic enrollment requirements, the student must be allowed the opportunity to select that pathway.

Please note that to be eligible, the career education program must be an applied technology diploma or a career certificate program included on the MCL ~~Master Credentials List~~ under s. 445.004(4), F.S., and adopted in Rule 6A-6.0576, F.A.C. Here is a link to the CareerSource ~~Master Credentials List~~ (MCL) webpage: [Master Credentials List - CareerSource Florida](#).

### **Chart Key**

- **Program Number** – (e.g. I490205)
- **CIP Number** – 10-digit CIP number as listed on the MCL. (e.g. 0649020500)
- **Program Name** – Program name as listed on the MCL. (e.g. Commercial Vehicle Driving)
- **Industry Certification** – FDOE certification code and certification title. (e.g. FLDDL001 – Class A Commercial Driver’s License (CDL))
- **Programmatic Eligibility Requirements** - Certain CTE programs may have state, federal or industry-mandated requirements that are applied to all students seeking enrollment. These are not considered additional criteria imposed by the institution and are therefore allowable. In this column, identify all programmatic enrollment requirements that may partially or fully impact a GATE students’ ability to select that CTE pathway. Additionally, identify the source of the enrollment requirement.



## SECTION ~~2~~III: Adult Education Partnerships

~~School district career centers, charter technical career centers and FCS institutions~~ Adult education providers may partner with school districts ~~career centers, charter technical career centers and Florida College System institutions~~ to provide the adult education services component of the GATE program.

*Please fill in the information below for each adult education provider that is a separate fiscal agent that your institution is partnering with to implement the GATE program. If your institution is partnered with more than one entity, please duplicate and fill in the information for each agency.*

☐ N/A – Not Applicable.

<b>A) Partner Name:</b>  <b>Contact Name:</b> _____ <b>Contact Email:</b> _____	<b>B) Institution Name:</b>  <b>Address:</b>  <b>Phone Number:</b>  <b>Website, if applicable:</b>
<b>C) Partnership Contact(s) for GATE Program Questions</b> <i>This information will be by FDOE to contact this institution for information about their adult education program.</i>	
<u>Primary Contact</u>  Name:  Title:  Email:  Phone Number:	<u>Secondary Contact</u>  Name:  Title:  Email:  Phone Number:
<b>D) Adult Secondary Education Offerings</b> <i>Identify the Adult Secondary Education programs that will be offered by the agency completing this application. Check all that apply:</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult High School Program <input type="checkbox"/> GED® Preparation Program	

**E) Partnership Description**

*Briefly describe how the partnering adult education provider will collaborate with your institution to implement the GATE Program. Please address aspects such as:*

- *The mode of instruction delivery (e.g., in-person, virtual, synchronous, asynchronous)*
- *Transportation arrangements for students between institutions*
- *Any other relevant details that will facilitate a smooth partnership and ensure effective implementation of the program.*

*Include any additional information that would be beneficial for us to know about your partnership.*