

Legislative Update

May 6, 2025



End of Regular Session Update

The Legislature adjourned on Friday, May 2, without passing a state budget. However, the House and Senate have agreed to reconvene from May 12 through June 6 to finalize a budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025. In addition to the budget, they have identified a number of related bills that may be considered during this period. These are known as "implementing" or "conforming" bills, as they pertain to how the budget will be carried out.

The Legislature made it clear that any bills not passed by both chambers by the May 2 adjournment will not be reconsidered during the upcoming session, unless they are directly tied to the budget. In other words, bills with a fiscal impact may still be on the table, but policy-only bills will not be heard.

Key budget items still under consideration include:

- Increased funding for the Florida College System (including general program increases for each college),
- Deferred maintenance funding for colleges,
- Funding for dual enrollment and workforce education programs,
- Funding for the Fire Academy of the South's Burn Building (as proposed in the House budget).

Additionally, proposals that include both fiscal and policy components may also be considered. Examples include the expansion of the LINE (Linking Industry to Nursing Education) grant and potential changes to the GATE (Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education) program.

As for legislation passed during the regular session, those bills will be sent to the Governor over the coming weeks for approval or veto. During the 2025 session, 1,952 bills were filed, and 254 were passed—about 13% of the total.

Bill Tracking



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

HB 21 / SB 82 (Similar bills)	The bills provide application requirements and examination and licensure qualifications for dental therapists; authorizes a dental therapist to perform specified services under the supervision of a dentist under certain conditions.	Passed by the House. Sent to Senate. (Died in Senate)
HB 919 / SB 526 (Similar bills)	The bills establish new requirements for nursing education programs to be approved by the Board of Nursing, including the adoption of standardized evaluation and admission criteria, a comprehensive exit exam, and a remediation program. Among other changes, the bills authorize the Department of Health to conduct onsite inspections, revise annual reporting requirements, require at least 40% clinical training in the U.S. and no more than 50% of training to be simulation. The bills state that program directors are responsible for submitting annual reports and remediation plans if NCLEX passage rates are low, provides for disciplinary action.	Passed by the House. Sent to Senate. (Died in Senate)
HB 681 / SB 1458 (Identical bills)	The bills create a funding formula for registered apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs, aiming to simplify distribution, enhance access, and promote growth to meet workforce demands.	Passed by the House and Senate. Awaiting presentation to Governor.
HB 1145 / SB 742 (Similar bills)	The bills expand and revise provisions related to Florida's workforce development funding and policies including, allowing charter schools to apply for the Cap Grant and requiring school districts and colleges to increase the money-back guarantee from three programs to six.	Passed by House and Senate. Awaiting presentation to the Governor.
HB 875	The bill makes many changes to educator preparation programs, including establishing the Coaching for Educator Readiness and Teaching Certification Program, revising mentorship requirements, and updating program criteria like candidate readiness and performance measures.	Passed by House and Senate. Awaiting presentation to the Governor.
HB 827 / SB 936 (Identical bills)	The bills require the Bureau of Workforce Statistics and Economic Research of the Department of Commerce to study the economic impact of automation, artificial intelligence, and robotics on employment in the state. The bills authorize the bureau to consult with specified entities to complete the study, including academic experts.	Passed by the House. and Senate. Awaiting presentation to the Governor.
SB 2512	The bill establishes the Florida Center for Nursing within the University of South Florida; requires the center to administer the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund; expands the entities eligible to be a matching grant partner within the LINE fund; expands allowable expenditures; and allows LINE funding to be granted for terms of up to three years.	Passed by Senate. Sent to House. House withdrew bill from consideration. Bill language may be considered during budget conferencing.
HB 1105	The bill includes provisions relating to certain internships & courses, Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program awards, career dual enrollment agreements, Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program, dual enrollment articulation agreements, & board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc. The bill requires dual enrollment agreements between school districts and FCS institutions to address scheduling changes that will increase access and student participation and include how students will be notified of transportation options. This bill also states that by January 1, 2026, Florida colleges will be part of a state-created guide showing students who don't earn a standard diploma the different options available to them, like credit programs and other postsecondary paths.	Passed by the House. and Senate. Awaiting presentation to the Governor.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

HB 879 / SB 584 (Similar bills)	The bills mandate Florida College System institutions and state universities, in collaboration with the State Office on Homelessness, to prioritize placements in residence halls and dormitories for young adults in or aging out of the foster care system and those experiencing homelessness. The bills also require educational institutions to give these students first priority for institution-operated housing, year-round housing, and work-study opportunities without needing a cosigner or guarantor for housing.	Passed by the Senate and House. Awaiting presentation to the Governor.
HB 1107/ SB 270 (Similar bills)	The bills amend eligibility requirements for the Bright Futures Scholarship by permitting students who graduate from a non-Florida high school to qualify if they lived with a parent or guardian who is/was on a military or public service assignment outside of Florida. The bills extend eligibility to include those who have retired from service within 12 months prior to the student's graduation.	Removed from further consideration. (Died in House)

COLLEGE OPERATIONS

HB 1307 / SB 1624 (Similar bills)	The bills make many changes to various education statutes including, providing tuition assistance for active members of the Florida State Guard, revising submission dates and content of annual reports for apprenticeship programs, renaming the "Florida Educational Equity Act" to the "Florida Educational Equality Act," establishing stricter investigative procedures for cases of sex discrimination in public postsecondary institutions under Title IX, revising the appointment processes and term limits for Florida College System institution presidents, now requiring State Board of Education approval for these actions, repealing certain scholarships and minority-focused educational programs, changing requirements for carry forward balances in college budgets, and making changes to allowable expenditures of PIPELINE funding.	Removed from further consideration. (Died in House and Senate)
HB 1321 / SB 1726 (Similar bills)	The bills implement various changes regarding governance and regulations in Florida's higher education institutions including, setting term limits for members and chairs of Florida College System institution boards of trustees, removing the State Board of Education's approval for actions related to the president of a Florida College System institution and mandates the formation of a presidential search committee, mandating inclusion of supplemental textbooks and instructional materials in course lists, and revising syllabi posting requirements to include detailed course information. The House version of the bill prohibits state colleges and universities from imposing an institution-wide graduation requirement that includes a course in conflict with state statute prohibiting general education core courses from distorting significant historical events or including a curriculum that teaches identity politics, violates the Florida Educational Equity Act, or is based on theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.	Removed from further consideration. (Died in House and Senate)
HB 1255	The bill includes many changes to the K-20 education in Florida. As to the FCS, the bill renames Hillsborough Community College to Hillsborough College. The bill expands the range of emergency opioid antagonists public K-12 schools and postsecondary educational institutions can use and maintain. The bill authorizes open competition exemptions within the career service system for positions filled by apprenticeship program completers and requires the Department of Education to publish an apprenticeship report by November 30. The bill states that a student qualifies for Bright Futures if they earn a high school diploma from a non-Florida school while living with a parent or guardian who is, or was within 12 months before graduation, assigned or retired from military or public service outside Florida.	Passed by the House and Senate. Awaiting presentation to the Governor.

FACILITIES

HB 355	The bill expands the range of emergency opioid antagonists public K-12 schools and postsecondary educational institutions can use and maintain.	Language in this bill has been added to HB 1255.
HB 1267 / SB 1708 (Identical bills)	As to the FCS, the bills direct the SPE to adopt rules for conducting selective audits of school districts and FCS institutions, aiming for transparency and compliance in facility usage. The bills establish term limits for members of the Board of Governors, the State Board of Education, and state university and state college boards of trustees. The Senate bill repeals the public records exemption for state university and state college presidential applicants and makes additional changes to the presidential search and selection process.	Passed by the House. (Died in Senate)

HUMAN RESOURCES

HB 141/ SB 158 (Similar bills)	The bills prohibit the state group insurance program from imposing any cost-sharing requirement upon an enrollee with respect to coverage for diagnostic breast examinations or supplemental breast examinations.	Passed by the Senate and House. Awaiting presentation to the Governor.
HB 541 / SB 676 (Similar bills)	The bills state that an employer is not subject to the minimum wage enforcement of an employee who is in a structured work-study, internship, preapprenticeship, or apprenticeship program or other similar work-based learning opportunity if such employee opts out of receiving the minimum wage.	Removed from further consideration. (Died in House and Senate)
HB 677 / SB 924 (Similar bills)	The bills require the state group health insurance program to provide coverage for standard fertility services for enrollees who have been diagnosed with cancer for which the necessary treatment may cause infertility.	Passed by the House and Senate. Awaiting presentation to the Governor.
SB 7022	The bill revises the required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System. The bill also makes changes to DROP for elected officers.	Passed by the Senate and the House. Bill may be considered during budget conferencing.

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

SB 2C	The bill amends state statute to allow out of state fee waivers to apply only to students who are citizens of the United States or lawfully present in the United States. Students who have been given the waiver must be reevaluated for eligibility by July 1, 2025.	Special Session bill passed by Legislature. Signed by Governor on 2/13/2025.
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We'd love your feedback!

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If you have any questions or comments about bills being tracked or other matters not included in the update, please feel free to contact Taylor Mejia Roberts, Director of Government and Community Relations.



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