



Let's Get Certified



What is an Industry Certification and Why Does it Matter?

Certain Industry Certifications transfer toward college credit while others can also be used to substitute high school classes to meet graduation requirements!

As your child chooses a program, it is important to know if this is an option.

Earning an industry certification that articulates for postsecondary credit has an estimated cost savings of \$320.00 per certification earned in high school versus the cost of acquiring such certification after high school graduation, which would include the tuition and fees associated with available postsecondary credits.

An industry certification is a voluntary process where individuals are assessed by an independent, third-party certifying entity, using predetermined standards for knowledge, skills, and competencies. When a certification exam is passed, it results in the award of a credential that is nationally (and sometimes internationally) recognized. Gilchrist County offers industry certifications within all of the CTE pathways offered.

CTE classes can also be weighted as honors classes.



Gold Standard Career Pathways Articulation Agreements provide guaranteed college credit for individuals who have earned an industry certification and are enrolled in an Associate in Science (A.S.) or Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree program at a Florida College System institution

Gilchrist currently offers the following Gold Standard Certifications

911 Public Safety Telecommunicator
Agriculture Associate Certification
Agritechnology Specialist Certification
Animal Science Specialist Certification
Quickbooks Certified User
Adobe Certified Professional in Visual Design



Gold Seal CAPE Scholars

The Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award (GSC) may be funded if a student is enrolled in a career education or certificate program. Upon completion of an associate in science degree program that articulates to a Bachelor of Science degree, a GSC Scholar may also receive an award for a maximum of 60 credit hours toward a Bachelor of Science degree program. Upon completion of an associate in applied science program, a GSC Scholar may also receive an award for a maximum of 60 credit hours toward a bachelor of applied science degree program.

Florida high school students who wish to qualify for the GSC award must meet the following initial eligibility requirements:

- Earn a minimum of five postsecondary credit hours through CAPE industry certifications that articulate for college credit; and
- Complete 30 service hours.

Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV)

The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) award may be funded if a student is enrolled in a career education or certificate program. Florida high school students who wish to qualify for the GSV award must meet the following initial eligibility requirements:

- Achieve the required weighted minimum 3.0 GPA in the non-elective high school courses;
- Take at least 3 full credits in a single Career and Technical Education program;
- Achieve the required minimum 3.5 unweighted GPA in the career education courses;
- Achieve the required minimum score on the ACT®, SAT® or Florida Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (P.E.R.T.) exams (see table below); and
- Complete 30 service hours.

College Entrance Exams

Exam types cannot be combined; a student must qualify based on each sub-test score for a single exam type. Sub-test scores from different test dates may be used to meet the test requirement. Scores taken through June 30 of the student's senior year for a regular graduate (January 31 for a mid-year graduate) will be accepted for Bright Futures evaluation. There is no limit to the number of times a student may retake the test prior to June 30 of the student's graduation year.

Official single sitting test scores must be sent to one of Florida's 12 state universities when registering for the ACT®/SAT® so that test scores will be sent to the FDOE repository.

Exam Type	Sub-test	Required Score
ACT®	Reading	19
	English	17
	Mathematics	19
SAT®	Reading Test	24
	Writing and Language Test	25
	Math Test	24
P.E.R.T. (Only applies to the GSV Scholarship)	Reading	106
	Writing	103
	Mathematics	114

The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship program recognizes and rewards excellence for academic achievement and vocational preparation. The program includes an annual award of up to **\$2,000 per year**, a gold seal affixed to the graduate's diploma, a medallion to be worn during commencement exercises and a frameable certificate.

Service Hours For Both Options

Students must complete service hours during high school and by high school graduation