

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 504

BY SENATOR CARTER

STUDENTS. Provides relative to individual graduation plans. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:2925(A)(4), (5), (6), and (7) and to enact R.S. 17:2925(A)(8)  
3 and (9) and (D), and 3996(B)(92), relative to Individual Graduation Plans; to provide  
4 relative to information on vocational training opportunities; to provide for parent and  
5 legal guardian requesting authority; to provide relative to resources; and to provide  
6 for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:2925(A)(4), (5), (6), and (7) are hereby amended and reenacted  
9 and R.S. 17:2925(A)(8) and (9) and (D), and 3996(B)(92) are hereby enacted to read as  
10 follows:

11 §2925. Individual graduation plans

12 A.(1) \* \* \*

13 **(4) The parent or legal guardian of a student entering into the eleventh**  
14 **grade may request the student's Individual Graduation Plan or the student's**  
15 **Individualized Education Program, if applicable, be updated.**

16 **(5) The Individual Graduation Plan or Individualized Education**  
17 **Program, and any revision thereto, shall include available vocational training**

1 **opportunities in the student's school district.**

2 ~~(4)~~**(6)** The Individual Graduation Plan shall be sufficiently flexible to allow  
3 the student to, with the written approval of a parent or legal guardian, change his  
4 program of study, yet be sufficiently structured to ensure that the student will meet  
5 the high school graduation requirements for his chosen major or the requirements of  
6 the student's Individualized Education Program, if applicable, and be qualified for  
7 admission to a postsecondary education institution or to enter the workforce.

8 ~~(5)~~**(7)** Each student's Individual Graduation Plan shall be reviewed annually  
9 and revised as necessary to identify the courses to be taken each year until all  
10 required core courses are completed.

11 ~~(6)~~**(8)** Upon completion of the review, the plan shall be signed by the student,  
12 his parent or legal guardian, and the school counselor.

13 ~~(7)~~**(9)** Prior to revising a student's Individual Graduation Plan, the school  
14 counselor shall meet with the student's parent or legal guardian either in person or  
15 virtually to explain the possible impacts the revisions to the plan might have on the  
16 student's graduation requirements and postsecondary education goals. Any revisions  
17 to a student's plan shall be approved in writing by the student's parent or legal  
18 guardian.

19 \* \* \*

20 **D. To effectuate the provisions of this Section, schools shall use existing**  
21 **school staff and counselors and any other available resources.**

22 \* \* \*

23 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

24 \* \* \*

25 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and  
26 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a  
27 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this  
28 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be  
29 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are

1 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for  
2 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

3 \* \* \*

4 **(92) Individual graduation plans, R.S. 17:2925.**

5 \* \* \*

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 504 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Carter

Present law (R.S. 17:2925) provides that every student, by the end of the 8th grade, must begin to develop an Individual Graduation Plan or Individualized Education Program, if applicable, to guide the next academic year's course work and assist in exploring educational and career possibilities.

Proposed law retains present law and further provides that every Individual Graduation Plan and Individualized Education Program must include vocational training opportunities in the student's school district.

Proposed law provides that a parent or legal guardian of a student entering 11th grade can request an update to the student's Individual Graduation Plan or Individualized Education Program.

Proposed law provides that each school must use existing school staff, counselors, and other available resources to carry out proposed law.

Present law (R.S. 17:3996) provides that charter schools are exempt from statutory mandates or requirements applicable to public school except for certain laws listed in present law.

Proposed law retains present law and further provides that individual graduation plans are applicable to charter schools.

Effective on August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 17:2925(A)(4), (5), (6), and (7); adds R.S. 17:2925(A)(8) and (9) and (D), and 3996(B)(92))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Makes technical changes.
2. Removes repetitive language that states the updated Individual Graduation Plan requested by a student's parent or legal guardian must include available vocational training opportunities.

3. Removes language that makes proposed law subject to appropriation of funds by the legislature.
4. Makes proposed law applicable to charter schools.