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S.B. 104*
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by House Higher Education

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Cirino and Brenner

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SUMMARY

- Revises the operations of the College Credit Plus Program.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

College Credit Plus

The bill revises the operations of the College Credit Plus (CCP) Program, including regarding requirements for students, public and chartered nonpublic schools, public and private colleges, and the Chancellor of Higher Education and the Department of Education and Workforce.

CCP allows students in grades 7-12 who are enrolled in public or nonpublic high schools or who are home-instructed to enroll in nonsectarian college courses to receive high school and college credit. CCP courses may be taken at any state institution of higher education or participating private institution of higher education.¹

Student application deadline

The bill adds the option for a student or a student's parent to inform the student's school of the student's intent to participate in CCP in the next semester by November 1 preceding that semester. Current law requires a student or parent to notify the school by April 1 of the intent to participate in the next school year.² The bill clarifies that a student or parent who provides notification by April 1 may be approved to participate in the program for

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House Higher Education Committee appeared in the House Journal. Note that the legislative history may be incomplete.

¹ See R.C. Chapter 3365.

² R.C. 3365.03(A)(1)(a).

the next full school year, while those who provide notification by November 1 may be approved to participate in the program for the next semester or term only. The deadlines also apply for a student attending a chartered or nonchartered nonpublic secondary school or who is home-instructed.³

School and college requirements

CCP forms

The bill requires a public or chartered nonpublic school to use CCP forms developed by the Chancellor and the Department. Furthermore, it prohibits the schools from modifying those forms without prior approval from the Chancellor and the Department.⁴

Orientation

The bill requires each state and participating private institution of higher education to provide CCP students with a mandatory orientation that meets guidelines issued by the Chancellor and the Department. The Chancellor and the Department must make those guidelines as concise as is practicable.⁵

State requirements

Alternative instructor credentialing

The bill requires the Chancellor to establish an alternative credentialing process to certify instructors with relevant teaching experience as CCP instructors. The Chancellor must establish the alternative credentialing process within six months of the bill's effective date. Current law already requires the Chancellor to establish credential requirements to teach under CCP.⁶ Generally, according to the Department of Higher Education's website, accessible at: www.highered.ohio.gov, in general a teacher must have a master's degree or a master's plus 18 graduate semester hours in a discipline to teach a CCP course.⁷

Monitoring and compliance

The bill requires the Chancellor, in consultation with the Department, to ensure full engagement and participation in CCP by public colleges and public secondary schools, such as by publicly displaying program participation data by college and secondary schools.⁸

³ R.C. 3365.03(A)(2)(b).

⁴ R.C. 3365.04(H).

⁵ R.C. 3365.05(I).

⁶ R.C. 3365.11(B).

⁷ [Teacher Credentialing for College Credit Plus](http://www.highered.ohio.gov), accessible at: www.highered.ohio.gov.

⁸ R.C. 3365.14(A).

Auditor of State report

The bill requires the Chancellor and the Department to collect data relative to the actual cost of CCP programming and submit it to the Auditor of State. The Auditor of State must review and audit that data, and submit a one-time report to the General Assembly about the findings of that review and audit.⁹

State report card

The bill requires the Department to include on the state report card report-only, nonrated data about whether a public school provides information about and promotes CCP as required under continuing law. That must be notated with a “yes” or “no.”¹⁰

Annual Report

The bill requires the Chancellor and Department to submit jointly an annual report on the outcomes of CCP by December 31 of each year. Current law requires the annual report to be submitted through December 2023, rather than an ongoing annual basis. Continuing law requires the report to be supported by empirical evidence and be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairpersons of the Senate and House Education committees.¹¹

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	04-05-23
Reported, S. Workforce & Higher Education	02-28-24
Passed Senate (31-0)	02-28-24
Reported, H. Higher Education	---

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⁹ R.C. 3365.14(B).

¹⁰ R.C. 3302.03(D)(2)(k).

¹¹ R.C. 3365.15(C).