

SENATE FILE NO. SF0039

Post secondary education options program.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the Wyoming post secondary education
2 options program; requiring agreements and mandating
3 compliance with statutory requirements; imposing reporting
4 requirements and granting rulemaking authority; providing
5 for development of policy and guidelines on program
6 components; providing an appropriation; and providing for
7 effective dates.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-20-201(a), (e) and (h) is amended
12 to read:

13

14 **21-20-201. Agreement between districts and post**
15 **secondary education institutions required; student**
16 **participation; credits; financial arrangements;**
17 **transportation; accessibility; required annual reporting.**

1

2 (a) To provide a post secondary education enrollment
3 options program under this section, a Wyoming school
4 district board of trustees and a Wyoming community college
5 district board of trustees or the University of Wyoming ~~may~~
6 shall enter into an agreement ~~to establish a postsecondary~~
7 ~~education enrollment options program~~ whereby students
8 resident of the participating district may attend
9 ~~postsecondary~~ post secondary education programs offered by
10 the university or a participating community college.
11 Effective for the 2011-2012 school year and each school
12 year thereafter, the post secondary education enrollment
13 options agreement shall comply with minimum requirements
14 imposed by rule and regulation of the community college
15 commission in consultation with the department of
16 education, community colleges and the University of
17 Wyoming, including post secondary education enrollment
18 options provided by means of distance education. Additional
19 student eligibility requirements for program participation
20 shall be based upon criteria established by the university
21 or the community college in collaboration with the
22 department of education, which address the high school
23 grade level, uniform prior curricula requirements, academic

1 achievement levels and national examination performance
2 indicators.

3
4 (e) A student participating in the program shall be
5 counted within the average daily membership of the resident
6 school district as defined under W.S. 21-13-101(a)(i) and
7 concurrently by the participating higher education
8 institution for its full-time equivalent enrollment count.

9 Effective September 1, 2012 and each September 1
10 thereafter, any school district or institution
11 participating in an enrollment options program agreement
12 under this section, including any board of cooperative
13 educational services established under W.S. 21-20-704 and
14 involved in the program, shall file a report with the
15 community college commission on student participation and
16 completion and on revenues and expenditures attributable to
17 program activities for the immediately preceding school
18 year. Not later than October 1 of each school year, the
19 commission shall report to the joint education interim
20 committee, the community colleges, the department of
21 education and the University of Wyoming on statewide
22 program revenues, expenditures and student participation
23 and completion.

1 (h) Each school district board of trustees shall in
2 conjunction with the University of Wyoming, community
3 college district boards of trustees or other ~~postsecondary~~
4 post secondary education institutions accredited by
5 recognized and accepted accrediting agencies, make
6 ~~postsecondary~~ post secondary education options programs
7 pursuant to this section reasonably accessible to eligible
8 students. Any post secondary education options program
9 provided by any community college and the university shall
10 be in compliance with this section.

11

12 **Section 2.**

13

14 (a) The community college commission shall conduct
15 discussions to develop consensus on state seamless K-12 and
16 post secondary education programs with relevant
17 stakeholders. For purposes of this section, relevant
18 stakeholders include representatives from the Wyoming
19 community college commission, the seven (7) community
20 colleges and the University of Wyoming, including
21 administrators, faculty and board members, the department
22 of education, school districts including administrators,
23 teachers and counselors, and representatives of students

1 and parents. Results of this discussion shall be used for
2 developing state policy and guidelines for programs:

3
4 (i) Bridging high school and post secondary
5 education through concurrent and dual enrollment;

6
7 (ii) Providing high school students an
8 opportunity to earn at least twelve (12) college credits in
9 addition to coursework meeting high school graduation
10 requirements;

11
12 (iii) Complying with criteria developed by the
13 commission based upon consensus discussions, which
14 prescribe statewide processes, procedures and required
15 components for:

16
17 (A) Determining program participation
18 through statewide uniform eligibility requirements;

19
20 (B) Establishing and maintaining quality of
21 courses offered through dual and concurrent enrollment
22 programs;

23

1 (C) Assembling required articulation
2 agreements between high schools and post secondary
3 institutions pursuant to W.S. 21-20-201;

4
5 (D) Communication mechanisms established
6 for participating students and parents;

7
8 (E) Student support services;

9
10 (F) Parameters governing the use of
11 weighted grades;

12
13 (G) Establishing common student performance
14 standards and expectations and establishing measures of
15 student outcomes;

16
17 (H) Course transferability between
18 participating districts and post secondary institutions;

19
20 (J) Data reporting and collection
21 instruments and requirements providing the basis for
22 program monitoring and evaluation;

23

1 (K) Reporting and accountability of funding
2 sources available to districts and post secondary education
3 institutions for program provision.

4
5 (b) A major component of state policy development
6 under subsection (a) of this section shall include the
7 establishment and maintenance of a data system compiling
8 student enrollment, completion and outcome information for
9 high school and post secondary education dual and
10 concurrent enrollment programs. Efforts shall be
11 coordinated with the transcript center within the
12 department of education, and the longitudinal data
13 collection effort under the Hathaway student scholarship
14 program pursuant to 2008 Wyoming session laws, chapter 95,
15 section 901.

16
17 (c) In undertaking the consensus discussions and
18 state policy development required under subsection (a) of
19 this section, the community college commission shall give
20 consideration to the role provided by distance education in
21 developing criteria for dual and concurrent enrollment
22 programs. For this purpose, the commission shall
23 coordinate efforts with the university, community colleges

1 and the Wyoming switchboard network administered by the
2 department of education.

3

4 (d) The community college commission may contract
5 with appropriate persons and organizations to conduct the
6 consensus discussions required under subsection (a) of this
7 section and to assist with work necessary to establish
8 policies and processes addressing issues identified in
9 paragraphs (a)(i) through (iii) of this section. Progress
10 on consensus discussions and policy development shall be
11 periodically reported to the joint education interim
12 committee, culminating in a final report to the committee
13 to be submitted on or before January 1, 2011, which shall
14 be comprised of policy recommendations on issues identified
15 in this section, together with necessary enabling
16 legislation. Broad public involvement shall be documented
17 within the report, which shall serve as a basis for
18 development of uniform policy on dual and concurrent
19 enrollment programs.

20

21 (e) One hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00)
22 is appropriated from the budget reserve account established
23 under W.S. 9-2-1012(e) to the community college commission
24 for the period commencing upon the effective date of this

1 section, and ending June 30, 2011. The commission shall
2 expend monies appropriated under this section to conduct
3 consensus discussions and to develop policy and processes
4 specified under this section. The commission may use
5 monies appropriated under this section to contract with
6 appropriate persons and organizations as authorized under
7 subsection (d) of this section.

8
9 **Section 3.**

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11 (a) Except as provided under subsection (b) of this
12 section, this act is effective July 1, 2010.

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14 (b) Section 2 of this act is effective immediately
15 upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become
16 law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
17 Constitution.

18
19 (END)