
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The Georgetown University Center on Education
2 and the Workforce has projected that, by 2020, seventy per cent
3 of jobs in Hawaii will require that employees have some level of
4 postsecondary education. However, according to the United
5 States Census Bureau, currently, just forty-two per cent of
6 Hawaii's adults hold a two- or four-year college degree.
7 Several national and local studies have shown the effectiveness
8 of dual credit programs--programs in which students earn both
9 high school and college credit simultaneously--on students'
10 rates of attending college, staying in college, and graduating
11 from college with a postsecondary degree or certificate.

12 A study recently conducted by Hawaii P-20 partnerships for
13 education on current dual credit programs, such as running
14 start, showed similar gains for students taking college-level
15 courses while still in high school despite the high financial
16 cost to students and their families. Nationally, of the forty-
17 seven states, and the District of Columbia, that have statewide



1 policies governing at least one dual credit program, Hawaii is
2 one of only nine states that requires the student and the
3 student's parent or guardian to pay for participation in a dual
4 credit program.

5 Increasing numbers of students in Hawaii are taking dual
6 credit courses through programs that include, but are not
7 limited to, the running start, jump start, or early college high
8 school programs. However, for more students to gain more
9 credits and the opportunity to earn both a college associate's
10 degree and a high school diploma, they need to be able to start
11 in ninth grade, if they are academically prepared. In more than
12 twenty-eight other states, college-ready high school students
13 can begin taking dual credit courses in the ninth grade.

14 Finally, there is a growing trend for assessing students'
15 ability for college-readiness, not by a single standardized
16 test, but by multiple measurements, such as grades, overall
17 grade point average, teacher recommendations, and various
18 assessments and tests.

19 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 20 (1) Broaden current law to include all dual credit
21 programs;



1 (2) Broaden eligibility to participate in the program and
2 allow for multiple measures of assessment to determine
3 eligibility; and

4 (3) Appropriate funds for the instruction, courses, and
5 administration of college credits, thus allowing
6 broader participation by various types of students.

7 SECTION 2. Section 302A-401, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 "§302A-401 [~~Running start~~] Dual credit program. (a)

10 There is created in the department the [~~running start~~] dual
11 credit program to permit eligible students to enroll in any
12 qualified course offered by the University of Hawaii system.

13 (b) For the purposes of this section:

14 "Eligible student" means a public or home-schooled high
15 school student in the ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade
16 who:

17 (1) Has passed [~~a standardized test administered~~] an
18 assessment approved by the college that demonstrates
19 the student's ability to succeed at the college level;



1 (2) Is under the age of twenty-one as of September 1 of
2 the school year in which the college course is taken;
3 and

4 (3) Has other qualifications deemed appropriate by the
5 department of education or the University of Hawaii;
6 provided that subsequent qualifications do not
7 restrict any student from taking the [~~standardized~~
8 ~~test.~~] assessment. Qualifications shall be uniform
9 across all campuses that offer qualified courses.

10 "Qualified course" means any vocational or academic course
11 offered by the University of Hawaii system that also applies to
12 the department's graduation requirements or is otherwise
13 permitted by department rule or policy.

14 (c) All course credits successfully completed pursuant to
15 this section that would otherwise be transferable but for a
16 student's grade level, shall be transferable to any University
17 of Hawaii system degree granting institution; provided that the
18 student is admitted to the campus where the credit is
19 transferred.

20 (d) [~~College courses~~] One hundred level or above
21 University of Hawaii courses that fulfill an undergraduate or



1 graduate degree course requirement and that are successfully
2 completed under this section shall also satisfy the department's
3 graduation requirements as determined by the department pursuant
4 to rule.

5 (e) This section shall not preclude the department and the
6 University of Hawaii from establishing programs by mutual
7 agreement that permit high school students to enroll in college
8 courses.

9 ~~[(f) Every student enrolled in a college course pursuant~~
10 ~~to this section shall remit appropriate tuition and fees to the~~
11 ~~college for every college course.]~~

12 ~~(g) The department shall provide students who participate~~
13 ~~in the running start program with guidance in earning credit~~
14 ~~toward high school graduation upon the satisfactory completion~~
15 ~~of University of Hawaii courses at the one hundred level and~~
16 ~~above [pursuant to this section].]~~"

17 SECTION 3. Section 304A-803, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 " ~~[f] §304A-803 [f] Running start~~ Dual credit program. (a)

20 There is established within the department of education the
21 ~~[running start]~~ dual credit program, to allow eligible students



1 to enroll in any qualified course offered by the University of
2 Hawaii system.

3 (b) For the purposes of this section:

4 "Eligible student" means a public or home-schooled high
5 school student in the ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade
6 who:

- 7 (1) Has passed [~~a standardized test administered~~] an
8 assessment approved by the college that demonstrates
9 the student's ability to succeed at the college level;
- 10 (2) Is under the age of twenty-one as of September 1 of
11 the school year in which the college course is taken;
12 and
- 13 (3) Has other qualifications deemed appropriate by the
14 department of education or the university; provided
15 that subsequent qualifications do not restrict any
16 student from taking the [~~standardized test-~~]
17 assessment. Qualifications shall be uniform across
18 all campuses that offer qualified courses.

19 "Qualified course" means any career and technical education
20 or academic course offered by the University of Hawaii system
21 that also applies to the department of education's graduation



1 requirements or is otherwise permitted by department of
2 education rule or policy.

3 (c) All course credits successfully completed pursuant to
4 this section that would otherwise be transferable but for a
5 student's grade level, shall be transferable to any University
6 of Hawaii system degree granting institution; provided that the
7 student is admitted to the campus where the credit is
8 transferred.

9 (d) ~~[College courses]~~ One hundred level or above
10 University of Hawaii courses that fulfill an undergraduate or
11 graduate degree course requirement and that are successfully
12 completed under this section shall also satisfy the department
13 of education's graduation requirements as determined by the
14 department of education pursuant to rule.

15 (e) This section shall not preclude the department of
16 education and the university from establishing programs by
17 mutual agreement that permit high school students to enroll in
18 college courses.

19 ~~[(f) Every student enrolled in a college course pursuant~~
20 ~~to this section shall remit appropriate tuition and fees to the~~
21 ~~university.] "~~



1 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the
 4 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
 5 2016-2017 to provide the department of education with staffing,
 6 including full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, and
 7 resources to administer the dual credit program established
 8 under this Act.

9 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 10 of education for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
 12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the
 14 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
 15 2016-2017 to provide the University of Hawaii with staffing,
 16 including full-time equivalent (FTE) position, and
 17 resources to administer the dual credit program established
 18 under this Act.

19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
 20 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.



Report Title:

UH; DOE; Dual Credit Program; Appropriations

Description:

Renames the "Running Start Program" as the "Dual Credit Program". Broadens participation to include public and home-schooled ninth and tenth graders. Replaces a standardized test with an assessment. Repeals tuition and fees requirement. Requires that all additional qualifications be uniform across all campuses. Appropriates moneys to the Department of Education and the University of Hawaii for positions. (SB374 HD2)

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