

REFERENCE TITLE: Arizona online instruction; graduation requirements

State of Arizona
Senate
Fiftieth Legislature
First Regular Session
2011

SB 1255

Introduced by
Senator Crandall

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-808, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2010, CHAPTER 306, SECTION 5; REPEALING SECTION 15-808, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2010, CHAPTER 318, SECTION 10; BLENDING MULTIPLE ENACTMENTS; RELATING TO SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-808, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by
3 Laws 2010, chapter 306, section 5, is amended to read:

4 15-808. Arizona online instruction; reports; definitions

5 A. Arizona online instruction shall be instituted to meet the needs of
6 pupils in the information age. The state board of education shall select
7 traditional public schools and the state board for charter schools shall
8 sponsor charter schools to be online course providers or online schools. The
9 state board of education and the state board for charter schools shall
10 jointly develop standards for the approval of online course providers and
11 online schools based on the following criteria:

12 1. The depth and breadth of curriculum choices.

13 2. The variety of educational methodologies employed by the school and
14 the means of addressing the unique needs and learning styles of targeted
15 pupil populations, including computer assisted learning systems, virtual
16 classrooms, virtual laboratories, electronic field trips, electronic mail,
17 virtual tutoring, online help desk, group chat sessions and noncomputer based
18 activities performed under the direction of a certificated teacher.

19 3. The availability of an intranet or private network to safeguard
20 pupils against predatory and pornographic elements of the internet.

21 4. The availability of filtered research access to the internet.

22 5. The availability of private individual electronic mail between
23 pupils, teachers, administrators and parents in order to protect the
24 confidentiality of pupil records and information.

25 6. The availability of faculty members who are experienced with
26 computer networks, the internet and computer animation.

27 7. The extent to which the school intends to develop partnerships with
28 universities, community colleges and private businesses.

29 8. The services offered to developmentally disabled populations.

30 9. The grade levels that will be served.

31 B. Each new school that provides online instruction shall provide
32 online instruction on a probationary status. After a new school that
33 provides online instruction has clearly demonstrated the academic integrity
34 of its instruction through the actual improvement of the academic performance
35 of its students, the school may apply to be removed from probationary status.
36 The state board of education or the state board for charter schools shall
37 remove from Arizona online instruction any probationary school that fails to
38 clearly demonstrate improvement in academic performance within three years
39 measured against goals in the approved application and the state's
40 accountability system. The state board of education and the state board for
41 charter schools shall review the effectiveness of each participating school
42 and other information that is contained in the annual report prescribed in
43 subsection D of this section. All pupils who participate in Arizona online
44 instruction shall reside in this state. Pupils who participate in Arizona
45 online instruction are subject to the testing requirements prescribed in

1 chapter 7, article 3 of this title. Upon enrollment, the school shall notify
2 the parents or guardians of the pupil of the state testing requirements. If
3 a pupil fails to comply with the testing requirements and the school
4 administers the tests pursuant to this subsection to less than ninety-five
5 per cent of the pupils in Arizona online instruction, the pupil shall not be
6 allowed to participate in Arizona online instruction.

7 C. Beginning July 1, 2010, the state board of education and the state
8 board for charter schools shall develop annual reporting mechanisms for
9 schools that participate in Arizona online instruction.

10 D. The department of education shall compile the information submitted
11 in the annual reports by schools participating in Arizona online instruction.
12 The department of education shall submit the compiled report to the governor,
13 the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate
14 by November 15 of each year.

15 E. Each school selected for Arizona online instruction shall ensure
16 that a daily log is maintained for each pupil who participates in Arizona
17 online instruction. The daily log shall describe the amount of time spent by
18 each pupil participating in Arizona online instruction pursuant to this
19 section on academic tasks. The daily log shall be used by the school
20 district or charter school to qualify the pupils who participate in Arizona
21 online instruction in the school's average daily attendance calculations
22 pursuant to ~~section 15-901~~ SUBSECTION F OF THIS SECTION.

23 F. If a pupil is enrolled in a school district or charter school and
24 also participates in Arizona online instruction, the sum of the average daily
25 membership, which includes enrollment as prescribed in section 15-901,
26 subsection A, paragraph ~~2- 1~~, subdivisions (a) and (b) and daily attendance
27 as prescribed in section 15-901, subsection A, paragraph ~~6- 5~~, for that pupil
28 in the school district or charter school and in Arizona online instruction
29 shall not exceed 1.0. If the pupil is enrolled in a school district or a
30 charter school and also participates in Arizona online instruction and the
31 sum of the daily membership or daily attendance for that pupil is greater
32 than 1.0, the sum shall be reduced to 1.0 and shall be apportioned between
33 the school district, unless the school district is a joint technical
34 education district subject to the apportionment requirements of section
35 15-393, or charter school and Arizona online instruction based on the
36 percentage of total time that the pupil is enrolled or in attendance in the
37 school district or charter school and Arizona online instruction. The
38 uniform system of financial records shall include guidelines for the
39 apportionment of the pupil enrollment and attendance as provided in this
40 subsection. Pupils in Arizona online instruction do not incur absences for
41 purposes of ~~section 15-901~~ THIS SUBSECTION and may generate an average daily
42 attendance of 1.0 for attendance hours during any hour of the day, during any
43 day of the week and at any time between July 1 and June 30 of each fiscal
44 year. For kindergarten programs and grades one through eight, average daily
45 membership shall be calculated by dividing the instructional hours as

1 reported in the daily log required in subsection E of this section by the
2 applicable hourly requirements prescribed in section 15-901. For grades nine
3 through twelve, average daily membership shall be calculated by dividing the
4 instructional hours as reported in the daily log required in subsection E of
5 this section by nine hundred. The average daily membership of a pupil who
6 participates in online instruction shall not exceed 1.0. Average daily
7 membership shall not be calculated on the one hundredth day of instruction
8 for the purposes of this section. Funding shall be determined as follows:

9 1. A pupil who is enrolled full-time in Arizona online instruction
10 shall be funded for online instruction at ninety-five per cent of the base
11 support level that would be calculated for that pupil if that pupil were
12 enrolled as a full-time student in a school district or charter school that
13 does not participate in Arizona online instruction. Additional assistance,
14 capital outlay revenue limit and soft capital allocation limit shall be
15 calculated in the same manner they would be calculated if the student were
16 enrolled in a district or charter school that does not participate in Arizona
17 online instruction.

18 2. A pupil who is enrolled part-time in Arizona online instruction
19 shall be funded for online instruction at eighty-five per cent of the base
20 support level that would be calculated for that pupil if that pupil were
21 enrolled as a part-time student in a school district or charter school that
22 does not participate in Arizona online instruction. Additional assistance,
23 capital outlay revenue limit and soft capital allocation limit shall be
24 calculated in the same manner they would be calculated if the student were
25 enrolled in a district or charter school that does not participate in Arizona
26 online instruction.

27 G. If the academic achievement of a pupil declines while the pupil is
28 participating in Arizona online instruction, the pupil's parents, the pupil's
29 teachers and the principal or head teacher of the school shall confer to
30 evaluate whether the pupil should be allowed to continue to participate in
31 Arizona online instruction.

32 H. To ensure the academic integrity of pupils who participate in
33 online instruction, Arizona online instruction shall include multiple diverse
34 assessment measures and the proctored administration of required state
35 standardized tests.

36 I. HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS WHO PARTICIPATE IN ARIZONA ONLINE INSTRUCTION,
37 WHO ARE ENROLLED IN A TRADITIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL AND WHO
38 PLAN TO RECEIVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA FROM A TRADITIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
39 CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL BE NOTIFIED THAT COURSES MAY NOT APPLY TOWARDS THE
40 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS OF INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS OR CHARTER SCHOOLS.

41 ~~I.~~ J. For the purposes of this section:

42 1. "Full-time student" means:

43 (a) A student who is at least five years of age before September 1 of
44 a school year and who is enrolled in a school kindergarten program that meets
45 at least three hundred forty-six hours during the school year.

1 (b) A student who is at least six years of age before September 1 of a
2 school year, who has not graduated from the highest grade taught in the
3 school and who is regularly enrolled in a course of study required by the
4 state board of education. For first, second and third grade students, the
5 instructional program shall meet at least seven hundred twelve hours. For
6 fourth, fifth and sixth grade students, the instructional program shall meet
7 at least eight hundred ninety hours during the school year.

8 (c) Seventh and eighth grade students or ungraded students who are at
9 least twelve, but under fourteen, years of age on or before September 1 and
10 who are enrolled in an instructional program of courses that meets at least
11 one thousand sixty-eight hours during the school year.

12 (d) For high schools, except as provided in section 15-105, a student
13 not graduated from the highest grade taught in the school district, or an
14 ungraded student at least fourteen years of age on or before September 1, and
15 who is enrolled in at least four courses throughout the year that meet at
16 least nine hundred hours during the school year. A full-time student shall
17 not be counted more than once for computation of average daily membership.

18 2. "Online course provider" means a school other than an online school
19 that is selected by the state board of education or the state board for
20 charter schools to participate in Arizona online instruction pursuant to this
21 section and that provides at least one online academic course that is
22 approved by the state board of education.

23 3. "Online school" means a school that provides at least four online
24 academic courses or one or more online courses for the equivalent of at least
25 five hours each day for one hundred eighty school days and that is a charter
26 school that is sponsored by the state board for charter schools or a
27 traditional public school that is selected by the state board of education to
28 participate in Arizona online instruction.

29 4. "Part-time student" means:

30 (a) Any student who is enrolled in a program that does not meet the
31 definition in paragraph 1 of this subsection shall be funded at eighty-five
32 per cent of the base support level that would be calculated for that pupil if
33 that pupil were enrolled as a part-time student in a school district or
34 charter school that does not participate in Arizona online instruction.

35 (b) A part-time student of seventy-five per cent average daily
36 membership shall be enrolled in at least three subjects throughout the year
37 that offer for first, second and third grade students at least five hundred
38 thirty-four instructional hours in a school year and for fourth, fifth and
39 sixth grade students at least six hundred sixty-eight instructional hours in
40 a school year. A part-time student of fifty per cent average daily
41 membership shall be enrolled in at least two subjects throughout the year
42 that offer for first, second and third grade students at least three hundred
43 fifty-six instructional hours in a school year and for fourth, fifth and
44 sixth grade students at least four hundred forty-five instructional hours in
45 a school year. A part-time student of twenty-five per cent average daily

1 membership shall be enrolled in at least one subject throughout the year that
2 offers for first, second and third grade students at least one hundred
3 seventy-eight instructional hours in a school year and for fourth, fifth and
4 sixth grade students at least two hundred twenty-three instructional hours in
5 a school year.

6 (c) For seventh and eighth grade students, a part-time student of
7 seventy-five per cent average daily membership shall be enrolled in at least
8 three subjects throughout the year that offer at least eight hundred one
9 instructional hours in a school year. A part-time student of fifty per cent
10 average daily membership shall be enrolled in at least two subjects
11 throughout the year that offer at least five hundred thirty-four
12 instructional hours in a school year. A part-time student of twenty-five per
13 cent average daily membership shall be enrolled in at least one subject
14 throughout the year that offers at least two hundred sixty-seven
15 instructional hours in a school year.

16 (d) For high school students, a part-time student of seventy-five per
17 cent average daily membership shall be enrolled in at least three subjects
18 throughout the year that offer at least six hundred seventy-five
19 instructional hours in a school year. A part-time student of fifty per cent
20 average daily membership shall be enrolled in at least two subjects
21 throughout the year that offer at least four hundred fifty instructional
22 hours in a school year. A part-time student of twenty-five per cent average
23 daily membership shall be enrolled in at least one subject throughout the
24 year that offers at least two hundred twenty-five instructional hours in a
25 school year.

26 Sec. 2. Repeal

27 Section 15-808, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2010,
28 chapter 318, section 10, is repealed.