

House Engrossed

college course credit; dual enrollment

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2021

**CHAPTER 414**  
**HOUSE BILL 2021**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 15-701.01 AND 15-1821.01, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES;  
RELATING TO DUAL ENROLLMENT.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 15-701.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended  
3 to read:

4 15-701.01. High schools; graduation; requirements; community  
5 college or university courses; transfer from  
6 other schools; academic credit

7 A. The state board of education shall:

8 1. Prescribe a minimum course of study, as defined in section  
9 15-101 and incorporating the academic standards adopted by the state  
10 board, for the graduation of pupils from high school.

11 2. Prescribe competency requirements for the graduation of pupils  
12 from high school incorporating the academic standards in at least the  
13 areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies. The  
14 academic standards prescribed by the state board in social studies shall  
15 include personal finance and American civics education. The state board  
16 may consider establishing a required separate personal finance course for  
17 the purpose of the graduation of pupils from high school. The state board  
18 shall require at least one-half of a course credit in economics, which  
19 shall include financial literacy and personal financial management. The  
20 competency requirements for social studies shall include a requirement  
21 that, in order to graduate from high school or obtain a high school  
22 equivalency diploma, a pupil must correctly answer at least sixty of the  
23 one hundred questions listed on a test that is identical to the civics  
24 portion of the naturalization test used by the United States citizenship  
25 and immigration services. A district school or charter school shall  
26 document on the pupil's transcript that the pupil has passed a test that  
27 is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the  
28 United States citizenship and immigration services as required by this  
29 section.

30 3. Develop and adopt competency tests pursuant to section 15-741.  
31 English language learners who are subject to article 3.1 of this chapter  
32 are subject to the assessments prescribed in section 15-741.

33 B. The governing board of a school district shall:

34 1. Prescribe curricula that include the academic standards in the  
35 required subject areas pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 1 of this  
36 section.

37 2. Prescribe criteria for the graduation of pupils from the high  
38 schools in the school district. These criteria shall include  
39 accomplishment of the academic standards in at least reading, writing,  
40 mathematics, science and social studies, as determined by district  
41 assessment. Other criteria may include additional measures of academic  
42 achievement and attendance. Pursuant to the prescribed graduation  
43 requirements adopted by the state board of education, the governing board  
44 may approve a rigorous computer science course that would fulfill a  
45 mathematics course required for graduation from high school. The

1 governing board may approve a rigorous computer science course only if the  
2 rigorous computer science course includes significant mathematics content  
3 and the governing board determines the high school where the rigorous  
4 computer science course is offered has sufficient capacity, infrastructure  
5 and qualified staff, including competent teachers of computer science.  
6 The school district governing board or charter school governing body may  
7 determine the method and manner in which to administer a test that is  
8 identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the  
9 United States citizenship and immigration services. A pupil who does not  
10 obtain a passing score on the test that is identical to the civics portion  
11 of the naturalization test may retake the test until the pupil obtains a  
12 passing score.

13 C. The governing board may prescribe the course of study and  
14 competency requirements for the graduation of pupils from high school that  
15 are in addition to or higher than the course of study and competency  
16 requirements that the state board prescribes.

17 D. The governing board may prescribe competency requirements for  
18 the passage of pupils in courses that are required for graduation from  
19 high school.

20 E. A teacher shall determine whether to pass or fail a pupil in a  
21 course in high school on the basis of the competency requirements, if any  
22 have been prescribed. The governing board, if it reviews the decision of  
23 a teacher to pass or fail a pupil in a course in high school as provided  
24 in section 15-342, paragraph 11, shall base its decision on the competency  
25 requirements, if any have been prescribed.

26 F. Graduation requirements established by the governing board may  
27 be met by a pupil who passes courses in the required or elective subjects  
28 at a community college or university, if the course is at a higher level  
29 than the course taught in the high school attended by the pupil or, if the  
30 course is not taught in the high school, the level of the course is equal  
31 to or higher than the level of a high school course. The governing board  
32 shall determine whether the subject matter of the community college or  
33 university course is appropriate to the specific requirement the pupil  
34 intends it to fulfill and whether the level of the community college or  
35 university course is less than, equal to or higher than a high school  
36 course, and the governing board shall award **AT LEAST** one-half of a  
37 **CARNEGIE UNIT AND UP TO AND INCLUDING ONE** Carnegie unit for each three  
38 semester hours of credit that the pupil earns in an appropriate community  
39 college or university course. If a pupil is not satisfied with the  
40 decision of the governing board regarding the amount of credit granted or  
41 the subjects for which credit is granted, the pupil may request that the  
42 state board of education review the decision of the governing board, and  
43 the state board shall make the final determination of the amount of credit  
44 to be given the pupil and for which subjects. The governing board shall  
45 not limit the number of credits that is required for high school

1 graduation and that may be met by taking community college or university  
2 courses. For the purposes of this subsection:

3 1. "Community college" means an educational institution that is  
4 operated by a community college district as defined in section 15-1401 or  
5 a postsecondary educational institution under the jurisdiction of an  
6 Indian tribe recognized by the United States department of the interior.

7 2. "University" means a university under the jurisdiction of the  
8 Arizona board of regents.

9 G. A pupil who transfers from a private school shall be provided  
10 with a list that indicates those credits that have been accepted and  
11 denied by the school district. A pupil may request to take an examination  
12 in each particular course in which credit has been denied. The school  
13 district shall accept the credit for each particular course in which the  
14 pupil takes an examination and receives a passing score on a test designed  
15 and evaluated by a teacher in the school district who teaches the subject  
16 matter on which the examination is based. In addition to the above  
17 requirements, the governing board of a school district may prescribe  
18 requirements for the acceptance of the credits of pupils who transfer from  
19 a private school.

20 H. If a pupil who was previously enrolled in a charter school or  
21 school district enrolls in a school district in this state, the school  
22 district shall accept credits earned by the pupil in courses or  
23 instructional programs at the charter school or school district. The  
24 governing board of a school district may adopt a policy concerning the  
25 application of transfer credits for the purpose of determining whether a  
26 credit earned by a pupil who was previously enrolled in a school district  
27 or charter school will be assigned as an elective or core credit.

28 I. A pupil who transfers credit from a charter school, a school  
29 district or Arizona online instruction shall be provided with a list that  
30 indicates which credits have been accepted as elective credits and which  
31 credits have been accepted as core credits by the school district or  
32 charter school. Within ten school days after receiving the list, the  
33 pupil may request to take an examination in each particular course in  
34 which core credit has been denied. The school district or charter school  
35 shall accept the credit as a core credit for each particular course in  
36 which the pupil takes an examination and receives a passing score on a  
37 test that is aligned to the competency requirements adopted pursuant to  
38 this section and that is designed and evaluated by a teacher in the school  
39 district or charter school who teaches the subject matter on which the  
40 examination is based. If a pupil is enrolled in a school district or  
41 charter school and that pupil also participates in Arizona online  
42 instruction between May 1 and July 31, the school district or charter  
43 school shall not require proof of payment as a condition of the school  
44 district or charter school accepting credits earned from the online course  
45 provider.

1 J. The state board of education shall adopt rules to allow high  
2 school pupils who can demonstrate competency in a particular academic  
3 course or subject to obtain academic credit for the course or subject  
4 without enrolling in the course or subject.

5 K. Pupils who earn a Grand Canyon diploma pursuant to article 6 of  
6 this chapter are exempt from the graduation requirements prescribed in  
7 this section. Pupils who earn a Grand Canyon diploma are entitled to all  
8 the rights and privileges of persons who graduate with a high school  
9 diploma issued pursuant to this section, including access to postsecondary  
10 scholarships and other forms of student financial aid and access to all  
11 forms of postsecondary education. Notwithstanding any other law, a pupil  
12 who is eligible for a Grand Canyon diploma may elect to remain in high  
13 school through grade twelve and shall not be prevented from enrolling at a  
14 high school after the pupil becomes eligible for a Grand Canyon diploma.  
15 A pupil who is eligible for a Grand Canyon diploma and who elects not to  
16 pursue one of the options prescribed in section 15-792.03 may only be  
17 readmitted to that high school or another high school in this state  
18 pursuant to policies adopted by the school district of readmission.

19 Sec. 2. Section 15-1821.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
20 read:

21 15-1821.01. Dual enrollment information

22 On a determination by a community college district governing board  
23 that it is in the best interest of the citizens of a district, the  
24 district governing board may authorize district community colleges to  
25 offer college courses that may be counted toward both high school and  
26 college graduation requirements at the high school during the school day,  
27 subject to the following:

28 1. The community college district governing board and the governing  
29 board of the school district or organization of which the high school is a  
30 part shall enter into an agreement or contract. These intergovernmental  
31 agreements or contracts shall be based on a uniform format that has been  
32 cooperatively developed by the community college districts in this state.  
33 Each of these agreements or contracts shall clearly specify the following:

34 (a) The financial provisions of the agreement or contract and the  
35 format for ~~the~~ billing ~~of~~ all services under the agreement or contract,  
36 including the amount that the community college received in full-time  
37 student equivalent funding pursuant to section 15-1466.01, the portion of  
38 the funding that is distributed to the school district governing board or  
39 charter school and any amount that is subsequently returned to the  
40 community college district by the school district governing board or  
41 charter school.

42 (b) Student tuition and financial aid policies, including whether  
43 scholarships or grants are awarded to students in dual enrollment courses  
44 from the community college.

1 (c) The accountability provisions for each party to the agreement  
2 or contract.

3 (d) The responsibilities and services required of each party to the  
4 agreement or contract.

5 (e) The type of instruction that will be provided under the  
6 agreement or contract, including the titles of the courses to be offered.

7 (f) The quality of the instruction that will be provided under the  
8 agreement or contract.

9 2. Students shall be admitted to the community college under the  
10 policies adopted by each district, ~~subject to the following:~~

11 ~~(a)~~ EXCEPT THAT all students who are enrolled for college credit  
12 shall be high school FRESHMEN, SOPHOMORES, juniors or seniors. All  
13 students who are in the course, including those not electing to enroll for  
14 college credit, shall satisfy the prerequisites for the course as  
15 published in the college catalog and shall comply with college policies  
16 regarding student placement in courses.

17 ~~(b) A community college may waive the class status requirements~~  
18 ~~specified in subdivision (a) of this paragraph for up to twenty-five~~  
19 ~~percent of the students enrolled by a college in courses if the community~~  
20 ~~college has established written criteria for waiving the requirements for~~  
21 ~~each course. These criteria shall include a demonstration, by an~~  
22 ~~examination of the specific purposes and requirements of the course, that~~  
23 ~~freshman and sophomore students who meet course prerequisites are prepared~~  
24 ~~to benefit from the college-level course. All exceptions and the~~  
25 ~~justification for the exceptions shall be reported annually to the joint~~  
26 ~~legislative budget committee on or before December 1.~~

27 3. The courses shall be previously evaluated and approved through  
28 the curriculum approval process of the district, shall be at a higher  
29 level than taught by the high school and shall be transferable to a  
30 university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board of regents or be  
31 applicable to an established community college occupational degree or  
32 certificate program. Physical education courses are not available for  
33 dual enrollment purposes.

34 4. College-approved textbooks, syllabuses, course outlines and  
35 grading standards that are applicable to the courses if taught at the  
36 community college shall apply to these courses and to all students in the  
37 courses offered pursuant to this section. The chief executive officer of  
38 each community college shall establish an advisory committee of full-time  
39 faculty who teach in the disciplines offered at the community college to  
40 assist in course selection and implementation in the high schools and to  
41 review and report at least annually to the chief executive officer whether  
42 the course goals and standards are understood, the course guidelines are  
43 followed and the same standards of expectation and assessment are applied  
44 to these courses as though they were being offered at the community

1 college. The advisory committee of full-time faculty shall meet at least  
2 three times each academic year.

3 5. Each faculty member shall meet the requirements established by  
4 the governing board pursuant to section 15-1444. The chief executive  
5 officer of each community college district shall establish an advisory  
6 committee of full-time faculty who teach in the disciplines offered at the  
7 community college district to assist in the selection, orientation,  
8 ongoing professional development and evaluation of faculty who are  
9 teaching college courses in conjunction with the high schools. The  
10 advisory committee of full-time faculty shall meet at least two times each  
11 academic year.

12 6. A school district shall ensure that a pupil is a full-time  
13 student as defined in section 15-901 and is enrolled in and attending a  
14 full-time instructional program at a school in the school district before  
15 that pupil is allowed to enroll in a college course pursuant to this  
16 section, except that high school seniors who satisfy high school  
17 graduation requirements with less than a full-time instructional program  
18 are exempt from this paragraph.

19 7. Notwithstanding paragraph 6 of this section, homeschooled  
20 students may fully participate in dual enrollment, including receipt of  
21 college credit pursuant to this section.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR JULY 9, 2021.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE JULY 9, 2021.