

Senate Engrossed
schools; course equivalents

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-fifth Legislature
First Regular Session
2021

SENATE BILL 1400

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 9, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 15-901.08; RELATING TO SCHOOL INSTRUCTION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Title 15, chapter 9, article 1, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-901.08, to read:

4 15-901.08. Course equivalents; credits; calculation of
5 average daily membership; rules

6 A. BEGINNING IN THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR, SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND
7 CHARTER SCHOOLS SERVING STUDENTS IN ANY OF GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE, MAY
8 AT THE REQUEST OF THE STUDENT AND WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE PARENT AND
9 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION F OF THIS SECTION, ALLOW STUDENTS IN GRADES NINE
10 THROUGH TWELVE TO RECEIVE ONE ELECTIVE CREDIT PER SCHOOL YEAR THROUGH ANY
11 OF THE FOLLOWING:

12 1. FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE OF A LEGAL AGE TO WORK, WORKING THE
13 EQUIVALENT OF AT LEAST FIVE HOURS PER WEEK OVER THE COURSE OF ANY
14 SEMESTER, INCLUDING SUMMER BREAK.

15 2. PARTICIPATING IN AN ORGANIZED SPORT. THE STATE BOARD OF
16 EDUCATION SHALL PRESCRIBE WHAT QUALIFIES AS AN ORGANIZED SPORT UNDER THIS
17 PARAGRAPH, EXCEPT THAT THE STATE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER ALL OF THE FOLLOWING
18 TO BE ORGANIZED SPORTS UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH:

19 (a) OFF-CAMPUS LEAGUES.

20 (b) SPORTS THAT ARE NOT ORGANIZED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER
21 SCHOOL, INCLUDING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

22 (i) SPORTS LEAGUES THAT ARE ORGANIZED BY FOR-PROFIT OR NONPROFIT
23 ORGANIZATIONS.

24 (ii) CLUB SPORTS.

25 (iii) ANY OTHER SPORTS LEAGUE THAT STUDENTS GENERALLY PARTICIPATE
26 IN OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL.

27 (c) SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL SPORTS IN WHICH THE STUDENT
28 PARTICIPATES FOR A SEASON.

29 3. PARTICIPATING IN LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE OF THE COURSES
30 OFFERED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL, INCLUDING TUTORING, STEM
31 CLUBS AND OTHER PROJECT-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, INTERNSHIPS AND
32 APPRENTICESHIPS AS APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OR THE SCHOOL
33 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PARAGRAPH, "STEM"
34 HAS THE SAME MEANING PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-782.01.

35 4. PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY ARTS, INCLUDING MUSIC LESSONS AND
36 COMMUNITY THEATER.

37 5. ENROLLING IN AND PASSING ANY COURSE OFFERED BY ANY OF THE
38 FOLLOWING:

39 (a) A UNIVERSITY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF
40 REGENTS.

41 (b) A COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS DEFINED IN SECTION 15-1401.

42 (c) ANY PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION APPROVED BY THE STATE
43 BOARD OF EDUCATION.

44 B. NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 15-701.01, FOR EACH COURSE EQUIVALENT
45 COMPLETED UNDER SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION, A STUDENT SHALL EARN THE

1 EQUIVALENT OF AT LEAST ONE CURRENTLY REQUIRED ELECTIVE CREDIT THAT COUNTS
2 TOWARD THE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-701.01.

3 C. A COURSE EQUIVALENT PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION
4 IS CONSIDERED A SUBJECT FOR THE PURPOSES OF MEETING THE DEFINITION OF A
5 FRACTIONAL STUDENT OR FULL-TIME STUDENT PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-901. A
6 COURSE EQUIVALENT PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION IS NOT
7 REQUIRED TO MEET ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE HOURS A YEAR, OR THE EQUIVALENT,
8 TO BE CONSIDERED A SUBJECT.

9 D. INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS PROVIDED TO A STUDENT WHO COMPLETES A COURSE
10 EQUIVALENT PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE INCLUDED IN
11 THE CALCULATION OF THE AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP FOR THAT STUDENT PURSUANT
12 TO SECTION 15-901. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW, FOR A FULL-TIME
13 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO COMPLETES A COURSE EQUIVALENT PURSUANT TO THIS
14 SECTION, THE AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP MAY NOT EXCEED 1.0.

15 E. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL:

16 1. ADOPT A FRAMEWORK FOR SCHOOLS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

17 2. AS PROVIDED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS, POST A LIST
18 OF LOCAL OR STATEWIDE NONPROFITS AND VENDORS WHERE STUDENTS' OUT-OF-SCHOOL
19 EXPERIENCES ARE BEING RECOGNIZED FOR CREDIT.

20 F. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD OR CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING
21 BODY SHALL ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR COURSE EQUIVALENT
22 CREDIT AT THE STUDENT'S SCHOOL.

23 G. THE OPPORTUNITY TO IDENTIFY A COURSE EQUIVALENT SHALL BE
24 PROVIDED TO FAMILIES AND STUDENTS DURING THE COURSE AND SEMESTER
25 ENROLLMENT PERIODS AND SCHOOLS SHALL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO RECOGNIZE THE
26 EXPERIENCES STUDENTS HAVE OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL MANDATED COURSES AS RELEVANT
27 TO THE STUDENT'S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

28 H. SCHOOLS SHALL IDENTIFY AN ELECTIVE COURSE WITH OR FOR STUDENTS
29 WHO WORK AND WHO REQUEST A COURSE EQUIVALENT.

30 I. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY ADOPT RULES TO ALLOW
31 OUT-OF-SCHOOL EXPERIENCES PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPHS 2, 3 AND
32 4 OF THIS SECTION TO SATISFY THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS PRESCRIBED BY THE
33 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN SECTION 15-701 FOR STUDENTS IN KINDERGARTEN
34 PROGRAMS AND GRADES ONE THROUGH EIGHT. ANY HOURS SPENT BY STUDENTS IN
35 KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS AND GRADES ONE THROUGH EIGHT WHO PARTICIPATE IN
36 OUT-OF-SCHOOL EXPERIENCES PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPHS 2, 3 AND
37 4 OF THIS SECTION PURSUANT TO RULES ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD OF
38 EDUCATION UNDER THIS SECTION COUNT TOWARD THE INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS
39 REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-901 AND SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE
40 CALCULATION OF THE AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP FOR THAT STUDENT PURSUANT TO
41 SECTION 15-901. ANY EXTRA HOURS IN THE SCHOOL DAY THAT RESULT FROM A
42 STUDENT PARTICIPATING IN OUT-OF-SCHOOL EXPERIENCES UNDER THIS SECTION MAY
43 BE USED FOR STUDENT SUPPORT AND ACCELERATION ON APPROVAL OF THE STUDENT'S
44 PARENTS AND TEACHING TEAM.