

Senate Engrossed House Bill

CTEDs; associate degrees

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2022

# HOUSE BILL 2034

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 6, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 15-398; RELATING TO CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICTS.

(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 3, article 6, Arizona Revised  
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-398, to read:

4 15-398. Career technical education districts; associate  
5 degrees; requirements; reports; definitions

6 A. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, A CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION  
7 DISTRICT MAY OFFER ASSOCIATE DEGREES THAT ARE ACCREDITED BY A REGIONAL OR  
8 NATIONAL ACCREDITATION AGENCY APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
9 EDUCATION. BEGINNING ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, ANY CAREER  
10 TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT SEEKING TO OFFER AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM  
11 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION FROM A REGIONAL  
12 ACCREDITATION AGENCY.

13 B. EACH CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT THAT OFFERS AN  
14 ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST MEET BOTH OF THE  
15 FOLLOWING:

- 16 1. ALL APPLICABLE REGIONAL OR NATIONAL ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS.
- 17 2. ALL APPLICABLE STATE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS.

18 C. A CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT MAY OFFER ASSOCIATE  
19 DEGREES ONLY FOR CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT PROGRAMS THAT ARE ON  
20 THE IN-DEMAND REGIONAL EDUCATION LIST COMPILED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-393.  
21 WHEN DETERMINING WHETHER TO OFFER AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM, THE CAREER  
22 TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOARD SHALL MAKE ITS DETERMINATION BASED ON ALL OF THE  
23 FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

24 1. WHETHER THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT IS ABLE TO  
25 DEMONSTRATE INDUSTRY DEMAND FOR THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM.

26 2. A FINANCIAL ANALYSIS THAT SHOWS THE SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM  
27 IMPACTS TO INITIATE AND SUSTAIN THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM, INCLUDING  
28 ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 29 (a) THE SOURCE OF MONIES.
- 30 (b) FACILITIES REQUIREMENTS.
- 31 (c) FACULTY.
- 32 (d) PERSONNEL.
- 33 (e) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

34 3. WHETHER THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM WOULD UNNECESSARILY  
35 DUPLICATE THE DEGREE PROGRAMS OFFERED BY OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
36 EDUCATION IN THIS STATE.

37 4. THE ABILITY OF THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT TO  
38 SUPPORT THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM WITH AND THE ADEQUACY OF THE  
39 FACILITIES, FACULTY, ADMINISTRATION, LIBRARIES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

40 D. A CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT THAT IS LOCATED IN THE  
41 SAME COUNTY AS THE MAIN CAMPUS OF ANY PUBLIC UNIVERSITY OR COMMUNITY  
42 COLLEGE DISTRICT AND THAT IS DEVELOPING AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM SHALL  
43 NOTIFY THE PUBLIC UNIVERSITY OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT LEAST SIXTY DAYS  
44 BEFORE SUBMITTING THE REPORT PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION.  
45 WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT

1 SUBMITS THE NOTICE, THE PUBLIC UNIVERSITY OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAY PROVIDE  
2 A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOARD FOR ITS REVIEW.  
3 THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT ALLOW A PUBLIC UNIVERSITY OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO  
4 PREVENT A CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT FROM OFFERING AN ASSOCIATE  
5 DEGREE PROGRAM.

6 E. BEFORE THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOARD AUTHORIZES AN  
7 ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM, THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT MUST  
8 SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOARD THAT INCLUDES ALL  
9 OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- 10 1. THE NAME OF THE PROPOSED ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAM.
- 11 2. THE ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT THAT WILL OFFER THE PROPOSED DEGREE  
12 PROGRAM.
- 13 3. WHETHER THE INSTRUCTIONAL MODALITY WOULD BE IMMERSION OR ONLINE,  
14 OR BOTH.
- 15 4. THE TOTAL CREDIT HOURS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE PROPOSED DEGREE  
16 PROGRAM.
- 17 5. THE PROPOSED INCEPTION TERM.
- 18 6. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEGREE PROGRAM.
- 19 7. A LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT PLAN, INCLUDING:  
20 (a) CONCEPTS.  
21 (b) COMPETENCIES.  
22 (c) ASSESSMENT METHODS AND MEASURES.
- 23 8. THE PROJECTED ENROLLMENT BY YEAR FOR THE FIRST THREE YEARS THE  
24 DEGREE PROGRAM IS OFFERED.
- 25 9. EVIDENCE OF MARKET DEMAND FOR THE PROPOSED DEGREE PROGRAM.
- 26 10. SIMILAR DEGREE PROGRAMS OFFERED AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
27 EDUCATION IN THIS STATE.
- 28 11. THE NEW RESOURCES REQUIRED, INCLUDING A LONG-TERM PLAN FOR  
29 FACULTY RECRUITMENT THAT INDICATES THE ABILITY TO PAY THE SALARIES OF  
30 FACULTY AND IDENTIFIES RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES FOR NEW FACULTY.
- 31 12. ANY WRITTEN RESPONSES PROVIDED BY A PUBLIC UNIVERSITY OR  
32 COMMUNITY COLLEGE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION D OF THIS SECTION.
- 33 13. PROOF OF TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDITS EARNED IN THE PROPOSED  
34 DEGREE PROGRAM TO ANOTHER ACCREDITED INSTITUTION FOR EACH PROGRAM OFFERED.

35 F. EACH CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT THAT OFFERS AN  
36 ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO  
37 THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 OF THE FIFTH  
38 YEAR AFTER INITIALLY OFFERING THAT ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM. THE REPORT  
39 SHALL REVIEW THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM AT THE  
40 CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT AND SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE  
41 FOLLOWING:

- 42 1. THE NUMBER OF:  
43 (a) ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED AT THE CAREER TECHNICAL  
44 EDUCATION DISTRICT.  
45 (b) APPLICANTS TO EACH ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM.

- 1 (c) APPLICANTS WHO ARE ADMITTED INTO EACH ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM.
- 2 (d) APPLICANTS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN EACH ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM.
- 3 (e) APPLICANTS WHO RECEIVED DEGREES FROM EACH ASSOCIATE DEGREE
- 4 PROGRAM.
- 5 2. THE COSTS OF EACH ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM, INCLUDING COST PER
- 6 DEGREE AND THE FUNDING SOURCES THAT ARE USED TO FINANCE EACH DEGREE
- 7 PROGRAM.
- 8 3. CURRENT TRENDS IN WORKFORCE DEMANDS THAT REQUIRE ASSOCIATE
- 9 DEGREES IN EACH SPECIFIC ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM OFFERED.
- 10 4. CURRENT COMPLETION AND CONTINUATION RATES, IF AVAILABLE, FOR
- 11 EACH COHORT OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN EACH ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM.
- 12 5. THE EXTENT TO WHICH EACH ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM FULFILLS
- 13 IDENTIFIED WORKFORCE NEEDS FOR NEW ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS.
- 14 6. INFORMATION ON THE JOB PLACEMENT OF GRADUATES OF EACH ASSOCIATE
- 15 DEGREE PROGRAM.
- 16 7. FOR EACH ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM, THE COSTS TO STUDENTS, THE
- 17 AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL AID OFFERED AND THE STUDENT DEBT LEVELS OF GRADUATES.
- 18 8. TIME-TO-DEGREE RATES AND COMPLETION RATES FOR EACH ASSOCIATE
- 19 DEGREE PROGRAM.
- 20 G. ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, EACH CAREER TECHNICAL
- 21 EDUCATION DISTRICT THAT OFFERS AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM SHALL REPORT TO
- 22 THE GOVERNOR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
- 23 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE ALL OF THE
- 24 FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING SCHOOL YEAR:
- 25 1. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS PURSUING AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE AT THE
- 26 CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.
- 27 2. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ASSOCIATE DEGREES COMPLETED AT THE CAREER
- 28 TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT.
- 29 3. WORKFORCE DATA SHOWING DEMAND FOR EACH ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM
- 30 OFFERED AT THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT.
- 31 4. THE AVERAGE COST OF TUITION PER CREDIT HOUR FOR EACH ASSOCIATE
- 32 DEGREE PROGRAM OFFERED AT THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT.
- 33 H. EACH CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT THAT OFFERS AN ASSOCIATE
- 34 DEGREE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL PROVIDE THE STUDENT, AT THE
- 35 TIME OF ENROLLMENT IN A PROGRAM, WITH A LIST OF INSTITUTIONS TO WHICH THE
- 36 STUDENT'S ASSOCIATE DEGREE IS TRANSFERABLE.
- 37 I. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:
- 38 1. "COMMUNITY COLLEGE" HAS THE SAME MEANING PRESCRIBED IN SECTION
- 39 15-1401.
- 40 2. "COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT" MEANS A DISTRICT AS DEFINED IN
- 41 SECTION 15-1401.
- 42 3. "MAIN CAMPUS" MEANS THE CENTRAL LOCATION OF A PUBLIC
- 43 UNIVERSITY'S OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT'S LIBRARY SYSTEM AND COMPUTER
- 44 CENTER.

1           4. "PUBLIC UNIVERSITY" MEANS A UNIVERSITY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF  
2 THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS.

3           Sec. 2. Legislative findings

4           The legislature finds and declares:

5           1. Associate degree programs offered pursuant to this act do not  
6 otherwise alter the role and mission of a career technical education  
7 district.

8           2. The operational costs of career technical education district  
9 associate degree programs shall be funded through student tuition and  
10 program fees.

11           3. Additional taxpayer dollars may not be required to fund the new  
12 associate degree programs offered by the career technical education  
13 districts.