



# ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session

House: ED DPA 8-2-0-0

## **HB 2658: community colleges; adult education**

**Sponsor: Representative Kaiser, LD 15**

**Caucus & COW**

### **Overview**

Creates the Community College Adult Education Workforce Development Program (Program) to provide adult learners with supports that lead to a high school diploma, or equivalent, and an industry-recognized credential or community college degree.

### **History**

Statute requires that every child between the ages of 6 and 16 attend a school and be provided instruction in the subjects of reading, grammar, math, social studies and science. Furthermore, public schools are required to admit individuals who are between the ages of 6 and 21 ([A.R.S. §§ 15-802, 15-821](#)).

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) maintains a division of adult education that is under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education (SBE) ([A.R.S. § 15-232](#)). The division, [Adult Education Services](#), provides comprehensive services to students who are at least 16 years old and who are not enrolled in a K-12 school. Adult Education Services offers educational programs to assist students in earning a high school equivalency diploma, connecting to employment and job training opportunities, transitioning to postsecondary education and becoming proficient in English.

### **Provisions**

1. Establishes the Program within ADE to provide adult learners with integrated education and training programs and additional study and support services that lead to both a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma and an industry-recognized credential or community college degree. (Sec. 1)
2. Requires a Program applicant to be a regionally accredited community college that is a recognized high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma provider and that provides education and workforce training that leads to industry-recognized credentials or community college degrees. (Sec. 1)
3. Creates the Program Fund that consists of legislative appropriations and that is administered by ADE. (Sec. 1)
4. States that Program Fund monies are continuously appropriated and exempt from lapsing. (Sec. 1)
5. Provides that a Program school may receive up to \$3,000 per full-time student enrolled each year. (Sec. 1)
6. Specifies that part-time students are to be funded in proportion to the number of enrolled courses or hours of instruction. (Sec. 1)

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)

☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)

☐ Emergency (40 votes)

☐ Fiscal Note

7. Instructs ADE to distribute Program Fund monies to all Program schools that meet the specified criteria in a proportional manner based on the number of adult learners each Program school serves. (Sec. 1)
8. Allows ADE to retain up to 5% of Program Fund monies each fiscal year for administrative costs. (Sec. 1)
9. Mandates a Program school use monies for adult learners to participate in a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma program that also offers an industry-recognized credential or community college degree. (Sec. 1)
10. Permits a portion of monies to be used for additional support services to ensure the success of adult learners in the Program. (Sec. 1)
11. Requires, by September 30th of each year that monies are appropriated to the Program Fund, each Program school to submit a report regarding the Program to specified entities. (Sec. 1)
12. Outlines the information the annual report must contain. (Sec. 1)
13. Allows ADE to request information from any Program applicant or school to determine Program eligibility and funding distributions. (Sec. 1)
14. Directs ADE, by July 1, 2024, to adopt performance expectations to evaluate Program schools. (Sec. 1)
15. Details the measurements the performance expectations are to include. (Sec. 1)
16. Permits ADE to develop a process to bring a Program school into compliance or revoke the Program school's authorization to participate in the Program. (Sec. 1)

### **Amendments**

#### *Committee on Education*

1. Places the Program within SBE and directs SBE to operate the Program in cooperation with ADE.
2. Directs SBE, in consultation with ADE and by July 1, 2024, to adopt an adult education and workforce performance funding model.
3. Alters funding for Program schools as follows:
  - a) For FYs 2023 and 2024, Program schools may receive \$3,000 per full-time student enrolled in the Program each year and a proportionate amount for part-time students; and
  - b) For FY 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter, Program schools receive funding pursuant to the adult education and workforce performance funding model adopted by SBE, subject to legislative appropriation.
4. Details funding provided to a Program school pursuant to the adult education and workforce performance funding model is to be based on the average performance of the community college in the prior two fiscal years.
5. Requires SBE to consider all performance expectations except for enrollment when determining a Program school's funding pursuant to the adult education and workforce performance funding model.
6. Adds measurements that must be included in the performance expectations developed by SBE in cooperation with ADE.
7. Adds additional information that must be contained in the annual report submitted by Program schools.