

REFERENCE TITLE: dropout recovery programs; special audit

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

HB 2233

Introduced by
Representative Udall

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-901.06, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; REPEALING SECTION 15-901.06, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAMS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 15-901.06, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended
3 to read:

4 15-901.06. Dropout recovery programs; written learning plan;
5 requirements; annual report; definitions

6 A. Each school district and charter school that provides
7 instruction to high school pupils may offer a dropout recovery program for
8 eligible pupils.

9 B. The state board of education shall prescribe standards and
10 achievement testing requirements for dropout recovery programs that
11 attempt to ensure that the programs are compatible with public school
12 education goals and requirements. The standards shall require dropout
13 recovery programs to do all of the following:

14 1. Provide curricula aligned to the academic standards adopted by
15 the state board of education. The curricula may be delivered online. A
16 provider of Arizona online instruction pursuant to section 15-808 may not
17 also operate a dropout recovery program pursuant to this section.

18 2. Provide standardized tests required by federal and state law.

19 3. Make available appropriate and sufficient supports for pupils,
20 including tutoring, career counseling and college counseling.

21 4. Comply with federal and state laws governing pupils with
22 disabilities.

23 5. Meet state requirements for high school graduation.

24 C. Each eligible pupil who is enrolled in a dropout recovery
25 program shall have a written learning plan developed by the pupil's
26 assigned mentor. The written learning plan shall include the following
27 elements:

28 1. The start date and anticipated end date of the plan.

29 2. Courses to be completed by the pupil during the academic year.

30 3. Whether courses will be taken sequentially or concurrently.

31 4. State competency exams to be taken, as necessary.

32 5. Expectations for satisfactory ~~monthly~~ QUARTERLY progress.

33 6. Expectations for contact with the pupil's assigned mentor.

34 D. The ~~monthly~~ QUARTERLY participation in a dropout recovery
35 program shall be recorded on or before the tenth school day of each ~~month~~
36 QUARTER and shall be reported to the department of education at the same
37 time as other data required pursuant to section 15-1042. ~~Monthly~~
38 QUARTERLY participation calculations shall include:

39 1. Newly enrolled pupils who have a written learning plan on file
40 on or before the first school day of the previous ~~month~~ QUARTER.

41 2. Pupils who met the expectations for satisfactory ~~monthly~~
42 QUARTERLY progress in the previous ~~month~~ QUARTER.

43 3. Pupils who did not meet the expectations for satisfactory
44 ~~monthly~~ QUARTERLY progress in the previous ~~month~~ QUARTER but did meet the
45 expectations in the ~~month~~ QUARTER before the previous ~~month~~ QUARTER.

1 4. Pupils who met expectations for program reentry in the revised
2 written learning plan in the previous ~~month~~ QUARTER.

3 5. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED.

4 6. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDITS EARNED BY PUPILS.

5 E. ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30 OF EACH YEAR, EACH DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM
6 PROVIDER MUST REPORT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
7 EDUCATION:

8 1. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED IN THAT PROVIDER'S DROPOUT
9 RECOVERY PROGRAM.

10 2. THE NUMBER OF CREDITS PUPILS HAD BEFORE ENROLLING IN THE DROPOUT
11 RECOVERY PROGRAM, CATEGORIZED BY ELECTIVE CREDIT OR CORE CREDIT.

12 3. THE NUMBER OF CORE CREDITS AND ELECTIVE CREDITS EARNED BY PUPILS
13 WHILE ENROLLED IN THE DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM.

14 4. THE AGE AND ANY RELEVANT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA OF ENROLLED PUPILS.

15 5. THE SUCCESS RATE OF PUPILS ENROLLED IN THE DROPOUT RECOVERY
16 PROGRAM REPORTED BY THE NUMBER OF PUPILS WHO ARE ON TRACK TO GRADUATE, THE
17 NUMBER OF PUPILS WHO HAVE RETURNED TO A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SCHOOL AND THE
18 NUMBER OF PUPILS WHO HAVE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

19 6. THE PERFORMANCE OF PUPILS WHO TAKE A STATE COMPETENCY EXAM, AS
20 NECESSARY, WHILE ENROLLED IN THE DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM.

21 7. THE PERFORMANCE OF PUPILS ON BENCHMARK EXAMS WHILE ENROLLED IN
22 THE DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM.

23 8. POSTSECONDARY OR CAREER ATTAINMENT OF PUPILS WHO PARTICIPATED IN
24 THE DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM.

25 ~~F.~~ F. Because dropout recovery pupils are not expected to
26 regularly attend classes at the district facilities, standard procedures
27 for recording pupil attendance cannot be effectively applied to those
28 students. For pupils participating in a dropout recovery program, an
29 eligible pupil shall be counted as being in attendance in the school's
30 average daily attendance calculations pursuant to subsection ~~F~~ G of this
31 section if the pupil meets one of the following conditions:

32 1. Is in the first month of enrollment in the program and completes
33 the program orientation during that month.

34 2. Is enrolled in teacher-facilitated courses and meets the
35 expectations for satisfactory ~~monthly~~ QUARTERLY progress for the current
36 or previous ~~month~~ QUARTER. A pupil who does not meet expectations for
37 ~~monthly~~ QUARTERLY progress for two or more consecutive ~~months~~ QUARTERS
38 shall not be reported as being in attendance until the pupil meets the
39 expectations for program reentry.

40 3. Meets the expectations for program reentry in the revised
41 written learning plan.

42 ~~F.~~ G. If a pupil is enrolled in a school district or charter
43 school other than the school district or charter school that participates
44 in the dropout recovery program and also participates in a dropout
45 recovery program in the same fiscal year, the average daily membership as

1 prescribed in section 15-901, subsection A, paragraph 1, subdivisions (a)
 2 and (b) for that pupil in the school district or charter school and in a
 3 dropout recovery program shall not exceed 1.0, except that if the pupil is
 4 enrolled in a dropout recovery program and a career technical education
 5 district, the average daily membership provisions of section 15-393 apply.
 6 If the pupil is enrolled in both a school district or charter school and a
 7 dropout recovery program in the same fiscal year and the sum of the
 8 average daily membership and average daily attendance for that pupil is
 9 greater than 1.0 or the amount prescribed in section 15-393 if the pupil
 10 is enrolled in a career technical education district, the sum shall be
 11 reduced to 1.0 or to the amount specified in section 15-393 if the pupil
 12 is enrolled in a career technical education district and shall be
 13 apportioned between the school district or charter school and the career
 14 technical education district, if applicable, and the dropout recovery
 15 program based on the proportionate shares of average daily membership in
 16 the school district or charter school and the average daily attendance in
 17 the dropout recovery program. The uniform system of financial records
 18 shall include guidelines for ~~the apportionment of~~ APPORTIONING pupil
 19 enrollment and attendance as provided in this subsection. Pupils in a
 20 dropout recovery program do not incur absences for purposes of this
 21 subsection and may generate average daily attendance for attendance during
 22 any hour of the day, during any day of the week and at any time between
 23 July 1 and June 30 of each fiscal year. The average daily attendance of a
 24 pupil who participates in a dropout recovery program shall not exceed 1.0
 25 or the amount prescribed in section 15-393 if the pupil is enrolled in a
 26 career technical education district, and shall be calculated by
 27 fulfilling the requirements of subsection ~~F~~ F of this section. Average
 28 daily membership shall not be calculated on the one hundredth day of
 29 instruction for the purposes of this section.

30 ~~G~~ H. Notwithstanding section 15-901, subsection A, paragraph 1,
 31 the average daily membership for pupils WHO ARE enrolled in a dropout
 32 recovery program shall equal the average daily attendance of the pupils.

33 ~~H~~ I. School districts and charter schools shall be responsible
 34 for tuition charges and fees related to pupil participation in a dropout
 35 recovery program, including course materials and access to technology for
 36 use with online courses.

37 ~~I~~ J. School districts and charter schools may contract with an
 38 educational management organization to provide a dropout recovery program.
 39 If contracting with an educational management organization, the school
 40 district or charter school shall ensure that all of the following
 41 requirements are met:

42 1. The educational management organization is accredited by a
 43 regional accrediting body.

44 2. Teachers provided by the educational management organization
 45 hold a current teaching license from any state and a valid Arizona

1 fingerprint clearance card pursuant to section 15-534, and teachers of
2 core subjects are highly qualified in the subjects to which they are
3 assigned.

4 ~~J.~~ K. Dropout recovery programs shall be classified as alternative
5 schools and ~~shall be~~ ARE subject to the accountability provisions of
6 section 15-241.

7 ~~K.~~ L. Entities that are contracted to provide dropout recovery
8 programs may conduct outreach to encourage pupils who are not currently
9 enrolled in a school district or charter school in this state to return to
10 school. Entities that are contracted to provide dropout recovery programs
11 shall not conduct advertising or marketing campaigns directed at pupils
12 who are currently enrolled in a school district or charter school, or
13 undertake any other activity that encourages pupils who are currently
14 enrolled in a school district or charter school to stop attending school
15 in order to qualify for a dropout recovery program.

16 ~~L.~~ M. The department of education shall submit an annual report to
17 the governor, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
18 representatives that ~~details the outcomes of dropout recovery programs,~~
19 ~~including the number of pupils who participate in the programs and the~~
20 ~~number of pupils who participate in the programs and who graduate from~~
21 ~~high school~~ INCLUDES THE INFORMATION PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTIONS D AND E OF
22 THIS SECTION. The department shall provide a copy of the annual report to
23 the secretary of state.

24 ~~M.~~ N. For the purposes of this section:

25 1. "Eligible pupil" means a pupil who, if enrolled, would be
26 eligible for placement in an alternative school but who is not currently
27 enrolled in a school district or charter school and who has been withdrawn
28 from a school district or charter school for at least thirty days, unless
29 the district determines that the student is unable to participate in other
30 district programs.

31 2. "Satisfactory ~~monthly~~ QUARTERLY progress" means an amount of
32 progress that is ~~measurable on a monthly basis and that, if continued for~~
33 ~~twelve months, would result in the same amount of academic credit being~~
34 ~~awarded to the pupil as would be awarded to a pupil in a traditional~~
35 ~~education program who completes a full school year~~ EQUIVALENT TO AT LEAST
36 ONE ACADEMIC CREDIT THAT COUNTS TOWARD HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION.
37 Satisfactory ~~monthly~~ QUARTERLY progress may include a lesser required
38 amount of progress for the first ~~two months~~ QUARTER that a pupil
39 participates in the program.

40 Sec. 2. Delayed repeal

41 Section 15-901.06, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act,
42 is repealed from and after December 31, 2024.

