

REFERENCE TITLE: schools; course equivalents

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2022

## **SB 1326**

Introduced by  
Senator Shope

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 9, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 15-901.04; 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 15-901.04, to read:

4 15-901.04. Course equivalents; credits; calculation of  
5 average daily membership; rules

6 A. BEGINNING IN THE 2023-2024 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 COURSE EQUIVALENTS:

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, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:

16 (a) OFF-CAMPUS LEAGUES.

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

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

21 (ii) CLUB SPORTS.

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

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

26 (d) ANY OTHER ACTIVITY PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

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

33 4. PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY ARTS, INCLUDING MUSIC LESSONS AND  
34 COMMUNITY THEATER.

35 5. ENROLLING IN AND PASSING ANY COURSE OFFERED BY ANY OF THE  
36 FOLLOWING:

37 (a) A UNIVERSITY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF  
38 REGENTS.

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

40 (c) ANY PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION APPROVED BY THE STATE  
41 BOARD OF EDUCATION.

42 B. NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 15-701.01, FOR EACH COURSE EQUIVALENT  
43 COMPLETED UNDER SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION, A STUDENT SHALL EARN THE  
44 EQUIVALENT OF AT LEAST ONE CURRENTLY REQUIRED ELECTIVE CREDIT THAT COUNTS  
45 TOWARD THE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-701.01.

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

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

13 E. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL:

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

15 2. AS PROVIDED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS, POST A LIST  
16 OF LOCAL OR STATEWIDE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND VENDORS WHERE STUDENTS'  
17 OUT-OF-SCHOOL EXPERIENCES ARE RECOGNIZED FOR CREDIT.

18 F. EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD AND CHARTER SCHOOL  
19 GOVERNING BODY SHALL ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR COURSE  
20 EQUIVALENT CREDIT AT THE CHARTER SCHOOL OR AT A SCHOOL IN THE SCHOOL  
21 DISTRICT.

22 G. THE OPPORTUNITY TO IDENTIFY COURSE EQUIVALENTS SHALL BE PROVIDED  
23 TO FAMILIES AND STUDENTS DURING THE COURSE AND SEMESTER ENROLLMENT PERIOD.  
24 SCHOOLS SHALL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO RECOGNIZE THE EXPERIENCES STUDENTS HAVE  
25 OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL-MANDATED COURSES AS RELEVANT TO STUDENT GROWTH AND  
26 DEVELOPMENT.

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

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