

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 265 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY STAATS, KAUFFMAN, JAMES, SAYLOR, QUINN, D. MILLER, BOBACK, IRVIN, OBERLANDER, GLEIM, HILL-EVANS, ROEBUCK, RADER, GABLER, PICKETT, KORTZ, MURT, JOZWIAK, PASHINSKI, SIMMONS, BARRAR, STRUZZI, NEILSON, DEASY, POLINCHOCK, FEE, THOMAS, RAPP, BROWN, FARRY, T. DAVIS, MIZGORSKI AND MOUL, JANUARY 29, 2019

SENATOR LANGERHOLC, EDUCATION, IN SENATE, AS AMENDED, JUNE 18, 2019

AN ACT

1 ~~Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An~~ <--
 2 ~~act relating to the public school system, including certain~~
 3 ~~provisions applicable as well to private and parochial~~
 4 ~~schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the~~
 5 ~~laws relating thereto," in transfers of credits between~~
 6 ~~institutions of higher education, further providing for~~
 7 ~~definitions, for duties of public institutions of higher~~
 8 ~~education and State related institutions, for Transfer and~~
 9 ~~Articulation Oversight Committee and for duties of~~
 10 ~~department.~~ AMENDING THE ACT OF MARCH 10, 1949 (P.L.30, <--
 11 NO.14), ENTITLED "AN ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL
 12 SYSTEM, INCLUDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS APPLICABLE AS WELL TO
 13 PRIVATE AND PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS; AMENDING, REVISING,
 14 CONSOLIDATING AND CHANGING THE LAWS RELATING THERETO," IN
 15 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS, PROVIDING FOR CAREER INFORMATION AND
 16 RECRUITMENT; IN TERMS AND COURSES OF STUDY, FURTHER PROVIDING
 17 FOR COMMISSION FOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION EXCELLENCE; IN
 18 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR CAREER AND
 19 TECHNICAL EDUCATION EQUIPMENT GRANTS AND PROVIDING FOR
 20 UTILIZATION OF CREDITS; PROVIDING FOR CLASSIFICATION OF
 21 PROGRAM CODE; AND, IN TRANSFERS OF CREDITS BETWEEN
 22 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR
 23 DEFINITIONS, FOR DUTIES OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
 24 EDUCATION AND STATE-RELATED INSTITUTIONS, FOR TRANSFER AND
 25 ARTICULATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND FOR DUTIES OF
 26 DEPARTMENT.

27 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

1 hereby enacts as follows:

2 ~~Section 1. Section 2001 C of the act of March 10, 1949~~ <--
3 ~~(P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,~~
4 ~~amended November 6, 2017 (P.L.1142, No.55), is amended to read:~~
5 ~~Section 2001 C. Definitions.~~

6 ~~The following words and phrases when used in this article~~
7 ~~shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the~~
8 ~~context clearly indicates otherwise:~~

9 ~~"Advanced Placement Program." A program authorized by the~~
10 ~~college board that allows a student to study college level~~
11 ~~subjects while enrolled in high school and to receive advanced~~
12 ~~placement and college credit for earning a qualified score on~~
13 ~~the course related Advanced Placement Program exam.~~

14 ~~"Career, technical or applied courses." Courses usually~~
15 ~~offered as part of an associate degree curriculum designed to~~
16 ~~prepare students for entry level professions, not for transfer~~
17 ~~to baccalaureate programs for advanced studies.~~

18 ~~"College Level Examination Program." A set of standardized~~
19 ~~tests developed by the college board for various subjects, and~~
20 ~~on which a qualifying score can be used to earn college credit.~~

21 ~~"Community college." An institution created pursuant to~~
22 ~~Article XIX A or the act of August 24, 1963 (P.L.1132, No.484),~~
23 ~~known as the Community College Act of 1963.~~

24 ~~"Credit for prior learning." College level credit granted~~
25 ~~toward the award of a postsecondary degree or certificate for~~
26 ~~experiential learning that can be demonstrated through various~~
27 ~~means of assessment to be the equivalent of learning gained~~
28 ~~through formal collegiate instruction, including an Advanced~~
29 ~~Placement Program exam, International Baccalaureate Diploma~~
30 ~~Program exam, a College Level Examination Program exam and~~

1 ~~Dantes Subject Standardized Tests.~~

2 ~~"Dantes Subject Standardized Tests." A set of subject exams~~
3 ~~approved by the American Council on Education that tests~~
4 ~~knowledge of both lower level and upper level college material.~~

5 ~~{"Degree objective courses." Courses required for completion~~
6 ~~of a major in a subject area.}~~

7 ~~"Department." The Department of Education of the~~
8 ~~Commonwealth.~~

9 ~~"Developmental or remedial courses." Courses typically~~
10 ~~consisting of reading, writing and math designed to prepare~~
11 ~~students for college level courses and that are not~~
12 ~~transferable.~~

13 ~~"Equivalent courses." Courses determined to have generally~~
14 ~~equivalent content and level as determined by the faculty of an~~
15 ~~institution of higher education consistent with the policy at~~
16 ~~each institution of higher education.~~

17 ~~"Foundation courses." Courses required to be completed by~~
18 ~~students that provide an academic foundation for the degree,~~
19 ~~general education or advanced study in a major.~~

20 ~~"Independent institution of higher education." An~~
21 ~~institution of higher education which is operated not for~~
22 ~~profit, located in and incorporated or chartered by the~~
23 ~~Commonwealth and entitled to confer degrees as set forth in 24~~
24 ~~Pa.C.S. § 6505 (relating to power to confer degrees) and to~~
25 ~~apply to itself the designation "college" or "university" as~~
26 ~~provided for by the standards and qualifications prescribed by~~
27 ~~the State Board of Education pursuant to 24 Pa.C.S. Ch. 65~~
28 ~~(relating to private colleges, universities and seminaries).~~

29 ~~"Industry recognized credential." A credential that:~~

30 ~~(1) is sought or accepted by employers within the~~

~~industry or sector involved as a recognized, preferred or required credential for recruitment, screening, hiring, retention or advancement purposes;~~

~~(2) where appropriate, is endorsed by a nationally recognized trade association or organization representing a significant part of the industry or sector; and~~

~~(3) is approved by the department.~~

~~"Institution of higher education." Any of the accredited following:~~

~~(1) A public institution of higher education.~~

~~(2) A rural regional college.~~

~~(3) A State related institution.~~

~~(4) The Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.~~

~~"International Baccalaureate Diploma Program." An academically challenging two year precollege diploma program comprised of three core requirements and six academic subject areas with final examinations that prepare students, 16 to 19 years of age, for higher education and life in a global society.~~

~~"Public institution of higher education." A community college or an institution which is part of the State System of Higher Education pursuant to Article XX A.~~

~~"Public school." Any of the following:~~

~~(1) A school district.~~

~~(2) An intermediate unit.~~

~~(3) An area vocational technical school.~~

~~(4) A charter school, as defined in section 1703 A.~~

~~(5) A regional charter school, as defined in section 1703 A.~~

~~(6) A cyber charter school, as defined in section 1703~~

~~A.~~

1 ~~"Rural regional college." A rural regional college operating~~
2 ~~under Article XIX-G.~~

3 ~~"State related institution." The Pennsylvania State~~
4 ~~University, the University of Pittsburgh, Temple University,~~
5 ~~Lincoln University and their branch campuses.~~

6 ~~"Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee." The~~
7 ~~committee established under section 2004-C.~~

8 Section 2. Section 2003 C of the act is amended to read:

9 Section 2003 C. Duties of [public] institutions of higher
10 education and [State related institutions] ~~public~~
11 ~~schools.~~

12 (a) ~~Agreements.~~ Each [public] institution of higher
13 education and [State related institution] ~~public school~~ shall
14 ~~provide the Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee and~~
15 ~~the department with copies of all articulation agreements for~~
16 ~~inclusion in the electronic database or software program and~~
17 ~~portal provided for under section 2005 C(4) within 180 days of~~
18 ~~the effective date of this section and within 30 days of~~
19 ~~entering into any subsequent articulation agreement.~~

20 (b) ~~Reporting requirements.~~ The following shall apply to
21 ~~reporting requirements:~~

22 (1) ~~Each [public] institution of higher education [and~~
23 ~~State related institution] shall submit to the department a~~
24 ~~series of interim reports that describe the status of the~~
25 ~~institution's articulation agreements, which shall include~~
26 ~~all of the following:~~

27 (i) ~~The number of students who have transferred to~~
28 ~~the [public] institution of higher education [or State~~
29 ~~related institution] by institution of origin within the~~
30 ~~last academic year or since submittal of the~~

1 ~~institution's last interim report required under this~~
2 ~~section.~~

3 ~~(ii) The total number of credits completed by~~
4 ~~transfer students at the institution of origin.~~

5 ~~(iii) The total number of credits from each~~
6 ~~institution of origin that transferred to the [public]~~
7 ~~institution of higher education [or State related~~
8 ~~institution] for each academic year.~~

9 ~~(iv) An explanation of the credit transfer process~~
10 ~~at the institution.~~

11 ~~(v) Any other information related to the credit~~
12 ~~transfer process as requested by the department,~~
13 ~~including the useability of transfer credits.~~

14 ~~(2) Each [public] institution of higher education [and~~
15 ~~State related institution] shall submit its first interim~~
16 ~~report required under this section 180 days after the~~
17 ~~effective date of this section and by September 30 of each~~
18 ~~year thereafter.~~

19 ~~Section 3. Section 2004 C(a)(1) introductory paragraph is~~
20 ~~amended and subsection (c) is amended by adding a paragraph to~~
21 ~~read:~~

22 ~~Section 2004 C. Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee.~~

23 ~~(a) Establishment and membership.~~

24 ~~(1) In order to develop and implement equivalency~~
25 ~~standards as provided for in subsection (c)(1) and provide~~
26 ~~access to articulation agreements, there is hereby~~
27 ~~established within the department, the Transfer and~~
28 ~~Articulation Oversight Committee. The committee shall be~~
29 ~~comprised of the following members:~~

30 ~~* * *~~

1 ~~(c) Duties of Transfer and Articulation Oversight~~
2 ~~Committee. The committee shall:~~

3 ~~* * *~~

4 ~~(7) Meet on a regular basis at least quarterly.~~

5 ~~Section 4. Section 2005 C(4) of the act is amended to read:~~
6 ~~Section 2005 C. Duties of department.~~

7 ~~The department shall:~~

8 ~~* * *~~

9 ~~(4) Provide for an electronic database or software~~
10 ~~program and portal for the purpose of providing access to all~~
11 ~~of the following information on an Internet website:~~

12 ~~(i) Articulation agreements and agreements that~~
13 ~~award credit for an industry recognized credential~~
14 ~~entered into by [public institutions of higher education~~
15 ~~and institutions that elect to participate under section~~
16 ~~2006 C.] institutions of higher education, public schools~~
17 ~~and institutions described under clause (C). The~~
18 ~~following apply:~~

19 ~~(A) The department shall extract transfer~~
20 ~~information from each articulation agreement and each~~
21 ~~agreement that awards credit for an industry~~
22 ~~recognized credential and enter the information into~~
23 ~~the electronic database or software program and~~
24 ~~portal and provide a meaningful, user friendly and~~
25 ~~interactive search engine for access to the~~
26 ~~information.~~

27 ~~(B) The department shall, within 60 days of~~
28 ~~receiving an articulation agreement or agreement that~~
29 ~~awards credit for an industry recognized credential,~~
30 ~~update the database and post each articulation~~

~~agreement and each agreement that awards credit for an industry recognized credential on its publicly accessible Internet website.~~

~~(C) An institution which is not subject to the duties under section 2003 C may submit to the department any articulation agreement or agreement that awards credit for an industry recognized credential into which the institution enters. Each submitted articulation agreement and each agreement that awards credit for an industry recognized credential shall be subject to this paragraph.~~

~~(ii) The annual report to the General Assembly as required by section 2004 C(c) (5).~~

~~[(iii) At the request of a public institution of higher education or an institution that elects to participate under section 2006 C, any articulation agreements.]~~

~~Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.~~

SECTION 1. THE ACT OF MARCH 10, 1949 (P.L.30, NO.14), KNOWN <--
AS THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CODE OF 1949, IS AMENDED BY ADDING A
SECTION TO READ:

SECTION 128. CAREER INFORMATION AND RECRUITMENT.-- (A)
SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D), A SCHOOL ENTITY SHALL OFFER
REPRESENTATIVES OF SKILLED TRADES, PUBLICLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITY
OCCUPATIONS, AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY
COLLEGES OPERATING UNDER ARTICLE XIX-A AND INSTITUTIONS OF
HIGHER EDUCATION THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
FOLLOWING:

(1) DELIVERY OF INFORMATION REGARDING EMPLOYMENT, EMPLOYMENT
TRAINING OR EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE

1 SCHOOL ENTITY.

2 (2) RECRUITMENT OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL ENTITY.

3 (B) EACH SCHOOL ENTITY RECEIVING ASSISTANCE UNDER THE EVERY
4 STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (PUBLIC LAW 114-95, 129 STAT. 1802) SHALL
5 PROVIDE MILITARY RECRUITERS THE SAME ACCESS TO STUDENTS AS
6 PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (A).

7 (C) REPRESENTATIVES UNDER SUBSECTION (A) MUST BE COMPLIANT
8 WITH THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER 23 PA.C.S. § 6344.2 (RELATING TO
9 VOLUNTEERS HAVING CONTACT WITH CHILDREN) AND SHALL GIVE NO LESS
10 THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS' NOTICE WHEN REQUESTING ACCESS FROM A
11 SCHOOL ENTITY UNDER SUBSECTION (A) (1) OR (2).

12 (D) A SCHOOL ENTITY SHALL:

13 (1) OFFER EACH OF THE REPRESENTATIVES UNDER SUBSECTIONS (A)
14 AND (B) AT LEAST ONE OPPORTUNITY DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR TO
15 PROVIDE AGE-APPROPRIATE INFORMATION TO ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES
16 FOUR THROUGH TWELVE REGARDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES,
17 EMPLOYMENT TRAINING OR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES, INDIVIDUALLY OR IN
18 A GROUP SETTING, THROUGH MAKING A PRESENTATION AT A SCHOOL
19 ASSEMBLY, HOSTING STUDENTS FOR A VISIT TO AN AREA VOCATIONAL-
20 TECHNICAL SCHOOL, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
21 EDUCATION OR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR ANY OTHER METHOD OF SPEAKING
22 DIRECTLY TO STUDENTS.

23 (2) DOCUMENT ANNUALLY THE FOLLOWING IN THE PLAN DEVELOPED
24 UNDER 22 PA. CODE § 339.31 (RELATING TO PLAN):

25 (I) THE SCHOOL ENTITY'S COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SECTION FOR THE
26 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING SCHOOL YEAR.

27 (II) THE SCHOOL ENTITY'S PLAN TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH
28 ACCESS TO INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS AND CAREER PRESENTERS AS
29 REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION IN THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL YEAR.

30 (3) POST THE PLAN ON THE SCHOOL ENTITY'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE

1 INTERNET WEBSITE.

2 (E) A SCHOOL ENTITY MAY NOT DISCOURAGE STUDENTS FROM
3 PURSUING ANY EDUCATIONAL OR CAREER PATH AND SHALL ENSURE THAT
4 EACH STUDENT ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL ENTITY HAS ACCESS TO THE
5 INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED UNDER THIS
6 SECTION.

7 (F) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
8 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY, SHALL DEVELOP:

9 (1) STANDARD INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS WHICH INCLUDE, BUT ARE
10 NOT LIMITED TO, A SUMMARY OF REGIONAL WORKFORCE NEEDS PRODUCED
11 BIENNIALLY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY, CAREER
12 CLUSTER OCCUPATIONS, PUBLICLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS,
13 TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AND FUTURE EARNING POTENTIAL. THE
14 MATERIALS SHALL BE REVIEWED AND UPDATED ANNUALLY. EACH SCHOOL
15 ENTITY SHALL ENSURE THAT ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES FOUR THROUGH
16 TWELVE ARE PROVIDED ACCESS TO THE MATERIALS DURING THE SCHOOL
17 YEAR AND THE MATERIALS ARE ALSO MADE AVAILABLE AT ANY SCHEDULED
18 EDUCATIONAL OR CAREER FAIR OR ACTIVITY UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OR
19 (D).

20 (2) GUIDELINES TO ASSIST SCHOOL ENTITIES IN THE
21 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION.

22 (G) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES
23 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SUBSECTION UNLESS
24 THE CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

25 "INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." AN ACCREDITED ENTITY
26 WHICH IS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

27 (1) A UNIVERSITY WITHIN THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
28 UNDER ARTICLE XX-A.

29 (2) THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF
30 PITTSBURGH, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, LINCOLN UNIVERSITY OR ANY OTHER

1 INSTITUTION DESIGNATED AS STATE-RELATED BY THE COMMONWEALTH.

2 (3) THE THADDEUS STEVENS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY.

3 (4) A COLLEGE ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE XIX-G.

4 (5) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION LOCATED IN AND

5 INCORPORATED OR CHARTERED BY THE COMMONWEALTH AND ENTITLED TO

6 CONFER DEGREES AS SPECIFIED IN 24 PA.C.S. § 6505 (RELATING TO

7 POWER TO CONFER DEGREES) AND AS PROVIDED FOR BY THE STANDARDS

8 AND QUALIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

9 UNDER 24 PA.C.S. CH. 65 (RELATING TO PRIVATE COLLEGES,

10 UNIVERSITIES AND SEMINARIES).

11 (6) A PRIVATE SCHOOL LICENSED UNDER THE ACT OF DECEMBER 15,

12 1986 (P.L.1585, NO.174), KNOWN AS THE PRIVATE LICENSED SCHOOLS

13 ACT.

14 (7) A FOREIGN CORPORATION APPROVED TO OPERATE AN EDUCATIONAL

15 ENTERPRISE UNDER 22 PA. CODE CH. 36 (RELATING TO FOREIGN

16 CORPORATION STANDARDS).

17 "PUBLICLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITY OCCUPATION." A PROFESSION

18 THAT:

19 (1) IS HIGH-WAGE AND HIGH-SKILL FOR WHICH THERE IS EXCESS

20 EMPLOYER DEMAND AS MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

21 AND INDUSTRY'S CURRENT YEAR'S HIGH-PRIORITY OR IN-DEMAND

22 OCCUPATIONS LIST OR THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S

23 WORKFORCE NEEDS ASSESSMENT.

24 (2) REQUIRES A CREDENTIAL, CERTIFICATION, LICENSING,

25 POSTSECONDARY TRAINING, ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE, BACHELOR'S DEGREE,

26 MASTER'S DEGREE OR DOCTORAL OR FIRST PROFESSIONAL DEGREE.

27 "SCHOOL ENTITY." AN AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL, SCHOOL

28 DISTRICT, INTERMEDIATE UNIT, CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL, CHARTER

29 SCHOOL OR REGIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL.

30 SECTION 2. SECTION 1549.1(L) OF THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING

1 A PARAGRAPH TO READ:

2 SECTION 1549.1. COMMISSION FOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
3 EXCELLENCE.--* * *

4 (L) THE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE ALL THE FOLLOWING POWERS AND
5 DUTIES:

6 * * *

7 (6) IN CONSULTATION WITH AND WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE
8 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DEVELOP GUIDELINES TO IDENTIFY THE
9 CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN A STUDENT WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES AN
10 ACADEMIC COURSE, PROGRAM OR ACTIVITY FOR CREDIT MAY APPLY THE
11 CREDIT TOWARD THE COMPLETION OF AN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
12 PROGRAM. THE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE
13 POSTED ON THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE
14 INTERNET WEBSITE WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF APPROVAL. THE
15 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL REVIEW THE GUIDELINES AT LEAST
16 EVERY FIVE (5) YEARS. ANY PROPOSED UPDATE TO THE GUIDELINES
17 SHALL BE DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSION.

18 * * *

19 SECTION 3. SECTION 1855 OF THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING A
20 SUBSECTION TO READ:

21 SECTION 1855. CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION EQUIPMENT
22 GRANTS.--* * *

23 (B.1) A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT PURCHASED WITH MONEY FROM THE
24 GRANT PROGRAM MUST SATISFY THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

25 (1) SUPPORT STUDENT HANDS-ON TRAINING IN APPROVED CAREER AND
26 TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT LEAD TO HIGH-GROWTH OR HIGH-
27 DEMAND CAREERS.

28 (2) COST THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) OR MORE PER UNIT OR
29 PER COMPLETE SET OF TOOLS.

30 (3) RETAIN ITS ORIGINAL SHAPE, APPEARANCE AND CHARACTER WITH

1 USE.

2 (4) RETAIN ITS IDENTITY THROUGH FABRICATION OR INCORPORATION
3 INTO A DIFFERENT OR MORE COMPLEX UNIT OR SUBSTANCE.

4 (5) BE NONEXPENDABLE, SUCH THAT IF THE EQUIPMENT IS DAMAGED
5 OR SOME OF ITS PARTS ARE LOST OR WORN OUT, IT IS MORE FEASIBLE
6 TO REPAIR THE EQUIPMENT THAN TO REPLACE THE EQUIPMENT WITH AN
7 ENTIRELY NEW UNIT.

8 (6) BE EXPECTED TO SERVE ITS PRINCIPAL PURPOSE FOR MORE THAN
9 A TWELVE-MONTH FISCAL PERIOD UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS OF USE,
10 INCLUDING REASONABLE CARE AND MAINTENANCE.

11 (7) BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ANY OTHER CRITERIA DETERMINED BY
12 THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

13 * * *

14 SECTION 4. THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ:

15 SECTION 1856. UTILIZATION OF CREDITS.--THE DEPARTMENT OF
16 EDUCATION SHALL ISSUE GUIDELINES AND UPDATE THE GUIDELINES EVERY
17 FIVE YEARS TO IDENTIFY THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN A STUDENT WHO
18 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES A COURSE, PROGRAM OR ACTIVITY IN SCIENCE,
19 TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING OR MATHEMATICS FOR CREDIT MAY APPLY THE
20 CREDIT TOWARD THE COMPLETION OF A COURSE, PROGRAM OR ACTIVITY
21 OFFERED BY ANY AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL, TECHNICAL
22 INSTITUTE OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT.

23 SECTION 5. THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING AN ARTICLE TO READ:

24 ARTICLE XIX-H

25 CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE

26 SECTION 1901-H. DEFINITIONS.

27 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS ARTICLE
28 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE
29 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

30 "CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE." A NUMERICAL CODING OF

1 INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS DEVELOPED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
2 OF EDUCATION USED TO IDENTIFY VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS.

3 "DEPARTMENT." THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE
4 COMMONWEALTH.

5 "PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTITY." A SCHOOL DISTRICT, CHARTER SCHOOL,
6 REGIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL, CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL, INTERMEDIATE UNIT
7 OR AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

8 SECTION 1902-H. ESTABLISHMENT OR RENEWAL OF CLASSIFICATION OF
9 PROGRAM CODE.

10 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A STANDARD APPLICATION FORM
11 FOR A PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTITY SEEKING APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH OR
12 RENEW A CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE. THE FORM SHALL BE
13 PUBLISHED ON THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET
14 WEBSITE. THE FORM SHALL REQUIRE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

15 (1) THE NAME OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTITY SEEKING
16 APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH OR RENEW A CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM
17 CODE.

18 (2) THE TITLE OF THE CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE.

19 (3) THE OCCUPATIONAL COMPETENCY AREA OF THE
20 CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE.

21 (4) A DESCRIPTION OF THE CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE.

22 (5) A LIST OF SKILLS THAT A STUDENT MUST ATTAIN IN ORDER
23 TO COMPLETE THE CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE.

24 (6) EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE CLASSIFICATION
25 OF PROGRAM CODE FROM THE PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTITY.

26 (7) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT THE DEPARTMENT DEEMS
27 NECESSARY TO DETERMINE WHETHER TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE OF
28 THE CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE.

29 SECTION 1903-H. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS.

30 NO LATER THAN JANUARY 31 OF EACH YEAR, A PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTITY

1 MAY SUBMIT THE APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 1902-H TO THE
2 DEPARTMENT FOR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF A CLASSIFICATION OF
3 PROGRAM CODE.

4 SECTION 1904-H. NOTICE OF APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF APPLICATIONS.

5 (A) NOTICE.--NO LATER THAN MAY 31 OF THE YEAR THE DEPARTMENT
6 RECEIVES AN APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 1902-H, THE DEPARTMENT
7 SHALL NOTIFY A PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTITY WHICH SUBMITTED THE
8 APPLICATION WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT APPROVED OR DENIED THE
9 APPLICATION.

10 (B) POSTING.--NO LATER THAN JUNE 15 OF THE YEAR THE
11 DEPARTMENT APPROVED THE APPLICATION UNDER SUBSECTION (A), THE
12 DEPARTMENT SHALL POST THE CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE ON ITS
13 PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

14 SECTION 6. SECTIONS 2001-C AND 2003-C OF THE ACT ARE AMENDED
15 TO READ:

16 SECTION 2001-C. DEFINITIONS.

17 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS ARTICLE
18 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE
19 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

20 "ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM." A PROGRAM AUTHORIZED BY THE
21 COLLEGE BOARD THAT ALLOWS A STUDENT TO STUDY COLLEGE-LEVEL
22 SUBJECTS WHILE ENROLLED IN HIGH SCHOOL AND TO RECEIVE ADVANCED
23 PLACEMENT AND COLLEGE CREDIT FOR EARNING A QUALIFIED SCORE ON
24 THE COURSE-RELATED ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM EXAM.

25 "CAREER, TECHNICAL OR APPLIED COURSES." COURSES USUALLY
26 OFFERED AS PART OF AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE CURRICULUM DESIGNED TO
27 PREPARE STUDENTS FOR ENTRY-LEVEL PROFESSIONS, NOT FOR TRANSFER
28 TO BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS FOR ADVANCED STUDIES.

29 "COLLEGE-LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM." A SET OF STANDARDIZED
30 TESTS DEVELOPED BY THE COLLEGE BOARD FOR VARIOUS SUBJECTS, AND

1 ON WHICH A QUALIFYING SCORE CAN BE USED TO EARN COLLEGE CREDIT.

2 "COMMUNITY COLLEGE." AN INSTITUTION CREATED PURSUANT TO
3 ARTICLE XIX-A OR THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1963 (P.L.1132, NO.484),
4 KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACT OF 1963.

5 "CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING." COLLEGE-LEVEL CREDIT GRANTED
6 TOWARD THE AWARD OF A POSTSECONDARY DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE FOR
7 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING THAT CAN BE DEMONSTRATED THROUGH VARIOUS
8 MEANS OF ASSESSMENT TO BE THE EQUIVALENT OF LEARNING GAINED
9 THROUGH FORMAL COLLEGIATE INSTRUCTION, INCLUDING AN ADVANCED
10 PLACEMENT PROGRAM EXAM, INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA
11 PROGRAM EXAM, A COLLEGE-LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM EXAM AND
12 DANTES SUBJECT STANDARDIZED TESTS.

13 "DANTES SUBJECT STANDARDIZED TESTS." A SET OF SUBJECT EXAMS
14 APPROVED BY THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION THAT TESTS
15 KNOWLEDGE OF BOTH LOWER-LEVEL AND UPPER-LEVEL COLLEGE MATERIAL.

16 ["DEGREE OBJECTIVE COURSES." COURSES REQUIRED FOR COMPLETION
17 OF A MAJOR IN A SUBJECT AREA.]

18 "DEPARTMENT." THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE
19 COMMONWEALTH.

20 "DEVELOPMENTAL OR REMEDIAL COURSES." COURSES TYPICALLY
21 CONSISTING OF READING, WRITING AND MATH DESIGNED TO PREPARE
22 STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSES AND THAT ARE NOT
23 TRANSFERABLE.

24 "EQUIVALENT COURSES." COURSES DETERMINED TO HAVE GENERALLY
25 EQUIVALENT CONTENT AND LEVEL AS DETERMINED BY THE FACULTY OF AN
26 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION CONSISTENT WITH THE POLICY AT
27 EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

28 "FOUNDATION COURSES." COURSES REQUIRED TO BE COMPLETED BY
29 STUDENTS THAT PROVIDE AN ACADEMIC FOUNDATION FOR THE DEGREE,
30 GENERAL EDUCATION OR ADVANCED STUDY IN A MAJOR.

1 "INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." AN
2 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WHICH IS OPERATED NOT FOR
3 PROFIT, LOCATED IN AND INCORPORATED OR CHARTERED BY THE
4 COMMONWEALTH AND ENTITLED TO CONFER DEGREES AS SET FORTH IN 24
5 PA.C.S. § 6505 (RELATING TO POWER TO CONFER DEGREES) AND TO
6 APPLY TO ITSELF THE DESIGNATION "COLLEGE" OR "UNIVERSITY" AS
7 PROVIDED FOR BY THE STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED BY
8 THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO 24 PA.C.S. CH. 65
9 (RELATING TO PRIVATE COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND SEMINARIES).

10 "INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL." A CREDENTIAL THAT:

11 (1) IS SOUGHT OR ACCEPTED BY EMPLOYERS WITHIN THE
12 INDUSTRY OR SECTOR INVOLVED AS A RECOGNIZED, PREFERRED OR
13 REQUIRED CREDENTIAL FOR RECRUITMENT, SCREENING, HIRING,
14 RETENTION OR ADVANCEMENT PURPOSES;

15 (2) WHERE APPROPRIATE, IS ENDORSED BY A NATIONALLY
16 RECOGNIZED TRADE ASSOCIATION OR ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING A
17 SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE INDUSTRY OR SECTOR; AND

18 (3) IS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

19 "INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." ANY OF THE ACCREDITED
20 FOLLOWING:

21 (1) A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

22 (2) A RURAL REGIONAL COLLEGE.

23 (3) A STATE-RELATED INSTITUTION.

24 (4) THE THADDEUS STEVENS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY.

25 "INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAM." AN
26 ACADEMICALLY CHALLENGING TWO-YEAR PRECOLLEGE DIPLOMA PROGRAM
27 COMPRISED OF THREE CORE REQUIREMENTS AND SIX ACADEMIC SUBJECT
28 AREAS WITH FINAL EXAMINATIONS THAT PREPARE STUDENTS, 16 TO 19
29 YEARS OF AGE, FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND LIFE IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY.

30 "PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." A COMMUNITY

1 COLLEGE OR AN INSTITUTION WHICH IS PART OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF
2 HIGHER EDUCATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XX-A.

3 "PUBLIC SCHOOL." ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

4 (1) A SCHOOL DISTRICT.

5 (2) AN INTERMEDIATE UNIT.

6 (3) AN AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

7 (4) A CHARTER SCHOOL AS DEFINED IN SECTION 1703-A.

8 (5) A REGIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL AS DEFINED IN SECTION
9 1703-A.

10 (6) A CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL AS DEFINED IN SECTION 1703-A.

11 "RURAL REGIONAL COLLEGE." A RURAL REGIONAL COLLEGE OPERATING
12 UNDER ARTICLE XIX-G.

13 "STATE-RELATED INSTITUTION." THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE
14 UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY,
15 LINCOLN UNIVERSITY AND THEIR BRANCH CAMPUSES.

16 "TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE." THE
17 COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER SECTION 2004-C.
18 SECTION 2003-C. DUTIES OF [PUBLIC] INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
19 EDUCATION AND [STATE-RELATED INSTITUTIONS] PUBLIC
20 SCHOOLS.

21 (A) AGREEMENTS.--EACH [PUBLIC] INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
22 EDUCATION AND [STATE-RELATED INSTITUTION] PUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL
23 PROVIDE THE TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND
24 THE DEPARTMENT WITH COPIES OF ALL ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS FOR
25 INCLUSION IN THE ELECTRONIC DATABASE OR SOFTWARE PROGRAM AND
26 PORTAL PROVIDED FOR UNDER SECTION 2005-C(4) WITHIN 180 DAYS OF
27 THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION AND WITHIN 30 DAYS OF
28 ENTERING INTO ANY SUBSEQUENT ARTICULATION AGREEMENT.

29 (B) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.--THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY TO
30 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

1 (1) EACH [PUBLIC] INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION [AND
2 STATE-RELATED INSTITUTION] SHALL SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT A
3 SERIES OF INTERIM REPORTS THAT DESCRIBE THE STATUS OF THE
4 INSTITUTION'S ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS, WHICH SHALL INCLUDE
5 ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

6 (I) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE TRANSFERRED TO
7 THE [PUBLIC] INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION [OR STATE-
8 RELATED INSTITUTION] BY INSTITUTION OF ORIGIN WITHIN THE
9 LAST ACADEMIC YEAR OR SINCE SUBMITTAL OF THE
10 INSTITUTION'S LAST INTERIM REPORT REQUIRED UNDER THIS
11 SECTION.

12 (II) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDITS COMPLETED BY
13 TRANSFER STUDENTS AT THE INSTITUTION OF ORIGIN.

14 (III) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDITS FROM EACH
15 INSTITUTION OF ORIGIN THAT TRANSFERRED TO THE [PUBLIC]
16 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION [OR STATE-RELATED
17 INSTITUTION] FOR EACH ACADEMIC YEAR.

18 (IV) AN EXPLANATION OF THE CREDIT TRANSFER PROCESS
19 AT THE INSTITUTION.

20 (V) ANY OTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO THE CREDIT
21 TRANSFER PROCESS AS REQUESTED BY THE DEPARTMENT,
22 INCLUDING THE USEABILITY OF TRANSFER CREDITS.

23 (2) EACH [PUBLIC] INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION [AND
24 STATE-RELATED INSTITUTION] SHALL SUBMIT ITS FIRST INTERIM
25 REPORT REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION 180 DAYS AFTER THE
26 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION AND BY SEPTEMBER 30 OF EACH
27 YEAR THEREAFTER.

28 SECTION 7. SECTION 2004-C(A) (1) INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH IS
29 AMENDED AND SUBSECTION (C) IS AMENDED BY ADDING A PARAGRAPH TO
30 READ:

1 SECTION 2004-C. TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

2 (A) ESTABLISHMENT AND MEMBERSHIP.--

3 (1) IN ORDER TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT EQUIVALENCY
4 STANDARDS AS PROVIDED FOR IN SUBSECTION (C) (1) AND PROVIDE
5 ACCESS TO ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS, THERE IS HEREBY
6 ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT, THE TRANSFER AND
7 ARTICULATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE
8 COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

9 * * *

10 (C) DUTIES OF TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION OVERSIGHT
11 COMMITTEE.--THE COMMITTEE SHALL:

12 * * *

13 (7) MEET ON A REGULAR BASIS AT LEAST QUARTERLY.

14 SECTION 8. SECTION 2005-C(4) OF THE ACT IS AMENDED TO READ:
15 SECTION 2005-C. DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT.

16 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

17 * * *

18 (4) PROVIDE FOR AN ELECTRONIC DATABASE OR SOFTWARE
19 PROGRAM AND PORTAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ACCESS TO ALL
20 OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON AN INTERNET WEBSITE:

21 (I) ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS AND AGREEMENTS THAT
22 AWARD CREDIT FOR AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL
23 ENTERED INTO BY [PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
24 AND INSTITUTIONS THAT ELECT TO PARTICIPATE UNDER SECTION
25 2006-C.] INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOLS
26 AND INSTITUTIONS DESCRIBED UNDER CLAUSE (C). THE
27 FOLLOWING APPLY:

28 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL EXTRACT TRANSFER
29 INFORMATION FROM EACH ARTICULATION AGREEMENT AND EACH
30 AGREEMENT THAT AWARDS CREDIT FOR AN INDUSTRY-

1 RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL AND ENTER THE INFORMATION INTO
2 THE ELECTRONIC DATABASE OR SOFTWARE PROGRAM AND
3 PORTAL AND PROVIDE A MEANINGFUL, USER-FRIENDLY AND
4 INTERACTIVE SEARCH ENGINE FOR ACCESS TO THE
5 INFORMATION.

6 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, WITHIN 60 DAYS OF
7 RECEIVING AN ARTICULATION AGREEMENT OR AGREEMENT THAT
8 AWARDS CREDIT FOR AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL,
9 UPDATE THE DATABASE AND POST EACH ARTICULATION
10 AGREEMENT AND EACH AGREEMENT THAT AWARDS CREDIT FOR
11 AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL ON ITS PUBLICLY
12 ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

13 (C) AN INSTITUTION WHICH IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE
14 DUTIES UNDER SECTION 2003-C MAY SUBMIT TO THE
15 DEPARTMENT ANY ARTICULATION AGREEMENT OR AGREEMENT
16 THAT AWARDS CREDIT FOR AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED
17 CREDENTIAL INTO WHICH THE INSTITUTION ENTERS. EACH
18 SUBMITTED ARTICULATION AGREEMENT AND EACH AGREEMENT
19 THAT AWARDS CREDIT FOR AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED
20 CREDENTIAL SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THIS PARAGRAPH.

21 (II) THE ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS
22 REQUIRED BY SECTION 2004-C(C) (5) .

23 [(III) AT THE REQUEST OF A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF
24 HIGHER EDUCATION OR AN INSTITUTION THAT ELECTS TO
25 PARTICIPATE UNDER SECTION 2006-C, ANY ARTICULATION
26 AGREEMENTS.]

27 SECTION 9. THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT IN 60 DAYS.