



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 5362

LCO No. 2045



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:
(HED)

***AN ACT DEFINING CONNECTICUT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
EDUCATION AND OUT-OF-STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
EDUCATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE STATE AUTHORIZATION
RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10a-57f of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

3 (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Connecticut institution of higher education" means an institution
5 of higher education (A) with a main campus, branch campus or
6 additional location, as such terms are defined in 34 CFR 600.2, as
7 amended from time to time, located in the state, and (B) is (i) subject to
8 authorization by the Office of Higher Education pursuant to sections
9 10a-34 to 10a-35, inclusive, or (ii) a constituent unit of the state system
10 of higher education, as defined in section 10a-1; and

11 (2) "Out-of-state institution of higher education" means an institution

12 of higher education that is not a Connecticut institution of higher
13 education.

14 [(a) Not later than January 1, 2017, the] (b) The Office of Higher
15 Education shall enter into a multistate or regional reciprocity agreement
16 for purposes of enabling the state and Connecticut institutions of higher
17 education to participate in a nation-wide state authorization reciprocity
18 agreement (1) establishing uniform standards for distance learning
19 programs across states, and (2) eliminating the need for a state
20 participating in the state authorization reciprocity agreement to assess
21 the quality of a distance learning program offered by an out-of-state
22 institution of higher education through the participating state's
23 authorization, licensing and accreditation process. Notwithstanding the
24 provisions of part III of this chapter and upon the Office of Higher
25 Education entering into the multistate or regional reciprocity
26 agreement, an out-of-state institution of higher education that
27 participates in the state authorization reciprocity agreement may
28 operate a distance learning program in the state in accordance with the
29 uniform standards.

30 [(b)] (c) Any Connecticut institution of higher education that seeks to
31 participate in the nation-wide state authorization reciprocity agreement
32 under subsection [(a)] (b) of this section shall submit an application with
33 the Office of Higher Education on a form prescribed by the office. The
34 office shall approve or reject the institution's application in accordance
35 with the terms of such agreement. Authorization by the office to
36 participate in such agreement shall be valid for a period of one year and
37 may be renewed by the office for additional one-year periods. The office
38 shall establish a schedule of application and renewal fees for all
39 Connecticut institutions of higher education that participate in such
40 agreement. The fee schedule shall be graduated based on the number of
41 full-time equivalent students at each Connecticut institution of higher
42 education.

43 [(c)] (d) Any out-of-state institution of higher education that does not
44 participate in the nation-wide [,] state authorization reciprocity

45 agreement and seeks to operate a distance learning program in the state
46 shall submit an application to the Office of Higher Education on a form
47 prescribed by the office. Each institution shall agree to abide by
48 standards, similar to those in the nation-wide [] state authorization
49 reciprocity agreement and established by the office. The office shall
50 approve or reject the institution's application in accordance with the
51 standards established by the office. Authorization by the office to
52 operate a distance learning program in the state shall be valid for a
53 period of one year and may be renewed by the office for additional one-
54 year periods. The office shall establish a schedule of application and
55 renewal fees for all out-of-state institutions of higher education that do
56 not participate in the nation-wide [] state authorization reciprocity
57 agreement and are approved by the office. The fee schedule shall be
58 graduated based on the number of full-time equivalent students
59 enrolled at each out-of-state institution of higher education.

60 [(d)] (e) Nothing in subsection [(a)] (b) of this section shall be
61 construed to affect the authority of the Attorney General to enforce the
62 provisions of chapter 735a or Title X of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street
63 Reform and Consumer Protection Act, P.L. 111-203, as amended from
64 time to time.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2024	10a-57f

Statement of Purpose:

To clarify when an institution of higher education is considered to be an in-state institution versus an out-of-state institution for purposes of the nation-wide state authorization reciprocity agreement.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]