
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6869

AN ACT EXPANDING DUAL ENROLLMENT AND CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

SUMMARY

This bill makes several changes affecting high school students' awareness of, access to, and awards for completing certain classes that provide postsecondary education or credits. Generally, the bill requires:

1. higher education institutions that offer dual or concurrent enrollment courses to report certain information on their courses and student enrollees to the State Department of Education (SDE) by August 1, 2025, and annually after (§ 4);
2. SDE to notify parents of public school students in grades 8 to 11 about opportunities to pursue a challenging curriculum and the availability of courses that grant postsecondary credit by February 1, 2026, and annually after (§ 2);
3. local and regional boards of education (BOEs) to, beginning July 1, 2026, give high school graduation credits to certain students who successfully complete a dual or concurrent enrollment course (§ 1);
4. SDE to develop a model agreement between secondary schools and postsecondary institutions for providing dual and concurrent enrollment courses and postsecondary credit courses to high school students by July 1, 2026, (§ 3); and
5. higher education institutions that offer a concurrent enrollment course as of July 1, 2025, to obtain accreditation for it from the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) by, generally, July 1, 2028 (§ 4).

The bill defines “concurrent enrollment course” and “dual enrollment course” similarly in that both are postsecondary education courses in any academic subject or career-oriented pathway for high school students simultaneously enrolled in a higher education institution. However, concurrent enrollment courses are delivered at high schools and taught by high school teachers approved by the student’s higher education institution and dual enrollment courses are taught by the faculty members of the student’s institution.

The bill also makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025, except the parental notification provision is effective January 1, 2026, and the high school graduation credit provision is effective July 1, 2026.

§ 4 — REPORTING ON CONCURRENT AND DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES AND STUDENTS

The bill requires higher education institutions to report on their concurrent and dual enrollment courses in a form and manner prescribed by the SDE commissioner. For each annual reporting, they must give the following information for each high school student who enrolled in either type of course during the prior academic year:

1. the student’s name, date of birth, student identification number, and high school’s name and SDE code;
2. for each of the student’s courses: the course’s name, type (dual enrollment or concurrent course), subject matter or associated academic department, SDE code, location where it was provided, and academic term and year;
3. the student’s grade and credits for each course; and
4. any other information requested by SDE.

§ 1 — HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CREDIT

Under current law, BOEs may grant students credit toward meeting their high school graduation requirements for certain dual enrollment and early college experiences done according to statewide subject

matter content standards. The bill eliminates this authorization and instead allows BOEs to approve students' enrollment in dual or concurrent enrollment courses. If these students successfully complete their courses, BOEs must grant them credit towards their graduation requirements.

§ 3 — MODEL AGREEMENTS

For the model agreement between secondary schools and postsecondary institutions that SDE must develop, the bill requires it to do so in partnership with certain higher education institutions: UConn, the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (see CGS § 10a-1), and independent institutions of higher education. By law, the latter is any nonprofit higher education institution established in Connecticut that (1) has degree granting authority, (2) has its main campus in-state, (3) is not included in the Connecticut public higher education system, and (4) is not primarily training students for a religious vocation.

§ 4 — NACEP ACCREDITATION

For concurrent enrollment courses offered by a higher education institution as of July 1, 2025, the bill allows institutions to have them accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships after July 1, 2028, if SDE approves an extension in writing.

The bill also requires institutions that establish new concurrent enrollment courses on or after July 1, 2025, to obtain accreditation from NACEP within three years, unless SDE approves an extension in writing.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 3/11/2025