

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2076 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY ROEBUCK, O'NEILL, CARROLL, CLAY, LONGIETTI, O'BRIEN, ENGLISH, TRUITT, BISHOP, BROWNLEE, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, D. COSTA, DeLUCA, FRANKEL, GIBBONS, HAGGERTY, KORTZ, LUCAS, McCARTER, MCGEEHAN, McNEILL, D. MILLER, THOMAS, YOUNGBLOOD, MURT, WATSON, RAVENSTAHL, EMRICK AND DONATUCCI, MARCH 25, 2014

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

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 for transfer and articulation oversight  
9 committee.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Section 2001-C of the act of March 10, 1949  
13 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is  
14 amended by adding definitions to read:

15 Section 2001-C. Definitions.

16 The following words and phrases when used in this article  
17 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
18 context clearly indicates otherwise:

19 "Advanced Placement program (AP)." A program authorized by

1 the college board that allows a student to study college-level  
2 subjects while enrolled in high school and to receive advanced  
3 placement and college credit for earning a qualified score on  
4 the course-related Advanced Placement exam.

5 \* \* \*

6 "College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)." A set of  
7 standardized tests developed by the college board for various  
8 subjects, and on which a qualifying score can be used to earn  
9 college credit.

10 \* \* \*

11 "Credit for prior learning." College-level credit granted  
12 toward the award of a postsecondary degree or certificate for  
13 experiential learning that can be demonstrated through various  
14 means of assessment to be the equivalent of learning gained  
15 through formal collegiate instruction, including an Advanced  
16 Placement exam, International Baccalaureate exam and a College-  
17 Level Examination Program exam.

18 \* \* \*

19 "International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB)." An  
20 academically challenging two-year pre-college diploma program  
21 comprised of three core requirements and six academic subject  
22 areas with final examinations that prepare students, 16 to 19  
23 years of age, for higher education and life in a global society.

24 \* \* \*

25 Section 2. Section 2002-C of the act is amended by adding a  
26 subsection to read:

27 Section 2002-C. Duties of public institutions of higher  
28 education.

29 \* \* \*

30 (d) Credit for prior learning.--Each public institution of

1 higher education shall do all of the following:

2 (1) Adopt and make public uniform standards for  
3 determining academic credit for prior learning as outlined in  
4 paragraph (4) no later than July 1, 2015 2016. <--

5 (2) Agree to award academic credit for prior learning,  
6 which is determined to meet the standards established under  
7 2004-C(c)(6) and apply the credit toward graduation, unless  
8 prohibited by external accreditation or licensure.

9 (3) Submit to the department interim reports outlining  
10 the actions that a public institution of higher education has  
11 undertaken or intends to undertake to comply with paragraphs  
12 (1) and (2).

13 (4) As a member of the Transfer and Articulation  
14 Oversight Committee established in section 2004-C:

15 (i) Consult with the department on a process and  
16 timeline, subject to approval by the department, to  
17 develop uniform standards for determining academic credit  
18 for prior learning, in consultation with faculty and  
19 personnel.

20 (ii) Develop and implement uniform standards for  
21 determining academic credit for prior learning, in  
22 consultation with faculty and personnel.

23 (iii) Participate in submitting a status report to  
24 the department, the Education Committee of the Senate and  
25 the Education Committee of the House of Representatives.

26 (5) For each academic year, report to the department all  
27 of the following:

28 (i) The total number of students awarded credits for  
29 Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and  
30 College-Level Examination Program exams, if available.

1           (ii) The total number of credits awarded to students  
2           for Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and  
3           College-Level Examination Program exams, if available.

4           (iii) The number of credits awarded to matriculating  
5           students who present Advanced Placement, International  
6           Baccalaureate and College-Level Examination Program exams  
7           that meet the standards established under 2004-C(c)(6)  
8           and, of those credits, the number of credits applied  
9           toward major requirements and the number of credits  
10           applied toward elective requirements.

11           (iv) Any other information related to awarding of  
12           credit for prior learning as requested by the department  
13           or the Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee,  
14           including the usability of transfer credits.

15           Section 3. Section 2004-C(c) of the act is amended by adding  
16 a paragraph to read:

17           Section 2004-C. Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee.

18           \* \* \*

19           (c) Duties of Transfer and Articulation Oversight  
20 Committee.--The committee shall:

21           \* \* \*

22           (6) Within one year of the effective date of this  
23           paragraph, develop and implement uniform standards for  
24           awarding academic credit for prior learning, in consultation  
25           with faculty and personnel for public institutions of higher  
26           education and institutions that elect to participate under  
27           section 2006-C.

28           Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.