



General Assembly

***Substitute Bill No. 6869***

*January Session, 2025*



***AN ACT EXPANDING DUAL ENROLLMENT AND CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (h) of section 10-221a of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
3 *2026*):

4 (h) Only courses taken in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, and that  
5 are in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards,  
6 adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-4, shall  
7 satisfy the graduation requirements set forth in this section, except that  
8 a local or regional board of education (1) may grant a student credit [(1)]  
9 (A) toward meeting the high school graduation requirements upon the  
10 successful demonstration of mastery of the subject matter content  
11 described in this section achieved through educational experiences and  
12 opportunities that provide flexible and multiple pathways to learning,  
13 including cross-curricular graduation requirements, career and  
14 technical education, virtual learning, work-based learning, service  
15 learning, [dual enrollment and early college,] courses taken in middle  
16 school, internships and student-designed independent studies,  
17 provided such demonstration of mastery is in accordance with such  
18 state-wide subject matter content standards; [(2)] (B) toward meeting a  
19 specified course requirement upon the successful completion in grade

20 seven or eight of any course, the primary focus of which corresponds  
21 directly to the subject matter of a specified course requirement in grades  
22 nine to twelve, inclusive; [(3)] (C) toward meeting the high school  
23 graduation requirement upon the successful completion of a world  
24 language course [(A)] (i) in grade six, seven or eight, [(B)] (ii) through  
25 on-line coursework, or [(C)] (iii) offered privately through a nonprofit  
26 provider, provided such student achieves a passing grade on an  
27 examination prescribed, within available appropriations, by the  
28 Commissioner of Education and such credits do not exceed four; [(4)]  
29 (D) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon  
30 achievement of a passing grade on a subject area proficiency  
31 examination identified and approved, within available appropriations,  
32 by the Commissioner of Education, regardless of the number of hours  
33 the student spent in a public school classroom learning such subject  
34 matter; [(5)] (E) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement  
35 upon the successful completion of coursework during the school year or  
36 summer months at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for  
37 Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally  
38 accredited. One three-credit semester course, or its equivalent, at such  
39 an institution shall equal one-half credit for purposes of this section; [(6)]  
40 (E) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the  
41 successful completion of on-line coursework, provided the local or  
42 regional board of education has adopted a policy in accordance with this  
43 subdivision for the granting of credit for on-line coursework. Such a  
44 policy shall ensure, at a minimum, that [(A)] (i) the workload required  
45 by the on-line course is equivalent to that of a similar course taught in a  
46 traditional classroom setting, [(B)] (ii) the content is rigorous and  
47 aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of  
48 Education, where appropriate, [(C)] (iii) the course engages students  
49 and has interactive components, which may include, but are not limited  
50 to, required interactions between students and their teachers,  
51 participation in on-line demonstrations, discussion boards or virtual  
52 labs, [(D)] (iv) the program of instruction for such on-line coursework is  
53 planned, ongoing and systematic, and [(E)] (v) the courses are [(i)] (I)  
54 taught by teachers who are certified in the state or another state and

55 have received training on teaching in an on-line environment, or [(ii)]  
56 (II) offered by institutions of higher education that are accredited by the  
57 Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or  
58 regionally accredited; or [(7)] (G) toward meeting the high school  
59 graduation requirement upon the successful completion of a credit  
60 recovery program approved by the Commissioner of Education, and (2)  
61 shall grant a student credit toward meeting the high school graduation  
62 requirement upon the successful completion of a dual enrollment or  
63 concurrent enrollment course, as defined in section 4 of this act,  
64 provided such local or regional board of education approves the  
65 student's enrollment in such dual enrollment or concurrent enrollment  
66 course.

67 Sec. 2. Section 10-221x of the general statutes is amended by adding  
68 subsection (d) as follows (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

69 (NEW) (d) Not later than February 1, 2026, and annually thereafter,  
70 the Department of Education shall notify parents of public school  
71 students in grades eight to eleven, inclusive, about opportunities to  
72 pursue a challenging curriculum and the availability of courses that  
73 grant postsecondary credit.

74 Sec. 3. Section 10-221w of the general statutes is repealed and the  
75 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

76 (a) As used in this section:

77 (1) "Advanced course or program" means an honors class, advanced  
78 placement class, International Baccalaureate program, Cambridge  
79 International program, dual enrollment, dual credit, early college or any  
80 other advanced or accelerated course or program offered by a local or  
81 regional board of education in grades nine to twelve, inclusive; and

82 (2) "Prior academic performance" means the course or courses that a  
83 student has taken, the grades received for such course or courses and a  
84 student's grade point average.

85 (b) Not later than July 1, 2022, each local and regional board of  
86 education shall adopt a policy, or revise an existing policy, concerning  
87 the eligibility criteria for student enrollment in an advanced course or  
88 program. Such policy shall provide for multiple methods by which a  
89 student may satisfy the eligibility criteria for enrollment in an advanced  
90 course or program, including, but not limited to, recommendations  
91 from teachers, administrators, school counselors or other school  
92 personnel. Such eligibility criteria shall not be based exclusively on a  
93 student's prior academic performance and any use of a student's prior  
94 academic performance shall rely on evidence-based indicators of how a  
95 student will perform in an advanced course or program.

96 (c) Any policy adopted or revised and implemented under this  
97 section shall be in accordance with guidance provided by the  
98 Department of Education.

99 (d) Not later than July 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Education shall,  
100 in partnership with the constituent units of the state system of higher  
101 education and independent institutions of higher education, as defined  
102 in section 10a-173, develop a model agreement between secondary  
103 schools and postsecondary institutions for the provision of dual  
104 enrollment courses and concurrent enrollment courses, as such terms  
105 are defined in section 4 of this act, and postsecondary credit courses to  
106 students in grades nine to twelve, inclusive.

107 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

108 (1) "Concurrent enrollment course" means a postsecondary education  
109 course in any academic subject or career-oriented pathway delivered at  
110 a high school through which a high school student is simultaneously  
111 enrolled in an institution of higher education and is taught by a high  
112 school teacher approved by such institution of higher education; and

113 (2) "Dual enrollment course" means a postsecondary education  
114 course in any academic subject or career-oriented pathway through  
115 which a high school student is simultaneously enrolled in an institution  
116 of higher education and is taught by a faculty member of such

117 institution of higher education.

118 (b) Not later than July 1, 2028, each institution of higher education in  
119 the state that currently offers a concurrent enrollment course shall  
120 obtain accreditation for such course from the National Alliance of  
121 Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships, unless the Department of  
122 Education approves an extension of time for an accreditation in writing.

123 (c) Any institution of higher education in the state that establishes a  
124 new concurrent enrollment course shall obtain accreditation for such  
125 course from the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment  
126 Partnerships not later than three years after establishing such course,  
127 unless the Department of Education approves an extension of time for  
128 an accreditation in writing.

129 (d) Not later than August 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, each  
130 institution of higher education that offers a dual enrollment or  
131 concurrent enrollment course shall report to the Department of  
132 Education, in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of  
133 Education, for each high school student who enrolled in a dual  
134 enrollment or concurrent enrollment course during the preceding  
135 academic year (1) such student's name, date of birth, student  
136 identification number, the name of the high school where such student  
137 was enrolled and the code assigned to such high school by the  
138 department, (2) for each dual enrollment or concurrent enrollment  
139 course in which such student was enrolled, the course name, the subject  
140 matter or academic department associated with the course, the course  
141 code assigned to such course by the department, the location where each  
142 course was provided and the academic term and year in which such  
143 student enrolled in such course, (3) the grade and credits earned by such  
144 student for each dual enrollment or concurrent enrollment course, (4)  
145 whether such course was a dual enrollment or concurrent enrollment  
146 course, and (5) any other information requested by the department.

<p>This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:</p>
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-221a(h)
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	10-221x(d)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-221w
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section

**HED**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**ED**        *Joint Favorable*